

NEBRASKA IN BRIEF

Timely News Culled From All Parts of the State, Reduced for the Busy.

SCORES OF EVENTS COVERED

Omaha was chosen for the next meeting; resolutions urging the government to increase farm loans from a maximum of \$10,000 to \$25,000; asking the constitutional convention at Lincoln to incorporate several amendments in the new constitution directly of interest to farmers, and several other proposals of far-reaching importance marked the annual convention of the Nebraska Farmers Congress at Omaha. Those who attended claim it was one of the best gatherings of farmers held in the state for some time.

Awards for members of the Junior pig clubs in Nebraska for 1919, announced by the college of agriculture at Lincoln, show that Walter Briggs of Seward county was champion pig raiser of the state. Le Roy Bowlin of Elm Creek was second and Earl Vauk of Sutton was champion Junior Hampshire raiser. Briggs won as prizes one plaque and a free trip to the State Farm at Lincoln next spring. Bowlin's prize was a bushel of alfalfa seed and Vauk won a September gift.

At the opening of the Mousel Bros. sale of Hereford cattle at Cambridge, fifty head of stock were sold at an average of more than \$5,100, shattering all sale records in Nebraska. One bull, Superior Mischief, sold for \$22,000. Buyers from all parts of the country attended the sale.

State Engineer Johnson in his annual report to the governor reports a total of 1,493 miles of state roads have been surveyed, 106 projects have been submitted to the federal government and eighty-two have been approved for Nebraska.

Following several attacks on O. G. Smith of Kearney, president of the Nebraska Farmers Congress, at the recent convention at Omaha for his advocacy of the state county agent law, the convention endorsed him as "100 per cent American."

Boasting a paid secretary at \$200 a month, and a 5-year lease on a new club room, besides spending \$2,500 on furniture and rugs, the newly organized Community club at Ord numbers 116 members.

McCook citizens sent a petition to the state railway commission at Lincoln, signed by 86 citizens, requesting that body to order a new Burlington depot there in place of the present wooden structure erected in 1882.

Commercial clubs representing nearly all the towns on the Burlington branch running from Aurora to Burwell, have made complaint to the state railway commission asking for better train service.

Fire caused by a defected furnace gutted the interior of the Methodist church at Pawnee City. All furniture fixtures and a \$2,000 pipe organ were destroyed. Damage to the building amounted to about \$5,000.

Beatrice Farmers' Union voted in favor of the establishment of a general store in the city by the Farmers' Union State exchange. Three stores of the kind are to be operated in the state.

A huge snowplow, which is pushed by two tractors and pulled by twelve horses, has been constructed by the Commercial club of Venango for the purpose of keeping the roads open.

Licenses were granted during 1919 to 28,150 insurance agents and 468 insurance companies were granted authority to do business in Nebraska by the state insurance bureau.

Several men have been arrested in connection with the robbery of the Farmers' State bank at Benson, a suburb of Omaha, of cash and bonds to the amount of \$115,000.

Nine men and one woman, alleged members of the communist party of America, were arrested at Omaha during the nation-wide round-up of radicals over the country.

The arguments on the validity of the referendum petitions on Governor McKelvie's code bill will be heard by the supreme court at Lincoln, February 2.

Fremont firemen announced they would take a 15-piece band to the state firemen's convention at Scottsbluff, January 20 to 22.

Voters of McCook at a special election put over a \$150,000 school bond proposition by a big majority.

Stanley E. Hain, Post No. 154 of the American legion, has been organized at Blair with 47 charter members.

Nebraska will be well represented at a meeting at Denver, January 23, called by farm organizations of several western states to devise ways and means to fight the so-called sugar trust.

Dr. W. E. J. Gatz of St. Paul Methodist church of Lincoln has accepted the appointment tendered him by the Nebraska conference of the Epworth league as dean of the institute, which will be held in Lincoln, July 20.

It is rumored in western Nebraska that the Union Pacific is to extend its line west from Gering this year.

The new consolidated school building at Holmsville, Gage county, erected at a cost of \$85,000, has been completed and turned over to the school board.

Nebraska owners of slot weighing machines must pay annual license and inspection fees of \$3 immediately, or the machines will be confiscated and owners subjected to fines. Chief George A. Williams of the state bureau of markets announced.

Forty-eight boys and girls, members of Junior pig raising clubs of 1919, won free trips to the State Farm at Lincoln the coming spring. They are: Sibyl Harris, Clarence Hask, Butler county; Homer Lytle, Lloyd Russell, Fillmore; Clarence Elliott, Carl Weber, Saline; Ray Barrett, Harold Leddingham, Scotts Bluff; Sonnie Ackerman, Boone; Esther Gage, Red Willow; Rupert Lowenstein, Kieth; Harold Miller, Cuming; Byron Bartling, Washington; Cyril Winkler, Dawson; Harry Knabe, Cass; Norval Clark, Seward; Beulah Morrison, Phelps; Theodore Gray, Douglas; Maris Long, Polk; Dale Eberly, Madison; Otto Risch, Colfax; Emil Urban, Valley; Le Roy Bowlin, Buffalo; Everett Steinbach, Saunders; Emerson Baker, Howard; Earl Daubert, Dodge; Harold Landson, Kearney; Earl Vauk, Clay; Elvin Lawrence, Adams; Roland Owens, Frontier; Charles Beerman, Kathleen Daly, Dakota; Sarah Newton, Cedar; John Pteer, Wayne; Verne Rice, Ford; Weirich, Pierce; Wesley Schram, Dixon; Gull Ellington, Antelope; Leonard Kuhl, Knox; Marshal Friend, Holt; Martin Wiley, Otto Dillon, Nuckolls; Floyd Robinson, Webster; Wilber Avery, Richardson; Raymond Wilson, Franklin; Glen Thompson, Harlan; Roy Bradley, Gage; Kenneth Vermont, Fillmore. The expense of the trips are to be borne by the Stock Exchange at South Omaha and the stock yards companies at Sioux City and St. Joseph.

Beatrice post of the American Legion has been named Billing Norman post No. 27 in honor of Arthur Billing, who was killed in action in France, and Andrew Norman, who died at his home in Beatrice soon after his return from overseas.

Rev. James L. Leonard, chaplain of the Nebraska department G. A. R., died at his home in University Place, a suburb of Lincoln. He was 78 years of age and had been a Methodist minister in Nebraska for nearly 40 years.

Sugar beet growers in the vicinity of Kearney have virtually agreed not to sell their crop during 1920 unless the American Beet Sugar Refining Co. pays more than \$9.50 per ton, the price paid last year for the product.

At a lively meeting of the Scribner Community club the other day a resolution was adopted favoring a bond issue of \$1,200,000, to be voted by the county this spring, for permanent highways in Dodge county.

Nebraska will be represented by an exhibit at the western potato exposition in Denver, January 20, 21, 22 and 23, according to Secretary Werner of the Nebraska Potato Improvement association.

Emergency telephone rates authorized by the State Railway commission for the Lincoln and the Bell telephone companies during the war period are to remain in effect another year.

According to figures made public by the state auditor's office, \$8,168,916 worth of bonds have been registered during the period from November 30, 1918, to January 1, 1919.

The paving bonds voted by the citizens of Fairbury at a recent election will give the city seventy more blocks of paving. The city now has twenty blocks of paved streets.

Expenditure of more than \$200,000 for a new municipal light plant and extension of the munny water plant, a sewer system and paved street is planned for Spencer this year.

Forty-eight persons were killed and thirty-three injured in twenty-six Nebraska railway grade accidents in the last year, according to the state railway commission's report.

Organized agriculture meetings, which will be held in Lincoln January 19 to 24, are expected to draw the largest crowds in the history of better agriculture.

Athletic authorities of the University of Nebraska at Lincoln have decided to make a bid towards getting back into the Missouri Valley conference.

Geo. Sawtell, Dodge county poultry raiser, reports he sold \$28 worth of eggs in a single month from a flock of thirty young pullets.

Work is expected to begin in a few weeks on several blocks of paving and a new sewer system at Gibbon.

It is reported that Lincoln schools are feeling the effects of a general teacher shortage.

Governor McKelvie says coal profiteers in Nebraska are to be prosecuted under the Lever act.

Steps have been taken at Hebron to organize a post of the American legion.

The Smith theater at Tecumseh has been leased for meeting quarters for the local post of the American Legion.

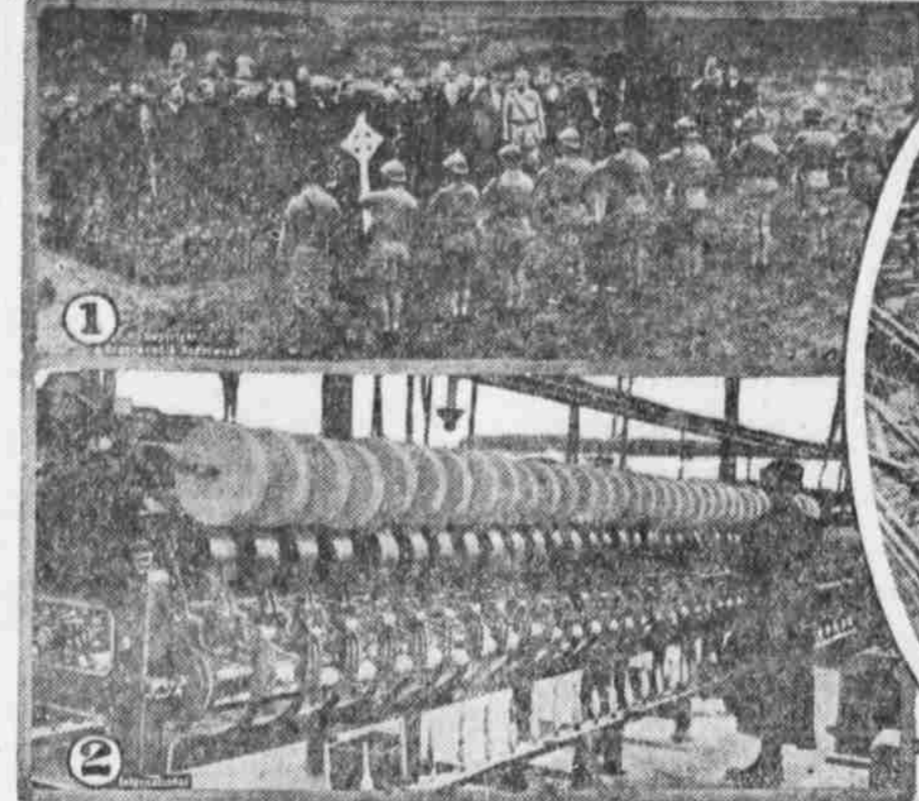
The big feature of the annual meeting of the Nebraska Farm Bureau federation at Lincoln, January 22 and 23, will be the appearance of J. R. Howard of Clemons, Ia., president of the American Farm Bureau federation.

The Beet Growers' association of Lincoln county has appointed a committee to confer with the Great Western Sugar Co. in regard to its intentions concerning the building of a sugar beet factory at Hershey.

Adam McMullen of Beatrice has filed papers with the secretary of state for the republican nomination for governor. He is first in the field.

Living quarters have become so scarce at Kearney that new-comers to the city are told that the only hope of finding a place to live is to build.

William Deckniger, Richardson county farmer boy, 11 years old, has demonstrated that cotton can be raised in Nebraska. From the crop raised in the family garden in 1918, he got the seed to plant the 1919 crop, and raised 107 plants.



1—President Poincare of France doing honor to those who fell in battle at Fort Charlemont on the Meuse. 2—One of the rebuilt mills at Armentieres, showing how the textile industry of France is recovering from the ruin inflicted by the Germans. 3—New subway in process of construction in the Hermannstrasse, Berlin.



NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

President Wilson and Bryan Split on Ratification of the Peace Treaty.

LATTER ADVISES COMPROMISE

Chief Executive Urges Issue Be Submitted to People and Nebraskan Opposes—San Francisco Captures Democratic National Convention—Developments in War on Reds.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

Predictions of a great split in the Democratic party, with William Jennings Bryan leading the revolt against President Wilson's policies, came to the verge of fulfillment at the big Jackson day dinner in Washington Thursday evening. Sensational developments had been expected, and they came. The president sent a letter in which he reiterated his demand for ratification of the peace treaty without changes that would alter its meaning, strongly condemned the Lodge reservations and urged that the entire issue be referred to the people at the coming presidential election.

Mr. Bryan, addressing the huge gathering of leaders, challenged Mr. Wilson's treaty policy and his utterances gave assurance that he and his followers will fight the matter to the finish in the Democratic convention if necessary. He condemned the action of the Republican majority in the senate which conceding its right to dictate the senate's course, and continued: "Our plan has been rejected and we must face the situation as it is. We must either secure such compromises as may be possible or present the issue to the country. The latter course would mean a delay of at least fourteen months and then success only in the case of our securing a two-thirds majority of the senate." The party, said Mr. Bryan, cannot afford to share with the Republicans responsibility for further delay, and cannot go before the country on the issue that such an appeal would present. He even went so far as to repudiate article X and to uphold the Lodge reservation on that article, saying: "If we do not intend to impair the right of congress to decide the question of peace or war when the time for action arises, how can we insist upon a moral obligation to go to war which can have no force or value except as it does impair the independence of congress?"

It remains to be seen, whether Mr. Bryan can secure enough of a following to bring about a real split in the party. He himself is a potential candidate for the nomination, now more than ever, and it may be President Wilson will be compelled again to accept the place of standard bearer. His letter made no reference to this whatsoever.

San Francisco captured the Democratic national convention after a warm contest with Chicago and Kansas City. The Pacific coast metropolis pledged \$125,000 and free use of the Municipal auditorium, which seats some 15,000 persons. This is the highest price ever paid for a convention. The date for the convention was set for Monday, June 28, three weeks after the Republican convention meets in Chicago.

The national committee backed up President Wilson by adopting resolutions endorsing the treaty of Versailles and denouncing as unpatriotic the attitude of senators who are trying to defeat it or to qualify it by nullifying reservations.

The Republicans also had an important gathering, earlier in the week, when the party leaders of the 14 mid-western states held a two-days' powwow in Chicago. General Wood, Governor Lowden, both candidates for the presidential nomination, and National Chairman Hays were chief speakers at a big dinner, and it was taken for

granted that their utterances, or at least those of Mr. Hays, gave a definite indication of the platform on which the next Republican nominee for the presidency would stand. Assuming that this is true, the main planks of that platform will deal with labor and industrial relations and with the radicals who seek to overthrow the government. A fair summary of the propositions with which the party may be expected to go before the people this year is:

Fair representation for labor in all the councils of the nation. Development of closer relations between capital and labor with justice to both and also to the third side of the triangle, the public. Sympathetic help for business, not antagonistic curtailment, as part of the economic readjustment. Strong repressive measures against I. W. W.-ism and other forms of extremism which advocate overthrow of the present form of government. Efficient and honest administration. No taxes which kill initiative. Adequate taxes, but none for extravagance.

A plan for spreading payment of the war debt over a long period of years. No undue federalization of industries and activities, such as railroads; strong federal regulation, but not government ownership. No toleration of attempts to array group against group, section against section or sect against sect. Back to the Constitution in times of peace.

General Wood handled the reds without gloves, as might have been expected. His hearers vigorously applauded such epigrammatic sentences as these: "The big issue today is, first and foremost, maintenance of law and order, respect for constituted authority, and maintenance of a government under the Constitution. "Give labor American leadership. Don't allow it to drift into the hands of anarchistic, red leaders. "As for the reds, let's stamp them out. They grow only in communities where government is timid and slack. They are a cowardly lot, assassins and murderers often, cowards always. With them go the I. W. W.; their brand is treason. "We've got to follow up our immigration more closely. Why not instruct the newcomers in Americanism? When they get over the glauk plank the literature of the reds is placed in their hands. Let's meet them with the literature of Americanism. "It is very fine to picture America as the refuge of the oppressed of the world, but there is danger in making America the dumping ground for the degenerates of the world. We've got to watch our immigration more closely."

The government evidently has accepted with alacrity the challenge of the reds and the war on them is extending to lengths which they probably did not anticipate. If their cause needs martyrs, they will soon have thousands who may be so classed by their sympathizers. Since the year opened the agents of the department of justice have been making daily and nightly raids on the headquarters, resorts and homes of the radical leaders, and as fast as they can be examined by immigration commissioners the prisoners are being sent to the Atlantic coast for deportation. Ellis island could not begin to accommodate all of them, so one of the army camps is used for that purpose. At the time of writing Martens, self-styled ambassador from the soviet government of Russia, was still at large, though the authorities were searching for him, believing him to be the real head of the revolutionary communists in America. His "chief of staff," Gregory Weinstein, who is rated as Trotsky's best friend in the United States, was captured. He has been in control of the distribution of bolshevist money and propaganda.

The Chicago Federation of Labor doesn't yet see the light. At a recent meeting it adopted a resolution denouncing the raids on the reds as a plot to kill labor unions in America, and also called on congress to give to Victor L. Berger "the seat to which he is entitled." Then the delegates of the painters' union were applauded

when they announced that plans were being formed to oust from their undog every member who belonged to the American Legion. Of course such silly action cannot hurt the legion in the least, for, as Commander in Chief D'Olier has made clear, the purpose of loyal organized labor and of the legion are in full accord. How much longer will union labor of Chicago permit the reds to lead it about by the nose?

As for Berger of Wisconsin, he delayed presenting himself for a seat in congress, and issued the boast that if he were again excluded he would be elected governor of Wisconsin and then go to Washington as senator. There seemed small likelihood that the house of representatives would seat him, though Representative Mann of Illinois caused some surprise by declaring that he would oppose summary proceedings for the exclusion of the convicted Socialist.

New York's legislature started its session by denying their seats to five Socialists. A resolution was passed questioning whether they could be loyal to their oaths of office while bound to act subject to the instructions of the Socialist party, and the speaker ordered them brought before the bar of the house. They must now prove their fitness to occupy their seats before a special tribunal of the assembly. Only six assemblymen voted in their favor.

Though the reds are having such a difficult time in America, as much cannot be said concerning Russia. Over there they are sweeping ahead in a way that is most disheartening to their antagonists. The soviet troops have smashed their way through the armies of Denikine and reached the Sea of Azov at Taganrog, and are pushing ahead both east and west, with a prospect of soon being in full control of all of southern Russia. Already they are threatening Odessa and reports from Moscow say the people of Odessa are fleeing, though other dispatches assert they are preparing to defend their city. In their progress eastward the bolsheviks are said to have taken the important railroad town of Krasnovodsk on the Caspian, and this, if true, will open to them the way to north Persia. In London the fear is expressed that the reds will be able to overcome the small British forces in Persia and the poorly organized native troops and seize Teheran, after which they might obtain control of the entire country. It is considered likely, also, that the bolsheviks will capture Baku on the Caspian, the great oil center.

The one setback which the soviet armies sustained was in the west. The Letts, evidently not caring to participate in the armistice arranged by the Estonians, joined forces with the Poles and drove the bolsheviks out of Dvinsk and eastward in Letgania, a district which Latvia claims.

The supreme council in Paris decided the exchange of ratifications of the treaty of Versailles should take place on Saturday, January 10, in the French foreign office, but at this time there is indication that the Germans have dug up some additional excuses for delay in the assertion that the several states in their "republic" must be consulted. However, the patience of the entente allies probably will not last much longer.

The full extent of the damage done by the terrible earthquake in southern Mexico probably never will be known. It is certain that many thousands of lives were lost, and numerous small towns were wiped out. The disturbance was centered about Orizaba, an occasionally active volcano.

Again the United States government has been compelled to call the attention of President Carranza to the murder of American citizens. Three recent murders have come to the notice of Washington, and Mexico is asked to use every means of bringing the slayers to justice. There is not the slightest reason to expect any result from this protest and appeal. Already the Jenkins case seems to be forgotten, together with the vigorous language it called forth in Washington.

Finish Largest Radio Station. Bordeaux.—Construction work on the giant Fafayette radio station being built here by the American navy, is finished and installation of the electrical equipment will be completed next spring, it is announced. This will be the largest and most powerful wireless station in the world, according to naval authorities. The aerials of the station are swung upon eight steel towers, each about 300 feet high, almost equalling in altitude the famous Eiffel tower in Paris.

Paris.—The treaty of Versailles, making peace between Germany and the ratiifying allied powers, was put into effect January 10 by the exchange of ratifications. Baron Kurt von Lersner, the head of the German mission, affixed his signature to the protocol, after which he declared: "I am naturally happy that peace has finally become effective. My great regret is that the United States is the only country with which Germany is still in a state of war. I hope, however, that this situation will soon be changed. "Execution of the treaty of Versailles imposes upon Germany the heaviest sacrifices ever borne by a nation in modern times. We lost in the west and in the east territories that belonged to Prussia for many centuries. We have assumed enormous economic obligations. Nevertheless, I am glad that peace is at last re-established because it will give back to Germany her beloved sons still prisoners abroad." Asked as to the execution of the terms of the treaty, Baron von Lersner declared that Germany was ready and determined to do her utmost.

PEACE FOR ALLIES

BIG POWERS OF EUROPE RESUME FRIENDLY RELATIONS.

U. S. AND GERMANY AT WAR

All Other Nations Exchange Ratifications.—Commissions and League of Nations Will Now Function.

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The exchanged of ratification restored peaceful relations between Germany and Great Britain, France, Italy, Japan, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Guatemala, Peru, Poland, Siam, Czechoslovakia and Uruguay.

The United States alone of the "big five" has not ratified the treaty. As the list shows, formal ratifications have been given by most of the smaller powers signatory to the treaty. China did not sign the document because of her objections to the Shantung provisions, but proclaimed a state of peace with Germany.

With the taking effect of the treaty a number of commissions created by it spring into existence, the league of nations will begin to function by the calling of the first meeting of its council and preparations will be hastened for the taking of plebiscites, in the areas where the population is to have the opportunity of determining whether their territories shall separate from Germany and take on another allegiance.

Of the commissions now beginning their work probably the most important is the reparations commission. Its special duty being to regulate Germany's payment of indemnification during the next 30 years.

Boundary commissions which are to fix upon the spot the new boundaries of Germany with Belgium, the Sarre basin, Poland and Czechoslovakia are to be appointed within 15 days.

A speedy development following the action of ratification is expected to be the presentation to Germany of the list of war criminals to be demanded by the allies for trial under the treaty.

It has been reported recently that this list has been considerably cut down from the originally proposed 1,200 names.

TROOPS FOR NEBRASKA.

Two Regiments of Ex-Service Men Formed to Handle Emergencies.

Lincoln, Neb.—The organization of two complete regiments of guards to be known as the "Nebraska Rifles," has been practically completed, under the direction of Adjutant General H. J. Paul, and at the order of Governor McKelvie.

Each regiment will be composed of 1,200 men, made up of twelve companies of 100 men each. The men comprising the Nebraska rifles are largely ex-service men, though its organization has no connection with the American Legion. The purpose of the organization of the "Nebraska rifles" is to take care of any emergencies that may arise before the national guard companies are organized.

Special Train for Buyers.

Chicago, Ill.—A record sale of thoroughbred hogs was made when 38 Poland-China sows were auctioned for \$55,975, an average of \$1,554.84 each, at the farm near Lake Geneva, Wis., of William Wrigley, Jr., who took 298 stock raisers as his guests on a special train from Chicago. The buyers were taken in motor cars and helds from the train to the farm, where the sale was held in a steamheated pavilion. Afterward a turkey dinner was served.

Perishing Endorses Movement.

New York.—The Victory hull which is to be erected in this city as a memorial to American soldiers, at a cost of \$1,500,000, has been endorsed by General Pershing.

Finish Largest Radio Station.

Bordeaux.—Construction work on the giant Fafayette radio station being built here by the American navy, is finished and installation of the electrical equipment will be completed next spring, it is announced. This will be the largest and most powerful wireless station in the world, according to naval authorities. The aerials of the station are swung upon eight steel towers, each about 300 feet high, almost equalling in altitude the famous Eiffel tower in Paris.