

EDITORS OF NEBRASKA TO HAVE UNIQUE EXCURSION

Will Tour Western Part of State During Week of August Seventh

PLANS ARE IN PREPARATION

Committees Named Are All Working Hard to Perfect Various Details—Nothing to Be Left Undone for Comfort and Pleasure of the Party.

OVER 200 RESERVATIONS MADE.

(By J. O. Goodwin)

The forthcoming annual meeting of the Nebraska Press Association will be an unique occasion. At the last meeting of the association in Omaha an invitation was extended by Scottsbluff and Gering, two sister towns in the irrigated valley of the North Platte river, in the extreme western part of the state, to hold the 1916 meeting at those places. A substantial bonus was offered to help defray the expense in taking a special train of editors to that distant part of the state. In an unofficial way it was thought that the two transportation companies that pass through the Nile valley of Nebraska would be interested in the excursion of the scribes and would assist in the matter of transportation. The invitation was accepted in a tentative way and it was left for the executive committee to consider the matter from every angle and finally to fix the time and place. Later the towns of Chadron, Crawford, Sidney, Alliance, Bridgeport, Broken Bow, Kearney and North Platte asked for stops and offered to feed the visitors and furnish entertainment and, in some cases, give small cash boni.

The fact that Nebraska has a strict anti-pass law finally made it impossible for the railroad companies to do other than to charge the regular fare of 2 cents per mile. From assurances already received it seems certain that about three hundred bona fide newspaper men and women of Nebraska will start from Grand Island Monday, August 7, in a special train of Pullman cars for a week's trip into the western part of Nebraska. The train is scheduled to reach Broken Bow about 6 o'clock, where supper will be served by the good people of that town. The visitors will spend the most of the evening there and will leave in time to reach Crawford at an early hour the next morning, where breakfast will be served. The train will be parked for the day and a trip across country will be made by automobiles to Chadron, where luncheon will be served on the grounds of the new state normal school. A stop will be made at Crawford again on the return trip and it is planned to return to Grand Island on the evening of August 13. It is possible that a few of the newspaper men will avail themselves of the invitation of the Kimball Commercial club to leave the special train at Sidney and take a side trip to Kimball and from there auto across to Gering in time to meet the train upon its arrival there.

The party will breakfast at Sidney, take a look at the town and country and leave in time to reach Bridgeport about noon. While the train is being transferred from the Burlington to the Union Pacific tracks, the editors will be the guests of Bridgeport hosts for luncheon. Gering will be reached by mid-afternoon and the train will be parked until 11 o'clock the next night. In the meantime the principal meetings will be held at Scottsbluff and Gering and side trips will include Mitchell and Miniatere.

On the return trip stops will be made at North Platte and Kearney for breakfast and luncheon and the train is scheduled to reach Grand Island in time to permit a large part of the association members to get trains to their homes Friday evening. It is estimated that the local purses that are offered by the towns visited will pay for the hire of the Pullman cars, probably five or six, aside from the parlor-observation and cafe car, the baggage-dynamo car and the car for railroad officials that will accompany the party.

To work out the details to a point that assures reasonable satisfaction to all concerned is not a light task, and has kept the executive committee thinking hard. Several meetings have been held and on nearly every occasion there has been a full attendance of the committee which is made up

of such representative men as: Vice President Clark Perkins of the Aurora Republican; Will C. Israel Havelock Post; N. J. Ludi, Wahoe Democrat; Don C. Van Deusen, Blair Pilot; B. K. Schaeffer, Curtis Enterprise; A. H. Backhaus, Pierce Leader; A. B. Wood, Gering Courier, and Secretary C. C. Johns of Omaha.

President Horace M. Davis, Grand Island, has made the call general for all newspaper men to attend the meetings of the executive committee and the meetings have been called at such places that it has been convenient for many local editors to attend and confer with the committee. The plan has worked out successfully and has resulted in a wider spread interest in the good of the association than was contemplated by its author.

A committee consisting of Ross L. Hammond, Fremont Tribune; Don C. Van Deusen, Blair Pilot; Henry C. Richmond, Omaha World-Herald; J. D. Scott, Edgar Printer; and Secretary Johns have been appointed to arrange for the program and this feature will not be overlooked in the festivities that will be enjoyed on the trip. Will M. Maupin, York Democrat; John M. Tanner, Omaha Democrat; and Geo. S. Foxworthy have been named as a "stunts" committee and it is understood that it will be the business of these gentlemen to arrange for original songs and cabaret performances that will insure the party against a dull moment. Governor Howard, Columbus Telegram, has promised to serve as interlocutor for the minstrel show that will be worked out. Frank Harrison of Lincoln and Adam Breede of Hastings will have charge of the band that they are organizing for the occasion. It will be uniquely costumed and the instrumentation is said to be unique.

President Davis, Vice-President Perkins and Editor Buechler of the Grand Island Independent, have direct charge of the train and trip and are undertaking the details with the railroads, the towns to be visited and the general comfort of all concerned.

Members of supply firms doing business in Nebraska may accompany the train, but may not enjoy any rebate from the local guarantees. Any active newspaper man or woman or anyone who has been active in the business and has printers' ink still sticking to his finger nails may go. But it is only fair to serve notice to all comers that an edict has gone out against any liquor on the editors' train. There is no prohibition against cob pipes.

One of the features of the association meeting this year will be the consideration of the report of the legislative committee. President Davis has been in close touch with several legislative sessions and knows how sadly neglected are the interests of the country newspapers. He has appointed a strong legislative committee that will serve through his administration and the one following: J. W. Cutright, Lincoln Star; M. A. Brown, Kearney Hub; Frank E. Helyey, Lincoln News Bureau; E. O. Edgcombe, Geneva Signal; and G. S. Foxworthy, Lincoln W. N. U. To save each editor having to work up individual copy for his newspaper while on the trip an official reporter will be named and his copy will be furnished in plate form, properly illustrated, for every paper represented on the excursion.

When a week's camping party was held near Lincoln for the annual meeting of the Nebraska Press association two years ago, it was not only novel but a tremendous success. That innovation suggested this one, perhaps, and if present plans do not miscarry, the Nebraska printers will hold the record for originality in the way of annual meetings.

Some time the association is going to accept the invitation of the regents of the State University to spend a week in session at the State Agricultural College near Lincoln, and while the husbands are talking shop and spinning yarns, the wives will be taking lessons in domestic science, music and fine arts under the instruction of the college faculty.

His Verdict.

At the meeting of the Afro-American Debating club the question of capital punishment for murder occupied the attention of the orators for the evening. One speaker had a great deal to say about the sanity of persons who thus took the law into their own hands. The last speaker, however, after a stirring harangue, concluded with great feeling: "Ah disagrees with capital punishment an' all dis heah talk 'bout sanity. Any pusion 'at c'mits murdeh ain't in a sanitary condition."

What Mist is.

Mist is just one of the ways that we see the water in the air. It is something like a cloud only near the ground.—From Boys and Girls' Ask-at-Home Questions.

Human Victims of Crocodile.

Villagers living near a crocodile-infested river in India protect themselves from man-eaters by fencing their bathing places with bamboo poles; but yet they are sometimes killed within these inclosures, if not devoured. The brutes are not altogether devoid of intelligence. They will enter the inclosures at night by the overland route and lie still. Sometimes they manage, by their claws, which are very powerful, to make an opening in the fence, and secure an

entrance. After this they will remain quiet, and catch the first bather as soon as he enters the water. The crocodile, however, cannot carry away the body of its victim on account of the fence, and it has to risk its own life, as the villagers will try to kill it within the inclosure.

Dire Japanese Prophecy.

An old Japanese prophecy says: "When men fly like birds ten great kings will go to war against one another."

Door Bumpers.

An efficient bumper to prevent doors from marring woodwork can be made from a large spool. First get a screw with a head about the size of the bore of the spool. This should be screwed into the baseboard to within half an inch of the head. The spool can then be pushed over the screwhead, and if necessary wedged to hold it securely. Into the open end of the spool can be screwed one of the rubber tips used on crutches and chair legs. A convenient door stop may be made by us-

ing seven empty tin milk cans of small size, filling them with crushed rock, then covering them with blue serge. Fasten them together and put a cover of fancy design on top. This is serviceable and a welcome change from the ordinary covered brick.

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