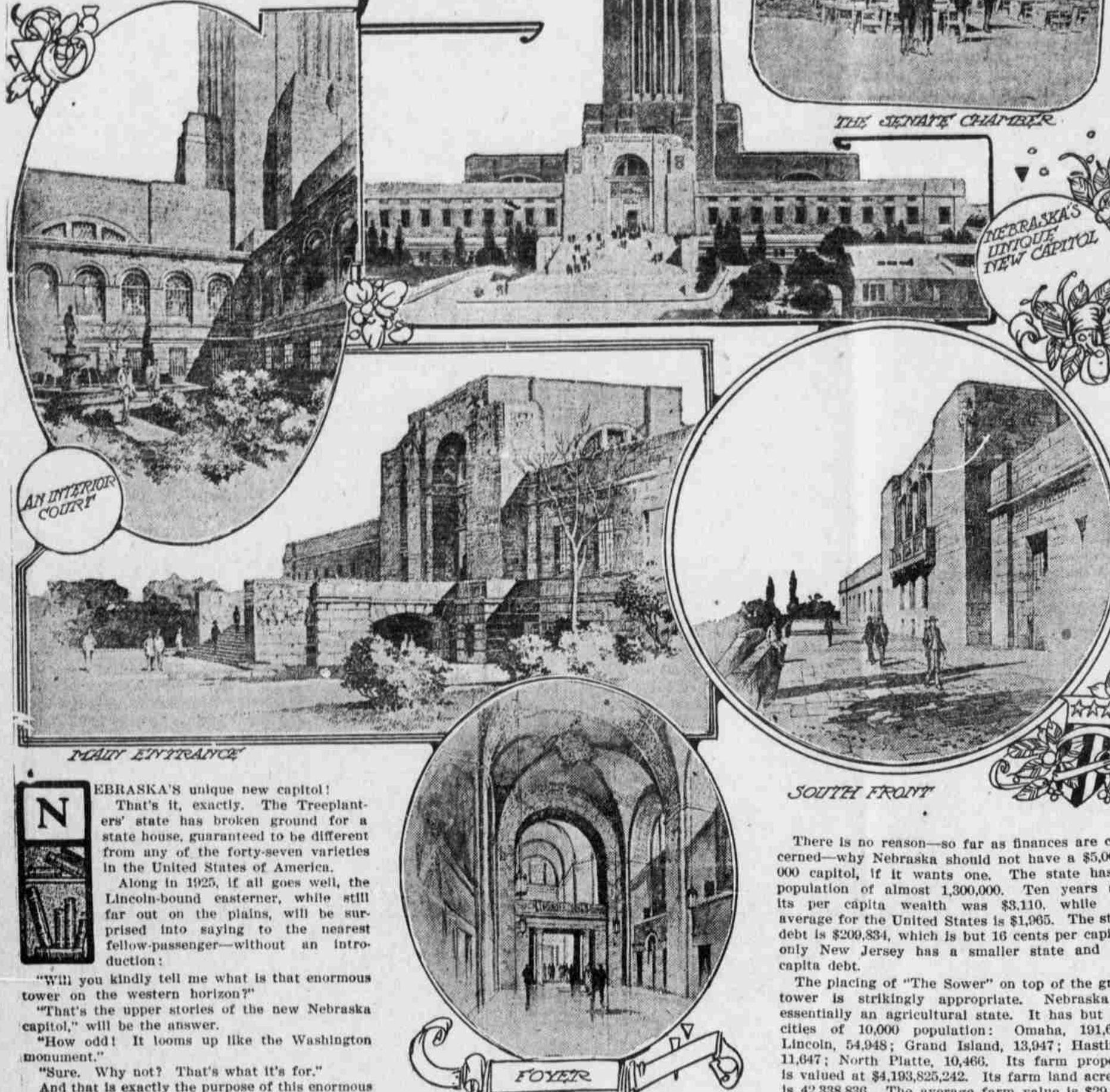


Nebraska's Unique New Capitol



NEBRASKA'S unique new capitol! That's it, exactly. The Treeplanters' state has broken ground for a state house, guaranteed to be different from any of the forty-seven varieties in the United States of America.

Along in 1925, if all goes well, the Lincoln-bound easterner, while still far out on the plains, will be surprised into saying to the nearest fellow-passenger—without an introduction:

"Will you kindly tell me what is that enormous tower on the western horizon?"

"That's the upper stories of the new Nebraska capitol," will be the answer.

"How odd! It looms up like the Washington monument."

"Sure. Why not? That's what it's for."

And that is exactly the purpose of this enormous tower.

The object of the architect in making this feature," says the officially inspired description, "was to furnish the comparatively flat state of Nebraska with an elevated building which could be at once an object of beauty and a source of inspiration. This tower, surmounted by a colossal figure called 'The Sower,' will be seen, it is estimated, from 30 to 40 miles from every direction."

This capitol marks the greatest departure ever made in American state-house architecture. Nevertheless, Nebraska went about it with deliberation. The plan was secured through a series of compositions given under the auspices of the American Institute of Architects. Three Nebraska men were selected in a preliminary competition in which the economic and political aspects of the problem were considered as well as the architectural requirements. Seven firms of national reputation outside of Nebraska joined in the competition, which resulted in June, 1920, in the selection of Bertram G. Goodhue of New York as the architect of the commission.

For a year after the adoption of the plan it was studied and restudied, not only by the architect and his staff, but by the commission and by the public. Some changes have been made, but the essence of the original design remains, promising a public building of unusual strength and beauty as well as economy of space and low operating costs, according to the Nebraskan view.

The appearance of the United States capitol at Washington is familiar to most Americans. Also it has doubtless served as a model for most American state houses. A comparison between the United States capitol and the Nebraska capitol will emphasize the extent of the latter from the conventional and also give an idea of the size of the new structure.

The United States capitol is about 750 feet long and the dome is 135 feet in diameter; the building, therefore, covers about four acres. The dome is 285 feet in height, from the base to the crest of the statue of "Freedom." The cost was about \$10,000,000.

The Nebraska capitol is approximately 440 feet square; it, therefore, covers almost four acres. The cost is to be \$5,000,000. It will have a basement below the grade, a first floor forming a terrace entirely around the building, and a main floor bringing the parapet to a height of 51 feet from the ground level. The chief feature of the structure is a tower rising from the center to a height of 400 feet. This tower, surmounted by a colossal figure called "The Sower," will be 80 feet square at the base and will taper only slightly as it rises. It is a square, severe shaft, pierced on each of its four sides by long continuous windows and terminating in a graceful dome of colored or gilt tile.

But while this architectural feature will distinguish the building and make it different from all other state capitols, it is also utilitarian to the very top. The lower portion of the tower will contain a dozen floors of offices, housing many of

the state departments and providing room for an indefinite expansion of the storage space for the state library. At the top, underneath the dome, will be located the war trophy room. This will be a magnificent apartment with space to store in permanent safety the battle flags and other relics of Civil war, the Spanish and Philippine wars and the World war.

The tower which brings in a strictly utilitarian feature to take the place of the ornamental but economically useless dome is the most striking feature of the plan, but is by no means its only excellence. The basement and first floor will house the service features and many of the state departments. The chambers which distinguish such a building will be found on the main floor. Entering from the north by a broad flight of stairs, the visitor finds himself in the hall of state, a vaulted apartment approximately 50 feet high, and containing niches for statues and spaces for inscriptions and several paintings. At the left will be a series of rooms for the governor.

Passing directly to the center of the building and standing in the rotunda, the visitor will have at his right a beautifully designed senate chamber and at his left a somewhat larger apartment for the house of representatives. In front he will see the doors leading to the supreme court rooms with the state library immediately above.

Four courts opening to the sky admit light and air to the interior. The arrangement is such that every office in the structure opens either upon the outside or upon one of these courts. The library and the chambers of legislation are lighted by clear-sky windows. Even the rotunda, which in practically all capitols must be illuminated artificially, receives direct light from windows cut into the tower as it emerges from the roof. The marvel of the design is that it covers so much ground and has so large a capacity without requiring artificial lighting in any department.

The style of architecture employed is simple and dignified. Nothing is employed, in fact, but well established forms. Simplicity is the keynote. The material is to be of stone of a rather light buff tone. The tower will be of steel construction with wind braces to give it security.

The building will be enriched by sculpture, paintings and vaulting of colored and gilt tile. The figures over the main entrance, representing wisdom, justice, power and mercy, have already been modeled by Lee Lawrie, to whose hands has been entrusted all the sculpture for the completed building. Inscriptions drawn from the great storehouse of the world's wisdom will be carved on the walls. Space will be left for mural paintings, but these will not be included in the present work of the commission.

Nebraska has appropriated \$5,000,000 for the erection of its new capitol, without furnishing. More than one-half of the money has been collected. A levy has been made for a considerable portion of the remainder. Contracts will be let during the summer in time to insure the completion of the building before the close of 1925.

There is no reason—so far as finances are concerned—why Nebraska should not have a \$5,000,000 capitol, if it wants one. The state has a population of almost 1,300,000. Ten years ago its per capita wealth was \$3,110, while the average for the United States is \$1,965. The state debt is \$209,834, which is but 16 cents per capita; only New Jersey has a smaller state and per capita debt.

The placing of "The Sower" on top of the great tower is strikingly appropriate. Nebraska is essentially an agricultural state. It has but five cities of 10,000 population: Omaha, 191,001; Lincoln, 54,948; Grand Island, 13,947; Hastings, 11,647; North Platte, 10,466. Its farm property is valued at \$4,193,825,242. Its farm land acreage is 42,338,836. The average farm value is \$29,927. Its farmers annually grow over 250,000,000 bushels of corn, 60,000,000 bushels of wheat and 80,000,000 bushels of oats. In 1920 the value of Nebraska's crops was \$306,469,000 and the agricultural rank of the state was thirteenth.

Lincoln was originally called Lancaster. This city was laid out in 1864, with a population of just about a dozen. In 1867, when Nebraska was admitted to the Union, there was a population of less than 30. Nevertheless, Lancaster was made the capitol of the state and its name was changed to Lincoln, in honor of the martyred President, then two years dead.

Lincoln is a good site for a tower with the purpose of making people look up, since the place is almost level. There is a story about a man who bought a \$2,000 piano and had to rebuild and refurnish his house to correspond. Probably Lincoln will spruce up a bit in honor of the new capitol, but the city is already attractive, with fine wide avenues and many noteworthy buildings. It is the seat of the University of Nebraska and State Agricultural college and several other educational institutions. Among the prominent buildings are the federal building, courthouse, city hall, penitentiary, insane asylum, St. Elizabeth's hospital and the Carnegie library. The city is in about the center of the eastern third of the state. It lies southwest of Omaha and is just far enough away so that its tower cannot be seen.

Lincoln's new capitol building will be the third to stand on the same site. The first structure naturally was not very pretentious. But the second has done its duty nobly, being a structure of white limestone erected at a cost of \$500,000.

Nebraska has an interesting history, which would surprise those who have been brought up to believe there is no such thing as history west of the Alleghenies or possibly the Mississippi. The first white man to see it was probably Coronado in 1541, some time before Plymouth Rock became so well known. The Choteaus of St. Louis, famous early fur-traders, got up to the forks of the Platte in 1762. The first known settlement was in 1805 at Bellevue by Manuel Lisa of fur-trading fame. The American Fur company established posts at Omaha and Nebraska City about 1825. The Mormons wintered in Nebraska, 1845-46. Thousands of gold-seekers passed through, beginning with 1849. These were also the days of the Oregon trail and its famous migration. Nebraska in these early times was rich in the romance of American pioneer history.

Nebraska's early political career was checked. The territory now constituting the state was originally a part of the Louisiana Purchase (1804) and afterward a part of Missouri territory. For a generation after the admission of Missouri (1821) the territory was practically without government. In 1853, unable to get congressional sanction as a territory, the inhabitants organized a provisional government and elected William Walker governor. After several attempts to be admitted as a state, Nebraska finally got in over President Johnson's veto in 1867.

REISSUE GRADES FOR PEACH CROP

Only Minor Changes From Those Recommended Last Year Are Favored for 1922.

MARKET QUALITY COUNTS MOST

Color, Maturity, General Appearance and Freedom From Blemishes Are Big Factors—Minimum Size Not Specified.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

United States grades for peaches have been reissued by the United States Department of Agriculture. The grades contain only minor changes from those recommended in 1921.

In past years peaches have been graded chiefly with regard to size. The United States grades are based wholly on market quality. Under this term are included such factors as color, maturity, general appearance and freedom from insect and fungous injuries. Minimum sizes have not been specified for the various grades, but the numerical count and minimum size or style of pack of the peaches must be stamped on each package. This is a well established practice in handling boxed apples and citrus fruits.

Meet Commercial Needs.

The No. 1 grade is designed to meet the normal commercial needs of the trade and consuming public by eliminating damaged stock which might cause loss in transit. It also provides that the peaches shall be of one variety, firm, mature and well formed, and free from growth crack, cuts, skin breaks, worm holes, and from damage caused by dirt, scab, scar, scale, hail, disease, insects or mechanical or other means.

The No. 2 grade includes peaches of one variety which are firm, mature and free from worm holes or serious damage caused by disease, insects or any other means.

A fancy No. 1 grade is also provided for those who desire to pack an especially fine product. In this grade will be packed only peaches which are free from all damage by insects or diseases and which in addition have a specified amount of red color. This amount has been fixed at 50 per cent for such varieties as Carman and Hiley and at 25 per cent for Elberta and J. H. Hale and other similar varieties.

The department's action in reissuing the grades is the result of the favorable acceptance and use of the grades last year by growers' associations, state marketing officials, and the trade generally. During the early investigations by the department there was considerable skepticism as to the practicability of formulating grades which would be uniformly acceptable to both northern and southern districts, but actual use of the grades on a large scale under the supervision of specialists of the bureau of markets and crop estimates has won over many of even the most conservative operators.

Where Grades Are Adopted.

According to recent reports, the United States grades will be adopted this season by the Sand Hill Fruit Growers' association, Aberdeen, N. C., and the Western New York Fruit Grow-

ers' Co-operative Packing association, Rochester, N. Y., both of these associations having tried them in 1921. In addition, it is practically assured that the Jersey Fruit Growers' Co-operative association of New Jersey, a number of associations in southern Illinois and northern Ohio, including the Danbury Fruit company, Danbury, O., as well as certain prominent growers in Maryland, Pennsylvania and West Virginia will also adopt the United States grades for this season's pack. The grades have been promulgated in substantially the same form as the official Texas grades and marketing officials in North and South Carolina, New Jersey and Colorado are considering them favorably.

Partial or complete crop failures in recent years in peach producing states on the west bank of the Mississippi river have made it impracticable for specialists of the department to demonstrate properly the grades in that territory. It is known, however, that the specifications included in the department's recommendations will meet normal conditions in these sections, and it is believed that they will be received favorably once they are known. Buyers who have had experience with peaches labeled "United States No. 1" have expressed themselves as well satisfied with the product.

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Piker.

"Daniel was a piker; he didn't have any nerve!"

The thin, pale person, who muttered thus, lifted his lip in a sneer.

"He was a piker," he added, scornfully. "He only went into a den of lions."

A moment passed—a moment of tense contemplation.

"I," he continued, "I am a greater man than Daniel was! For I am on my way to interview the cashier at the bank where I am overdrawn!"

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Would be a small amount to pay for saving a man's life. If you could save your life for a dollar bill would you hesitate to spend it? You risk your life everytime you drive your car in the rain because you can't see through your windshield. A dollar bill sent to the Baltimore Sea-Thru Corporation, Baltimore, Maryland, will ensure you having a clear windshield for the next three years, as their preparation is guaranteed to keep your glass as clear as a summer's day. Nothing like it on the market. One application will last as long as a rain storm even if it lasts a month. It is absolutely guaranteed to give satisfaction or money refunded. Send for it today and be prepared for the next rain storm.—Advertisement.

The best security a man can have is a good name.



Peaches in Baskets and Boxes Ready for Shipment.

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Mrs. C. P.

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