

THE FRONTIER

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Economic Highlights

The taxpayer will find a certain amount of encouragement in recent treasury figures concerning emergency expenditures for the 11 months ending May 31.

The deficit, after subtracting public debt retirements, was \$3,287,466,000. Mr. Roosevelt's estimate of the deficit, made some months ago, was \$7,300,000,000—more than twice the present deficit, with only a month of the fiscal year left to go.

Reason is that emergency spending was much less than anticipated. Where the budget authorized total spending of about \$11,000,000,000, only \$6,370,000,000 was spent, of which emergency payments came to \$3,580,000,000. Routine Governmental costs were \$2,790,000,000, as compared with \$3,477,000,000 a year ago, so the Administration's promises of economy in that field have, to a substantial degree, been fulfilled. Treasury income was well over the preceding comparable period—\$2,700,000,000, as against \$1,700,000,000.

The unspent emergency money, however, has been appropriated and may still be used. It is generally believed that Mr. Roosevelt will use it during the coming fiscal year, in which the Administration will make its strongest drive against the forces of depression.

The new drive will require money—and plenty of it. By the time this is read, Democratic leaders will have pushed the last of the big money bills thru the House, where all appropriations legislation must, under the Constitution, originate. It was the President's wish that the money be appropriated without specific instructions as to how it is to be spent, leaving it entirely up to him. Representatives weren't quite willing to do that, and under the new bills a percentage of the funds have been specifically allocated. Some of the principal allocations are: \$100,000,000 for highway construction; \$65,000,000 for public buildings; a maximum of \$500,000,000 for PWA work. In actual cash, the President will have something over \$899,000,000 for relief purposes. It is said that the President will ask for an additional \$150,000,000 or so for drouth relief.

Many more millions will likewise be available, if Mr. Roosevelt wants them. The deficiency bill empowers him to divert for relief all money repaid the RFC. The bill likewise gives the RFC authority to buy bonds of political subdivisions which have received PWA construction funds.

Thus, the Administration will face few financial difficulties in the immediate future. It will, however, meet strong opposition from taxpayers' groups which think the magnitude of appropriations, reflected in higher taxes, are delaying, rather than helping, the trend toward recovery.

The silver bloc in Congress has at last made itself felt in legislation—a mixed achievement of both success and failure. It has succeeded to the extent that it has obtained a law empowering the American government to rehabilitate silver values. It has failed inasmuch as future activities will be dependent on the attitude of the President—he is forced to do nothing, unless he wants to.

A few weeks ago, Mr. Roosevelt started his silver program. It has two phases: The domestic phase calls for the gradual purchase by the treasury of 1,300,000,000 ounces of silver, against which currency will be issued. The foreign phase lies in efforts to obtain world agreement on silver as a monetary metal. The great question, which now is unanswered, is: "Will other powers join in bringing silver back?"

What the silver advocates want is bimetalism. Their stand has not varied greatly since Bryan carried their banner—and went down to defeat before McKinley, upholder of the gold standard. Many observers are of the opinion that bimetalism, carefully developed, can be made to work—if all the great financial powers pursue such a policy together. The Administration will seek an accord on this, and there will be a great many confer-

ences, a great deal of talking across the seas, before anything definite is agreed upon. Practically every government knows something should be done about money—but there is a vast amount of disagreement as to what.

The trend of public thought, as the Administration enters its second year, is reflected by the multitude of newspaper and magazine articles that are now appearing, entitled, "What will follow the NRA?" or "After the AAA—What?" and so on. These bureaus have done much that is beneficial, but they haven't achieved anywhere near what an overly optimistic public thought they would. Important changes in recovery set-up, methods and personnel are coming before many moons.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

By Frank P. Litschert

The Republican National Committee in session in Chicago, in adopting a declaration of policy and in selecting Henry P. Fletcher, of Pennsylvania, as National Chairman in the place of Everett Sanders, who resigned on account of ill-health, was probably build-better than it knew and very likely better than anyone yet realizes.

In the first place the Declaration of Principles was one on which all sections of the party may unite. While recognizing problems of social legislation which should solve for the future progress of the country the declaration adds that "these problems can best be solved within the framework of American institutions in accordance with the spirit and principles of the founders of the Republic, without the destruction of individual freedom."

The statement further criticizes "a small group in Washington, vested with temporary authority" which, it charges, "is seeking covertly to alter the framework of American institutions." The statement continues: "They seek to expand to the utmost limit the powers of central government. In place of individual initiative they seek to substitute complete government control of all agricultural production, of all business activity." The declaration, which also terms a balanced budget as indispensable, was approved by the so-called conservative and progressive members of the committee alike.

But, after all, the most important work of the meeting was the selection of a new chairman. The man named is Henry P. Fletcher, a distinguished American and a staunch Republican. Efforts to label him as a member of one faction or another seem rather unconvincing in view of the fact that he was supported by Republican leaders of various intraparty groups. The fact is that Mr. Fletcher had never been a factionalist in the Republican party. His record in public is one which any American might feel proud to possess. He entered the practice of law in 1894 after graduating from LaFayette College, in Pennsylvania, and left the practice a few years later to join Theodore Roosevelt's regiment of Rough Riders, for the Spanish-American War. He then served for two years in the Philippines with the rank of first lieutenant and later entered the diplomatic service. He has been American ambassador to Chile, Mexico, Belgium and Italy and served as under-Secretary of State under President Harding. During one year of President Hoover's administration he served as chairman of the U. S. Tariff Commission. In the 1932 campaign he campaigned actively for the Republican ticket and acted as chairman of the Republican Party's Eastern finance committee.

The Republican Party is now ready to begin the task of rebuilding its machinery for the campaign of 1936. Mr. Fletcher's long experience in public life and his training as a soldier and a diplomat will serve him in good stead. He is a man of engaging personality and those who know him best say that he has the punch necessary at this stage of the political game. The fact that he was one of the Roosevelt Rough Riders would indicate that such statements are well founded. About the only criticism offered to Mr. Fletcher's elevation to the chairmanship is that he lives in Pennsylvania, and not in the west. But after all, a man's home is where his heart is, and basing our opinion on this fact we have a hunch that Mr. Fletcher's real home is not Pennsylvania, but the United States. His past record would seem to indicate as much. It is more than possible and easily probable that the Republican National Committee did a better job at Chicago than it yet realizes.

Nebraska News Items

Reductions ranging from 33 1-3 to 50 per cent on intrastate freight rates for hay, feed and livestock, were authorized by the Nebraska railway commission Saturday as a measure of emergency drouth relief. The rates, applicable in 40 drouth counties, are expected to be extended to include all counties designated as drouth areas by

the federal government. The emergency rates provide a 50 per cent reduction on shipments of hay to drouth areas; 33 1-3 per cent reduction on feed shipments and 50 per cent reduction for shipment of livestock from drouth areas to live ranges and return. If the shipment is one way only, the livestock rate reduction is but 15 per cent. The reduced rates will conform to the western trunk line reductions on interstate shipments for drouth area.

Fearing a cyclone, Mrs. William Fisher rushed to the storm cellar at her home near Falls City last Friday stumbled at the top of the steps and pitched to the bottom head first. Three stitches were required to close a gap over her right eye.

A beer garden at Peony Park, an Omaha suburban resort, was destroyed by fire last Saturday night, causing a loss of \$5,000. The garden was opened for business Friday night. Local officials are of the opinion that it might be due to rival operators.

Kenneth Drennan, six year old boy, was burned severely last Sunday in an explosion of undetermined origin at his home near Nehawka. He was taken to a hospital in Nebraska City where physicians said that he had a chance for recovery. The boy's father, Lester Drennan, was asleep in the house and his mother was outside. She heard an explosion, and looking toward the house, saw the lad running outdoors, his clothing aflame. The father and mother extinguished the fire. The boy's entire body was seared. The parents said the boy had played with fire before and didn't get hurt. They said there was a can of kerosene beside a stove and they supposed he must have ignited the liquid. The explosion did considerable damage to the interior of the house, but the fire was put out quickly. The little boy died Sunday night.

Alfred Martin Jensen, 16, son of Rev. and Mrs. M. A. Jensen, of Pilger, died Sunday afternoon at a Wayne hospital from injuries received in an automobile accident eight miles south of Wayne shortly before. The boy was at Wayne with his parents for the Nebraska German Evangelical Lutheran synod and was riding with two Pilger youths, John Kemp and Herbert Krueger, when a front tire on the car blew out. A farmer brot all three to Wayne. Jensen's head was crushed on the left side. He died shortly after his arrival at the hospital. Krueger suffered minor bruises.

The corn-hog committee for Richardson county has protested strongly against their county's corn-hog reduction. Letters of protest have been dispatched to both A. G. Black, chief of the corn-hog division, and W. H. Brokaw, state director. The tentative figure on hogs were cut from 104,355 head to 91,869 head, or approximately 12 per cent, while the figures on corn were cut from 120,164 acres to 111,459 acres.

Randall Biart, state FERA director, has announced plans for a new enrollment of from 1,500 to 2,000 CCC recruits in Nebraska early in July. Young men now in the service who have served two six month periods will not be eligible for re-enrollment, he said. Quota allocations to counties will be announced later.

Byron Oberst, formerly attorney for the federal land bank in Omaha, was in jail in Omaha the latter part of last week having been indicted by the federal grand jury for embezzlement.

Edgar Howard denies that the condition of his health will not permit him to make a campaign for re-nomination and reelection. He said that he would wage a fight for renomination and reelection. Edgar will have a fight on his hands. This man Chatt seems to be hitting the ball hard, and getting results.

Omaha is the location of one of six branch offices established last week

by the department of Justice. That city formerly had one of the largest offices in the west, but it was abolished two years ago and headquarters moved to Kansas City.

Micheal Hoffer, 93, one of Polk county's earliest settlers, and a soldier in the civil war, died at his home near Osceola last week. Two sons and three daughters survive.

Petitions carrying 77,936 names and requesting that the proposal to create a unicameral state legislature for Nebraska to be submitted to the voters at the general election in November, were filed last Friday with the secretary of state. The constitutional amendment which would revise the state's legislative system was proposed by Senator Norris. Circulation of the petitions has been in progress during the past several weeks, with a result that 20,000 more signers than are required to submit the issue have been secured. The amendment would submit a single legislative assembly of 30 to 50 non-partisan members for the present two house legislature of 133 party selected members.

D. D. Price, of Lincoln, formerly state engineer, has been named chief engineer and general manager of the \$7,500,000 Southerland Power and irrigation project in final contracts executed by the project directors in North Platte last Saturday. A New York engineering firm was named consultant on design and construction, and John P. Hogan, a member of the firm, signed the contract. The officials estimate that the first contract for construction will be let by August 1.

Excavation Shows Holt County Was Once The Home of Many Indians

By J. B. O'Sullivan

(Continued from last week.)

The main point of interest in the beads is that for a long time the Republican valley has yielded a shell bead that has puzzled many archaeologists. The beads are colored black and a few are red. It has been asserted the shells of which they were made never have been found, and all sorts of inferences have been made. Some think the beads came from a great distance. Others adduced that once a big lake existed in the Republican valley and produced the shells and that this lake long since dried away while the heads of the shells continue to hold together to prove to be an enigma to investigators.

The skeletons were removed from depths of from five to eight feet and the burials were on a promontory that shed water so bones and artifacts were well preserved.

Some of the beads were lying in order as if they had formed a necklace while others were scattered about as most tribes would do in burial offerings.

One point noted in the beads is their resemblance to those typical of the Algonkin and other Indians of the eastern part of the country. It must be remembered the Arapahoes are related to the Algonkin and that once a party of Algonkin hunters traveled to the Mississippi valley, found the Arapahoe tribe and united with them and this union dominated part of the Republican valley, hunting as far west as the eastern part of Wyoming.

There were black shell beads along the Atlantic coast part of the country and these were made of the eye of the hinge of a shell found there. The Indians knew this bead was called sacki. A white bead produced there was called wompi and the latter was manufactured of the rim part of the shell. It is believed shell bead making was an eastern art that gradually was learned by western Indians. A black bead was valued at several of the whites.

It is thought the black beads of the east did not originate in this section of the country but it is thought possible the black beads of the Republican valley were heat treated and colored by some means not yet discovered. It

is accepted in most quarters the red beads were colored with hematite, iron so pure it is red and highly useful as a dye or for coloring the face.

It has been stated the coloring of the beads was an accident but they have been found in widely scattered parts of the country, California, Arizona, Tennessee and along the Republican in Nebraska.

The note in the ink bottle signed by John K. Jones, mentioned the Arapahoe and Sioux Indians of his acquaintance always had heirlooms of shell beads and these were handed down religiously from generation to generation.

There is strong belief in the minds of some of the beads mentioned actually were made so long ago the Indians themselves had no knowledge whence they came and that a great inland body of Nebraska water is the solution of the riddle. Such a lake could have dried up 1,000 years ago practically without leaving a trace today. Shells that the beads could have been made of have not been identified.

The burial grounds mentioned are not satisfactorily identified. The Arapahoe was in the valley and so were the Sioux, the latter hunting down to the Kansas line. No similar beads to these are found except in the area lying between Guide Rock and Cambridge. In shape they are either round or rough. The unfinished beads, as many call the rough ones, have been found worn as a necklace. One necklace around remains was composed of more than 3,000 tiny beads. The more beads and gorgets or amulets, the wealthier was the owner in an Indian's eyes.

The beads of the small Nebraska area have provided a real mystery and some dried away lake containing a rare mussel shell would seem to be the answer.

A short distance south of the Republican river country in Kansas, near Independence, interesting relics of Pawnee people are found and among them is a diamond shaped knife identical to that found here and in most every section of Nebraska. A strange thing about this type of knife is that it is identical to knives found in Egypt. Here it was associated exclusively with the Pawnee and that fact brings up many interesting points, especially when it is remembered the great Pawnee nation was the only group of United States Indians not known to have moved at any time to where the white man found them. There are several other angles pointing to Old

Egypt and not one of them have been satisfactorily explained in spite of much study by experts. Egypt is near the commonly supposed cradle of humanity and the deductions are replete with very interesting conclusions.

The Pawnee Indians in the Kansas section mentioned in prehistoric times, according to the implements found, tilled the soil part of the time and subsisted on results of the chase the rest of the time. Hoes, spades and other digging tools were badly worn.

An investigator in Kansas who looked over the finds there is of the opinion the Skidi inhabited the site, the band who lived here in Holt county at various times and left thousands of mementoes, and he stated the Skidi once lived in Ohio near the falls of the Ohio river. A boatstone found in Kansas is exactly like a typical Ohio stone in finish. More than one investigator has inferred the Skidi came to Nebraska or Kansas from Ohio, but so long ago all track of the move had been erased from the minds of the people.

The ruins in Kansas revealed the Skidi, while there, were mound builders and never made burials in boxes made of stones as did their supposed ancestors who lived long by the roaring Ohio river.

At the Pawnee village sites in Kansas it was noted the places had been occupied many times from the cave man down to the percussion rifle days and in some cases by the same culture. The same fact has been noted here. There are implements of stone as fresh looking as if made yesterday and without doubt but a few hundred years old. It has been calculated the last time the Skidi lived here was 284 years ago, around 1650, and other pieces have been found any archaeologist of note surely must admit were manufactured as long as 1,000 or even 5,000 years ago.

A queer fact is that some of the artifacts made long ago are so crude any boy might duplicate the work while others show the skill of a first class jeweler. Stone was used in one of the pieces the source of which never was located, as if some glacier had buried the ledge forever.

In Kansas was found a piece that is very interesting since several have been found here in Holt county. This piece looks in shape like a new moon and is made of obsidian or volcanic glass, a generally black substance which chips true and takes a very keen edge. This work has been identified.

(Continued on page 4, column 5.)

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