

NEBRASKA HAPPENINGS  
DURING THE PAST WEEK

Brief Outline of Important Events  
Throughout the State of Interest  
to the General Reader.

E. P. Smith, council for the Nebraska food administration, warns that any person found guilty of willfully hoarding foodstuffs faces imprisonment for two years or a fine of \$5,000, or both under the law passed by congress. Any person holding, contracting for or arranging for necessities of life in excess of reasonable requirements for an unreasonable time will be considered a "hoarder" and punished, says Mr. Smith.

A unique campaign has just been closed in Grand Island. A Grand Island newspaper advertised and conducted a tobacco kit fund for the soldiers in France, specifying at the outset that this fund should be a free will offering. A goal of 500 kits had been set as a minimum, being one for every Hall county man in the service at any place. At the end of ten days the fund was oversubscribed by 150 kits.

The United States bureau of markets is offering to send free to any Nebraska farmer or live stock feeder, daily bulletins showing the live stock loadings and condition of the meat trade. Those desirous of being placed on the mailing list are invited to send their names to the Bureau of Markets, 4030 South Twenty-fourth street, Omaha.

Nebraska's quota of the government "baby" securities is \$26,000,000 and every man, woman and child in the state will be expected to purchase \$20 worth or more. The government grants twelve months in which the bonds may be sold. Every postmaster and rural mail carrier in the state is a salesman for these certificates.

A farmer near Edgar shipped in 125 head of hogs from Kansas the other day, all of which were supposed to be immune from cholera, but upon receiving them, many were found to be sick and some have died from cholera.

In urging farmers over the country to increase pork production fifteen per cent, the Department of Agriculture, at Washington, asks Nebraska stock raisers to do their bit by raising 20 per cent more hogs next year than formerly.

During the week ending Dec. 8 Omaha was the top hog market of the United States. Prices paid at the Nebraska market averaged 50 cents per hundredweight more than any competing market in the country.

The Saunders county Red Cross chapter has completed its shipment of 545 Christmas packages to Chicago for the soldiers and sailors. The quota assigned the county was 500 packages.

Two workmen lost their lives at Plattsmouth while excavating for a sewer. The two men killed R. D. Dalton, 55, and Edward McCulley, 24, were buried under five feet of earth.

Seven hundred and four carloads of live stock were received at the South Omaha Stock Yards December 4. On the same date 30 years ago 30 cars of stock were received at the yards.

Preparations are being made to build a new consolidated school at Trumbull for the districts comprising parts of Clay, Adams, Hamilton and Hall counties.

At the dedication of the new Methodist church at Ames a total of \$2,000 was raised, leaving only \$300 of the \$5,000 which the new structure cost, unaccounted for.

The farmers and hog raisers of Kearney county have effected an organization for the control of cholera. Such an organization has been effected in Buffalo county.

The whole town of Genoa turned out to bid farewell to eleven young men who left for Omaha to enlist in various branches of the nation's fighting service.

Alpha Graf, a farmer living six miles northeast of Beatrice, states that his corn is yielding about sixty-five bushels to the acre.

Nebraska Methodists are carrying on a campaign to raise \$500,000 as an endowment for the support of worn-out ministers.

The Table Rock high school has subscribed \$350 to the Y. M. C. A. war work fund.

For the first time in the history of Stella, milk is now selling for 10 cents a quart.

The South Platte draft board of appeals has refused agricultural exemptions to 1,062 farmers and granted them to 1,000 others. Two hundred and twenty-five of the agricultural claims have been appealed to President Wilson.

To meet the labor shortage on the farms of Nebraska and to insure proper planting and harvesting of crops next year, State Food Administrator Wattles suggests the importation of foreign labor. Mr. Wattles says 100,000 men could be used in this state.

Quite a number of farmers are losing hogs in different parts of York county. Careful examination has been made and all that can be found is lungs being inflamed, which denote pneumonia.

A large corn crib containing 1,000 bushels of corn was destroyed by fire near Table Rock, on the Joe Miller tenant farm. The fire is believed to have been of incendiary origin.

Union hall, six miles east of Blue Springs, has been torn down and a substantial community school built on the ground.

During a high wind a big French-type army balloon broke loose from its moorings at Fort Omaha and dragging 6,000 feet of steel cable swept a path of 800 miles through Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma. For general destroying purposes a cyclone had little on that fall. Pulled across country at high speed this cable dashed aside telegraph lines, wire fences and in fact everything with which it came in contact. After switching its devastating tail for 24 hours the huge bag was captured near Trenton, Hitchcock county, by its cable becoming entangled in an iron bridge.

Before 9,000 football rooters, sprinkled here and there with khaki, Camp Dodge triumphed over Camp Funston at Omaha by the score of 3 to 0. It was pronounced by many of those in attendance as the greatest athletic event ever staged in the middle west. The sum of \$12,000 over expenses was realized for the contest, all of which will go to equip gymnasium quarters at the two army camps.

One of Lincoln's leading daily papers says that Kaiserism in the public schools of Lincoln is a direct product of the activities of the German-American state alliance. "The introduction of German language instruction into the grade schools of the city is traced to the pressure exerted by that organization upon the board of education and the former superintendent of schools," says the paper.

Representatives of several old political parties met at Lincoln and organized a new national party for Nebraska. A. G. Wray of York, James Pearson, Moorefield, and C. C. Porter of Omaha, are leaders in the movement. It is planned to hold a convention in Lincoln some time this winter.

Food Administrator Wattles told county administrators from 56 Nebraska counties at Omaha that hoarding of foodstuffs is being carried on over the state to a great extent. "Teach them they are wrong," he told the committeemen. "Be lenient at first," he said, "but if they persist be firm as a rock."

John Sossengren, who died at his home in Fremont a few days ago at the age of 81 years, is believed to be the last survivor of the crew that manned the confederate battleship Alabama at the time it was sunk in its fight off the coast of France with the Kearsage.

An audit of the books of Adams county indicates that the county has a total shortage of \$7,671.79. The audit resulted from the conviction of C. H. Hudson, former county clerk. A petition is now in circulation asking the release of Hudson from the penitentiary.

Patriotic demonstrations were in evidence in Loup City when the unpopular yellow was applied to the fronts of the Zimmerman and Waite garage, C. W. Fletcher shoe store and M. Leschinsky general store.

Helena predinet, a German settlement east of Sterling, has organized a Home Guard company. While the majority of the farmers are Germans, they are practically all loyal citizens and true to "Old Glory."

Walter Anderson, attorney of Lincoln and chairman of Lincoln exemption board No. 2, has been assigned to take charge of all Nebraska exemption boards by the war department at Washington.

The Custer County Khaki Backers is the name of a new organization perfected at Broken Bow last week. The object of the organization is to promote loyalty to the government and to aid wherever possible to win the war.

Tabulations made in Washington of food pledge cards signed by Nebraskaans shows this state went over the goal estimated by Food Administrator Wattles at 175,000, by 10,502, the total being 191,502.

Business was suspended in several Keith county towns during the funeral of Private G. H. Meyer at Brule, who died at Camp Funston.

Vacation is to be from Dec. 14 to Jan. 2 in Beatrice schools, several days longer than usual. This is to allow young men to husk corn.

A monster meeting was held at Superior the other day at which a home guard was formed.

At a Red Cross supper and dance given at Rosalia, the sum of \$630 was netted for the society.

Rumors are current that the Lincoln Western League Baseball club will be moved to Sioux City next year. Organization of the Orleans Home Guard has been completed. It has a muster roll of 165 members.

During the next two weeks women of Nebraska are asked to furnish 30,000 surgical dressings by the National Red Cross society, this state's apportionment of 1,000,000 dressings to be prepared by the central division between December 10 and 24.

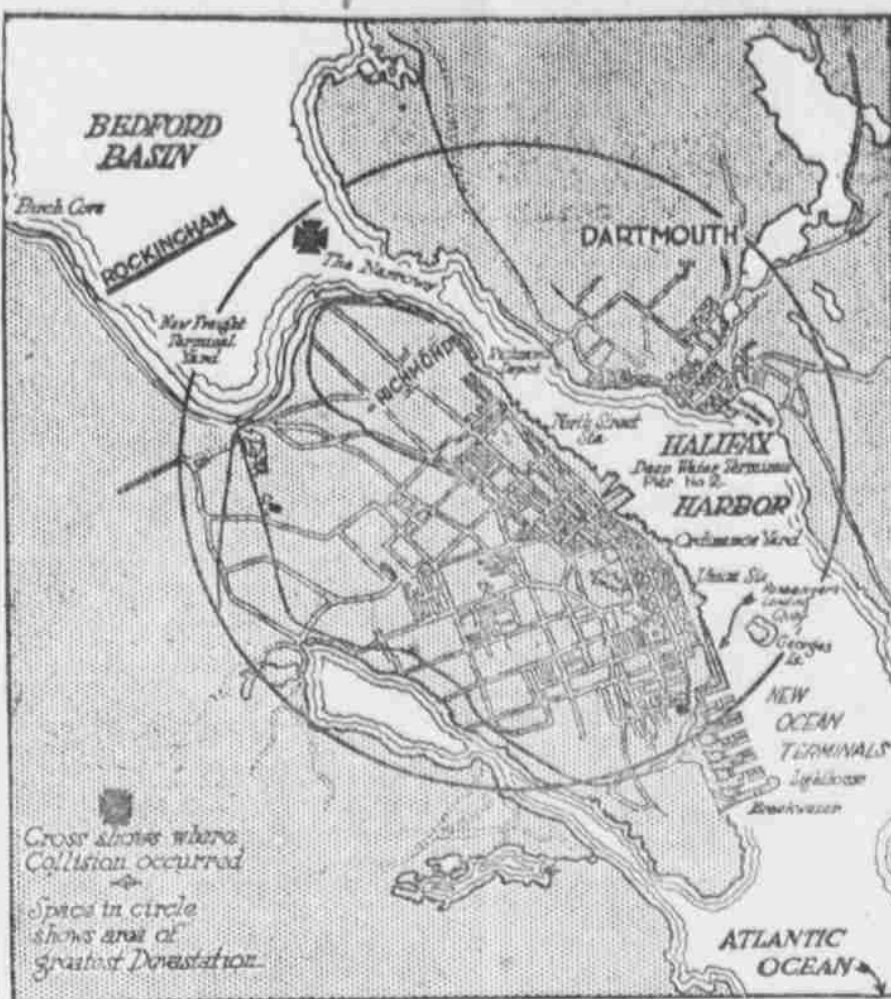
Over 300 boys attended the older boys' conference of the Y. M. C. A. at Fremont. The following officers were elected: President, Dan Longwell, Omaha; vice president, Cecil Sears, Abilene; secretary, Carroll Wiggins, Exeter.

Thousands of stock hogs are being shipped into Hamilton county from Texas, Arkansas and other southern states. They are being sold to the farmers at 20 cents per pound. It is being predicted that cold weather will bring about serious losses among these southern hogs.

The ladies' aid society of Henry raised \$275 at a concert and bazaar and used the money toward paying on the debt of the new \$5,000 church.

Several leases for land have been made in Scottsbluff county for the purpose of prospecting for oil.

## SHOWING CITY AND HARBOR OF HALIFAX

HALIFAX HORROR  
STUNS DOMINION

Disaster Probably Most Fearful  
That Ever Occurred on the  
American Continent.

## TOTAL LOSS OF LIFE UNKNOWN

Will Surely Be Numbered by Thousands—Stricken City One of Great  
Britain's Important Military  
Posts—Its History.

The disaster at Halifax, which cost the lives of at least 2,000 people, though the exact number will never be known, plunged the Dominion into mourning. It probably ranks as the most fearful that ever occurred on the American continent. Residents of Halifax and thousands of volunteer relief workers who came into the city were dazed at the extent of the horror.

The Belgian relief ship *Imo* collided with the French munition vessel, *Mont Blanc*, loaded with 3,000 tons of T. N. T. and a large quantity of benzene.

The impact set fire to a deck load of benzene on the French ship and the flames quickly communicated with the munitions, resulting in a practical bombardment of the city.

The zone of destruction in Halifax itself extended from the North street railway station as far north as Africville to Bedford basin and covered an area of about two square miles in the section known as Richmond. The buildings which were not demolished by the force of the terrific explosion were destroyed by the fire which followed.

District Densely Populated.

The devastated district was the older part of Halifax and thickly populated. It contained, in addition to Citadel hill, many churches and schools, the railway station, government dockyard, Wellington barracks, Admiralty House (the official residence of the admiral in command of the North American British squadron), the military hospital, post office, provisional parliament building, city hall, the ordnance department, most of the department stores, all of the telegraph and cable offices and a few hotels.

The better residence district was almost unharmed. It lies southward from the Queens, and includes most of the churches, including St. Mary's Roman Catholic cathedral.

In the fire-swept section were the parliament buildings, post office, three newspaper offices, Royal Bank of Canada, Canadian Bank of Commerce, Bank of Nova Scotia, Bank of British North America and the Bank of Montreal.

Other structures destroyed are Dalhousie college, two Roman Catholic convents, the Presbyterian Theological college, the government technical college, 42 churches and 80 factories, including iron foundries, breweries, distilleries and two sugar refineries.

## FAMOUS FOR BEAUTY.

One of the oldest of Canadian cities, Halifax also is one of the most picturesque. It has two principal beauty spots, Point Pleasant park and the Public Gardens. The first lies between the North Arm, a flood three miles long, and the harbor proper. The North Arm is the cruising basin for canoes and pleasure craft of small size.

Two hundred acres of land make up Point Pleasant park, and the woods have been left in a wild state. The roads are splendid. They were built for military purposes. The park has a pair of magnificent iron gates given to the city by Sir William Young, a former chief justice of the province. They are set at the head of Young avenue, one of the principal roads of the park.

A mile from Young avenue gates

are the Public Gardens, the most cultivated spot in Canada, and said to be its most beautiful garden. An area of 20 acres is thus given up for purpose of pleasure right in the heart of the city. When the land was originally taken up for park purposes it lay on the outskirts of the town, and was a hunting field. It is laid out in formal beds, a band stand and precise walks.

Other Noted Buildings.

The Provincial Building, the Government House, the City Hall, the Dominion Building and the new Customs House were among the edifices of which the natives of Halifax boasted. Other buildings of prominence are the Dalhousie College, Provincial Museum, Academy of Music, Y. M. C. A. Building, Odd Fellows' Temple and the three principal hotels, Halifax, Prince George and Queen's.

Among the famous edifices of the city is the St. Paul's Episcopal Church, said to be the oldest Protestant church built in North America. It was constructed in Boston in 1750, a year after the town was founded, and carried in schooners to Halifax, where the parts were put together. The story is told that when Cornwallis wrote the Earl of Halifax he wanted to build a church the earl replied by sending to Canada the architect who built St. Peter's in London.

St. Matthew's Presbyterian Church, which was built during the late years of the eighteenth century, was destroyed by fire in 1857, only to be rebuilt.

One of the most beautiful buildings in the city is the St. Mary's Catholic Cathedral. With a tall white spire extending upward, it is visible for miles.

Religion of all denominations seems to thrive in Nova Scotia, for in a recent census of religions only 543 persons were listed as belonging to no sect. At present there are 129,000 Roman Catholics, 106,000 Presbyterians, 83,000 Baptists, 66,000 Anglicans, 57,000 Methodists and a few thousand spread through the Adventists, Disciples and Jews. Of the latter there were 437.

Eighty years ago, when the province was small and practically uninhabited, the Presbyterians were the largest body, although there was a flourishing colony of Roman Catholics at Cape Breton. The Baptists then were an inconsiderable body of poor peasants with badly educated teachers and preachers. Today the Baptists stand third in the list of denominations.

## One of World's Best Harbors.

"Halifax has one of the finest harbors in the world and is the chief Canadian gateway for exports. It is the capital of Nova Scotia, with a population of 60,000. The city is three miles long and a mile wide; is built on the eastern slope of a small peninsula.

"It is a garrison city and has eleven forts and batteries, including the Citadel, one of the strongest fortifications in America.

"The harbor is open all year. Its inner haven is Bedford Basin, 20 miles in circumference, in which the collision and explosion occurred. I have seen as many as 140 ocean vessels in the basin at once.

"Vast new wharves and railway terminals are being constructed by the government at a cost of \$30,000,000, but these are near the tip of the peninsula at the south, and evidently were not harmed.

"Halifax is 610 miles nearer Liverpool than New York for trans-Atlantic liners. It is 600 miles from New York.

Founded By Cornwallis in 1749.

"Colonel Edward Cornwallis left Britain in 1749 and founded the city. The French armada gathered there in 1757 bent on demolishing Louisbourg, only to meet disaster through storm and plague. Howe went to Halifax with his men after they were defeated at Boston. Great numbers of royalists from New York found refuge there in the revolution. Halifax was the chief British base of supplies.

"One hundred and six warships made harbor there in 1812. The expedition that burnt Washington started from Halifax. And it was there the Shannon sailed with her prize, the *Chesapeake*."

## SERIOUS SHORTAGE

STARTS CAMPAIGN TO INCREASE  
PRODUCTION OF PORK

## NEWS FROM STATE CAPITAL

Items of Varied Interest Gathered  
from Reliable Sources  
at the State  
House

If Nebraska falls in its hog production campaign, one of the most acute shortages in pork products in this section in years may result, it was pointed out at conferences at the state farm, inaugurating Nebraska's pork campaign. With the exception of four states to the south Nebraska has been asked for as great a production of pork as any state in the country. The 20 per cent increase asked for is only exceeded by Missouri, Alabama, Kansas, and Iowa, the last two states exceeding by only 5 per cent.

Eighteen Nebraska farmers and agricultural workers have received their appointments as special workers in the pork campaign which has just been started. Each farmer chosen will have a certain section of the state to look after. He will interest other farmers and will seek to have them breed one extra sow for every five that they have been breeding in the past.

Only the failure of a state to do its part can defeat the organized national campaign for a 15 per cent increase in hog production next year, assert officials of the United States department of agriculture, now co-operating with the states in putting the program into effect.

If farmers do not reach the quotas set for them, specialists say a more acute shortage of pork products than now prevails will result, extremely high prices for hams, bacon, and lard will prevail, consumers will suffer from the high prices and the shortage of necessary animal fats, and only a few will benefit. On the other hand, if the systematized program is carried out, a market will have been provided for about one-third of the 1917 corn crop, the demands on the country for pork products can be met without strain, prices to the producer should be remunerative and prices paid by consumers should be reasonable.

The workers chosen, their districts and the counties composing them, follow:

1. Charles Hawk, Chadron — Sioux, Dawes, Sheridan, Cherry, Box Butte.
2. J. A. Holden, Mitchell — Scotts Bluff, Morrill, Banner, Kimball, Cheyenne.
3. W. P. Snyder, North Platte — Garden, Deuel, Arthur, Keith, McPherson, Logan, Lincoln (part).
4. George C. Junkin, Smithfield — Perkins, Frontier, Gosper, Lincoln (part).
5. O. H. Hull, Alma — Chase, Hayes, Dundy, Hitchcock, Red Willow, Furnas, Harlan.
6. O. G. Smith, Kearney — Sherman, Howard, Buffalo, Hall, Kearney, Hamilton.
7. George Jackson, Nelson — Franklin, Adams, Webster, Nuckolls, Clay.
8. E. R. Danielson, Lincoln — Fillmore, Saline, Thayer, Jefferson, Gage, Lancaster.
9. J. O. Shroyer, Humboldt — Johnson, Nemaha, Pawnee, Richardson.
10. Raymond Pollard, Nehawka — Cass, Otoe.
11. E. Z. Russell, Omaha — Douglas, Washington.
12. C. H. Gustafson, Lincoln — Boone, Nance, Platte, Colfax, Dodge, Saunders.
13. O. E. Mickey, Osceola — Polk, Butler, York, Seward, Merrick.
14. Charles Graff, Bancroft — Cedar, Dixon, Dakota, Wayne, Cuming, Thurston, Burr (part).
15. C. Y. Thompson, West Point — Madison, Burr (part), Pierce, Antelope, Madison, Stanton.
16. Alva Wilson, Lincoln — Brown, Reck, Holt, Boyd, Keya Paha.
17. Elmer Young, Lexington — Blaine, Loup, Custer, Dawson.
18. L. O. Welch, Ansley — Grant, Thomas, Hooker, Valley, Wheeler, Garfield.

## Funds Rolling Into Secretary's Office.

Business continues to show an increase in the office of Secretary of State Pool when compared with the same month of the preceding year, as for instance the total cash receipts in the office proper for the month of November foot up \$4,810.00 as compared with \$1,492.99 in 1916, or a gain in the month of \$3,317.10. The funds were collected last month from the following sources: Corporation permits, \$116; for filing articles of incorporation, \$3,674.10; for license resident agent, \$100; for notary commissions, \$59; for brands, \$506.50; for cert's and transcripts, \$223.75; for sale of statutes, \$77; all other sources, \$6.40; total, \$4,810.

The farmers of the wheat country of western Nebraska have grown impatient over the failure of requests made to the state railway commission and the state council of defense for aid in getting their grain to market, and have changed to a demand for assistance.

Petitions have been filed with both bodies in which it is set up that conditions have grown intolerable, and that if the farmers are to respond to the call to raise more wheat a way must be found by which their present crop can be moved to market.

Warns Against Christmas Tree Fires.

Fire Commissioner W. S. Ridgell recommends the abolition of the Christmas tree as a needless luxury until after the war in a bulletin just issued. Otherwise, it is urged that stores show windows and Christmas trees have their holiday decorations of non-inflammable material instead of cotton and celluloid, and that electric lights replace candles as a protection against fire. The bulletin advocates that careless fire be regarded as a crime and that people guilty of negligence be punished.

## CO-OPERATIVE SERVICE

200 Nebraska Towns Will Make Garden Surveys.

Two hundred Nebraska towns have agreed to co-operate with the agricultural extension service in conducting a garden survey this fall and winter, looking forward to a renewal of the "war garden" activities next summer in Lincoln the work will be done by the Junior Civic and Industrial league.

According to C. W. Watson, leader of the junior division of the extension service, the present survey will include the acquisition of all necessary information. The work will be done entirely by boys and girls working in co-operation with the school authorities.

In each town, owners of back yards and vacant lots will be asked to tell whether they will garden or rent the property next year. The students will also ascertain the kind of soil, the available supply of fertilizer in the town, and similar information.

The location of each garden spot will be recorded on a card with the details concerning it. It is believed several thousand acres of land will thus become available for gardening in Nebraska next spring.

## State's Accounts Overdrawn

Overdrafts amounting to \$575,000 are shown by State Treasurer Hall's monthly report at the close of business for November. Of this large sum, \$229,000 was in the state normal fund, \$190,000 in the state university activities fund, \$56,000 in the temporary university fund, \$68,000 in the state aid bridge fund, and \$35,000 in the state institutions improvements fund. The general fund balance declined during the month from \$135,000 to \$50,000. Cash deposits in banks aggregated \$284,000 at the close of the month. The total investments of the educational trust fund are \$10,243,000. There is \$340,000 in the temporary school fund, and this will be increased by the time of the January apportionment.

## Can Do No Business in State

Six German insurance companies that have held licenses in Nebraska must cease doing business in the state, under the federal government's order forbidding them to continue operations in the United States. Five of them have headquarters in New York and the sixth in Washington, D. C. The names of the companies and amounts of insurance carried are: Prussian National, \$2,394,930; Hamburg-Bremen, \$1,391,470; Anchen & Munich, \$1,068,077; Nord-Deutsche, \$137,550; Mannheim, \$72; Frankfurt (not stated). The first of the five are fire insurance companies. The last does a general insurance business, including fire, accident and some other lines.

## State Reclaims 120 Acres of Land

Land Commissioner Shumway's just learned that the state owns 120 acres of land in Douglas county, worth \$100 an acre, which is not under lease at the present time and has not been for several years. In fact, the land was reported a few years ago as having been swallowed up by the Missouri river. The fact that it is in existence is shown by a report from Douglas county on reappraisements covering a number of school land tracts there. The river is supposed to have once more changed its course and surrendered the land again to the state.

## Reference Was to Alien Enemy

Land Commissioner Shumway's suggestion to curb alien ownership of land under the absolute anti-alien state law referred only to enemy aliens, he makes it plain in a corrective statement just issued. Aliens friendly to the United States may be assured of co-operation of the department, he said. "Anyone holding a state contract, or other land, and who is an alien enemy, ought to lose it," he said. "There are too many American boys on the battle line to allow them to be shot in the back by enemies at home."

Inheritance tax on shares of Nebraska estates bequeathed to persons not of blood kinship to the testator is to be computed as a lump, and not on the installment plan like the federal income tax, according to the way the state law on that subject is construed by the attorney general's office. That is to say, the same percentage of tax applies uniformly on the whole estate, and is not a graduated affair.

The effect of this ruling, if upheld by the courts, will be to insure a considerably larger revenue from inheritance taxes than if estates were permitted to pay a low percentage on the first \$5,000, \$10,000 or \$20,000 and the highest rate only on the larger amounts.

The board of control has announced the appointment of Dr. W. S. Yager of Nebraska City as physician at the state school for the blind, located there. He takes the place of Dr. Claude Wilson of Watson, lately deceased.

The state board of educational lands and funds has traded off \$500,000 of government liberty bonds for home securities bearing a higher rate of interest. In addition it has traded \$50,000 of government land bank bonds for home securities bearing a higher rate of interest. The liberty bonds bear 3 1/2 per cent, but were exchangeable for 4 per cent. Liberty bonds. The land bank bonds bear 4 1/4 per cent. interest. Both were exchanged for 5 per cent bonds issued by Nebraska counties, school districts and cities and villages.