

# REBEL AGAINST RATE INCREASE

### Telephone Users at Holdrege, Neb., Are Planning Municipal Plant

Lincoln, Neb., (Special)—A movement is on at Holdrege, Neb., because of the intense feeling among citizens against the recent increase in telephone rates, to establish a municipal telephone system in that city. A petition was circulated to bring about a vote for a bond issue to finance the proposed enterprise. The petition received more than the required number of signatures. It will be taken up by the city council at its meeting, July 21. This action by Holdrege people is the first concrete step taken in this state against the recent rate adjustment.

# TAX LEVY MAY BE INCREASED

### Higher Costs of Educational Institutions and Highways Blamed

Lincoln, Neb., (Special)—Enough returns are in from the county assessors to make it certain that the assessed valuation of the state for taxation purposes will be around \$3,000,000, which is about the same as last year. Last year the state tax was two mills, which raised about \$6,000,000. It is not known how much it will be this year, but the members of the state board think it will be a little higher, as state appropriations for educational purposes, highways and new buildings at the state institution were higher. Seventy-four of the 93 counties have reported. These indicate a loss in tangible property of \$14,637,000 from last year, but this is merely bookkeeping of the state. The last legislature created two intangible classes, and these have drawn from the old tangible property list something like \$16,500,000 of property. The actual valuation, it will be seen, has increased \$2,000,000, but because these intangibles carry a specific tax of their own it will reduce the total upon which state taxes are based and necessarily raise the mill levy.

### TO BEGIN TESTING CATTLE BY AUGUST

Waithill, Neb., (Special)—The testing of cattle in Thurston county under the area free plan may be started by August 1, it has been learned. There seems to be no definite date set by the state and federal departments for the starting of this work but local boosters for the work have been assured that the work will be started just as soon as men are available to do the testing. According to last reports there will be enough men sent into the county when the work is started to test every herd in the county in four or five weeks.

### FIND CAUSE OF OLD CAPITOL SETTLING

Lincoln, Neb., (Special)—The work of tearing down the old state capitol is complete, so far as the superstructure is concerned, and a part of the old foundations have been ripped up. This has been useful in settling for all time the dispute as to what made the southeast corner of the old structure sink, taking with it for a number of inches the entire section of the building. The original builders struck a pit or quicksand and had put two arches over it on which the foundation rested. One of these arches had broken. The other held the corner up. Neither of the wings of the old capitol had a bit of concrete in their foundations.

### MISSING MAN MAY HAVE LEFT FORTUNE

Newcastle, Neb., (Special)—Funeral services were held at the home, near here, for Mrs. George Fluett, 86 years old, a pioneer of Dixon county who came here with her husband and homesteaded in 1867. The other ruling forbids agents soliciting and placing substitutes for term policies. This is a cheap form of insurance, but the commissioner holds that it has some value to the holder, and that it is "twisting" or misrepresentation for any company other than the one that sold it to him to convert it into a regular policy.

### WEALTHY RAILROAD BUILDER DIED SUDDENLY

Beatrice, Neb., (Special)—Funeral services are to be held here Wednesday for Chester W. Collins, wealthy retired railway builder of Brooklyn, N. Y., who died suddenly at the home of his daughter, Mrs. H. T. Weston, Beatrice, late Sunday. Had Mr. Collins lived but one day longer, he would have been 82. He leaves his widow and one child, Mrs. Weston.

### FATHER ACCIDENTALLY KILLS 2-YEAR-OLD CHILD

Dimock, S. D., (Special)—A 2-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Croson of this place, was instantly killed when a shotgun, held by her father, accidentally discharged, sending a charge of shot through the child's right lung. The father had been preparing to take the gun to Parkston for repair and had started to take it apart, not knowing it was loaded. At a coroner's inquest, the death was declared to be accidental.

### FARMERS UNION PICNIC WAS PRONOUNCED SUCCESS

Waithill, Neb., (Special)—A large crowd attended the Farmers Union picnic here Saturday. H. G. Keeley, president of the Nebraska Farmers' Union, gave an address. The Carroll band gave two concerts. The ball game between Wakefield and Deer Creek Giants resulted in a victory for the latter 8 to 4.

# ERRING PASTOR SEEKS FREEDOM

### Admits Misconduct But Asserts He Will Now Go Straight

Lincoln, Neb., (Special)—Rev. George W. Gregory, serving a long term for misconduct with small girls while holding a pastorate in Brown county, has asked the pardon board release after eight years' imprisonment. Several ministers appeared in his behalf, and his father, a resident of Sidney, Ia., asked for his son's release that he might come and help him care for his family. Gregory had held pastorates at Whitney, Stuart, Rushville and Johnson. He told the board that he was guilty but penitent and would go straight hereafter.

Peter E. Nelson, former ranchman in Thomas county, told the board, when he appeared to ask a parole, that he had been persuaded by Omaha bankers and other friends to sell part of his ranch and then go into the banking business at Thedford. The bank later failed, and Nelson drew from one to five years for making a false report to the banking department. His attorney said that Nelson was a mere errand boy for the Omaha bankers, and that he got into trouble by following their advice. Nelson made a strong plea for himself, saying he had been a fool, but it had cost him his liberty for a year and all of his property. He said that he might get a little salvage out of a ranch now being foreclosed upon.

# VISITS MOTHER FOR LAST TIME

### Man Sentenced to Life in Prison Given Privilege—Accompanied by Sheriff

O'Neill, Neb., (Special)—Smiling and simulating cheerfulness so masterfully as to completely deceive his invalid mother, Walter Gregor bade her goodbye forever, at Elgin, while on his way to start a life sentence in the penitentiary. This was told here upon return of Sheriff Duffy, who took him to prison. Gregor was sentenced last Thursday for the murder of his sweetheart, Josephine Verzal of Atkinson, May 10.

His mother's illness is very grave, but is such that she is able to be about the house at times. She has not been permitted to learn of her son's crime.

The sheriff remained in seclusion for fear the mother might recognize him from her previous residence in Holt county.

After a filial greeting, the son told the mother how well she was looking and then they conversed just as do all mothers and sons long absent from each other. He told her he was driving for a traveling man, and his employer had readily agreed that they come around by Elgin that he might see her while on their way east. A bit more conversation, then Gregor kissed his mother for the last time and walked out and climbed into the sheriff's car. He waved to her as they drove away.

### INSURANCE COMMISSIONER WANTS LAW OBEYED

Lincoln, Neb., (Special)—Insurance Commissioner Dumont has made two rulings that are aimed at stopping practices he does not believe to be lawful. One order forbids any person selling or soliciting insurance until he has secured a license from the department, and companies are notified that they must not furnish any one supplies until his application has been approved. Heretofore an agent has gone to work immediately upon filing his application. The commissioner says that this has resulted in abuse of the law, men being named for the purpose of writing special risk and also because of the fact that some of those who have thus started in have been found to have been denied licenses before for failure to obey the code.

The other ruling forbids agents soliciting and placing substitutes for term policies. This is a cheap form of insurance, but the commissioner holds that it has some value to the holder, and that it is "twisting" or misrepresentation for any company other than the one that sold it to him to convert it into a regular policy.

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### New Outline



The new sausage-shaped sachels have this to recommend them—there isn't an inch of waste space, and they are very easy to carry. They are very smart, too, and seen in all sizes and qualities of leather.

# TITLE TO LAND BIG QUESTION

### Two Men Lay Claim to Same Tract—Go to Supreme Court

Lincoln, Neb., (Special)—The supreme court is called upon to act as arbiter in a suit between Adolph Lazure and Frank Kriz, both of whom claim the same land in Box Butte county, a tract of 440 acres. Lazure claims title by virtue of a patent issued 54 years ago to Lella Granger and by her transferred to others until Lazure bought it.

Kriz has a patent from the government for 480 acres which he says is the same 460 acres that Lazure says are his, and which claim Lazure denies.

The dispute had its origin in the fact that when Mrs. Granger pre-empted the land it was described as certain lots in a certain part of the county, whereas when Kriz homesteaded it the land was described in the usual way on the record by sections and range.

Each says that the description of the other applies to another piece of land than the one each claims. Lazure says that it is the Granger tract because the ruins of her pre-emption shack are still to be found on the tract. The court below held for Kriz.

# BUS INSURANCE MUST CONTINUE

### Nebraska Rail Board Rules for Protection of Passengers

Lincoln, Neb., (Special)—All persons or firms operating bus lines in the state must take out insurance policies, according to regulations and requirements that the state railway commission, which controls the service of such carriers, has just made. These are technical in character, but the object is to make the liability of the insurance company continuous so that the amount of the policy cannot be exhausted with one or more accidents, but continues the protection to passengers as long as it is in force. The form prescribed holds the liability no matter if anything that the parties themselves agree to do in the contract fails, and the bankruptcy of the operator does not relieve the carrier. The order also forbids the employment of any person as driver of intertown busses who is under 21 years old.

### MARRIED IN IOWA FIFTY YEARS AGO

Gross, Neb., (Special)—Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Arnes celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at their home in Gross, July 4.

Their six living children were present. They are, Mr. and Mrs. Wiley C. Barnes of Lynch, Neb.; Mr. and Mrs. Guy A. Barnes of Lynch, Neb.; Mr. and Mrs. Bruce A. Barnes of Sturgis, S. D.; Mr. and Mrs. Dan Hathaway of Gamm Valley, S. D.; Mr. and Mrs. Jay F. Barnes of Omaha, Neb.; Mr. and Mrs. Maurice H. Courtney of Lynch, Neb. Eleven grandchildren and one great grandchild. In 1902 they, with their family moved from Thurston, Neb. to Gross, to a farm where they lived until retirement. Mr. and Mrs. Barnes were married at Mondamin, Ia., July 4, 1875.

### ANTHON BANK NOW THIRTY-FIVE YEARS OLD

Anthon, Ia., (Special)—The Anthon State bank has observed its thirty-fifth anniversary. The officers of the bank are H. L. Heidelberg, president; G. W. Fitcher, vice president; John B. Sills, cashier; Miss Zell Lee, assistant cashier.

### MANY CATTLE GIVEN TUBERCULOSIS TESTS

Lincoln, Neb., (Special)—Over 40,000 head of cattle were tested for tuberculosis during June, reports the state department of agriculture. These were in 2,947 herds. The disease was found in 318 animals in 218 herds. The total number of reactors found by the state and private veterinarians was 465. These were all shipped to market and the premises cleaned and put under quarantine. Five new counties are to be included in the testing area this month.

# HUSBAND GIVES HIS WIFE AWAY

### But Omaha Pair Is Arrested When They Sought License To Wed

Omaha, Neb., (Special)—Frank Zack, 47 years old, and Magrie Roach, 39, were placed under arrest Thursday after they had applied for a marriage license at Council Bluffs, across the Missouri river from here, when the license clerk learned that Magrie was "given" to Frank by her husband, Tony Roach, with a dollar for good luck.

Mrs. Roach said her husband threw her out of their home, Wednesday night, and had given Zack a dollar to marry her. Officers said Mrs. Roach had also married Roach without obtaining a divorce.

# OPPOSES BOND ISSUE PLANNED

### Attorney for Nebraska Rail Board Says Concern's Acts Not Regular

Lincoln, Neb., (Special)—The Tri-State Utilities company of Minnesota, which operates a number of plants in northeastern Nebraska, ought not, in the opinion of Hugh Lamaster, attorney for the state railway commission, be given the privilege by that body of issuing \$346,500 of bonds with which to buy plants at Ainsworth, Neigh, Valentine, Butte, Anoka and Fairfax for a little less than \$500,000.

Mr. Lamaster finds that the W. B. Forshay company, a holding concern managed by the same persons as the Tri-State, has bought these properties and is to turn them over, under a contract, to the Tri-State at a profit of \$55,000, although it has but \$150,000 invested in the deal. He says that the Forshay company will realize a further gain in that the value of the property sold include working capital and going concern value which are not really purchased by the Tri-State.

Mr. Lamaster says that it is plain that the Tri-State is being over-reached in the transaction, and advises that because of the excessive gain to the Forshay company, the application be rejected. He also advises against the validation of \$14,500 preferred stock and \$101,000 of bonds that he says were issued with knowledge of the law requiring permission of the commission, and that to do so would make the commission an accessory after a violation of the law that now subjects the corporation and possibly some of its officers to prosecution.

### RAILROADS WANT TO CUT DOWN EXPENSES

Lincoln, Neb., (Special)—The Burlington and Rock Island railroad companies have made a joint application to the state railway commission to substitute a caretaker at \$300 a year for the \$1,940 joint agent they maintain at Thompson, Jefferson county. They say it is a station with little local business, and with a caretaker in charge better service can be given because union rules will not curtail the length of his day.

### BLOOMFIELD WAREHOUSE DESTROYED BY FIRE

Bloomfield, Neb., (Special)—A fire which started from a pile of burning rubbish, destroyed a warehouse at the rear of the Basket store here Wednesday. The fire department succeeded in keeping the flames from spreading to nearby buildings. There was quite a heavy wind blowing at the time. The loss is partially covered by insurance.

### WOUNDS COUSIN WHO ANNOYED HIS WIFE

Seward, Neb., (Special)—Frank Styskal of Bee was held in county court today on a charge of shooting with intent to wound his cousin, Joe Styskal. Styskal is in a serious condition, but it is believed he will recover. He was wounded with a shotgun on the lawn of his home, according to Sheriff Scott. Frank Styskal was released on bond.

### IS DESERTER FROM CALIFORNIA GUARDS

Wayne, Neb., (Special)—Lyman Martin, 23 years old, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Martin, who returned here from California recently, this week surrendered himself to the sheriff saying he was a deserter from the army. He was taken to Fort Omaha, where it was discovered that he was a deserter, not from the army but from the national guard of California, which was in camp at the time he took french leave. Because of the national guard's connection with the army it is said he will be returned to the west for punishment.

### BIG CROWD ATTENDS SCHOOL DEDICATION

Menominee, Neb., (Special)—A large crowd of people from northern Cedar county gathered here Wednesday for the dedication of the new parochial school, completion of which has been made under the direction of Rev. Father Hill, pastor of St. Boniface Catholic church here. At the same time a class of 64 candidates was confirmed, one of the largest ever to be received in the county. Dinner and lunches were served by the women of the church in the basement of the new school building.

### For Rainy Days



The serviceable umbrella you take out in the rain need not be of somber black or a solid color. It can be of rubberized silk with a riot of color and a medley of patterns, if you like. Particularly for the beach and summer resort, the noisy umbrella is liked.

# HAVE MYSTERY HORSE DISEASE

### Farmers of Sioux County, Nebraska, Lose Many Animals—Make Investigation

Lincoln, Neb., (Special)—A mysterious disease among horses, at Harrison and other places in western Nebraska, is being investigated by Secretary McLaughlin, of the state department of agriculture. Ranchers have lost horses for several years from an unknown cause. It is estimated that 300 animals have died in northern Sioux county during the past seven or eight years. Dr. L. R. Cantwell will make a preliminary survey of the situation and will report on it soon.

### ARE DISAGREED ON ROUTING OF HIGHWAY

Newcastle, Neb., (Special)—The people in this part of Nebraska will be greatly disappointed if the route of the new highway between here and Maskell follows the north road instead of the south road, as the north road has many sharp and dangerous curves and steep hills although it is considered about one-fourth of a mile shorter. Business men and farmers in this locality, opposed to the bad road to the north, circulated a petition and obtained 447 signatures in favor of the lower and better road, while another petition of only 177 names was presented to the board of supervisors of Dixon county favoring the north road. The supervisors voted to disregard the petition for the south road and allow the River Route highway to follow the upper or north road. The supervisors made no apology or gave no good reason for such action, but it was brought out that the board has an unwritten law to vote according to the advice of the supervisor in the district where a project or question is under consideration. The supervisor of the Maskell district was in favor of the north route.

The necessary plats, petitions and other papers have been forwarded to the state department of public works for final decision of the exact route as provided by law.

# Cripple Killed In Odd Accident

### Driverless Auto Crashes Into Porch on Which Unfortunate Sat

Omaha, Neb., (Special)—A driverless automobile, left parked half a block away on a hillside, Sunday, jumped the curb and crashed into the front porch on which Richard Kuhl, 14 years old, a cripple, was sitting, fatally injuring him. He died in a hospital. The efforts of an 8-year-old sister to save him were futile.

### WOMAN IS DEAD FROM RATTLESNAKE BITE

Rube, Neb., (Special)—Mrs. Harold Stewart of Pinecamp, near here, died from the effects of being bitten by a rattlesnake. Mrs. Stewart was picking berries when the snake coiled under her and struck. She ran two miles to get assistance but died in a hospital here.

### BODY OF STRANGER IS FOUND HANGING

Cresco, Ia., (Special)—The body of an unidentified man was found hanging from the limb of a tree here Saturday. It was so badly decomposed that identification was impossible. Part of an envelope with the words, "return in five days to Box 1583 K, Milwaukee, Wis.," was found in a pocket.

### Kiwanians Refuse To Accept His Resignation

Worthington, Minn., (Special)—The Worthington Kiwanians unanimously voted not to accept the resignation of President S. A. Slater, which the latter recently turned in on the grounds of inability to attend to his duties because of illness. Dr. Slater, who is acting physician at the Southwestern Sanatorium, has been confined to his room for some weeks, and will leave the city soon for a complete rest.

# EVANS VACANCY IS NOT FILLED

### Chances of Dakota City Attorney Are Believed To Be Good

Lincoln, Neb., (Special)—The name of Judge F. W. Button, of Fremont, was eliminated from consideration as the successor of Judge Robert E. Evans, of Dakota City, who died some days ago, by Governor McMullen when he said that he would not be foolish enough to make one appointment in order to have another one to make. He explained that he meant that there was always trouble enough following a decision in making one appointment without asking for more. This will also eliminate all other district judges in the Third congressional circuit from consideration. The names of Fred S. Berry, of Wayne, and Rodney Dunlap, of Fremont, who was chairman of the republican congressional committee last year, have been entered. Button is a democrat.

The general opinion is that the appointment will go either to W. P. Warner, of Dakota City, or J. C. Martin, of Central City.

# AN ICE FAMINE IS NOW FEARED

### Omaha and Council Bluffs Called on to Supply Other Towns

Omaha, Neb., (I. N. S.)—An ice famine threatens Omaha and Council Bluffs unless there is a let up in the heat wave in the near future. Omaha and Council Bluffs ice dealers say they have enough ice for the local demand but that Des Moines, St. Joseph and other surrounding cities are buying ice from them at the rate of 500 tons a day.

A big ice house burned here this spring, destroying 50,000 tons of ice. This assisted in shortening the ice supply. Des Moines got 5,000 tons from Council Bluffs dealers, and St. Joseph took 500 tons out Monday. At the present rate of consumption, the ice supply here will be exhausted in six weeks, it was said.

### MUCH STORM DAMAGE IN DIXON COUNTY

Allen, Neb., (Special)—Dixon county had a heavy wind and rain storm Monday evening, which did thousands of dollars in damage to crops. Corn fields in the vicinity of Martinsburg and Ponca suffered the most, many of them being laid flat to the ground. Small grain harvest had just been started nicely over the county, and in many sections the standing grain was flattened on the ground so as to make harvest almost impossible. Damage in the vicinity of Allen was also heavy, though not quite as great as in the northern end of the county.

The chautauqua tent at Ponca was blown down an automobile, was smashed to pieces on the streets of Newcastle and the electric high line service for the entire section was out of order until Tuesday morning, when employees of the company traced the trouble to near Hubbard. This was the first rain of any kind received in the immediate vicinity of Allen for over four weeks and was much needed, although the wind damage was heavy.

### INVESTIGATE FAILURE OF BURGESS-NASH COMPANY

Omaha, Neb., (Special)—An examination of the records of the Burgess-Nash company, bankrupt department store, was begun Tuesday by James E. Egan, expert accountant, and Postal Inspector Coble. Egan arrived from Washington to make the inspection. He is connected with the bureau of investigation of the department of justice. He was one of the five men whose examination of the books of former Governor McCray of Indiana led to his sentence to the penitentiary for 10 years. Egan's most recent investigation was of the Hawkins Mortgage company, Portland, Ind. Morton S. Hawkins, president of the company, was sentenced to 15 years and fined \$10,000.

### GATHERING DATA FOR RAIL RATE HEARING

Lincoln, Neb., (Special)—The state railway commission has its staff of rate experts and accountants working on testimony to be submitted in connection with the hearings before the Interstate Commerce Commission in which the Nebraska roads, with others, are asking increased returns on their investment. The commission asked for this information in an effort to find out just how much of a load each department, passenger and freight, is carrying. The great falling off in passenger traffic is one of the reasons ascribed for the reduced net revenues of the roads, and the commission wants to know just how much passenger revenues are contributing to net revenues.

### TWO HARVESTERS DROWN

Highmore, S. D., (Special)—O. H. Dutton of Middleton, Ia., and his partner, W. H. Arnold, were drowned in a small lake 6 miles east of Highmore Tuesday evening. Two other men were with them at the time and they narrowly escaped being pulled in. The lake was dragged and the bodies recovered. Artificial respiration was used for some time but without result. The four men were harvest hands here looking for work. One of the drowned men has a wife and three children.