

THE FRONTIER

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Entered at Postoffice at O'Neill, Nebraska, as Second Class Matter

SUBSCRIPTION
One Year, in Nebraska \$2.00
One Year, Outside Nebraska 2.25

Display advertising is charged for on a basis of 25c an inch (one column wide) per week. Want ads 10c per line, first insertion. Subsequent insertions 5c per line.

Views of Congress...

By Dr. A. L. Miller, M. C.

It seems quite apparent that price ceilings are to be placed on all livestock to be slaughtered. I have attended meetings in the past two days at which fifty livestock organizations from all over the United States were represented. Officials from OPA and the Department of Agriculture and Mr. Jones, of the Economic Division, attended. The livestock men

spoke some very plain and hard words to these men against placing ceilings on livestock. It is my feeling that the meeting might just as well not have been held, for I am certain that the Office of Price Administration and the Department of Agriculture had already determined to put on these ceilings before even consulting the men on the firing line who know most about meat raising. This is rather typical of the way OPA has been operating. Your representative spoke strongly against this and read into the record telegrams from Mr. Jirton, president of the Colorado-Nebraska Lamb Feeders Association, and H. H. Selleck, of the Nebraska Stock Growers Association.

Government officials seem to think that there is too much inflation in farm prices. The livestock men submitted the fact that inflation was due to the increased returns going to industry and labor. Prices the farmers get cannot be blamed for inflation when dairy herds are being sold because of insufficient returns to pay bills and hire labor; when farm labor is being attracted to better jobs in factories, and when by leaving the farm a farmer can make twice as much and work only 48 hours instead of 80.

A bill was recently passed appropriating money to be used by the Extension Departments of the various states in getting additional farm labor. This might help in some sections by bringing in Mexican beet workers and Jap labor, but it is questionable with the shortage of labor in every state if this will help matters generally.

The past week we have had a number of letters from folks who are concerned about the future of the Triple A program, and our criticism of the Department of Agriculture. I feel definitely that the Agriculture Department should represent the farmers. My predecessor, a demoralized, stated that this administration was against agriculture. I am of the same opinion. Under the present conditions the farmers are being traded out of their shirts by the Manpower Commission, the Office of Price Administration, the War Production Board and the Commission on Economics.

I believe that farm problems should be solved by the farmers at home and not by bureaucrats in Washington. I believe the farmers want the heel of government off their necks, fair prices, sufficient manpower to carry on their operations and machinery and repair parts. With these I am convinced they will produce to the utmost. I do not object to farmers getting a subsidy or incentive payments if these will help him produce, but I do object to these being used as an excuse for regimenting, controlling and browbeating him by some bureaucrats in Washington, some of whom would have you take the shoes off the horses at night, change the lambing season and divide the steers into males and females. That sounds silly, doesn't it? But this actually happened in the Department of Agriculture. The farmer knows best what his land will raise and what he can produce with the machinery and manpower at his command. I believe quotas should be removed and a fair price guaranteed through a loan guarantee. No longer should the land be checked and double-checked to ascertain if he has overplanted any particular crop. This is a needless waste of manpower when it is so badly needed for actual farm operations.

The functioning of Congress requires the service of about 60 page boys between the ages of 11 and 17 years. These boys go to school in the basement of the capitol building from 7:00 in the morning until noon. From the time Congress takes up at noon the page boys are busy running errands, answering phone calls and doing a thousand and one things for the 531 members of the two Houses. The Supreme Court

also requires their services for running errands and carrying messages. They receive in this way a training in practical politics that they could get in no other. Some members in both Houses have been pages. The chief parliamentarian of the House started as a timekeeper 18 years ago. They are fine bright-eyed youngsters and some of them may one day sit in our seats in the House.

The Administration has come to realize that the food problem has been badly mismanaged and horribly bungled. Most men in Congress feel that Chester Davis, the newly appointed administrator, is a strong-minded individual with an understanding of the problems of the farmer and will represent them, and will bring order out of the chaos. They will support him in his efforts.

Leaders on both sides of the House indicate there will be a ten day or two weeks recess at Easter time. Your representative feels that that would be a good thing if the members would go back home and visit with the people they represent. Speaking of Easter, one naturally thinks of the peace that we hope soon will come. To be a lasting peace it must be built on the teachings of the Christ who said, "It is better to give than to receive," and admonishes us to "Love thy neighbor as thyself."

Many groups are now planning for that peace. We must all be willing to make sacrifices for it. Readjustments after the war must be placed in the hands of those who believe in our way of life and can quickly place our industry again on a basis where it can go ahead and make the things we will be wanting and thus re-employ our soldiers when they come home. The President and his staff are doing a splendid job of carrying on the war and no doubt conscientiously making plans for the peace, but there are too many individuals in his administration, particularly in OPA and WPB, who do not understand the temper of the American people and are basing their plans on theory of regulation and regimentation. The people will not stand for this totalitarian plan of life. Bureaucratic control must be dissolved and individuals at home must again be permitted to seek life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness on democratic lines without detailed direction from Washington.

Something happened last week that may bring greater benefits to Nebraska than anything that has happened for a long while. The Board of Investigation and Research, created by the Transportation Act of 1940, submitted a report to the President recommending abolition of long-standing freight rate discrimination, establishment of a uniform national rate structure. For many years the West has suffered from discrimination that has favored the manufacturing centers of the East. Now a board, expressly set up by Congress to do so, has made a study of the situation and has made its recommendations. It is very likely the Congress will soon do something about the matter. While in the Legislature and since, your congressman has been active in the efforts to get these discriminations wiped out.

Spring comes earlier in Washington than it does in Nebraska, in fact it is upon us right now. Forsythia and magnolias are blooming on the capitol grounds and the oriental cherries will start blooming soon after April 1. The grass is green and the trees are budding. This pretty pictures is

somewhat spoiled to us new members by the old-timers who warn us we are approaching that period in Washington when the heat is stifling and unremitting. We from Nebraska will then be envying the folks back home who can enjoy cool nights and days that are not too hot.

When George Washington laid out this city he provided for a number of "circles" at street intersections and a number of avenues that lead directly into the capitol grounds and the downtown section, intersecting the north-south and east-west streets at angles. Then there are a great number of short streets running in any direction. It is all very confusing to a newcomer who is used to the broad plains of Nebraska and the checkerboard layout of our towns. In the horse and buggy days this was alright, but with the advent of the automobile the traffic problem is the world's worst. The circles which were planned for gun emplacements to guard the capital have become traffic bottlenecks. Instead of cannon in these circles, we are now "protected" by wooden machine and anti-aircraft guns. However, Washington is probably as well protected as is possible with real anti-aircraft guns and several squadrons of attack and interceptor planes.

With the coming of spring most of you are planning your Victory gardens in which you will raise the vegetables and other foods you will need next summer and winter. With the present system of point rationing in effect you will be wise to raise and put up all you can. If some "expert" in OPA doesn't pull some bonehead that will interfere with your getting sugar or enough containers and "closures," as they call the jar lids, the folks in Nebraska should be pretty well able to provide enough food for their own consumption during the next year. The Nebraska delegation has been working on these problems and have strongly impressed on OPA and WPA the importance of making proper and sufficient provisions for an adequate supply of sugar and containers. As a boy I can remember mother drying corn on the roof of the milkhouse and the woodhouse. We put up eggs in salt brine and preserved our meat by smoking. I remember carrying what seemed like hundreds of pounds of nice dry sand for burying our carrots, turnips and other vegetables. In the face of our present condition it might be well to revive some of these old practices and we no doubt will.

Washington is full of plans to aid the farmer and most of these plans involve some methods of control of his activities and of telling him how to run his farm. Your congressman believes that what the farmers of this country needs most is less controls and more action to get him what he needs to run his farm. He believes that all restrictions should be removed so the farmer can produce the greatest harvest that is possible under his individual circumstances as to soil, climate, machinery, labor, fertilizer, and transportation. We need have no fear of surpluses. We need rather to fear shortages. The consuming sections of the east may well feel the pangs of hunger next winter. If the administration will consider that food is as vital as soldiers and ammunition and bend every effort to provide labor, machinery, fertilizer and transportation facilities and will out the "social planters," the farmer will do his utmost. He will raise the

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crops even at this late date. In simple justice to the farmer, price ceilings should be adjusted to include labor costs. There is no other industry under Heaven where labor costs are not considered as a part of the cost of production. All necessary farm workers should be deferred from the draft as essential workers and those needed at home should be permitted to return to the farm. To equalize conditions, the industrial work week should be no less than 48 hours with no overtime. If that would result in greater profits to industries, these profits should be taken by taxation. All surplus feed grains should be released for feeding. And finally, all questionnaires and red tape that confuse the farmer and consume his valuable time should be done away with.

Our recent visitors were Edwin J. Quinn of Kimball, Emma Rousek of Burwell, R. S. Hunt of Scottsbluff, Cal A. Ward of Lincoln, and Chris Milius of Omaha.

State Bankers Cancel Convention Plans

In order to better co-operate with the country's war effort, the Nebraska State Bankers Association has just announced that all regular group meetings of bankers for 1943 will be abandoned. The purpose of these group meetings has always been for the discussion of purely banking problems, and in the present emergency the banks of Nebraska have announced that they will forego discussion of their own problems in order to concentrate all of their efforts to the problems of our Nation at war and to co-operate in the conservation of rubber, gasoline and transportation.

An important co-operative effort of Nebraska banks this spring will be to offer a new type of organized banker support to aid the government's manpower problem. To this end machinery is being devised for co-operation with the Government Employment Bureau and other official agencies in the procuring and placing of farm labor to plant and harvest Nebraska crops.

Banker organization for the sale of government securities has been intensively developed for more than a year and has won high official praise. In addition to this sale of government securities and the handling of ration banking accounts, the bankers of Nebraska feel that they can make another contribution to the government by assisting the government in its farm production objective for the crucial year to come.

VICTORY DIGEST

As the date for point rationing of meats, butter, edible fats, cheese and canned fish, April 1, approaches, the Office of Price Administration warns that to make the ration program effective and fair to all consumers, the co-operation of consumers must be matched by the conscientious efforts of every retailer, wholesaler and food handler. Danger of black markets in food is a menace to our wartime economy and those who have any dealings with such illegal practices must be considered as public enemies, OPA adds.

The prospect of greatly increased home canning of foods on the farms and in the cities this year, as a result of OPA restrictions on sale of commercially packed goods, has caused the War Production Board to make provision for an ample supply of metal closures and rubber jar rings. The board has removed all quota restrictions on the manufacture of certain types of metal lids used to seal the jars. Prohibition of the use of zinc is continued.

School authorities of both rural and city schools operating school buses are urged by the Office of Defense Transportation to promptly file applications for revised certificates of war necessity for the second quarter of 1943. Failure of school organizations to return their applications may result in insufficient gasoline allowances for the affected school bus operations, the ODT warned. School buses represent more than 50 percent of the nation's passenger buses. It is of major importance that they be properly conserved and used, since new buses can be procured only in the most urgent cases, ODT points out.

Miss Laverne Borg was a guest of Lydia Halva on Wednesday.

THE FRONTIER'S HONOR ROLL

The following Frontier readers have either remitted their subscriptions or called and paid same during the past two weeks, for which they have our sincere thanks. Now is a good time for those in arrears to call and extend their subscription. The coming year promises to be one of the most important in the history of the United States and people will want to know what is going on in the old home town, as well as elsewhere, and the easiest way to find it out is through the weekly visits of their home town paper:

- Rudolph Brockman.
- William DeVall.
- C. F. W. Lehmann.
- A. M. King.
- George A. Fox.
- E. W. Richter.
- Mrs. V. M. Searles.
- Con O'Connell.
- Northwest Bell Tel. Co.
- Carl F. Hoppe.
- Henry Murray.
- McMillan & Markey.
- Mrs. J. C. Reynolds.
- M. F. Stanton.
- Mrs. Emma Maring.
- Mrs. Frank Hansen.
- Mrs. George Hay.
- Clarence Shaw.
- Ralph Burival (new)
- Fred Vitt
- Pfc. Joe Bartos (new)
- Lt. M. E. Harty
- Mrs. Fannie Ernst
- Architectural Record
- Universal Clipping Bureau
- Mrs. Edward Adams

AN OPPORTUNITY AND A CHALLENGE

The greatest shortage in the American economic system is rubber. As a result drastic changes in the American mode of living is necessary. Most of Europe has gone back to the "horse and buggy days," except there are few horses and no buggies. The automobile for civilian use there is almost non-existent.

In America the automobile greatly changed our living. It helped to make cities bigger and small towns smaller, because people thought nothing of going 50 to 100 miles to shop. As automobile use is restricted, the small towns will now become more important.

What does this mean to local merchants and business men? Doesn't it suggest that the small town is about to have a rebirth as a trading center, and in this change isn't there opportunity with a capital "O"? For these people "who have thought nothing of going 50 to 100 miles to shop" now think more about the wear and tear on their automobile tires. They think more about shopping nearer home.

But do not think, Mr. Merchant and Mr. Business Man, that people are going to be forced to trade with you because you are located where you are. It is not going to be as easy as that to get back the trade that has been going away, for the merchants in the cities are not going to surrender that trade without a fight. The big city papers bring their advertising message into your community and they are using every method they can—including perhaps the development of mail order business—to hold on to that trade.

Preaching the doctrine of "trade at home" isn't enough. Urging people to support "home enterprise" isn't enough. You have got to show them why trading at home means money in their pockets; that they can buy as good quality at home as elsewhere. This car crisis offers an opportunity for showing them.

The Frontier, which covers Holt county very well, can help you reach the people. You will always find us willing and ready to work for you as your salesman, as we firmly believe in building up O'Neill and Holt county in any way possible.

Crowded Out Last Week
Miss Ruth Watson of Imman visited Miss Lydia Halva on Tuesday of this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Miles Finley of Norfolk visited friends here last Sunday.

The Presbyterian Ladies Guild met Thursday afternoon, April 1, at the home of Mrs. Ryland Parker.

Hugh Connelly of Tilden has been visiting Mr. and Mrs. Carsten Hanson and family for the past few days.

Misses Madalaine Hynes and Lavonne Borg spent the weekend in Grand Island.

Miss Katherine Murray of Omaha spent the week-end here visiting her mother, Mrs. Theresa Murray.

Lieut. Harold R. Tushla of Atkinson has been cited for an award presented Tuesday by headquarters of the Eighth Air Force Command in London. Besides being the recipient of the air medal, he also received an oak leaf cluster.

Mr. and Mrs. George Worth and Mr. and Mrs. Roy Worth of Dalton visited their brother and family, Bob Worth, and sister and

Shoe Rationing

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Brown-McDonald built a shoe business based on Quality and Value. Now—even with shoe rationing—you can still get excellent quality in the price brackets you have been used to paying. Thrift-minded folks, rationed to three pairs of shoes per year, want to get the most for their shoe money. You can do just that at Brown-McDonald's.

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1. Square toe oxford with medium heel and walled last. For sport or street wear. Pair **\$3.98**

2. Trim dress oxford with the higher heel. Smart perforation trim on vamp. AAA to B widths. **\$4.50**

3. Shoe for all occasions. Wall-toe, medium heel, a large flap tongue, saddle stitched. **\$3.98**

4. Dress pump, a step-in with a scroll trim at instep, modified heel. AAA to B widths at **\$4.98**

5. Moccasin type sport oxford in brown leather and with leather sole. Long wearing, comfy. **\$2.98**

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BROWN-McDONALD
IF YOU CAN'T COME - ORDER BY MAIL

husband, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Carr, in O'Neill this week. E. H. Chase and Harry Pelcer of Atkinson were visitors in the city Tuesday evening.

The glider plant at Alliance has brought so many soldiers and others to that town that business men are wringing their hands in despair, says a press report. They

cannot get enough goods to supply the demand. There is not enough entertainment in town for the soldiers. The drug stores have to close Sunday because their supply of rationed goods is not equal to the demand. Several restaurants had to close for lack of help and those that are still open find it difficult to get enough supplies.—Battle Creek Enterprise.

STALEYMONNE

Here's news that will excite the attention of every progressive farmer in America! "Staleymonne," a new plant "hormone," increases yields amazingly, at a cost of only 4c per acre. It's easy to use at planting time, and it results in stronger seedlings and root systems... better crops... bigger crops... less falling of blossoms, fruits and grains. It has been tested and approved over the past two years. Amateurs and experts have had great success with it, and are re-buying for 1943.

"Staleymonne" is not a fertilizer, not a fungicide, not an insecticide. It is in a class by itself: a plant growth substance that costs little and pays for itself many times over in yields, in profits, in satisfaction.

The subject of plant "hormones" is open to violent debate. Important things are at stake this year. Farmers don't want to turn their backs on any new discovery that might increase yields or profits, but neither do they want to get fooled by some half-baked idea.

8 Ounces 50c 1 Pound \$1.00

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BANKS AND THE WAR

War Damage Insurance

If you haven't already protected your home and its contents with War Damage Insurance, we suggest that you do so without delay. Cost is very low and the protection you get can be had in no other way. The government requires an inventory of damaged property in case of a claim, so we also suggest that you make such an inventory now, in duplicate, storing one copy in a safe deposit box in this bank. Safe deposit rental cost is moderate and you can store many of your personal valuables in the box you rent.

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