

The Plattsmouth Journal.

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NO. 68

LEGISLATURE ASKS FOR NEW VALUATIONS

REAL ESTATE OF ENTIRE STATE MUST BE RE-APPRAISED BEGINNING APRIL 1

About the most surprised people in the state, from Governor McKelvie and other members of the state board of assessment down to the county and precinct assessors, are these officials having to do with valuation and equalization of tax burdens, as a result of the law now in force requiring a revaluation of land throughout the entire state, commencing on April 1st.

It is said Governor McKelvie had no pronouncement of such a thing when he signed H. R. 14 Friday afternoon, later to wake up to the fact that it contained the "joker." His signing of the bill made it effective as it contained an emergency clause.

The taxing officers of the state had supposed there would be another valuation of real estate for taxation purposes until the usual time, four years from last April, and were preparing to enjoy a spell of quiet following the strenuous work of last spring when valuations were revised in a manner that came far from meeting with general approval. The governor did not recommend a revaluation, legislative committees did not desire one and the members of the legislature did not until farmers began to clamor for it.

Listening to the voice of the people, the legislature passed the act that is now a law, so taxing boards must prepare to do something they are wholly unprepared for. They must revalue real estate next month and again in April, 1922, and they can take a lay off for two years. The bill provides for biennial valuations of real estate instead of once in four years as formerly. Other property is revalued every year.

At a meeting of the state board of assessment Saturday morning, Secretary Bross and Secretary Osborne met with the members and all decided to do their best to comply with the new law. Although it is stated by Secretary Bross that this act of the legislature imposes what is seemingly an impossible task considering the short time limit.

Ordinarily, it requires several weeks to print field books for the use of precinct assessors in listing real estate. No books are ready as it was supposed the old law requiring the next revaluation of real estate in 1924 would not be disturbed. These books were formerly used every four years. The task of organizing for revising the lands must be rushed if the work is done in time this year. Double work will be required of every one connected with assessments.

For the purpose of doing the work in the best possible manner in the short time remaining for preparation, the state board of assessment decided to call a meeting of county assessors to be held possibly the latter part of next week in Lincoln.

After this year's assessment the department of finance will begin the work of building up for the assessment of 1922. If a fair valuation of land can be obtained and all lands are once equalized in value future valuations will be comparatively easy, according to Secretary Bross, because then fluctuations in prices of lands are all that need be considered.

Some predict that farmers who expect to obtain a reduction of taxation by a revaluation of lands this year will be disappointed. The impression has gone out that lands were assessed last year at the peak price, whereas they were assessed at 65 per cent of the prices of land one year prior to the time it reached the peak. Since then prices have fallen, but they are still far in excess of assessed values in many parts of the state. Last year some counties were assessed at only 54 per cent of the selling price one year prior to the peak period. Scotts Bluff county is one of these.

Last year the method adopted by the state board of taking 68 per cent of the selling price one year prior resulted in a total land valuation of \$415,000,000, as compared with \$266,000,000. Lots last year were valued at \$110,000,000. Four years prior they were valued at \$79,000,000.

WITH THE SICK

Harley Cecil, one of the clerks at the C. E. Wescott's Sons store was absent this morning from the store as the result of a severe attack of the grippe and has been confined to his home since Saturday evening.

William P. Sizmann, make up man of the Journal, was also absent at roll call this morning, having acquired a load of the grippe microbes that has kept him confined to his bed since Saturday evening, but he hopes to be able to resume his work in a short time.

FOR SALE

A large red baby buggy in good condition. Call 641-W.

REDECORATES STORE

R. W. Knorr of the Variety store, is one of the merchants of the city who believes in having his place of business as spic and span as is possible to have and accordingly he has just completed the work of having the store all re-decorated and painted and it is now one of the most attractive business houses of the city with the large and well arranged stock of goods adding a pleasing touch to the general neatness of the interior.

The painting was done by N. K. Peoples and brings out a soft tone of cream on the interior painting and ceiling that makes the store room much lighter and attractive.

It is the intention of Mr. Knorr to have the exterior of the store painted and decorated as soon as the painter can get to the job and make the outside more fresh and pleasing for the spring season.

While doing the re-decorating Mr. Knorr has also enlarged the music department of the store of his stock of pianos and other musical instruments and it is now one of the most up-to-date establishments that can be found in our enterprising little city.

RETURNS FROM TRIP TO THE GOLDEN WEST

A. S. Will and Wife Returned Home Last Evening From Trip of Some Two Months to Pacific Coast

Last evening A. S. Will and wife returned home from a trip covering a little over two months to the Pacific coast country and during which they found opportunity of viewing most of the points of interest in that portion of our own native wonderland.

Enroute, Mr. and Mrs. Will took the southern route and had a short visit in Oklahoma with relatives and friends and from there went to El Paso, Texas, for a short stay and viewed the sights of "the pass," going from there to Tucson, Arizona. From the Arizona city they proceeded to California and spent a great portion of their time at Long Beach and Los Angeles, where their children, Francis, Clare, Thomas, Miss Dora Will and Grover Will and family are located and they had the time of their lives in that locality and Mr. Will states that they motored over 3,000 miles of road that was the best he had ever traveled over in any portion of the United States.

The court opened at 10 o'clock and the work of examining the members of the jury panel was at once commenced. Mr. Gering for the defense and County Attorney Cole for the state making the examination. It is expected this will be the longest drawn out case on the docket.

When getting ready to start home to Nebraska, Mr. and Mrs. Will took the northern route and visited at San Francisco, Seattle, Portland and the beautiful Columbia river country, visiting at Kettle Falls, Washington with their son, J. N. Will, who is located in the heart of the Oregon fruit country.

While at Los Angeles they enjoyed a visit with many of the old time friends of this portion of Nebraska, including Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Wurl, Morgan Waybright and wife and Mr. and Mrs. William Puls, who have been wintering there.

ORPHEUS FOUR WON THE GRAND PRIZE

America's Premier Male Quartet to Be Heard Here Soon in Popular Concert

The Orpheus Four Quartet, official organization of the Orpheus Club of Los Angeles and winners of the International Grand Prize of \$3,000 at the Panama-Pacific Exposition, is to appear here on the evening of Thursday, March 17, 1921, at the high school auditorium, at 7:30.

The Orpheus Four is undoubtedly America's premier quartet. It has succeeded as none others, and it's former tours of the country have won the finest newspaper criticisms ever written concerning any similar organization.

The repertoire of the Orpheus Four includes, literally, hundreds of compositions. It is probably the most extensive of any male quartet in the world. Ranging from the hitting melodies of popular favor to the ponderous harmonies of grand opera, every selection discloses clarity of individual tone, delicate blending of voice compass, and thorough command of tonal contrast and coloring.

The coming of the Orpheus Four is arousing considerable interest in musical circles for it is realized that the opportunity is at hand to hear the most popular male quartet in America.

Single admission 50c for adults and 25c for students. Owing to the band concert the performance will be started at 7:30 sharp.

When seeking a remembrance of the Easter tide, remember the Journal has the largest and best assortment of cards ever brought to this city and they are now on display. Come in and look them over.

Lost anything — found anything? Try a Journal ad. "They satisfy."

COURT OPENS TODAY WITH POPEL CASE

DEFENDANT, CHARGED WITH ARSON, TAKES CHANCE OF VENUE FROM OTTOE

This morning the March term of the district court was opened in this city with Judge Begley presiding. The first case to be called was that of the State of Nebraska vs. Frank Popel, Jr., on the charge of arson.

This case is brought to Cass county on a change of venue from Otoe county, the defense having submitted to the court the affidavits of a large number of Nebraska City people, representing that the defendant could not be given a fair and impartial trial and accordingly the court allowed the change of venue to be granted.

The action grows out of a fire occurring in the Frontier hotel at Nebraska City in 1918, the hotel being at that time under the management of Frank Popel, Sr., father of the defendant. The state alleged the fire to have been incendiary origin and complaint was filed against both of the Popels, father and son, although the complaint against the elder Popel has been dismissed since that time by the state.

On the trial of the case in Otoe county, the defendant, Frank Popel, Jr., was found guilty and the case appealed to the state supreme court, where it was sent back for retrial on a writ of error and was from the court there transferred to Cass county for trial.

There are a large number of exhibits to be offered in evidence by the state including portions of the furniture and equipment from the hotel and which will be brought here by the Otoe county authorities. There are also a large number of witnesses both for the state and defense who will be heard during the course of the trial.

The state is represented by County Attorney A. C. Cole of Cass county and County Attorney E. H. Heinke of Otoe county, while the defendant has as his attorneys William F. Moran and D. W. Livingston, of Nebraska City and Matthew Gering of this city.

The court opened at 10 o'clock and the work of examining the members of the jury panel was at once commenced. Mr. Gering for the defense and County Attorney Cole for the state making the examination. It is expected this will be the longest drawn out case on the docket.

ANOTHER SUNDAY MORNING FIRE

Egg Crates in Cellar of Store of John Hatt & Son Catch Fire from Soot from Chimney.

For the second Sunday in succession, the members of the fire department were called out yesterday morning to extinguish the fire that started in the cellar of the John Hatt & Son store on Main street. On the previous Sunday there had been two alarms sent in for the fire boys from different parts of the city and instead of being a day of rest the Sundays seem to be the fire department's busy time.

The fire at the Hatt store originated, it is thought from the fact that the stop in the chimney in the cellar had become worn and fallen out, allowing particles of burning soot to fall out onto a pile of egg crates which had been placed near the chimney, and that after smouldering for a time these broke into flames.

Several of the crates were burned and the blaze reached the timbers supporting the main floor of the store but the excellent work of the department was responsible for putting the fire out without any serious loss to speak of.

The fire demonstrated that the new fire department is getting to be more expert in their work and they went at the task of getting the blaze under control like a bunch of veterans. The use of the new spray nozzle also aided in getting the blaze under control as it was played on the flames and in a very few minutes the fire was subdued.

The only loss that was sustained was in several egg crates burned and a small section of the floor timbers being so badly charred that they will have to be replaced. A great deal of smoke was caused by the fire and this filled the main store room as well as the living room of John Hatt, Sr., on the top floor of the building. John Hatt, Jr., states that as a result of the fire they are still offering fine smoked meats at 20c per pound and are willing to back this statement up with the goods.

Pure bred Plymouth Rock eggs for hatching. Call Mrs. C. E. Cook, phone 270-W.

Blank Books at the Journal Office.

CAR HAS ACCIDENT

Yesterday afternoon the Dodge touring car driven by Sperry Ruffner of Omaha, met with a serious accident at the corner of Fourth and Vine streets when the car crashed into the curb in front of the residence of John Hatt, Jr., and had one of the front wheels broken. Mr. Ruffner was going at a good rate of speed at the time of the accident and stated to residents of near the scene of the accident that he was attempting to avoid another car and had been unable to control his machine to escape hitting the curb.

ICE CREAM LEADS TO LADS' ARREST

Boys Help Themselves to Freezer of Cream at Rear of Dunbar Billiard Parlor.

Saturday evening a number of young boys decided that they were in need of refreshments of ice cream and accordingly they visited the rear of the Dunbar billiard parlor and took therefrom a five gallon freezer of the frozen dairy but before going very far decided that the risk was not worth the cost and left the freezer or near the entrance to the alley on Sixth street. The boys were later rounded up and this morning were given an airing in the police court before Judge M. Archer. After hearing the evidence in the case the court assessed a fine of \$1 on the boys, Wayne Gouchenour, Fane Humphreys, Corporal Stone and Anson LaHoda.

The boys while acknowledging taking the cream had not eaten any of the contents of the freezer and it was restored to the owner intact and they were the only sufferers from the affair.

GOOD IDEA FROM PLATTSMOUTH, SAYS TRADE PAPER

The formation of advertising clubs in small towns and cities of this section has been consistently advocated by Trade Exhibit for many years, and it is therefore gratifying to read in a recent issue of the Plattsmouth Journal the following announcement:

"Thursday noon, March 3, a number of business men of the city met at the Hotel Wagner for luncheon and to discuss the matter of mutual interest in the business life of the city. The members of the luncheon party after discussing the matter thoroughly decided on the formation of an Ad Club, the purpose of which is not, as the title might suggest, purely advertising, but will take up all the problems that may confront the business interests of the city.

"As one of the first steps of a permanent organization, C. C. Wessott was named as president and F. P. Busch as secretary, and the organization will at once get busy on lining up the matter of making greater trade opportunities for the city and its business interests.

"The new organization plans to hold the weekly luncheons when the members can gather together informally and discuss the questions that may arise from time to time.

"The Ad Club is purely an organization of mutual helpfulness and will assist in the work of the Chamber of Commerce, which covers the much wider field of community interest and progress of the city while the Ad Club is exclusively for the promoting of the business interests of the city."

These men have the right idea of an Advertising Club. Its function should be to discuss retail advertising, but more than that, to be active in all sorts of trade promotion plans for the community. Therein it differs from the Commercial Club. The Ad Club can have a singleness of purpose and a freedom of action not possible for a Chamber of Commerce, in this one direction of bringing in more trade to the local business houses.

The example of Plattsmouth should be followed by other cities of this section and if properly conducted will prove to be one of the best organizations they have, for the whole community. The Associated Advertising Clubs of the World, or the Advertising Club of such cities as Omaha and Lincoln will be glad to help in the formation of these Ad Clubs.—Omaha Trade Exhibit.

RECEIVE NO FURTHER WORD

Following the attempted suicide of Adolph Rhode on the train from Omaha to St. Joseph, Mo., Thursday evening, there has been no further word received here by the mother and brother and it is thought that the patient is continuing to improve as the attending physician had agreed to notify the mother in case of any change for the worse.

The Easter tide brings thoughts of the good wishes for your friends. Remind them of your thought with one of the handsome hand engraved cards that can be found at the Journal stationary department.

Blank Books at the Journal Office.

CITY COUNCIL TAKES UP MANY VITAL THINGS

UNUSUALLY LONG SESSION HELD LAST NIGHT—DISCUSS FINANCIAL MATTERS.

The members of the city council last evening indulged in an unusually long session that was filled with the problems of the city at this time and in making plans for the future.

August Bach, in a communication to the city council stated that in 1920 he had received from W. M. Sheldon a city warrant for \$500 in settlement of an account of \$100, and had given Mr. Sheldon \$400 in change and he had had the warrant registered with the city treasurer and while in Omaha a short time ago had the warrant lost or taken. As the communication did not make clear the desires of the owner of the warrant it was referred back to Mr. Bach to make more definite his desires of the city.

In regard to a road on Wintersteen hill running near the Rothman property, the council received a letter from Frank H. Gobelman stating that his wife was the owner of a lot in that section of the city and that they would like to have the city consider the securing of the lot for the roadway there. This matter was referred to the streets, alleys and bridges committee.

The Western States Construction company presented their bond to cover the faithful performance of their contract on the work already completed on Chicago avenue paving and which is in the sum of \$1,000 and covers the 5 per cent that was held up by the city until the time limit had expired on the work. On motion of Councilman Ptacek the matter was turned over to the judiciary committee and the city attorney to thresh out.

The presentation of the report of the city treasurer as to the condition of the strong box revealed the fact that the city funds are now in better shape than they have been for some time and very few of the funds are overdrawn, the general fund being short a small amount due to the necessity of supplying the premium on the refunding bonds from this source. The balance in the treasury was given at \$40,000, while the registered warrants were \$165,000, which is less than for some time and these include the special improvements over the city for which there will be return in taxes that will care for them. Mayor Schneider stated that the warrants covering the Chicago avenue paving had all been issued in district No. 13, while the city carried a fund for the Chicago avenue intersections, which it was impossible to clean up until a transfer was made to district No. 13 to take up the warrants there, and as \$9,000 had been raised in this fund he thought that amount would cover fully the responsibility of the city for that portion of the work.

On motion of Councilman Ptacek, the finance committee reported that there be a general checking up of all the earlier improvement work and a definite understanding reached as to the amount the city has outstanding in all the districts from No. 3 to No. 10. On motion of Councilman Ptacek, the finance committee and the mayor were authorized to go ahead and check up this matter as well as the Chicago avenue intersection tax and report at the next meeting if possible.

Police Judge M. Archer reported that during the month of February two arrests had been made and the fines and costs totaled \$21, which had been deposited with the city treasurer.

Chief O. Sandin of the fire department reported that for the month of March there had been two fires so far at the John Marquet residence and the store of Hatt & Son.

Councilman Ptacek of the streets, alleys and bridges committee reported that the condition of South 6th street was very poor and that it should be graded up in order to fill up the holes and clear the rough places and this was placed in the hands of the street commissioner.

Councilman McCarthy of the fire and water committee brought up the complaint of Mrs. Mary Heinrich, who had requested the water company to extend the mains across the street to her residence property to install the city water, but that the company had declined to do this for the sum of \$8 which was the amount specified in the franchise to be charged for this work. Mr. McCarthy stated that he had interviewed Mr. Cushman, manager of the water company who stated that he had instructions from his company to extend no new work at a loss. On inquiry as to what they expected to do under the terms of their franchise, Mr. Cushman had stated that he would have to have further time before giving a definite answer to that matter.

The lighting committee through Chairman Iverson reported that they had investigated the petition for a light on Third street and found that the request was well founded as the street was very dark from Main

HAS LEG REMOVED AT ARMY HOSPITAL

Leonard Jay, Former Resident of This City, Undergoes Operation at Leavenworth.

Friends in this city of Leonard Jay will regret to learn that word has been received from him and that he is now in ward No. 2 National Military home, Leavenworth, Kansas, and has just undergone an operation for the removal of one of his legs. The injured member it is stated was infected as a result of injuries received in action while Mr. Jay was serving with the Canadian forces in France during the world war.

The unfortunate man has been in poor health for some time and on his last visit here was in serious condition and shortly afterwards entered the National Military home for treatment. He is a member of the World War Veterans post of Omaha, and this organization was notified of his condition by the authorities of the national home.

Orville McQuinn of Union, Pleads Guilty to Charge of Possession of Liquor in County Court.

GETS FINE OF \$100 FOR HAVING LIQUOR

Orville McQuinn of Union, Pleads Guilty to Charge of Possession of Liquor in County Court.

This morning Orville McQuinn of Union was present in court to answer to the charge of possession of liquor contrary to the laws of the state and of the eighteenth amendment to the constitution. The complaint was filed by County Attorney Cole and covers the recent investigation at Union that disclosed the flowing of the outlaw beverage there.

To the charge Mr. McQuinn entered a plea of guilty and received a fine of \$100 and costs that netted the sum of \$112, which he settled for and was allowed to go on his way rejoicing.

PURCHASES OMAHA PROPERTY.

One of the residents of the vicinity of Union, J. A. Betts, has become the owner of a very valuable piece of Omaha real estate, having just closed negotiations for the purchase of the Hollywood apartment building at 415 Sweetwood avenue, Omaha. The consideration of the transfer was given as \$100,000 and the 150-acre farm of Mr. Betts was given in exchange for the apartment house property.

A PLEASANT EVENT

The stork in his flight over the city yesterday stopped for a short call at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Leiland O. Bennett and left in their care a fine little son and heir, and who is the object of the greatest admiration in the household as the first child to come to gladden the home. The mother and little one are doing nicely and Mr. Bennett is wearing well the honors that come to fatherhood.

Blank books and office accessories at the Journal office.

Community Thrift

You can always tell a thrifty community. The people dress better, live in better homes, build better churches and schools and enjoy more of life's good things generally.

Thrift does not mean hoarding money. It means spending sensibly. With an account at the First National Bank you can have more and save more because you will spend systematically.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK
THE BANK WHERE YOU FEEL AT HOME
PLATTSMOUTH NEBRASKA

Fire dept.	1.00
Collins Oil Co., gas for fire truck	1.40
C. Smith, expense fire dept.	.68
Alvin Jones, care fire truck	10.00
Weyrich & Hadraba, flash-light for Jones	2.70
Charles Tilton, taxi for police	.75
E. Manspeaker, salary	100.00
Neb. Gas & Electric Co., street lights	222.90
Neb. Gas & Electric Co., light city hall	5.18
Walter Gouchenour, sprinkling streets	6.60
M. Archer, salary	30.00