DRY FIGHT SETTLED

CONGRESS TAKES MATTER FROM LEGISLATIVE HANDS

OIL INSPECTION LAW IS VOID

Items of General Interest Gathered from Reliable Sources Around the State House

Western Newspaper Union News Service The one big issue before the present session of the legislature probably has dropped out of sight. With the passage of the Reed bone dry amendment by both branches of congress and the belief that it will meet the approval of the president the bone dry question has been taken entirely out of the hands of the states, and the bottom appears to have dropped out of the expected fight over the question among the Nebraska law-

The question was up for consideration Tuesday of last week but was laid over in order to see what congress was going to do about it. The bone dry advocates had been preparing for weeks for the expected scrap, and they had become so well organized that they appeared to have with them about half of the house. Some men were willing to predict that a bone dry amendment would be adopted by a large majority.

Oll Inspection Law Void

The Nebraska oil inspection law, which for a quarter of a century has vielded the state a revenue of from \$70,000 to \$150,000 a year has received a knockout blow from the supreme court which has declared void that part of the law fixing a fee of 10 cents a barrel for inspection on the ground that it is a revenue measure and not a police measure, and violated the constitutional provision in ngard to uniformity and equality of taxation. The state of Nebraska, represented by Arthur Mullen as its specially employed attorney, loses, and the Standard Oil and other companies represented by W. D. McHugh and Amos Thomas win. The findings of fact and conclusions of law reported to the supreme court by W. M. Morning, referee, are in the main upheld.

Judge A. J. Cornish, one of the new judges who came upon the supreme bench last month, prepared the opinion of the court. The decision is concurred in by the other six judges of the court. The legislature, through the house took immediate steps to amend the inspection law by reducing the fee from 10 cents to 6 cents a bar-

The court grants the writ of injunction asked for by the Standard Nevitle, food and oil commissioner. but will not collect a fee for such

Governor Corrects Misleading Statement

In order to correct statements made on the floor of the house, where the confidential information from the banking board had been distorted. Governor Neville has sent a message to that body in which he said that the guaranty fund is in no greater danger now than at any previous time and will not be unless banks are unreasonably increased in number or a stringency comes. He says that six weeks ago there were eight banks found to be in operation without regard to the law or instructions of the banking board. These have been placed in the charge of examiners, who have straightened out two of them and are busy on the others. He asked for another examiner to take care of the extra burden.

The Mattes bill, providing for taxation of property where probate of estates discloses that it has been withheld from the tax rolls during a perion of years and adding a 50 per cent penalty for those who are not patriotic enough to list all their property for taxation, passed safely through the senate committee of the whole,

State Purchases Bonds

The state board of educational lands and funds has made the first pur chase of irrigation bonds ever recorded. Altho the board has long been vested with authority to make such purchases, it has heretofore sidestepped the privilege. The Initial purchase was of \$20,800 bonds of the Chimney Rock Irrigation district and \$25,200 of the Alliance Irrigation district. Both districts are near Bayard in the western part of Morrill districts is more than \$300,000

Would Increase School Levy

Increase in the maximum school 59 mills is provided in a senate bill elevated to the upper house calendar. The measure is one of many attesting money, and attesting, also, the rising cost of school operation in the state. ing dealing with the same subject.

AUTOMOBILES IN NEBRASKA More Than 100,000 in Use in 1916-An increase of 41,394 in the Increase of 41,394 Past Year.

Secretary of State I wol has just completed the task of auditing the automobile applications from the 93 counties of the state. He finds that a total of 100,534 numbers were issued in 1816, while 728 extra plates were issued in lieu of lost number plates. This does not include the motorcycle numbers issued. For comparative purpose the secretary has given the registration for the years 1913, 1914, 1915 and 1918.

Counties 1913 1914 1915 1916 Adams 667 918 1,192 1,959 Antelope 269 548 740 1,387 Arthur 9 17 42

17 111 111 850 868 829 841 1,062 964 163 330 273 872 872 1,091 148 1,092 1,002 1,002 1,002 1,002 1,002 1,002 1,002 1,002 1,002 1,002 1,002 1,002 1,002 1,002 1,002 Box Butte. Boyd herry 493 472 1,899 130 117 160 38 352 1.191 1.036 374 134 205 572 35 549 842 489 131 127 Inmilton arlan Howard ancaster dneoln Madison ...
McPherson ...
Merrick ...
Morrill ...
Nance ...
Nemaha ...
Nuckolle

cott's Bluff ... heridan haver Vashington .

1,041

Total25,617 40,929 59,140 100,534

1,216

Perkins Phelps

Plerce

Red Willow ..

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Change in Bank Guaranty Law The state senate by a bare majority voted to amend the state bank Oil and thirteen other oil companies. guaranty law by adding a provision This writ prohibits the governor or for the return of unused guaranty other state officers from enforcing the funds to state banks that liquidate. In fee portion of the law. The result of committee of the whole S. F. 96, inthe decision is that Governor Keith troduced by Adams of Dawes, was recommended for third reading after through his deputy Otto Murschel, will opponents of the bill had failed to continue to inspect oil as heretofore, muster enough votes to defeat it or amend it. Former legislatures have refused to pass similar bills. Governor

> the lobby during a portion of the discussion. Practically without debate or discussion the committee of the whole approved State Treasurer G. E. Hall's bill introduced by Bushee and Adams. a bill designed to put state funds up at auction to the highest bidder in rate of interest, the auction to take place every two years. The latter bill does not amend the banking law, but it does affect the guaranty portion of the banking law to some extent because state funds in legal de-

positories are protected only by the

Neville was an interested listener in

guaranty fund. Will Be Chairman of Board

Eugene O. Mayfield, chosen to succeed Judge Howard Kennedy on the state board of control, will be chairman of the board when he takes office March 1, according to a statement of board members, with whom he has conferred. Mr. Mayfield's four months' service on the board, to fill the unexpired portion of Judge Kennedy's term, leaves him as the member whose partial term expires first. Under the law such a member is entitled to be chairman of the board. Judge Kennedy has occupied the position during the past year and a half.

A Fidelity Bond Measure H. R. 167, by Cronin, has been favorably acted upon. It requires fidelity companies when cancelling a bond to give to the person bonded their reasons therefor, provided for twenty days' notice of the intent to cancel and gives a hearing before the insurance board if the bonded person demands one. Mr. Cronin said that arbitrary cancellation left a stain on a man's reputation. This provided a county. The real estate value of the method whereby, if he were honest, he could protect his reputation.

A saving to the state of from \$20,-000 to \$30,000 a year would be effected by the Dafoe-Taylor bill in the levy allowed in this state from 35 to house, creating a state printing commission, according to J. F. Webster of St. Paul, state printer. The bill provides that the printing and stationery of all state offices and all state instithe need of raising money by taxation tutions be supplied on the competitive to make up for loss of liquor license contract and not in the open market. The bill provides for a state printing commissioner at \$2,000 a year, and for a stenographer at \$840. He must A number of other measures are pend- be what is known in the craft as a "practical printer."

CONDENSED NEWS

OF INTEREST TO ALL.

DATES FOR COMING EVENTS.

March 5 to 10-First Annual Auto Show at Lincoln.

March 6 to 10-Mid-West Cement Show and Convention at Omaha. March 7-8-9-10-State Basketball Tour-

nament at Lincoln.

March 12-17-Annual Merchants' Market Week at Omaha. March 18-District Meeting of Odd Fellows at North Platte.

March 21-22-23-D, A. R. Annual State Convention at Fremont. April 9-14-Annual State Bowling

Tournament at Fremont. April 21-22-Missouri Valley Chiropractor's Association Meeting at Omaha.

A lone bandit entered the First National bank of University Place, a Lincoln suburb, forced the bank president, B. H. Shaberg, I to the vault, closed the door, turned the combination and escaped with \$1,981.

The Crete Commercial club adopt ed a resolution endorsing federal aid for good roads in Nebraska and called upon the state legislature to pass H. R. 722, which provides for the ac-

ceptance of the federal money. Joe Stecher of Dodge, heavyweight champion wrestler of the world, defeated Ad Santel, Pacific coast champion, in two straight falls at San Francisco. Stecher won the first fall in 37:17 and the second in 17:54. The gate receipts totalled \$12,643, thirty per cent of which went to Stecher.

County agent work in Nebraska is bearing fruit in a new form-the cooperative sale of pure-bred live stock County agents in this state have been called upon to supply Utah interests with ten carloads of pure-bred bulls and heifers and ten carloads of sows.

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Farmers and ranchers in the vicinity of Ellsworth met recently and organized a new farm loan association for the purpose of taking advantage of the federal farm loan act. The district includes part of Sheridan, Garden and Grant counties.

Two buyers from Utah were in Lincoln a few days ago purchasing hogs, which will be sold to boys and girls ject conducted by the agricultural extension service of Utah.

O. H. Liebers of Beatrice has bought

in Ohio and Wisconsin 100 head of Holstein cattle for farmers of Gage. Pawnee, Seward and Madison counties. The price was about \$25,000. Bishop James A. Duffy of the Grand

Island diocese of the Catholic church, bought the home of Mrs. John Schwynn at Grand Island. He will make his home there.

Fire destroyed the Hartman Furniture company, the Berg Clothing company and several other small business houses in Omaha, causing a loss estimated at \$500,000.

Hastings farmer, just \$2,500, according to a jury's verdict. Baker sued for \$150,000

Hogs sold for \$12.65 per hundredweight on the South Omaha market a few days ago, the highest price in the history of the market. A number of traps set to catch prai

county by Game Warden Kosters during his recent visit to Niobrara. Colonel C. G. Barns, editor of the Argus, sustained a dislocated shoul-

der and severe bruises by falling down a flight of stairs at Albion. A movement has been started in Crete, backed by the Commercial charge dealers not over nine pounds

club, to pave a number of streets in the town during the coming summer. A. F. Howell has sold the Gothenburg Independent and will again engage in ministerial work. The new owner is C. W. Bolkin.

A. B. Wood of the Gering Courier newly organized Gering Community the hearts of hundreds of parents. league.

Sioux county's land sales since January 1 total about 20,000 acres at about \$12 an acre.

Geneva's high school was closed for several days, just recently, as the result of an epidemic of diphtheria.

The Joseph Smallen ranch in Colfax county was sold recently for \$95,000, or \$150 per acre.

Karl Harms, well known stock farmer, was instantly killed when his car overturned near Howe.

What is said to be the highest price ever paid for a cow by a Dodge county breeder was recorded when Charles Hoffman of Scribner gave \$1,250 for a 2-year-old Hereford heifer at a sale in South Omaha. Mr. Hoffman recently sold four head from his herd at the Denver live stock show at fancy

The second annual "University Day in Omaha" will be held either April 20 or May 4, according to a suggestion of Dean Engberg of the univer-

Carl Harmn, farmer of Auburn, was instantly killed when his automobile was wrecked near Nebraska about the middle of the summer, ac-City. Harmn's neck was broken. The car was being driven without lights ing is being erected at a cost of \$200,when the accident occurred.

Petitions are in circulation in Plymouth for a special election to vote old one being wholly inadequate to meet present requirements.

The sum of \$9,000 has been raised by the finance committee of the Holdrege Commercial and set aside for publicity work.

The appointment of General J. J. Pershing to succeed the late General Funston as commander of the Southern division United States army is a matter of special gratification throughout Nebraska because of his wide acquaintance in this state. Pershing is a graduate of the state university at Lincoln, and was commandant of the cadets from 1891 to 1895. He made his home in the Capital City for several years and has relatives living there now. Pershing lost his wife and three children in the burning of the Presidio, San Francisco, on Au-

gust 27, 1915. The United States Department of Agriculture makes the announcement for the benefit of all sportsmen that rom February 1 to September 6 is a losed season throughout the entire United States on waterfowl and other nigratory game birds. The open scason on waterfowl in Nebraska, according to the announcement, is from September 16 to December 31, inlusive, and violators of the law may be prosecuted at any time within three years after an offense is committed.

There is a movement on foot to orcanize a state potato growers' association. This will be a very important thing to the potato growers of Nebraska and will have the effect of increasing the production and quality and of giving the Nebraska potatoes a national publicity and the market favor they deserve. A meeting to form the association will be held in the spring, probably at Alliance, the center of the potato growing district of the state.

Walter G. Gwinn, the farmhand who was frozen during the blizzard when he took refuge in a haystack near Hooper, underwent a surgical operation in Fremont for the removal of his left leg above the knee. As soon as he recovers from the effects of this operation, he will have his right limb removed.

Mr. and Mrs. John Wollenhaupt of North Platte recently celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary. Mr. Wollenhaupt is 83 years old and has been a member of the I. O. O. F. lodge for 49 years. His wife is 78 years old and has belonged to the Rebekahs for 45 years. Over 200 persons paid their respects to the aged couple.

Henry Cohagen, aged 25, a lineman, died at North Platte as the result of who take part in the pig-raising pro- a fall from a pole. A rope broke which caused Cohagen to fall to the ground, fracturing his skull. Cohagen became unconscious while working on the pole. The workmen attempted to lower him to the ground and the rope broke.

Statistics published by the United States Geological Survey show that during the year 1916 there were 10,000 tons of potash produced in this country, valued at \$3,506,000. The largest output, the report says, comes from the alkali lakes in the northwestern part of Nebraska

Five or six Nebraska members of the lower house of congress voted in favor of the Reed amendment to the Attacking John M. Baker's wife will postoffice appropriation bill which forcost Samuel A. Westings, wealthy bids the interstate shipment of liquor into dry territory. Representative Sloan of the Fourth district voted against the provision.

At a good roads booster meeting at Blair, business men of the town pledged the sum of \$500 to maintain the new George Washington National highway, which is to pass through rie chickens were destroyed in Knox Blair. Resolutions were adopted endorsing government aid in building

roads. Housewives over Nebraska are paying 75 to 85 cents a peck for potatoes, while dispatches tell us that the British cabinet is regulating prices there and permitting growers to sterling per ton. That is equal to

\$1.35 per bushel With six deaths from meningitis since January 1, and that many more cases reported to the health office, Omaha is again facing an epidemic of the infant disease, which on several has been elected president of the previous occasions brought terror to

G. W. Huston, Kearney, has the distinction of having sold the first lambs at \$14.75 per hundredweight on the South Omaha market. The sale was made last Tuesday.

The Eden Baptist church of Stromsburg has just closed a series of revival meetings, with seventy-five new

converts, mostly adults. Fremont won the state volley ball championship at the state tournament in York. Omaha got second place

and York third. Work is expected to begin on the news Union Pacific passenger stations at North Platte and Grand Island just as soon as weather will permit. At North Platte the foundation is in for the new depot to replace the one destroyed by fire some time ago. Nothing has been done on the Grand Island station except preparing plans.

stone and brick Rate of electricity for residence lighting in Beatrice has been cut from 12 to 9 cents a kilowatt hour.

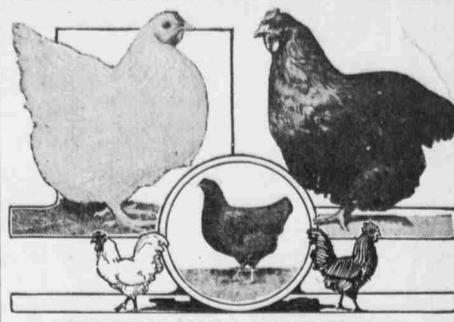
Both structures are to be built of

Fremont's new hotel, the "Pathfinder," will be ready for the opening cording to the contractors. The build-000

Tecumseh citizens celebrated the opening of their new \$20,000 Burlingbonds for a new school building, the ton passenger station with a banquet attended by several hundred townspeople and a number of railroad of-

Contract has been let for plans of the new \$30,000 Methodist church to be built at Holdrege.

PROFITABLE GAINS IN FATTENING PENS



WYANDOTTE, RHODE ISLAND RED AND ORPINGTON.

Anconas, etc., do not, as a rule, make profitable gains in the fattening pen. change, Cockerels of the breeds of Rocks, Orpingtons, Rhode Island Reds, Wyandottes, Game, Dorkings, etc., are usually preferred. When a bird is between three and four months of age it makes the greatest gain when put in of the feeder. When fed on a mixa fattening pen or crate. If the market demands a heavy bird it would be a batter in skim milk or buttermilk, necessary to leave them on the range a little longer, as there is a limit to duced. the time that a bird can be profitably confined in the feeding pen.

The most economical gains are usually made the first two weeks of feeding, and there is seldom much profit large number of turkeys, and possibly in feeding longer than three weeks. some water fowl.

In order to make the most economi- We have known birds left in the crate cal gains it is necessary to have the for four or five weeks to be thinner utility or heavy breeds of fowl. The after being fed that length of time lighter breeds, as Leghorns, Minorcas, than they were at the end of the second week, says a writer in an ex-

> Crate fattening will increase the weight of a bird by one pound or a trifle more in three weeks, the exact amount depending on the type of bird, the kind of feed, and the carefulness ture of finely ground grain, mixed to flesh of the highest quality is pro-

> Chickens are not the only kind of fowl that are fattened in pens or crates. In most of the poultry-fattening establishments will be found a

METHODS OF PICKING FROZEN COMBS AND WATTLES

Suggestions Given as to Successful Poultry Practices.

Much Depends on Whether Fowls Are for Future Consumption or for Immediate Use-Fowls Keep Better If Not Drawn.

Dry picking and wet picking are the two general methods used in dressing poultry, depending upon whether the birds are for future consumption or immediate use.

"Successful dry picking depends on the proper sticking of the fowl," said F. E. Fox of the poultry department in the Kansas State Agricultural college, "as the longer the bird is left after sticking, the harder the feathers set. Dry picking takes a trifle longer, but if the sale of the fowl is to be delayed for any reason, as by shipment

or storing, it should be dry-picked. "When the fowis are dry-picked they are bled by thrusting a sharp knife through the mouth until the jugular vein is pierced. Blood will immediately begin to flow from the mouth. The brain is then pierced through the eye. This loosens the nerves that have control over the feathers. After this portion of the brain has been paralyzed the feathers readily yield themselves to the hands of the picker.

There are two general methods of dry-picking poultry, the bench method and the string method. Commercially, the bench method is generally preferred.

"Poultry keeps better if it is not drawn. The head should be neatly wrapped in paper, and the feet left intact.

"If the fowl is for immediate use, it is a trifle quicker to scald it and use the wet method of picking. In this method the 'bloom' is spoiled and the bird will not keep so well. All scalded fowls are immediately drawn. In cold weather one can send the birds almost any distance by parcel post."

TROUGHS USED FOR FEEDING

Domineering Fawls Keep Timid Ones Back-Best to Scatter Grains in Deep, Clean Litter.

There are domineering hens in every flock which keep the timid ones in a constant state of fear and subjection. When food is given in a trough where the hens can eat their fill, the domineering hens keep some of the others back and often eat twice as much as their share, while the less fortunate ones do not get enough. The result is both fat and skinny fowls in the same flock-which is always undesirable.

The way to avoid it is not to feed in troughs entirely, but to feed pretty have tested the fertility of eggs from largely of dry grains, cracked grains your yards by running test hatches. and seeds, and scatter them in a deep, clean litter that compels every hen to your fowls continue in good health, hunt and scratch for her share, thus then you are fairly safe in selling giving each one an equal opportunity. eggs.

REMEDY FOR SICK CHICKENS

Epsom Salts Is Most Effective for Alling Fowls-Hair a Teaspoonful Is Standard Dose.

Epsom salts is one of our most effective remedies for sick chickens. Salts act best If the fowl has been starved for half a day or so before giv-

Half a teaspoonful to a grown fowl is a standard dose. Sometimes more or less is indicated,

Troubles Largely Due to Poor Condition of Fowl and Dampness-Closed Houses Are Bad.

Frozen or frosted combs and wattles are common at this season, whether you house your birds in closed buildings or those with open fronts. Usually the birds in the closed houses get

the worst of it. Freezing of the headgear is largely a matter of poor condition of the bird, and dampness with sudden changes in temperature. Now and then a healthy, vigorous specimen, in good order, will get frostbite from undue exposure, especially to freezing winds, but generally there will be no severe frostbite under ordinary circumstances unless the bird is out of condition from indigestion, faulty nutrition, too much

handling, etc. Exposure to severe cold winds when headgear is wet with drinking water is a common cause of freezing. For treatment, thaw out the frosted parts by rubbing with cold petrolatum; then apply a mixture of one ounce of oil with one teaspoonful of spirits of

turpentine. Apply daily. Do not take the bird into a warm room. Warmth will cause trouble.

GATHER SPRING EGGS OFTEN

Those Intended for Hatching Should Be Kept as Near Temperature of 50 Degrees as Possible.

During early spring eggs for hatching must be gathered several times a day until the weather gets mild and warm. A chilled egg is no better than an infertile one; in fact, it spoils much quicker in the machine.

Eggs after gathering should be kept at a temperature as near 50 degrees as possible. Never allow them to remain in a temperature below 40 degrees for any length of time as then the vitality of the chick will suffer. If they are allowed to remain exposed to too warm a temperature, or a greatly varying temperature, the same thing happens. They may hatch out chicks all right, but the chicks will never be robust. Leaving eggs in the nest to be set upon and warmed up several times during the day is another way to lower chick vitality.

Attention to these little details pays well in the long run. Better hatch out 100 chicks with 100 per cent vitality than 300 and raise only about onethird of them to a maturity of doubtful vigor.

SELLING EGGS FOR HATCHING

Test Fertility Before Offering Eggs of Purebreds for Sale-Get Reasonable Results.

If you have sufficient breedingstock purebreds, to warrant offering hatching eggs for sale, wait till you If results are reasonably good and

HEN MANURE VERY VALUABLE

Analysis Shows Fertilizer to Be Rich in Phosphoric Acid, Potash and Nitrogen.

It is claimed that 100 pounds of fresh hen manure contains 50 pounds water, 16 pounds organic matter, 56 pounds ash.

Analysis shows that poultry manure contains 2.43 per cent phosphoric acid. 2.26 per cent potash, and 3.85 per cent