

By Mrs. Mike Pikkapp
LOcust 9-2520

Mrs. John Levi Is A Hospital Patient Here

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Levi of Lindy visited his mother, Mrs. John Levi, in the Lynch hospital Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ertz jr. of O'Neill were visitors in the Frank Ertz sr. home here Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Zach and family and Dale Eiler of Verdell and Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Eiler and family visited in the Pikkapp home Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Burger of Lynch were Saturday visitors in the Frank Lewis home and Mrs. Gerald Lee and boys of Lynch were afternoon callers.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lewis and Orval were Sunday dinner guests in the Gerald Lee home.

Willie Rudloff of Verdgie was a caller here Friday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Harlan Heiser and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Courtney and girls spent the weekend in Lincoln with relatives and friends.

William Fosterman of Verdgie was calling on friends here Monday.

Joe Howell of Bristow was a business caller here Monday morning.

Martin Eiler moved back to his home here Monday after spending the past two months in the Rudy Eiler home.

Lois Geuser was a Verdgie visitor Monday.

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Congressional District Division To Come Up for Action in June

By Melvin Paul
Statehouse Correspondent
The Nebraska Press Association

LINCOLN—Nebraskans will be given plenty of opportunity to state their views on proposed division of the state into three instead of the present four Congressional districts. The Legislature's government committee hustled out its plan for the districts a day after a public hearing on 10 proposals.

Sen. K. L. Bowen of Red Cloud, committee chairman, said the action is so the people "won't be in the dark" as to what is proposed. He will ask that the bill be the last item of business of the current session of the Legislature. That means it won't come up for action until June.

Here are the districts outlined in the plan and rough population of each: District—Chase, Dundy, Hayes, Hitchcock, Frontier, Red Willow, Gosper, Furnas, Phelps, Harlan, Kearney, Franklin, Adams, Webster, Hamilton, Clay, Nuckolls, York, Polk, Fillmore, Thayer, Butler, Seward, Saline, Jefferson, Saunders, Lancaster, Gage, Otoe, Johnson, Nemaha, Richardson, Pawnee. Population: 473,000.

District 2—Washington, Douglas, Sarpy, and Cass. Population: 405,000.

District 3—The remainder of the state, basically the entire northern portion of Nebraska. Population: 540,000.

The committee division was on a horizontal basis. There were two main trends of thought for dividing the state outside the general area of the second district—vertically, that is by a line from

north to south, or horizontally, by a line from east to west.

Proponents of the various ideas talked on a myriad of subjects they said entered into why their particular plans were best. The subjects included the east-west routing of most major highways, economic likeness, ability to campaign in a given district, industrialization versus agriculture and taxable wealth of proposed districts.

Richard Spelts of Grand Island, former chairman of the Republican party in the state, appeared as a citizen and outlined some of the basic problems involved. He urged the committee to "move with caution" because such a subject "tends to tear a state apart rather than weld it together."

Spelts appeared for no particular plan, nor was he against any of them. But Spelts made these observations: If Congress decides to increase its size to 450 members, Nebraska would not lose a representative. Senators should "not deal in personalities" of those currently serving in Congress.

Nebraska roads run from east to west because the nation expanded that way and regarding the argument that the rivers run that way also, Spelts said the rivers were here before the people, and should not be a factor in redistricting. A good candidate will find the people who are voters, regardless of the size of a district geographically.

About the fears of those in rural areas or small towns that big cities would elect all the Congressmen, he pointed to Grand Island, biggest city in the current fourth district. Grand Island, Spelts said, has never had a Congressman, senator or governor.

Railway Commissioners. Initial approval was given by the Legislature to a bill that eventually would change the size of the state railway commission. Now, there is a three-member commission, whose members are elected at large for six year terms.

Under the bill that passed its floor test by a 32-5 count, voters would ballot in 1962 on a Constitutional amendment. The amendment would have three to seven commissioners, elected from districts containing substantially the same population.

The bill was the result of a study by a group of senators between legislative sessions. The exact number of the commissioners would be left to the Legislature, if the Constitutional amendment were approved.

State Engineer Naming of John Hossack as state engineer by Gov. Frank Mir-

ison was not entirely unexpected. It has been traditional that governors have had difficulty to get qualified people to head the highway department for private business or other states.

Hossack and the Colorado highway department will exchange information under a program Morrison hopes will result in Nebraska getting more ideas on how to step up its Interstate Highway

mileage. The new engineer named G. C. Strobel as his deputy. Both Hossack and Strobel have held acting titles since the resignation of Roy Cochran and the firing of Deputy Henry Schlitt by the late Gov. Ralph G. Brooks.

Work of Hossack was praised, and Hossack said the exchange of information between Colorado and Nebraska was a "good idea."

Osteopaths and Judges The Legislature this session dealt finally with the subject of osteopaths and initially with the merit plan for selection of judges. A committee killed a bill that would have permitted graduates of osteopathic colleges accredited by the state health department to take the state examinations for licensing in medicine and surgery.

The Legislature declined to revive the osteopath bill, a measure that has shown up frequently in legislative sessions over the years.

On the matter of judges, the judiciary committee advanced a bill to the floor calling for adoption of the Missouri Plan for judges. The proposal would go to the voters in the form of a Constitutional amendment. If cleared through the Legislature and approved by voters, judges would be named by the governor as vacancies occurred. They would run for re-election on their merit, every six years.



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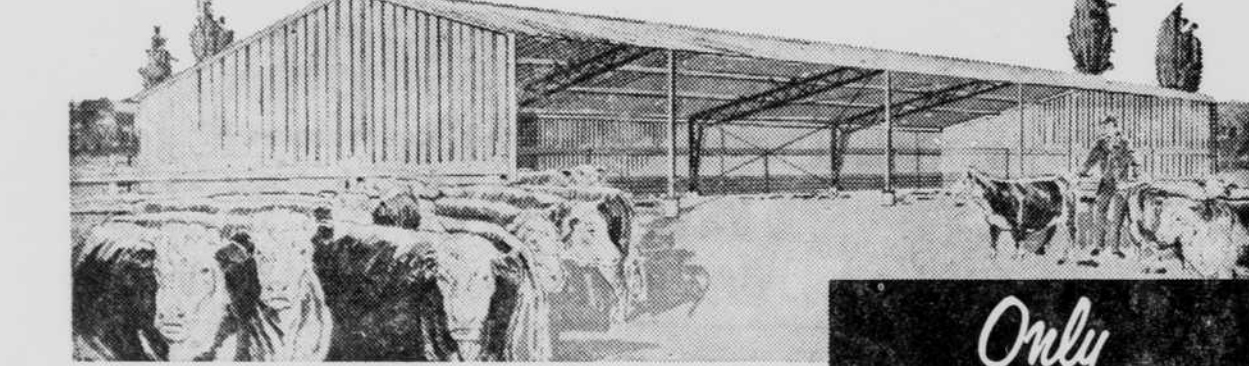
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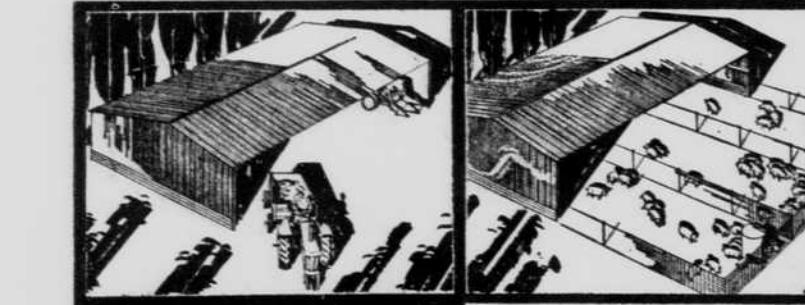
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