

### Collins Kills Baldridge Bill in Maiden Talk

#### Young Omaha Lawyer Opposes Discontinuance of Public Defender—Measure Lost 46 to 44.

Lincoln, Jan. 23.—George B. Collins, Omaha, a youth with an indeterminate mustache, whipped the lower house judiciary committee today, and at the same time killed the Baldridge bill to abolish the public defender's office in Omaha. Collins, in his maiden speech, faced a favorable recommendation of the judiciary committee, composed of the most experienced lawyers in the lower house. He pleaded at first for retention of the office as a salivation for the poor.

#### No Bank Wreckers.

"Yes, the poor people down there are hounded more by the police than the people in any other part of Nebraska," he retorted. "But we have not any bank wreckers, any blue sky promoters or J. Rufus Wallingfords, gentlemen that description don't live in my district and such gentlemen are never hounded by the police."

#### Tom Dysart, Omaha, chairman of the judiciary committee, associated the psychological effect of the county employing an attorney to prosecute and an attorney to defend was bad.

#### Would Benefit Lawyers.

"If we haven't a public defender, the courts will be obliged to appoint lawyers to defend the poor and for each poor person the county must pay the lawyer appointed \$25. That will amount \$50,000 annually."

A number jumped to their feet and fired questions to disprove Collins' figures. He refused to answer. "You see, gentlemen, I need a public defender," he said and sat down. Belding of Omaha moved to postpone the bill indefinitely. His motion was lost. Then, on a motion to advance it to third reading, a roll call was demanded and the motion lost, 46 to 44. This, according to the house journal, killed the bill.

#### Bill Would Halt Drain on State Guaranty Fund

Lincoln, Jan. 23.—(Special)—A bill which is the creation of the Nebraska State Bankers' association, drawn up in an endeavor to halt the constant drain on the state guaranty fund, was introduced in the senate today.

This provides for the appointment of a committee of nine from the association membership to act in an advisory capacity with the state department of banking. The committee would have power to employ supplementary examiners who would go into a bank with the consent of the state department and make an examination. The result of the examination would be placed before the committee of nine, and if in its opinion, a new set of officers and new money would save the banking institution, the committee would have power, with endorsement of the banking department, to make the change. The bill also provides for legalizing issuance of receivers' certificates in failed banks. The bill was drawn up by Jeff Palmer of Omaha, following several months of investigation for the State Bankers' association.

#### Advance Dyball Bill.

Lincoln, Jan. 23.—(Special)—The Dyball bill, giving Christian Science

healers and physicians of all schools permission to attend patients in all state charitable institutions if the patients or their legal guardians desire, was introduced at third reading in the lower house.

#### Kill Phone Measure.

Lincoln, Jan. 23.—(Special)—The Beuhausen bill empowering the state railway commission to fix salaries for telephone companies and officers has been killed in committee.

### Legislative Bills

#### HOUSE BILLS.

H. R. 291, McCain and Ward.—Reducing salaries of county judges in small counties, as follows: Less than 2,000 population, \$400; between 2,000 and 4,000, \$450; between 4,000 and 6,000, \$500; between 6,000 and 8,000, \$550; between 8,000 and 10,000, \$600; between 10,000 and 15,000, \$650. Others to remain as now.

H. R. 292, Keck.—Providing that 9 inches length of catfish that may be retained after being caught in the open season.

H. R. 293, Wibel.—Leaving a tax of 2 per cent upon the gross premium receipt of all life insurance companies and other business in the state, the proceeds to constitute a relief fund for the fire-fighting departments, companies or organizations of all incorporated cities and villages, to be distributed on a population basis. The state treasurer is to handle the money and distribute it annually. When a fireman's certificate is wanted payment shall be made to the treasurer, and if none to the village treasurer for the relief of sick, injured or disabled firemen.

H. R. 294, Timme, Ellasser, Collins and Smith of the Douglas County Delegation.—Authorizing the metropolitan water and metropolitan utility districts to extend its lighting plant so as to supply electricity for public and private use, and to sell to farmers' districts and other towns.

H. R. 295, Timme.—Providing that the Omaha school board shall issue no bonds without first submitting the proposition to the voters of that district by two-thirds vote to carry the proposition.

H. R. 296, Reese, Kendall and Dutcher.—Providing for a system of roads on and within the state to actual residents or operators of farms, the money to be funded from the state income tax and income thereon. Investments may also be made in bonds of various subdivisions, federal land bank accounts, state warrants and irrigation district bonds.

H. R. 297, Winger.—Providing that grand juries shall be called in each county in the year 1924 and every two years thereafter.

H. R. 298, Winger.—Placing the burden of establishing the incompetency of half-breed Indians in actions of fraud upon the opposing party.

H. R. 299, Winger.—Amending the law relating to highways and bridges, providing for a minimum 50-foot width of roads instead of 40 feet and making numerous other minor changes.

H. R. 300, Winger.—Providing that the budget for the state highway in counties shall not exceed 25 per cent of the motor vehicle taxes in that county, providing the 50 per cent of the remaining 75 per cent shall be placed to the credit of the general fund of the county, and the remainder for dragging or graveling roads.

H. R. 301, Winger.—Providing that the capacity of bridges constructed in counties under certain conditions.

H. R. 302, Bailey.—Providing for reciprocity between high school districts in counties contiguous to the boundary line of the state and school districts in contiguous counties to the boundary line of sister states.

H. R. 303, Henshausen.—Providing for the repeal of laws relating to county authorities where township officials fail to keep them in good condition.

H. R. 304, Wells.—Providing that a telephone exchange, central office or switchboard shall be maintained by one or more companies in every incorporated city or village, and no existing exchange or central office shall be abandoned or discontinued by any company or removed to another city or village except by the written consent of at least 60 per cent of the subscribers who had rental or exchange service in that city or village at the time of the proposed change.

H. R. 305, Rogers.—Providing that cities between 5,000 and 25,000 may issue bonds not exceeding \$200,000 for the payment of damages for the appropriation of private property other than for streets and alleys, upon a three-fifths vote of the people.

#### SENATE FILES.

S. F. 101, Gumb and McGowan.—Licenses all dealers in eggs and requires candling of all eggs bought or sold except during February, March and April.

S. F. 102, Cooper.—Revising the state and road building law applying to counties of a population less than 40,000, outside of cities and villages, permits benefits to be assessed not to exceed two miles back on either side of the road, and fixes the apportionment of funds raised in improvement districts—25 per cent to the county at large, 50 per cent to the foot frontage of the actual construction, and 25 per cent to the remaining tracts in the district. Creation of districts requires petitions of 51 per cent the frontage, which must also be 25 per cent of the resident owners, otherwise 50 per cent of the frontage must be signed.

S. F. 103, Fries and McGowan.—Establishes old age pension commission, comprising the lieutenant governor, state auditor and chancellor of the State university, who shall appoint a superintendent, whose salary shall not exceed \$2,000. County boards to cooperate in recommending assistance for aged applicants \$50.00 out of the general fund.

### League Is Urged to Fight Public Utilities Bill

#### Nebraska Municipalities Convention Opens in Lincoln—Tree Planting Campaign Planned.

Lincoln, Jan. 23.—(Special)—A decided stand against the proposal to place public utilities under the control of the state railway commission was voiced by William Madgett of Hastings, president of the Nebraska League of Municipalities, in his annual address at the opening session of the league's convention here.

"As these demands come chiefly from the corporations, we wish to say we have no objections to the corporations placing their affairs under the control of the railway commission; but we most strenuously object to giving any outsider the absolute control of our public utilities for the very good reason that people who are familiar with local conditions are much more likely to understand and administer affairs satisfactorily to the majority of the citizens," was Mr. Madgett's reply to such demands.

Mr. Madgett urged the city officials of Nebraska towns "to keep the affairs of your own municipalities in your own hands, and, when grafters demand that you put your utilities in the hands of any outsiders, take them to the outskirts of your city and brand them as traitors unworthy of a home in your community."

The league president appointed the delegates present chairmen in their own communities for a tree planting campaign in 1923. He warned against letting Nebraska again become a treeless prairie.

"Nebraska will have taken a long step forward when it is able to divert and retain for future use a part of the vast body of water which every year flows through the channels of the Platte river," the speaker declared.

Many municipal problems will be discussed during the three days' meeting.

#### Bills Would Change Omaha School Board Procedure

Lincoln, Jan. 23.—(Special)—Three bills forcing the Omaha Board of Education to change its manner of doing business were introduced in the lower house today by Representatives Smith and Timme of Douglas county. They provide the following:

Repeal of law permitting school board to issue \$5,000,000 in bonds in one year. This law was put into effect in order to issue bonds for Technical High school.

Abolishing cost plus contract plan in vogue in Omaha.

Raising required majority to carry school bond issue to three-fifths. Only 51 per cent necessary at present.

#### Lincoln Firemen Rescue Man and Girl From Fire Trap

Lincoln, Jan. 23.—(Special)—Firemen at midnight Monday rescued J. H. Willis and his daughter, Harriette, 14, from possible death by suffocation, when smoke filled the Willis home and the two members of the family were trapped. Mrs. Willis and two other children succeeded in getting out of the house unassisted.

### Old Age Pension Bill Sponsored in Senate

Lincoln, Jan. 23.—(Special)—Senators Fries and McGowan are sponsoring a measure to provide an old age pension in Nebraska. The measure was introduced at the session today.

Under the provisions of the bill, another state board is created, including the governor, the chancellor of the university and the pension commissioner, who will receive \$2,000 a year for his services. It carries a \$50,000 appropriation.

Any person over 70, who has lived in the state over 15 years, is eligible for financial assistance, not to exceed \$1 a day, upon recommendation of the county board. The applicant cannot have any property in excess of \$3,000 nor an annual income in excess of \$300 a year and receive aid.

#### Vandemoer Urged for Major of Nebraska National Guard

Scottsbluff, Neb., Jan. 23.—(Special)—Scottsbluff guard, legion and civic organizations have asked state officials for the appointment of Neil C. Vandemoer as major in the Nebraska National guard to take the place of Maj. O. E. Davis, who has resigned.

Both Mr. Davis and Mr. Vandemoer live here. Scottsbluff county is the only one in the state outside of Douglas and Lancaster with three National guard companies, and for that reason it is considered that the command belongs here.

Mr. Vandemoer holds a commission as major of engineers in the Officers' Reserve corps and served with that rank in the A. E. F. during the world war.

#### Scottsbluff Wants School of Irrigation Enlarged

Scottsbluff, Neb., Jan. 23.—(Special)—The Chamber of Commerce of Scottsbluff will ask the legislature to broaden the course of instruction at the School of Irrigation in Scottsbluff, so as to include courses in agriculture and animal husbandry. The school, starting upon its third year, so far has had but a small enrollment, due to the fact that only one course, that of irrigation engineering, has been offered. People of the North Platte valley, at whose solicitation the school was established and who gave ground worth \$20,000 as a site for the school, believe it could be made more useful at but slight expense by giving courses of wider and more practical appeal.

#### Requisition Is Granted for Man Held at Rushville

Lincoln, Jan. 23.—(Special)—Emil Lahee, now under arrest at Rushville, will be taken back to Minnesota to face a charge of abducting Ruth Haged, a girl under 18. Governor Bryan granted extradition papers for the return of Lahee to Minnesota. It is stated in the Minnesota application that the couple eloped on December 31, to get married, going first to Hot Springs and then coming to Nebraska.

#### Klan Bill Passed.

Lincoln, Jan. 23.—(Special)—The anti-Ku Klux Klan bill passed on third reading in the lower house today by vote of 65 to 24.

It is estimated that 60 per cent of the antiques now being shown in London are "faked."

### Unanimous Vote Given in House for \$75,000 Fund

#### Democrats Join Republicans in Fight for Health of Children Over Protest of Governor Bryan.

Lincoln, Jan. 23.—(Special)—The lower house today, over the objection of Governor Bryan, voted unanimously for a \$75,000 appropriation to match an equal appropriation of the federal government to continue the fight to eradicate bovine tuberculosis. The \$75,000 is to complete bovine eradication for the remainder of this biennium. It is probable a bill to appropriate \$235,000 to continue the fight for the coming biennium will be introduced. Governor Bryan in his budget message declined to recommend the \$75,000 for continuation of the work during the present biennium and the \$235,000 for the next biennium.

The bill, advanced to third reading, was introduced by Kiefer of Bostwick, a republican. Its two staunch supporters were Osterman of Merriek and Book of Butler, democrats.

"We should keep the question of dollars and cents out of a proposition that has to do with fighting for the health and happiness of our children," John R. Hughes of Sarpy county said.

"Politics should be kept out of a bill of this description," Grant Mears of Wayne said.

Book of Butler, declared that the federal appropriation which matches state appropriation for this work was obtained by former Congressman Charles H. Sloan of Geneva after four years of hard work in Congress.

#### Beet Growers Organize.

North Platte, Neb., Jan. 23.—(Special)—Lincoln county beet growers met at Hershey this afternoon and organized the Lincoln County Cooperative Beet Growers' association. Articles of incorporation were adopted and a board of eight directors selected.

### Koutsky and Butler to Debate Phone Toll

Lincoln, Jan. 23.—(Special)—Dan Butler and Joe Koutsky, Omaha city commissioners, are scheduled to lock horns tomorrow night over the Timme nickel-demanding discontinuance of the nickel-toll charge for telephone calls between Omaha and South Omaha.

A hearing on the bill is to be held in the committee on telephones and telegraphs at 4:30.

Butler is reported to be for the bill and Koutsky against it. Both have signified their intention of being present. Northwestern Telephone company officials and a number of citizens of Omaha and South Omaha also are expected.

George Dyball, chairman of the committee on cities and towns, announced that a hearing on the Timme bill to place rate and fare schedules of all public service utilities in Omaha under the city council would be held February 1.

#### Fairbury Meeting Approves \$200,000 School Bonds

Fairbury, Neb., Jan. 23.—About 500 patrons of the Fairbury schools held a mass meeting called by the board of education to consider the proposition of building a \$200,000 schoolhouse to relieve the crowded condition.

There was no opposition to the bonds. The contest hinged on the size of the building. There was manifested some sentiment against the proposed auditorium and gymnasium. The meeting voted to accept the plan recommended by the board for a \$200,000 structure and including the auditorium and gymnasium.

#### Stanton Woman Will Die of Burns in Explosion

Stanton, Neb., Jan. 23.—(Special)—Mrs. Roy Blodoe will die of burns received when a can of kerosene which she was handling to kindle a fire exploded. Blodoe, after extinguishing the flames which were consuming his wife's clothing, put out the fire, which started to burn his farm home, and collapsed. His hands were badly burned.

Potential energy is possible energy or energy held in check. An instance is a coiled watch spring, or a raised weight that is not free to fall.

### Day's Activities in Washington

Value of exports of meats, dairy products, grain and grain products during 1922, the Commerce department reported, was well below the 1921 totals.

Although practically recovered from an attack of the grippe, President Harding remained away from his office, his physicians having advised him to rest.

The Green resolution for a constitutional amendment prohibiting further issuance of tax exempt securities was adopted by the house by a two-thirds vote.

Confirmation of the nomination of Milo D. Campbell, Michigan, to be "dirt farmer" member of the federal reserve board was recommended by the senate banking committee.

The Interstate Commerce commis-

sion hearing on tentative proposals for consolidation of railroads in the west adjourned after various railroad executives had expressed their views.


Resolutions proposing a constitutional amendment to legalize federal marriage and divorce laws were introduced by Senator Capper, Kansas, and Representative Fairfield, Indiana, republicans.

Livestock on farms and ranges January 1, had a total value of \$5,111,255,000, the Agricultural department announced, compared with \$4,799,170,000 in January 1, 1922, and \$8,051,202,000 the previous year.

The Standard Oil company of Indiana between 1911 and last June 30 declared cash dividends amounting to \$89,560,000, according to testimony at the senate investigation by Robert W. Stewart, chairman of the company's board, who said net earnings during that time approximated \$259,000,000.

Experiments are to be made in the Philippines in the preparation of pulp from the manufacture of paper from hemp waste and low-grade fiber.

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