

THE STAMP TAX SCHEME

Independents Hit Upon Novel Plan to Raise Revenue in Telephone Fight With Rival Concern

Independent telephone interests of the United States are now putting into effect, in Nebraska and elsewhere, the provision of a "stamp act" adopted by their national association three weeks ago, levying a tax upon manufacturers of and dealers in telephone supplies. The independents, through the various state associations, will require all firms with whom they deal to buy stamps for placing on bills of goods, invoices and similar documents. The money from that source will be used to extend independent operations into new territory and strengthen the companies wherever they are now established, says the Lincoln News.

The stamp act will be enforced by an understanding among the telephone people that they are not to buy goods of any manufacturers or dealers who refuse to adorn their bills and invoices with the approved stamps. The stamps will be issued and copyrighted by the international association of independent telephone companies, which is the name of the central organization. They will be in denominations of 1, 5, 10, 25, and 50 cents, and \$1. For all transactions up to \$500, the tax will amount to one-tenth of 1 per cent; above that sum, it will be one-twentieth of 1 per cent.

On a \$500 bill of goods, under this schedule, the man who sells to an independent company must affix a 50-cent stamp before he can deliver his goods. The same denomination will cover a \$1,000 transaction, since the rates will be just half as much when the bill runs over \$500. Publishers of independent journals will be expected to use stamps also, when furnishing bills for advertising or subscriptions.

It is estimated that the revenue to be raised in this and other ways devised by the international association will aggregate not less than \$25,000 per year. This will provide it with plenty of funds for running expenses. Heretofore, the national body has supported itself by assessing each state association a specified annual sum. The Nebraska association was assessed in 1907 for \$200, and the same amount in the previous annum.

Will Effect Bell Concern

While the representatives of independent telephone companies say the object of the stamp tax is primarily the raising of money with which to carry on the work of the national association, they do not deny that it is also expected to help them in their fight with the Bell concern. By means of it, one or two auxiliary corporations of the Bell will be cut off from selling any goods to independents. The Western Electric company, which has an office at Omaha, is one of these. It will not be allowed to buy these stamps, and without them it cannot expect to supply any independent exchange which officiates with the association in Nebraska. The same thing will be true in other states.

Secretary R. E. Mattison, of the Nebraska Independent Telephone associa-

tion, is sending out to some sixty companies in this state a rubber stamp with this wording:

"We are members of the state association. Please affix stamps."

This inscription will accompany the business letters they send out and will be notice to manufacturers and dealers that the latter are expected to decorate with plasters every bill presented for payment. If a bill comes in without stamps, it will be politely returned with the suggestion that something has been overlooked.

Should any firm prove recalcitrant and refuse to buy or use stamps, the telephone company will, of course, be obliged to pay, but the probability is that a supply house taking that course would soon find its patronage falling off. The telephone men are confident the scheme will work smoothly enough and encounter very little opposition, once it gets started.

An agent for a Chicago electrical supply house who was in Lincoln on Friday failed to sell two carloads of stuff to the Western Telephone company, which has headquarters in Lincoln, for the reason that he did not know whether his firm would consent to use the stamps. He called up the Chicago house but did not get authority to proceed with the sale.

Nebraska Firms Must Comply

There are four supply firms in Nebraska which must use the stamps or lose the business they now have with independent telephone companies. These are the Kormsmeier company of Lincoln, the Nebraska Electrical company, The Joseph R. Lehmer company and the Western Electrical company, all of Omaha. The last named of these has no connection with the Western Electrical company, which is charged with being under the control of the Bell interests.

All the independent telephone companies in Nebraska do not belong to the state association, but most of the non-members are understood to be in sympathy with it and giving it their support. The expectations are that nearly all will lend their assistance in carrying out the provisions of the "stamp act." Twenty-four states are included in the scope of the national organization, and the same thing is being done in all of them as in Nebraska.

F. H. Woods of Lincoln, a member of the national executive committee, attended a business meeting of that body in Chicago last week, when means of putting the stamp feature into effect were under consideration, along with other business. He returned a day or two ago.

A. C. Lindemuth of Richmond, Indiana, who is president of the international association, and Secretary J. B. Warr of Grand Rapids, Michigan, have been placed on a salary of \$5,000 per year each, to devote their whole time to independent telephone development. They will open permanent headquarters for the association at Chicago.

Will Return to Nebraska.

The Lincoln News of Tuesday evening says: "Silas A. Holcomb, twice governor and once a supreme court judge of Nebraska, who has been making his home in Seattle for the past two years will soon return to Nebraska and make his home again in Broken Bow. Prior to his election as governor in 1894 he resided at that place. After serving two terms in the gubernatorial office, he retired to the private practice of law, remaining in Lincoln. A year later, in 1899, he was elected to the supreme bench. On leaving that body in January 1905, he went to Seattle and has been practicing law there. Ex-Governor Holcomb went west primarily on account of his health as he was severely afflicted with rheumatism. The climate has benefited him to some extent, but he has not entirely recovered. His friends say that Nebraska has continued to be his preference for a home and he still owns property at Broken Bow where he had resided. He sold out his interest in Lincoln at the time of leaving here, or soon afterward, and has lately disposed of his holdings at Seattle."

Adam Kurtz and wife, Will Kurtz and wife and Chas. Kurtz, accompanied by Mrs. John J. Kurtz, departed for Omaha this afternoon, where Mrs. Kurtz will visit for a few days with relatives before returning home.

Mrs. W. R. Curran, of Pekin, Ill., was a visitor in the city today, a guest at the Masonic Home, where she went to see A. A. Crarey, who is making his home there.

NOT AT THE SAME SALARY

The Railroad Are Trying to Take Advantage of the Law to Their Profit

This morning an official of the Missouri Pacific stepped off the train going south, at Mynard, and held a hasty conversation with agent and operator, Herman Thomas, telling him that it was the intention of the management of the road to close the telegraph office at that point, and that he would be retained as agent of he desired to take the position at one-half the salary which the office has been paying. The office paid heretofore \$60.00 per month, and with the discontinuing of the telegraph service, a taking away of one-half of the salary would reduce it to \$30.00. This the operator cannot afford to accept, as there are many places now to be filled on account of the change in the law which will enable him to command and receive better salary even than heretofore. With every change, the railroad attempts to receive a benefit, and it is a cold day when they do not score.

Neglected Colds Threaten Life. (Chicago Tribune)

"Don't trifle with a cold," is good advice for prudent men and women. It may be vital in the life of a child. Proper food, good ventilation, and dry warm clothing are the safe guards against colds. If they are maintained through the changeable weather of autumn, winter and spring, the chances of a surprise from ordinary colds will be slight. But the ordinary light cold will become severe if neglected, and a well established ripe cold is to the germs of diphtheria what honey is to a bee. The greatest menace to a child life at this season of the year is the neglected cold. Whether it is a child or adult, the colds light or severe, the very best treatment that can be adopted is to give Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It is safe and sure. The popularity and immense sale of this preparation has been attained by its remarkable cures of this ailment. A cold never results in pneumonia when it is given. For sale by F. G. Fricke & Co.

UNDOUBTEDLY HAS TRUE RING

The Following Letter is From a Former Citizen of Cass County

KANSAS CITY, KANSAS, 2-25-'08.

(To the Editor of The Journal)
DEAR SIR:—Enclosed find \$4.00 on subscription for the Journal. Please send me an account of how we stand or when it will expire. I consider it the best paper ever printed in Cass county. Keep up the good work, for great will be your reward, as I believe that the days of the republican party are numbered, for it was "conceived in iniquity and born in sin." I believe they never had a principle but boodle and graft, until Mr. Bryan paved the way in 1896 and 1900 for President Roosevelt to follow, which has given great relief to the masses of the people and opened the eyes of many republicans to the ways of right and truth. I hope they are not past redemption for there are lots of republicans that can be redeemed if they will follow President Roosevelt's policy as he did the great principle as laid down by the democratic conventions of 1896 and 1900.

I had the pleasure of shaking hands with Mr. Bryan last week in Kansas City, Kansas. It is my determination and a settled fact with me, while I live never to cast a vote for a Cleveland-Palmer-Buckner man. That is, the first thing, I find out "who are you?"

I hope all my democratic friends in Cass county will remain firm in the faith. This does not include the traitors. You have them there and all over the state of Nebraska. It was that class of men who defeated Senator Harris for governor in this state two years ago. Respectfully yours,

D. S. DRAPER.

Departs For the North

This afternoon O. C. Niday, who has farmed west of this city for some years past, is loading his household goods into a car and will depart this evening for the north part of the state, where he will farm the coming summer. Mr. Niday is taking along with him two of the famous Sol Adamson hounds which he will use in hunting.

Will Soon Be at Home.

This paper is in receipt of a card from T. E. Todd, stating that he and his wife are starting on their return to Plattsmouth and ere long will find themselves back among the home folks. They have been in the west for a long time and with the people whom they have known for so many years that they feel like when leaving there they are leaving home.

DAILY PERSONAL NEWS

Short Items of Interest, From Wednesday Evening's Daily Journal

Russel York was a visitor in Lincoln today.

John Nemetz and wife were visitors in Omaha this morning.

Mrs. Joseph Droege was a visitor with friends in Omaha this afternoon.

J. H. Cook was a visitor in Omaha this morning, where has a son taking treatment.

Henry Meisinger from Springfield, Sarpy county, was transaction business visitor in the city today.

Julius Pepperberg was a visitor in Glenwood this morning where he is looking after the cigar trade.

L. C. Todd from near Nehawka was a business visitor in the city last evening.

Robert Ulig of Hastings was a visitor in the city this morning, looking after some business matters.

T. M. Patterson returned this morning from a trip to Kansas, where he was looking after some land matters.

Willie N. Baird was a passenger to Lincoln this morning, where he will visit with friends for a few days.

Wm. Barnhart returned this afternoon from a visit of a few days at Pacific Junction with his daughter.

Mrs. Malissa McCoy departed this morning for McPaul, Iowa, where she will visit with a daughter for some time to come.

Mrs. Will Vallery departed this afternoon for Lincoln, where she will visit for a few days the guest with her father, M. Warga.

Dr. E. D. Cummins returned home last evening from Omaha on a late train where he had been on professional business.

Mrs. Mary Long departed for her home at Gretna, this afternoon, after having visited in the city for some time with friends.

Chas. Rutherford and wife came in this morning from South Omaha, and attended the funeral of John J. Kurtz this morning.

County Attorney Rawls returned last evening from Greenwood where he was a caller yesterday to look after a case in court at that place.

Miss Frances Weidman and Carl Ebinger were visitors in Omaha this afternoon, where Carl is having his nose treated by a specialist.

Mrs. Jesse Taylor of LaPlatte was a visitor in the city this morning, looking after some business matters, and returning home on the fast mail.

S. C. Wheeler, of Lincoln, traveling engineer for the Burlington, was a visitor in the city this morning, looking after business for the company.

Mrs. Bertie C. Dalzell, who went with her mother, Mrs. Cox, to Watson, Mo., is reported as feeling no better, and continues in very poor health.

Joseph Perry returned home this morning from Superior, this state, where he has been spending the winter, and will remain in the city for the present.

Miss Florence Graham of Omaha departed this afternoon for her home, after having visited in the city with her friend, Miss Violet Dodge, for some days past.

Mrs. Frank Dean and children came in last evening from Plainview where they have been making their home for some time and will visit with relatives and friends, guests at the home of Oscar Gapin.

Mrs. Carrie O'Dell and daughter, Dorothy, of Kansas City, departed for home Monday evening, after visiting with friends and relatives in the city, guests of her aunt, Miss Fannie Latham.

Chief of Police Joseph Fitzgerald, James Fitzgerald and Mrs. Edwin Fitzgerald departed last evening for Peshtigo, Wisconsin, called there by the death of Mrs. Thomas Fitzgerald. They go to attend the funeral.

F. J. Krunenmacer, formerly working for the Lorenz Brothers, departed this morning for Council Bluffs, Iowa, where he goes to accept a position in one of the leading markets at that place. Mr. Krunenmacer resigned his position at that place and it is being filled by J. W. Lorenz, formerly of David City.

G. H. Paine of the Paine Investment company, the present owner of the former Wetencamp building, was in the city yesterday looking after his interests here, and seeing to having the building put in proper shape, departing last evening for his home in Omaha.

Ben. F. Davis, of Hartington, Neb., departed for his home this morning, after visiting in the city, a guest at the home of his sister, Mrs. O. J. Gilson and family, and was accompanied as far as Omaha by his sister and Mrs. J. J. Gilson, who will visit in the metropolis for the day.

John Seagraves was a visitor in South Omaha this afternoon.

Sam Hackenberg was a visitor in the city this afternoon, from the southwest of the city.

Fred Patterson, mayor of Rock Bluffs was a brief business visitor in the city this afternoon.

W. F. Gillespie, the Mynard jolly grain dealer, was a visitor in the city this afternoon.

Herman Kleietsch, of Weeping Water, was a visitor in the city this morning, looking after the sale of flour.

Mrs. P. H. Kelly departed this afternoon for Council Bluffs, where she will visit for some days with relatives.

J. N. Wise was a visitor in the metropolis this afternoon, where he is attending to some business matters.

Isaac Nelson, from south of the city, was a visitor in the city this afternoon, transacting business with our merchants.

Mrs. P. J. Kessler, after a short visit with friends in the city, departed for her home in Lincoln this afternoon on the fast mail.

W. H. Venier and daughter, Miss DeElla, were passengers to Omaha this morning, where they will visit with friends for the day.

Mrs. H. Hollenberg, after an extended visit with friends in the city, departed for her home in Lincoln on the fast mail this afternoon.

Herman Joseph, of Omaha, was a visitor in the city this morning, looking after some business matters, returning home on the fast mail.

H. G. VanHorn was a business visitor in Omaha this afternoon, going on the fast mail, where he is looking after records for his music store here.

Harry S. Boydston and C. K. Huntington, of Lincoln, representing some insurance companies are in the city, looking after some business matters.

Mrs. Harry Northcutt departed for her home in Omaha this afternoon on the fast mail, after visiting in the city for some time with her mother and friends.

George Possal, jr., Chas. Zitka, and West Kalacek, returned home this morning from Omaha, where they were taking in the sights yesterday.

Mrs. Chas. Neligh will depart tomorrow for her home at Wisner, where Mr. Neligh has moved on a farm, and will be a tiller of the soil the coming season.

Jesse Heiner, accompanied by Baumgart Warren, from the other side of the river, were seeing Omaha, today going on the Burlington early morning train.

Miss Leona Blair departed this morning for her home at Boone, Iowa, after visiting in the city for some time, the guests at the home of Charles Hartford.

J. E. Mathews, of Chicago, general inspector of the lumber department for the Burlington was a visitor in the city this morning, looking after the lumberyard of the company at this point.

J. H. Neitzel, who has made his home in the city for the past two years, and who was layed off at the shops some time since, has accepted a position at Preston, in the southeastern portion of the state, and will move there in a short time.

L. F. McCarthy, formerly of Nehawka, but for some years living near Hemmingsford, in the northwestern portion of the state, is in the city looking after some business matters.

Doctor John Stuart Livingston departed for Omaha this afternoon, and said as he boarded the train, that his trip to the metropolis this time was entirely "on pleasure bent." His going to so great and wicked a city as Omaha is very sudden, and gives us some uneasiness, but we wish him much joy, all the same.

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Laxative Fruit Syrup

Pleasant to take

The new laxative. Does not gripe or nauseate.

Cures stomach and liver troubles and chronic constipation by restoring the natural action of the stomach, liver and bowels.

Refuse substitutes. Price 50c.

FOR SALE BY F. G. FRICKE

Are Married Twenty-Five Years

Today being the twenty-fifth anniversary of the marriage of C. A. Harvey and wife, with their friends they are making merry at their home south of the city. Mrs. Harvey was in the city this morning and a number of their friends here went down to help in the festivities of the occasion. In the celebrating of this event, they must necessarily have passed over somewhat of the roadway of life, with its vicissitudes, and have had occasions when they have been put to the test for the qualities that go to make up true manhood and womanhood, and have come out being stronger for the trials.

This couple are to be congratulated on having arrived at this place with the respect and good will and attended by the good wishes of a host of friends, who desire them a pleasant and profitable journey through life. The Journal join with their many friends in wishing that their last years may be their best ones and that they may find the evening of life very enjoyable.

The Recent Checker Tournament

At the checkers tournament on the 5th, 6th and 7th of this month at Lincoln, as we mentioned at the time, our old friend, H. Bestor, who was there did not get to play only the first day as he was taken sick and had to draw the games on the following days. Even thus he was able to make 28 1/2 points with the highest of any played at 35, and two contests on that one, L. F. Brookings, which put him down to 33, making the highest only 3 1/2, or five points higher than Mr. Bestor who won 16 games and only lost 11. We think if Mr. Bestor had not been taken sick, he would have won the medal. The following is the score:

NAMES	WON	LOST	DRAWN	POINTS
C. W. Chambers	1	3	1	33 1/2
L. F. Brookings	1	2	1	35
J. H. Tolson	1	2	3	34
G. W. Tepeon	2	2	2	37
Jas. Campbell	4	1	1	7 1/2
S. A. Washin	2	1	1	22
G. F. Abbot	1	2	1	20
Bert Perry	1	1	4	27 1/2
E. L. Harburt	1	1	2	19
W. G. Small	1	3	1	25
E. O. Meritt	3	1	2	19
E. G. Harburt	1	4	4	22 1/2
A. L. Frink	1	4	4	22 1/2
H. Bestor	16	11	25	38 1/2

Winners: L. F. Brookings, medal, 35 points; C. W. Chambers, 2d prize; Jas. Campbell, 3d prize.

MORE TRUTH THEN FICTION

The Good Old Days—"Forty Years Ago."

Nothing is as good as it was in those good old days. Then a boy was a boy. He wore overalls and was dressed for work. He had a half day's work before he went to school and another after his return, and you could kick him ten feet and he would bound back. Now a boy is a "kid." When he gets ready to go to school he can't get a pail water for fear of spoiling his clothes. If he gets home before the evening meal something is wrong, and if you keep him home after 8 p. m. you will require a gatling gun. Our sisters worked then and helped to cook, and mend. Now they have good luck if they get their duds on in time to eat breakfast and get to school. When the preacher use to come the boys and girls were expected to sit up as straight as a cob and speak when they were spoken to. Now they are brought to the front and put through their paces. The girls must knock a few stars out of the piano, and the boy must speak his piece and look like a sick monkey begging for raisins. They used to get married for \$2 and start housekeeping for 50 cents. One suit lasted a year for good, and two more for every day. The community worked ten hours and then went to a shindig, and old and young danced till morning. They had no "brainstorms" and headaches, nor appendicitis. Brainstorms were cured with a water elm club, heat failure was then called fits, and appendicitis was called belly-ache. They rolled the patient on a barrel or rubbed him with a hot brick, and no one knew that he had a vermiform dooficker that was apt to get full of cherrysseeds. We used to eat soup and have "sasses" of all kinds, now we eat fruit salad and consomme and have biscuit made with baking powder that looks like someone had set on them; we then had bread made with rising, but tasted better than anything made from three X rolled flour ground into nothing but dust. And if the girls chewed gum they had to climb a tamarack tree and dig it with a screw-driver. Progress is not always betterment. Those pioneers were as happy as anybody on earth. They neither froze in the blizzard nor roasted in the heat. They were too tough to be affected seriously by either heat or cold.

Death at Elmwood.

A special from Elmwood, under date of yesterday, says: "Mrs. Charles Ingwerson, who was operated on for gall stones Sunday, died at the hospital Tuesday evening. She leaves a husband and seven children, the youngest child being but three months old."