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**Progressive Legislation  
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**Reduction In Cost of Government  
 Promised by House and Senate  
 Organization.**

Organization in the house and senate, completed this week by the selection of committees, indicates progressive legislation for the state.

In the house the old members have control of the committees. However, the veterans are nearly all of the progressive variety with some tendency to radicalism. In the senate the new senators are in control. In most of the preceding sessions the senate has displayed the most conservatism. It is different this year.

Issues are already somewhat clarified. Speaker O'Malley and several of his colleagues seek the repeal of the code. Muir of Lancaster has introduced bills requested by the Nebraska Progressive League for reduction of salaries and remodeling the state government. Some of the contents of Miss Muir's bills are demanded in the governor's message. Remodeling the state government and decreased salaries are pledges of the republican platform. It is said that the main features of the Muir bills have the endorsement of Barton Green, Lancaster county chairman, and now regarded as the republican state leader.

Cushing of Ord has the income tax matter well in hand. He is a republican of independent voting habits. He was elected without opposition to his seat in the present legislature.

**The Division Line**

The definition of progressiveness has been clearly made by the two Roosevelt. Theodore Roosevelt acted on the theory that the constitution must definitely forbid action. Franklin D. Roosevelt in a statement concerning the Progressive League, said:

"Progressives in the right sense of the word mean those who realize that a government must grow and change; that what is wise government today may be foolish government tomorrow. The conservatives are those who believe that things are good enough as they are and should be let strictly alone lest ruin and destruction follow in the wake of any alteration."

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Many of the democrats are inclined to take the governor's message as a test, declaring that progressive members of the party should support the main suggestions of that document.

**Expect Early Action**

The senate is expected to take action on the confirmation of Kenneth Wherry for the board of control at an early date. Under the law, the governor is required to select a republican for the office. Should Wherry fail of confirmation it is expected that L. B. Johnson of Omaha would get the next nomination.

The names of W. H. Smith for tax commissioner and ex-Senator Wherry for the board of control were submitted to the senate last week. Smith was immediately confirmed. Then it was learned that a statute requires a day to elapse before confirmation. Also some of the senators feared that some discrimination against Wherry might be inferred. So the Smith confirmation was reconsidered. Some of the legal theorists declare that the senate does not have the power to reconsider a confirmation. So far as can be ascertained, there is no opposition to Mr. Smith, who compiled the budget preparing the way for a tax cut of \$17,000,000.

Senator Boelts led off in the upper house with bills to bring school board members nearer to the people. He has a bill to abolish the Farm Bureau and the county agents. He favors a state bank. Senator Banning will support the sales tax. Senator Bullard is studying county government and has collected much data on the county manager plan.

Senator McCarter has introduced a bill for an income tax law. It is short and simple. There are no exemptions. A half dozen anti-chain store bills have been introduced.

**Progressives In Control**

The two houses started out on a progressive basis. Speaker O'Malley in the house and President Pro Tem McCarter in the senate are undeniably progressives. The democratic members of the legislature have shown a disposition to promptly keep their platform pledges.

The senate has reduced the pay of its employees 33 1-3 per cent as compared with 1931. This is an injustice to some of them, but the senators evidently wanted a consistent record. They are intent on economy and some drastic salary reductions later. When Governor Bryan submitted the names of Tax Commissioner Smith for reappointment he was promptly confirmed. The selection of Senator Kenneth Wherry for the republican member of the board of control was deferred as is the custom. On Friday the confirmation of Smith was reconsidered and a special committee was selected on motion of Banning to canvass the situation.

Senator Gass first proposed a committee to investigate all executive appointments. After some discussion, Banning's substitute motion prevailed. Senator Welch announced that Attorney General Good had held that there was some doubt as to the authority of the legislature to reduce salaries of these appointees after confirmation. It was reported that both Smith and Wherry would accept any salary reductions made by the legislature. However, the senators voted for the most formal course.

**House Is Unwieldy**

In the house, the more unwieldy body, committee selections came more slowly. Representative W. H. O'Gara, majority floor leader, put in some long hours getting the democrats into working order.

One of the bills to be introduced this session will provide for the reduction of the number of members of the legislature to a total of 50. This particular bill fixes the number of senators at 15 and reduces the house membership to 35. The constitution limits house membership not to exceed 100 and the senate membership not to be in excess of 50.

Trenmore Cone presented a flock of bills which caused furore in the ranks of the capitalists. His bills reducing the rate of interest on delinquent taxes and cutting down the legal rate of interest are backed by Governor Bryan's message. His moratorium bill is popular throughout the state. Three lawyers have pronounced it constitutional.

**Lawyers in Doubt**

Attorneys who presume to advise on constitutional points have not covered themselves with glory during the last two months. Around a legislature, the poor old constitution is twisted and to meet party necessity. Some people take these legal opinions seriously when printed in newspapers notoriously subservient to the private interests.

A cabal, so the story goes, came into existence with the avowed purpose of seating Lieutenant Governor Metcalfe in the eventive chair. For weeks the daily press had heralded the version that in Nebraska the lieutenant governor could fill the term of the regularly elected governor. In the constitution is a disability clause. Why not usurp the office and seek a court declaration of disability? In this way Mr. Bryan would be dispossessed and the office could be held against Mr. Jurgensen, the lieutenant governor. Very little excitement resulted. A couple of deputy sheriffs had to be in and out of the executive office—merely completing the filing of their bonds

Fred Hawxby had a quo warranto suit ready for filing.  
 But Thursday passed peacefully; the newly elected state officers took up their duties. Explanations of the presence of Dwight Griswold, J. A. Rodman and a number of national guardsmen appeared in the press. The national guard attacked the governor, but it was only a verbal broadside.

Recently, the supreme court of the United States entered an opinion which seemed to settle the question according to the reports in the newspapers. But when the opinion in question is compared with the decision of the Nebraska supreme court in the case of one Samuel Roy McKelvie the question is somewhat clarified. In the present controversy Metcalfe, in the event of Mr. Bryan's disability, inherited the office of governor with all its rights and duties and emoluments until midnight, January 4th. After midnight, if the disability still existed, Mr. Jurgensen automatically assumed the office. Mr. Metcalfe, by the interpretation of the court in the McKelvie case, is ineligible to the office of governor from January 5, 1933 until the first Thursday in January 1935.

Instead of assisting the lieutenant governor into office in such a contingency, the constitution emphatically bars succession. Said a legal bookworm in disposing of the Metcalfe-Jurgensen case:  
 "It is folly to seek out the vagaries of a federal court if thereby you must neglect the whimsicalities of courts nearer home."

**SENATE COMMITTEES**

**Agriculture, Livestock and Grazing**  
 E. M. Neubauer, Chairman; C. Anderson, V. Anderson, Banning, Neeland, Pedersen, Rothwell, Warner.

**Banks and Banking**  
 Thomas Gass, Chairman; Boelts, Frush, McCarter, Neeland, Neumann, Pedersen, Stewart, Warner.

**Child-Welfare**  
 Emil E. Brodecky, Chairman; V. Anderson, Bullard, Murray, O'Furey, Sanden, Van Kirk.

**Claims and Deficiencies**  
 Watson L. Purdy, Chairman; V. Anderson, Banning, Dworak, Green, Kunkel, Pedersen.

**Constitutional Amendments, Federal Relations and Apportionment**  
 James A. Brunt, Chairman; V. Anderson, Boelts, Hawxby, Halpine, Murray, Neumann, Peterson, Purdy, Van Kirk, Srb.

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**Employees**  
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**Fees and Salaries**  
 Harry Pedersen, Chairman; V. Anderson, Frush, Kunkel, Neubauer, Sanden, Welch.

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**Highway Bridge and Ferries**  
 Christ Andersen, Chairman; Banning, Callan, Frush, Green, Murray, Neeland, Pedersen, Purdy, Sanden, Welch.

**Insurance**  
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 Hugo F. Srb, Chairman; Brunt, Bullard, Halpine, Hawxby, McCormick, Neumann, O'Furey, Stewart, Van Kirk, Irrigation, Water Power and Drainage  
 W. C. Bullard, Chairman; Boeltz, Green, McCormick, Neeland, Peterson, Stewart.

**Labor**  
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**Manufacturers, Retailers and Commerce**  
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**Medical Societies**  
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**Miscellaneous Corporations**  
 Andy J. Welch, Chairman; Boeltz, Kunkel, McCarter, Srb, Rothwell, Van Kirk.

**Miscellaneous Subjects**  
 Gus A. Dworak, Chairman; Banning, Brunt, Bullard, McCormick, Peterson, Srb, Warner, Welch.

**Municipal Affairs**  
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**Privileges and Elections**  
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**Public Instruction**  
 Stewart, Chairman; Newman, Brunt, Brodecky, Gass, Van Kirk, Welch.

**Railroads**  
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**Revenue and Taxation**  
 Fred G. Hawxby, Chairman; V. Anderson, Frush, C. Anderson, Halpine, Kunkel, Neeland, Neubauer, Pedersen, Sanden, Warner.

**Rules**  
 P. F. Halpine, Chairman; Frush, Stewart.

**School Lands and Funds**  
 F. A. Neeland, Chairman; Brodecky, Brunt, Green, Kunkel, Neubauer.

**Committee on Committees**  
 J. P. O'Furey, Chairman; John S. Callan, Gus A. Dworak, Fred G. Hawx-

**Trying To Throttle  
 Bryan's Munny Plan**

Leonard T. Fleetwood, Lincoln Attorney, Protests Against Policy Of Commissioners.

Declaring that the present city administration is hostile to municipal ownership and is trying to throttle the munny gas station by mismanagement, Leonard T. Fleetwood has made this principle a leading issue for the spring campaign. He insists that oft repeated attempts to abolish the munny enterprises have failed. Now the policy is to insure death by inefficiency and lack of business management.

"Long before Mr. Bryan was admitted to be Nebraska's greatest governor," said Mr. Fleetwood, "he became Lincoln's most efficient executive after jealousy and envy had done their worst. He established the munny gas station—the only one in the world. He has saved thousands of dollars to the people of Lancaster county, as has the munny coal station reduced fuel expenses in the city.

The common people appreciate these munny institutions. Now that Mr. Bryan is unable to defend them we should repel every attack, open or covert. I have considerable data about the manner in which these stations have been operated during the last two years. The record is not to the credit of the efficiency of the present city administration.

Mr. Fleetwood has made a careful study of the milk situation. It has been stated that a milk depot located at the State Farm for distribution to the city customers might assist in solving the milk problem. Along with this is suggested a laboratory to study methods of increasing the price to the producer. Mr. Fleetwood has also announced that the present arbitrary milk ordinances should be repealed, as they encourage monopoly and invite racketeering.

**A Social Chat  
 With Loretta**

Mr. and Mrs. James Dean, 1018 Rose Street, were charming hosts at their beautiful home to fourteen distinguished guests last Thursday night at a "Wild Game Dinner," the table being magnificent with its lovely silver and sparkling glassware with a center of fragrant sweetpeas. The evening was spent in music and games.

Mr. and Mrs. "Buddie" Holmes entertained last Thursday night at the beautiful home of their sister, Mrs. Bessie Johnson. There were two tables of whist. The hostess served a delicious luncheon. Mr. and Mrs. Holmes are a new addition to the young social set and the Review welcomes them among us.

Mr. Harry Leland, state oil inspector of Nebraska, was a welcome visitor in the city. He also looked after some business at the State House.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon of Beatrice were week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. Guy Wiley. Mrs. Wiley entertained on Monday night in their honor. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Dean, Mr. and Mrs. Cicero Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Huston and their house guest. A beautiful cut bowl of roses was chosen by Mrs. Wiley for the decoration of her home for the social event. Mrs. Swanigan regretted very much that she was unable to attend, as Mrs. Wiley is considered one of the most charming hostesses in Lincoln.

The Charity Club met at the home of Mrs. Mildred Woods Monday afternoon. A nice number was present. The club is sponsoring a benefit tea, to be given next Sunday afternoon, Jan. 15, at the residence of Mrs. James Dean. It is to be hoped that the public will turn out and give them the aid that they rightfully deserve. The Charity Club is doing great work in Lincoln. Mrs. Wm. Woods is president and Mrs. Dorothy Dean, vice president.

Mr. and Mrs. McWilliams were visitors in Omaha Sunday.  
 The Rev. Burbridge of Quinn Chapel, Rev. Winchester of Mt. Zion, and Rev. Jones of Neuman M. E., have formed a club known as "The Little Three," and we look forward to seeing great things from this club, as each member is one of the great leaders of our city and an honor to any community. The Review extends greetings and stands ready to assist in any way possible.

**Calvin Coolidge**

The death of Calvin Coolidge loses for the Race one of its dearest friends. It loses for the nation its only living vice-president. They called him "Silent Cal" but that did not truly portray the man. Did he ever fail to speak his convictions? No! He took with him to the presidential chair the stern and unyielding precepts of New England conscience. Never did Calvin Coolidge ever fail in his congressional speeches to mention the Negro with a plea for the nation's legislators to heed the Race's welfare. The colored people of America do mourn the loss of their friend and benefactor—Calvin Coolidge.

**Protective Statistics**

The evident inaccuracy of lynching statistics of "the land of the free and the home of the brave" is the effort of certain groups to conceal the embarrassing extent of barbaric southern public murders. The disparity between the records ranges between eight and thirty-two which goes to show that

by E. M. Neubauer, P. R. Peterson, Hugo F. Srb.  
 Continued Next Week.

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America has taken to the statistical method, to protest against her name being smeared with the atrocious numbers that formerly were recorded. Whatever the number, it is too many, and those who are fighting for a lynchless America will have much to do.

**Church Notes**

A Musical Tea, sponsored by the "Home Benevolent Charity Club", for the benefit of the Lincoln Urban League will be given Sunday, January 15th, from 3:00 to 7:00 p. m. at the residence of Mrs. James Dean 1018 Rose street. The public is cordially invited. Mrs. Wm. Woods, Pres.

"The Loyal Workers Club" of the Mt. Zion Baptist church will give a chattering supper Tuesday, January 17th at the home of Mrs. J. B. Bonda, 1928 You St. Good supper for 25 cents. Mrs. McCrowley, Pres.

Quinn Chapel Allen Christian Endeavor league will be held Sunday, January 15th, at 6:30 p. m. All young people invited.

Members of the O. E. S. are urged to come and bring a guest to the dinner given by the Dinner Club at the residence of the W. M. Sallie Brown 425 So. 22nd St., Friday, January 20th. Mrs. K. Huston, Chairman.

The New Methodist Literary Club has an interesting program for Wednesday night at 8:00 p. m., Jan. 18th. The public is welcome. Mrs. F. C. Berry, Pres.

The Zion Baptist Choir rehearsal on Friday, January 13th. All members are urged to attend. Mrs. John Beard, President.

Rev. G. Jones congregation and choir were welcome visitors Sunday evening, Jan. 8th, at the First Methodist Episcopal church in University Place.

A large chorus is preparing a short program of spirituals under the direction of Mrs. Blanche Johnson and Mrs. Ruth McWilliams, to be given Tuesday, Jan. 17th, at 4:00 p. m., at the First Baptist church, when the Rt. Rev. J. A. Gregg of Kansas City, Kans., delivers his address to the Nebraska Ministers and Laymen convention which convenes here next week.

Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Gordon were Sunday worshippers at the Mt. Zion Baptist church.

Mr. Felix Polk and Mr. Gus Harding are improving at this time.

Mr. W. Haywood and Mr. C. F. Peckins of Omaha were Quinn Chapel visitors Sunday morning.



**TAXES—Italian method**  
 I was greatly impressed on my recent visit to Italy with the age of some of the houses which are still occupied for residential and business purposes. A house 300 years old is almost "modern". In the Jewish section of Rome, where there are still descendants of the Jewish slaves captured in the Holy Land by Emperor Titus, while Saint Paul was still preaching, some of the buildings have stood since the time of the Caesars! Many buildings from 600 to 1,000 years old are still occupied in Venice, Florence and Naples. They are all built of stone or brick, of course.

They have survived because Italy, like other European nations, has never taxed real estate out of existence. There is no tax on lands or buildings as such. Farm land pays taxes only on what it produces; town buildings pay taxes only on the rent income. If there is no production or no income, no taxes.

That struck me as a sensible system.

**BEER—sad figures**  
 Whatever happens in the matter of legalizing beer without repealing the prohibition amendment, one thing seems certain to me. The tax on beer will never, unless the open saloon returns, provide anything like the revenue and other benefits which its advocates have claimed.

America never consumed more than 90 million barrels of beer a year, even when a pint cost only a nickel and the tax was a dollar a barrel. The proposed tax of \$5 a barrel would be nearly a nickel a pint, so it is hardly likely

than anywhere nearly as much beer would be sold, especially if it had to be bought in bottles and carried home to drink. The largest number of persons ever employed in the breweries was about 80,000, not very much unemployment relief in that figure, even if brewing started up at top speed. And what of reduced milk consumption as an offset to the farm revenue from barley and hops?

Whiskey has always been the American drink, always produced the largest revenue and is what most American drinkers really want.

**HERO—eye witness**  
 While returning to America on the Conte di Savoia, I saw a man risk his life for others in mid-ocean. Genaro Amatruda, an able seaman from Amalfi, near Naples, is a real hero.

A valve broke on a ten-inch condenser pipe, letting the ocean flow in to the ship's dynamo compartment. The captain brought the ship up into the wind—"hove her to," as sailors say—stopped the engines, shifted the oil in the fuel tanks so as to heel the great vessel over and lift the pipe hole above water level, and asked for a volunteer to go overboard and try to put a plug in the hole. "I won't order any man to take the risk," said Captain Lena. "If nobody volunteers, I'll go over myself."

Amatruda stepped up. "Plenty more sailors," he said, "but only one captain." They tied a rope around him and lowered him into the sea. It was pitch dark and raining. Water broke over him at times submerging him ten feet or more. After more than an hour he got the plug into the hole.

"Any more holes? Give me another plug!" he said as they hauled him up, grinning. I was glad to chip in toward the fund of \$700 which the passengers raised for Amatruda. It will keep his wife and four children in Amalfi free from want the rest of their lives, whatever happens to him.

**GYROSCOPES—how they work**  
 Three little flywheels down in the hold of a great ship keep it from rolling in the worst of storms. The gyroscope stabilizers on the 50,000-ton Conte di Savoia look huge when one stands beside them, but compared with the bulk of the ship itself they are about as big, proportionately, as three grapefruit in a conioe.

A flywheel always tends to revolve on the plane in which it started. Try to tilt it and it will resist. These gyroscopes are simply flywheels revolving at 910 revolutions a minute. The first wave that strikes the side of a ship does not roll it; rolling is due to a succession of wave impulses. Check the first impulse and the next wave becomes, in effect, the first wave, and so on. A very slight resistance checks the first wave. That is all there is to the stabilizing of a ship by gyroscopes.

**CHURCH—it stands**  
 One does not have to be a Roman Catholic to stand reverent and awestruck in the great church at Rome, which was built over the grave of Saint Peter, the founder of the organized church which is based on the teachings of Christ. It is the very heart and center of Christianity, as well as the largest and most beautiful church in the world.

I was interested in the fact that the last two pretenders to the throne of England, James Stewart and his son, Charles Edward, are also buried in St. Peter's; they are still held by many good Catholics to have been wrongfully barred from the throne of Great Britain.

On the road to Ostia stands the tomb of Saint Paul, who was, like Peter, condemned to death in Rome for his Christian teachings.

The great structure of Pagan Rome stands in ruins; no one knows where Caesars are buried. The glories of their ancient capital is the churches and monuments of the religion they persecuted.

Mrs. Phannie Corneal is becoming more popular each week with her boys at Lancaster, where she is teaching a large class of colored men.

Mrs. Sarah J. McWilliams was indeed happy last Sunday and the children's program was very entertaining. The high spot so far as the youngsters were concerned were those fine boxes they received at the end of th program.

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 Reach New Customers**

In Lincoln there are 1300 possible cash buyers of merchandise—the Negro people of the city. The Review is also circulating in Beatrice, Grand Island, Fremont, Hastings and Nebraska City.

Your advertisement in this paper will reach these readers, and it is a field from which the casual advertiser is pretty much excluded.

Apportion the Review an adequate advertising allowance for 1933. We solicit the ideas and suggestions of the progressive business men in Lincoln to aid us in bringing about the reforms for which the Review stands.