

## Capitol News -

### New "301 Committee" Organized; Oppose Change in Education Dept.

By Melvin Paul  
Statehouse Correspondent  
The Nebraska Press Association  
LINCOLN—The informational meetings by the highway commission were a new twist in recent years on the road problem. Normally, road delegations come to the Capitol and see either the governor or the advisory commission. But this time the commission took the hearings to the people.

The idea was proposed by late Democratic governor, Ralph G. Brooks and continued by his Republican successor, Dwight Burney. Results have been good, according to Acting State Engineer John Hossack.

Hossack said the meetings presented Nebraskans with a chance to give their views on the road program and allowed the highway department to outline the problem it has of fitting all the requests for roads into the budget on hand.

Nine meetings were held in all at Fremont, Grand Island, Atchison, Norfolk, McCook and North Platte.

Hossack says the people had orderly presentations and he was pleasantly surprised by the cooperative attitude of the delegations. He said he feels that the meetings should continue as an aid in shaping the succeeding two-year road program. However, he added that this should be a decision for the incoming governor in conjunction with the commission.

Meanwhile, Hossack as expected, declined the appointment by Burney as engineer in title. Hossack does the work but carries the title of "acting" engineer. By keeping the status as acting engineer Hossack and two other officials could go back to former positions in the department if the new governor wished to appoint his own engineer.

**Constitutional Amendment**  
A group has been formed to oppose changing the structure of the State Department of Education. It is called the "301 Committee." It refers to an amendment to be on the November 8 general election ballot. If a voter checks the square marked 301 he is against the amendment. The

square labeled 300 is a vote "for" the proposal.

The proposed amendment would have the Commissioner of Education elected by the people and abolish the State Board of Education. Now, board members are elected and they appoint the commissioner.

The Nebraska School Improvement Association sponsored a successful petition drive to get the question on the ballot. Spokesmen for the group say the change would put the education office closer to the people.

Opponents say passage of the proposal would "set Nebraska back 25 years in education."

**Polio**  
The State Health Director, Dr. E. A. Rogers, says there has been an "unprecedented" low number of polio cases in Nebraska this year. Rogers said the low total is almost "miraculous." At this time last year 109 Nebraskans had been stricken with the disease as against 12 for a corresponding period in 1960.

He said the increasing number of people receiving anti-polio vaccine has helped cut the total. But, the doctor added, the "notorious unpredictability" of the disease itself is a factor in the low rate. Just because there was a low incidence this year doesn't mean that Nebraskans should forget to take their shots, Rogers continued.

Introduction of oral vaccine against polio, probably late next year, will probably result in a higher inoculation level, the doctor said. The new vaccine, to be taken as a pill, will supplement the true that is injected with a hypodermic needle.

**Mental Cases**  
The Board of Control, which governs state institutions, is considering establishment of a new one. Board members are expected to ask the Legislature for funds to build an institution to care for "borderline mental" cases in children. This institution would function as a child guidance center for children committed to the board for care.

Board members got into the problem publicly after a committee of state senators probed into the suicide death of a boy at the Kearney Boys Training School. It was brought out that the youth could not be helped at mental institutions and had been transferred frequently.

Just how much the new institution would cost or where it would be located has not been decided. The Legislature would have the final say on establishment of the institution, its cost and where it would be situated. Some thought has been given to Western Nebraska, possibly Scottsbluff, where there already is a mental health clinic operated by the state.

**Building Superintendent**  
James Dehant, superintendent of state buildings, says his office should be under the Capitol Building Commission. In the past, he told state senators in a statement the office has been a "political football" and filled without regard to ability or desire of someone to take adequate care of the Capitol and the mansion.

He also took the commission and senators of the work he has done and that he had been cited by the Architects of Nebraska for his performance. New governor generally have replaced the superintendent.

## Verdigré News

By Vac Randa

### Mrs. Koirba, 81 Honored On Birthday

VERDIGRÉ—Mrs. Bessie Koirba of Verdigré observed her eighty-first birthday Wednesday at her home with some of her children present for the occasion. She lives alone and does her own housework.

Her hobbies are crocheting and embroidering.

Mrs. Koirba, the former Bessie Jelinek was born in Illinois in 1879.

She was married to John Koirba and they were engaged in farming in Nebraska and South Dakota for many years.

Mrs. Koirba has four sons and three daughters living and she spends part of the summer months with them.

Her sons are Joe, who lives in Detroit, Charles of Chicago, John of Iowa and Ben who lives in

Verdigré. Her daughters are Rose Davis of Verdigré, Mrs. Blanche Turek of Iowa and Mrs. Merle Roberts also of Iowa.

Dallas Tuck, chairman of the Verdigré Future Farmers of America community service committee announced the winners of the Knox County Fair fire extinguishers which last included Jeanette Blaschke of Fordyce; James Effie and Fred Marshall, both of Verdigré. The local FFA in cooperation with the Knox county agricultural association, sponsored the farm safety program.

The third school of instruction, featuring the Sublime degree of Master Masons, was held at the Masonic Temple in Niobrara Wednesday evening with all officers in their chairs. Brother Clarence McNamee, assistant custodian of Norfolk conducted the classes.

Brother Mason visitors were Homer L. Haskins, past Master of Plainview lodge and N. R. Fallgren.

Brother Haskins extended an invitation to the members of Ionic lodge to attend the Oct. 6 session when two candidates will receive Master Mason degrees conferred by a Sioux City degree staff.

Members of the Verdigré Methodist WSCS served dinner Saturday evening, October 22 in the ZCBJ hall basement in Verdigré. Serving will begin at 5 p.m.

Mr. and Mrs. Cleo Bates, former Verdigré residents, who have been house guests in the home of his brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Harley Nelson, left last Wednesday for Phoenix, Ariz., where they will make a brief stop on the way to their home in Riverside, Calif. Mr. Bates is assistant director of airport engineer with the Civil Aeronautics administration at San Francisco.

Last Sunday the Bates and Nelsons visited Mrs. W. F. Edens and Mrs. Beryl Thompson at Coloma, S. D.

Robert G. Steckler, superintendent of the Verdigré public schools has announced there will be nine high school seniors eligible to write on the Regent's examination to be given November 2 at the Verdigré high school.

All members of the Story Butte Homemakers' extension club were present when they met at the home of Mrs. John L. Kounovsky for the September lesson "How I would like to change my kitchen" and the title was used for roll call.

The extension booth on winter bouquets was set up and a picture taken of it. Mrs. John Prokop read an interesting article on farm life and the history of the club was reviewed by Mrs. Dave Nelson. Members of the club expressed their opinions on the article.

Mrs. Harold Dietz will be the October hostess and the lesson will be on hand washing.

**MYF MEETS**  
The "Man On The Street" approach was used last Sunday evening at the worship service when the MYF group held their Sunday evening meeting at the Methodist church.

A half hour song service preceded the lesson. A list of "Brainstormers" was written and discussed.

Judy, Francine and Kenny Bartos served lunch. The next meeting will be Sunday Oct. 2.

**HONORED ON ANNIVERSARY**  
Mr. and Mrs. Joe F. Farnik and Mr. and Mrs. Fred W. Marshall were honored at a joint observance of the couples Silver Wedding anniversary at the morning worship service at the Verdigré Methodist church.

Jeanette Marshall and John Farnik, children of the honorees, sang a duet "May The Good Lord Bless and Keep You." Miss Jo Ellen Farnik, church organist, was accompanist.

Gifts, in behalf of the WSCS were presented to the couple by Mrs. Otto Uhler, superintendent of the Sunday school. She also read a special tribute entitled "The Twenty-fifth."

Rev. David T. Gustafson mentioned some of the outstanding work done by both families in the Methodist church and community.

**NEW LAUNDROMAT**  
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Farnik are in the process of installing a new business enterprise in Verdigré in the same building with his barber shop.

Twelve washers and three dryers will service the new Laundromat with a soft water service adequate to operate the machines. A cement driveway is under construction on the north side of the building and the parking lot on the west.

Mr. and Mrs. Farnik will operate the new enterprise which will be opened about November 1.

**MASONIC LODGE**  
Members of Ionic lodge 87 AF and AM held the second class of their school of instruction Wednesday evening at the Masonic Temple in Niobrara with Clarence McNamee, assistant custodian of Norfolk, instructor. Work was given in the Fellow Craft degree.

Among those attending from Verdigré were Mario Custer, Joe Jacot, L. J. Kocina, Tony C. Paesl, John E. Pavlik, Alvin Fosterman and Bolton and Vac Randa. The school of instruction will be

THE FRONTIER, O'Neill, Nebraska, Thursday, October 6, 1960

concluded Wednesday, Sept. 28 with work on the last degree.

**DAIDS-LADS MEET**  
The annual Dad-Lad meeting of the FFA boys and their dads was attended Wednesday evening at the school assembly room by 26 members and 19 guests.

Wallace Tuck read the minutes of the previous meeting and Melvin Sukup gave the treasurer's report. Both were approved.

Items of new business were the ordering of Christmas cards, the purchase of a paint sprayer and the sale of the FFA calendars. A meeting date was chosen.

Following the business session a special program was presented Larry Sukup talked on "Shop."

Kenneth Meyer's topic was "The Glass Room". Dallas Tuck chose to high point the FFA program and Dean Frank gave a talk on the farming program.

Russell Miner arrived Monday evening from Ft. Hamilton, New York, where he received his separation from the Army.

Sp-4 Russell D. Miner received his basic training at Ft. Carson, Colo., received further training at Ft. Sam Houston, Tex. and served 19 months in Germany as a member of a medic corps.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Miner of O'Neill. He is a graduate of the O'Neill high school.

Ronald J. Ross, SA, U. S. Navy, son of Mr. Oliver H. Ross of O'Neill, has completed 9 weeks of recruit training at San Diego, Calif., and is now home spending 14 days leave with his father and friends. Upon completion of his leave he will be assigned to the U. S. Navy Destroyer Picking DD-685 which is stationed at Long Beach, Calif.

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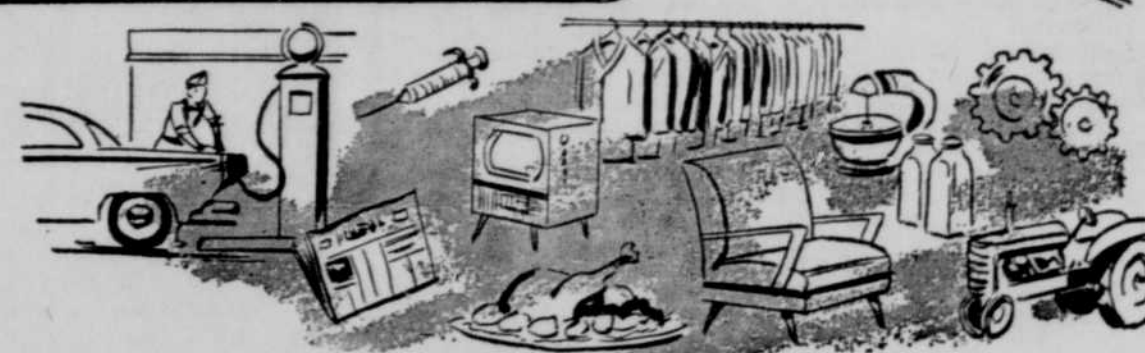
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