

New Plan of Government Is Offered

Speaker of Lower House Outlines Method for Conduct of State Affairs—Wants Taxpayers Considered.

Exposes Bryan's Aims

By P. C. POWELL. Staff Correspondent The Omaha Bee. Lincoln, March 14.—(Special.)—Grouping of every activity of the state government under the duty of elected constitutional officers, which would call for abolishment of the Bryan code modification bill and the tri-departmental plan of government, subjects of a debate which has continued in the lower house for two days, was urged today by Speaker A. N. Mathers of Gering.

"Bear in mind that in urging this solution of the problem, I am as much opposed to the extended activities of the present code system of government as I am opposed to the system Governor Bryan would set up. I urge as much trimming of expenses as the governor or sponsors of the tri-departmental plan, and even more, if possible," Mathers said.

Outlines Proposed Plan. "In short, gentlemen, I am not in favor of making apologies for former Governor McKelvie, nor am I interested in fostering or encouraging political ambitions of our present governor."

Continuing, Mathers outlined his plan, which he declared he would offer for consideration in the form of an amendment to either the tri-departmental or Bryan code modification code bills when the debate was concluded and voting on the bills began. His plan, in brief, follows:

State auditor of public accounts shall be secretary of finance. Commissioner of public lands and buildings shall be secretary of public works. State treasurer shall be secretary of trade and commerce.

Secretary of state shall be secretary of labor. Superintendent of public instruction shall be secretary of agriculture and secretary of public welfare.

No Extra Pay. These constitutional officers shall receive no extra compensation for such duties. The governor may, under the Mathers plan, separate any of the constitutional officers from handling these activities and appoint a person to act as secretary at a salary to be fixed later at any time he desires.

This is the plan Governor Bryan told voters he proposed to put into operation prior to election. However, the election proved that only one of the constitutional officers elected was a democrat, and, according to current reports in political circles, the governor instantly grounded around for a plan which would permit his party to get all the patronage.

His present plan is the result. A number of democratic members endorsed this plan in their campaign. Mathers branded Bryan's legislative code plan as "a catchall phrase which had absolutely no meaning."

Bryan Would Be King. "If at any time this council voted unanimously against the governor on some legislative problem, he could in the end tip his hat to them and inform the members that being the supreme legislative, they could in no way rob him of the prerogatives of the chief executive as set forth in the constitution," Mathers said.

"In short, this executive council is nothing but a subterfuge, a means used by the governor to hide the immense power he is attempting to seize by obtaining control of every appointment in the state.

"He is the supreme executive officer of this state and until the constitution is changed so that he becomes no more of an executive than the constitutional officers he would put in his executive council, then and only then would their actions be binding upon him.

"He didn't go before the people before election and tell them that he planned to seize all of this appointive power, more power than has ever been asked or granted to any governor of this state. We didn't hear a word of this until after election.

Consider Taxpayers. "It is high time we stopped being republicans or democrats and become real Nebraskans and begin beating for taxpayers bent on giving Nebraska a government which will cut present activities and expenditures to the core, regardless of the political fortunes of any one.

"I am a republican. Yet, I feel that first I am a Nebraskan, and I was elected on a fusion ticket of democrats, republicans and progressives and feel that I am bound by no political ties in settling this question. We want economy, and we want to get together and quit playing politics.

"I haven't a bit of use for the multiple activities for which the taxpayers have been obliged to pay under the present code system. Yet, bear in my mind, I am for the principle of the code.

"I want to explain what the code is in detail. Here's a dictionary definition, simplifying and codification of laws. "That's what the code has done, grouped all laws under certain subjects and placed handling of the various subject matters under certain heads. Governor Bryan does not speak right, when he says he is repealing the code.

Repeat Used for Effect. "He uses the word repeal in his statements, because it has a ring in it. But, the truth is that the code, meaning codifying, simplifying and unifying our laws under subject matters handled by them, is retained by the governor. He simply steals all power of appointment, puts up a

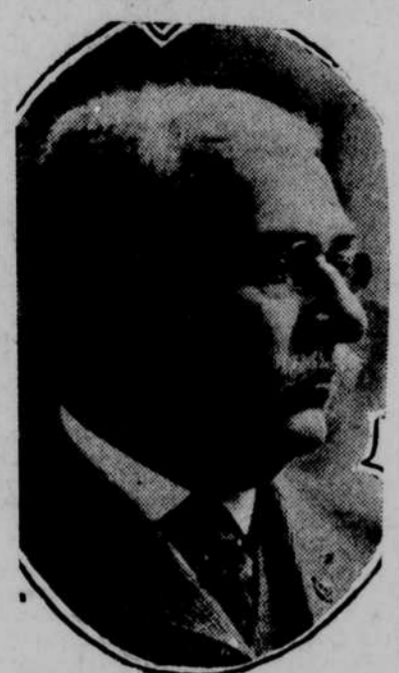
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Dr. P. L. Hall, 73, Head of Lincoln Bank, Dies



P. L. HALL—Lincoln

Apoplexy Causes Death of Veteran Nebraska Banker

Dr. P. L. Hall, President of Lincoln Bank and Leader in Politics and Education, Dies.

Lincoln, March 14.—Dr. P. L. Hall, 73, president of the Central National bank of Lincoln and prominent in democratic political circles in Nebraska for many years, died at 1:39 this morning at his home here, following an illness of 24 hours. Death was due to apoplexy.

Dr. Hall was nominated for governor several times at democratic conventions, but declined to run. He formerly was a practicing physician and was the first state banking secretary in Nebraska. He was the father of Phil Hall, jr., former adjutant general of the Nebraska National guard.

Outstanding Figure. Dr. Hall was one of the state's outstanding figures. Although he studied medicine and practiced this profession in early manhood, later he attained high position and exercised wide influence in the widely divergent fields of politics, banking and education.

Dr. Hall was vice chairman of the democratic national committee in 1908-1912. For a number of years he has been a member and at one time chairman of the board of regents of the University of Nebraska. Hardly a political campaign in 30 years has failed to find him as one of the essential factors in the situation and for almost an equal period he has been one of the leading bankers of the state.

Born in Indiana. Dr. Hall was born in White county, Indiana, February 25, 1850. He was graduated from Omaha High school and later from the Columbia National bank of Lincoln until 1907, when he organized the Central National bank of Lincoln, of which he has since been president.

Dr. Hall was vigorously outspoken and sometimes aroused animosity by his frank speech, the latest instance being his strong opposition to the banking bill now pending in the Nebraska legislature and supported by the great majority of the bankers of the state.

Dr. Hall opposed the majority and supported Governor Bryan's objections with his usual vigor. Sincerity Recognized. Such animosities normally were short-lived, however, as recognition of Dr. Hall's sincerity, public spirit and strength of character overshadowed his bluntness of speech.

Dr. Hall first came into state prominence when the democratic party was split between the W. J. Bryan and J. Sterling Morton factions at the national democratic convention at Chicago in 1896. Dr. Hall had cast his lot with W. J. Bryan some years before and was an ardent supporter of the free silver cause. He went to Chicago as a member of the Bryan delegation from Nebraska, contesting the right of the Cleveland-Morton delegates to sit in the convention. The convention was controlled by

Allied Bloc Splits Over German

Italy Withdraws from French-Belgian Coalition and Joins England in Watchful Waiting.

Danger of Outbreak Seen

By Universal Service. Paris, March 14.—Convinced that Franco-Belgian occupation of the Ruhr has taken on a military and martial aspect, outweighing its economic significance, Italy has withdrawn from the allied bloc supporting the occupation and has joined England in the latter's policy of watchful waiting.

Universal Service dispatches of January 17 told exclusively of Premier Mussolini's pacific endeavors to persuade France and Belgium to abandon their drum beating, flag waving and sword flourishing in the Ruhr, in favor of "invisible occupation," which might, in the opinion of the Italian dictator, eventually bring about a European economic entente between the victors and vanquished. This alone, the Italian premier felt, would save the world from another bloody conflict.

Fears Danger of Outbreak. After nearly two months of vain attempts at persuasion, Mussolini is convinced that there is imminent danger of conflagration due to the present policy and that occupation is bound ultimately to fail as a method for solving the reparations problem. He also believes that France and Belgium also, now look upon the Ruhr more in the light of a political weapon than as an economic lever, as originally intended to be.

For these reasons, while not formally announcing the fact, the Italian government, it is learned, has now withdrawn from all participation in the Ruhr. Engineers Withdrawn. The few engineers sent from Italy to the Ruhr have either been withdrawn or are to remain simply as observers.

Meanwhile, despite glowing communique after the Brussels conference there is every indication that Belgium would follow Italy if it could. Well informed quarters it is known that Belgium's greatest care is to guarantee its 900,000,000 gold marks priority. If Germany paid this amount direct tomorrow, Belgium would very likely withdraw from the Ruhr also, as it would no longer find any political advantage in remaining.

No More Belgian Troops. Furthermore, although Belgium has agreed to an increase in the number of occupation troops to 100,000, none of the 29,000 additional troops and experts will be from Belgium, while owing to the domestic political situation, the Brussels cabinet has been forced to agree not to send a single soldier to the Ruhr in any circumstances.

Well knowing the influences which are at work to destroy the Franco-Belgian unity, it is reported that France may consent to a large loan to Belgium, provided Belgium renounces its reparations priority. This, however, diplomats declare to be unlikely.

Deputies Decline to Back Government

Paris, March 14.—(AP)—The chamber of deputies, by a vote of 490 to 80, refused today to follow the government on a question having to do with the 1924 elections, but as the government had not made the vote one involving confidence, its defeat will have no effect.

If the law passed in 1919 is not modified before the elections there will be only 530 deputies in the chamber, instead of the present 625. That law provided that the number of deputies should depend on the population, and the 1921 census showed such a decrease in population as to eliminate 95 deputies.

The government introduced a bill which would have left the number of deputies unchanged until the next census in 1926, but the chamber refused to discuss this bill.

Government May Propose Limit on Drug Production

Washington, March 14.—The State department, it was announced today, is making a very careful study of the habit-forming narcotic drug situation, preparatory to making direct diplomatic representations, under the Porter resolution, for limitation of production to the needs of medicine and science.

"This is a matter in which the department is very deeply interested," an official spokesman said.

Women's Bucket Brigade Cheered for Saving Church

New York, March 14.—Fifty women of the Helping Hand Mothers' club today formed a bucket brigade and extinguished a fire on the roof of an annex to the Vermilye Collegiate Reformed church.

Hundreds of persons living in nearby tenements cheered as the women brought the blaze under control. The club members were in the church when the roof caught fire from a workman's tar pot.

Minimum Wage Laws Attacked in High Court

Washington, March 14.—Federal and state laws which would fix minimum wages to be received by men and children, regulate their labor and prescribe working conditions were under attack today in the supreme court.

While the two cases before the court arose under an act of congress relating to the District of Columbia, the 13 states which have minimum wage legislation will be stake and six of them, California, Kansas, New York, Oregon, Washington and Wisconsin obtained permission, as friends of the court, to file briefs and participate in the oral argument.

The two cases were brought by the Children's hospital and Willie A. Lyons against the minimum wage board, challenging the constitutionality of the law on the ground that it abridged the freedom of contract for personal services and was beyond legislative power.

Minimum wage laws were defended as police regulations to promote the public health, safety, morals and welfare and as within legislative discretion.

Censorship of Movies Killed by State Senate

Two Measures Regulating Picture Theaters Postponed by Big Vote—Crowd Hears Debate.

Lincoln, March 14.—(Special)—There will be no movie censorship in Nebraska during the next two years, the Nebraska senate this afternoon by a lopsided vote of 21 to 12, sending the Richard bill, the state would license all junior and senior movie houses. It was further provided that no picture wherein any individual who had been convicted of a crime or who had figured in a notorious divorce suit could be shown in Nebraska.

The senate then followed up its action on the Barr censorship bill by killing the Rickard measure, S. F. 277, by a vote of 24 to 8. Under the provisions of the Rickard bill, the state would license all junior and senior movie houses. It was further provided that no picture wherein any individual who had been convicted of a crime or who had figured in a notorious divorce suit could be shown in Nebraska.

The movie censorship bill had been made a special order of business and a large sized crowd was on hand to hear the debate.

Senator Osborne, supporting the bill, opened the discussion by asserting that the movies, as one of the largest educational agencies in the country, should be supervised for the benefit of the young. Thielson seized upon the Osborne argument to observe that the greater harm came as a result of exaggerated governmental interference. "No three men can say what is good or bad for me," he declared.

Belmonts declared that it was impossible to legislate morals, and he further argued that the state was greatly opposed to the creation of any additional boards, bureaus or commissions for any purpose. "If the people will keep away from objectionable shows, it will have more effect than all of the legislation which could be passed."

Public Best Censor.

Senator Barr, who fathered the measure, countered with the argument that as the state spends large sums of money for eradication of disease in cattle and hogs, there should be no objection to spending a small amount on behalf of the children. Sturdevant spoke against the bill, and Senator Larkin of Omaha moved to indefinitely postpone the bill.

Speaking in favor of the Larkin motion Senator Saunders said that public sentiment was the best censor of motion pictures, and had been responsible for better pictures in the last year.

Iowa Congressman to Study Canadian Sales Tax System

Washington, March 14.—Announcement by Representative William R. Green of Iowa that he will go to Canada during the coming summer to study the sales tax gave encouragement to those members who have no objection to the sales tax principle in the taxation system.

Green will be chairman of the ways and means committee, which drafts all revenue legislation, in the next congress. He said today that up to this time he has opposed the plan of a general sales tax, but has been convinced there is merit in the principle and wants to go to Canada just to find out how it works.

Rodolph and Winifred Remarry

"Sheik" and Wife Motor to Crown Point and Wed Second Time to Make Binding First Ceremony Performed in Mexico Year Ago.

Chicago, March 14.—Rodolph Valentino picture star, and Winifred Hudnut, whom he married in Mexico last year, were remarried today by a justice of the peace at Crown Point, Ind., to comply with the California law regarding the remarriage of divorced persons. Valentino was divorced from his first wife, the party, on arriving in Crown Point, hurried to the courthouse where a license was obtained from Miss Frances Ginner and then immediately motored to the home of Justice Kemp where the ceremony was performed. The bride and bridegroom then returned to Chicago, where they appeared tonight in a dancing act at a local cabaret.

The Most Expensive Economy Any Community Can Indulge In



Former President of Grain Exchange Called by Death

John B. Swearingen, Founder of United Grain Company, Expires After Long Illness.

John B. Swearingen, 64, president of the United Grain company and formerly president of the Omaha Grain Exchange, died at 5:30 yesterday afternoon at his home, Twenty-ninth and Leavenworth streets. His death followed an attack of grippe.

Mr. Swearingen had been in failing health for several years, during which time he made two trips to California.

Well known in the grain business, Mr. Swearingen came to Omaha 20 years ago from Lincoln, where he was connected with the Central Granaries company. He was with the Nebraska-Lowa Grain company before he organized the United Grain company.

Mr. Swearingen was president of the exchange in 1916. His wife is his only immediate survivor. The body will be taken to Maryville probably Friday for funeral services and burial.

Stiff Communication Is to Be Sent Allies by Hughes

Washington, March 14.—Secretary of State Hughes' reply flatly rejecting the astounding plan of the allies to dodge payment of the United States' share of the cost of the army of occupation in Germany by the long deferred matter to an immediate head. The secretary's note will be the stiffest communication that has yet marked the negotiations, it was stated.

President Harding will be communicated with in Florida before it goes forward. Owing to this change of plans the official communication will be not available at tomorrow's meeting of the reparations commission.

Harding Asked to Explain Dismissal of U. S. Employees

Washington, March 14.—President Harding is called upon for an explanation of the dismissal of 27 employees of the bureau of engraving and printing a year ago in a statement issued by the executive committee of the National Civil Service Reform league. Publication of reports from two official investigations of the bureau following the dismissals also is asked. The civil service status of the employees was restored recently by executive order.

Attack of Grip Is Fatal to Grain Dealer

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Plot on Life of Bonar Law Bared

London, March 14.—A sensational story of a plot by an Irish republican organization to murder British cabinet ministers and commit other outrages is printed today by the Daily Sketch.

The newspaper connects the alleged scheme with the activities of Irishmen recently arrested in Great Britain. It says that the persons marked for assassination included Premier Bonar Law, David Lloyd George, and Sir Hamar Greenwood.

A large number of women in the organization, the Sketch asserts, obtained employment in the household of the intended victims and thus became able to supply outside persons with details of the men's movements.

The conspirators' plans, according to the newspaper, also provide for the creation of disturbances through the rougher elements in the larger cities.

Vacate Decree of Man Wed Five Months After Divorce

Carrying out his threat to vacate decrees of persons who remarry within six months after being divorced, District Judge Day yesterday set aside the decree of Frank Carmony, Union Pacific engineer.

Judge Day's investigators reported that Carmony, divorced October 24, 1922, was remarried to a nurse on March 2 in Council Bluffs. "I don't want him back," said Mrs. Carmony No. 1.

Eastbound Air Mail Pilot Forced by Fog to Turn Back

Pilot E. C. Smith hopped off with the mail for Chicago at 9 yesterday morning, an hour late. Arriving at the river he found the fog so thick that he turned back and landed again at Ak-Sar-Ben field.

Smith was held there the rest of the morning waiting favorable weather reports from the east. Superintendent Colver said he expected the mail to leave for Chicago early yesterday afternoon.

Second Secret Session Held in Capitol Probe

Governor Bars Newspapermen, but Promises Statement Today—Johnson Charges Kept Secret.

Lincoln, March 14.—(Special)—The state capitol commission, at another secret meeting held today in the office of Governor Bryan, failed to receive or consider either the resignation of George E. Johnson, state engineer, or Bertram Goodhue, New York architect. This was learned tonight from an authentic source.

Following the meeting, Governor Bryan, the chairman, who has steadfastly declined to give the public an insight into the deliberations or testimony received by the commission by barring newspaper men, stated that he would give out a short statement for publication tomorrow.

For more than a week, the commission, which released a reply made by Goodhue to Johnson's charges, has declined to make public a second statement by Johnson which contains new charges. The governor has announced that this statement has been given to Goodhue so the latter might be given an opportunity to study it and prepare a reply if he desired.

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"Pitiless Publicity" Bill Ordered on File by House

Lincoln, March 14.—(Special)—A "pitiless publicity" bill by Osterman, reported for indefinite postponement by the house committee on roads and bridges, was placed on general file over the committee's objection. The bill calls for filing of prices on all road and bridge materials by manufacturing firms and placing access to these prices in the hands of any taxpayer in Nebraska who desire to pay a number of county members have been waging a bitter fight against the bill. The file of prices would be kept by the department of public works.

Bulk of Henry Clews' Estate Left in Trust for Family

New York, March 14.—(AP)—Henry Clews, internationally known banker, who died January 31, left the bulk of his estate in trust for his widow, his son, Henry Clews, jr., and his daughter, Mrs. Henry Clews Parsons, under the terms of his will filed for probate today.

The value was not announced.

Court May Resume Herring Riot Trial This Week

Marion, Ill., March 14.—(AP)—The condition of the wife and daughter of the absent Herring riot juror was reported to be better on Wednesday, and if the juror returns on Friday morning, as he is intimated he would in a message to Judge D. T. Hartwell, Tuesday, there will be two days of court this week.

Slayer May Enter Plea of Insanity

Defense of Rich May Be Based on Claim of Unbalanced Mind as Result of Fall.

Repudiates Confession.

Defense of William Albert Rich, confessed slayer of C. E. and Robert Steffen, probably will be insanity, when his case comes to trial in district court.

This was indicated by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Rich, who visited their son in jail yesterday afternoon following consultation with an attorney.

"When he was 9 he fell out of a truck and hit his head on the pavement," Mrs. Rich said. He was unconscious from Wednesday until Saturday. He has never been the same since.

Still later, according to his mother, he fell out of a tree and broke his arm, and the following year was in a hospital for several weeks following an operation for an abscess on the appendix.

Home Time of Killing. Mrs. Rich repeated her statement that Rich was home the night of the murder, playing ball with his brother, Rolfe, 11. She recalls the date, she says, because it was the second Saturday after he returned from Anamosa, Ia.

She had asked him to go straight, she said, and he promised her he would. It was the law, according to Mrs. Rich, which frustrated him in his resolution.

A few days afterward, he got a job to move some household goods for Roy Maxwell, 725 North Fortieth street. He went to a garage to rent a truck. While he was there, a policeman entered.

Blames Law For Downfall. "Hello, Rich, when did you get out?" queried the officer. "About two weeks ago," Rich replied.

Then, according to Mrs. Rich, the patrolman went to the garage owner and told him, "Don't let that man have a truck; he's an ex-convict."

It was this, she declared, which started her son on a life of crime. In his cell, Rich is not an imposing person. He is small of stature, collarless, wears a silk shirt with a green stripe and a brownish black suit, also with a green stripe.

His hair is cut pompadour, and carefully brushed back. Of all the persons at the jail, he seems least concerned about his predicament.

Rich Writes Poetry. Since he arrived at the jail, he has spent his spare time writing poetry. He was eager yesterday to obtain a private interview with his father, but his request was refused. He appeared to consider his father will be able to help him.

A gun expert from Boston, member of the Massachusetts state police, will be brought to Omaha to testify in the trial, Henry Beal, county attorney, said yesterday.

This expert, according to information given by Cleveland police, can distinguish bullets fired from various brands.

Illegal to Shoot at Wild Geese on Wing

Police Capt. Jack Pisanowski plans to take up with federal authorities what he declares is a widespread violation of the federal game laws in the slaying of vast numbers of migrating ducks and geese.

He points out that shooting ducks and geese during the spring migration is illegal, and says he has reports which indicate many hunters are in the field.

Complains of Headache After Fasting 27 Days

Deidham, Mass., March 14.—Nicola Sacco complained of pains in his head and showed signs of weakness as he ended the twenty-seventh day of his hunger strike in the Norfolk county jail here as protest against delays in the hearing on motions for a new trial for himself and Bartolomeo Vanzetti, both of whom were convicted of the murder of a paymaster and his guard at South Braintree in 1921.

Noted Los Angeles Surgeon Expires of Pneumonia

Los Angeles, March 14.—Dr. G. Frank Lydston, famous surgeon, physician and author, died at his residence here early today of pneumonia. He was one time professor of medicine at the University of Illinois and is said to have been one of the first to realize the possibilities of gland transplanting. He was 65 years old.

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The Weather. Forecast. Thursday probably snow and colder. Hourly Temperatures. 5 a. m. 24 1 p. m. 30 6 a. m. 24 2 p. m. 30 8 a. m. 25 3 p. m. 30 10 a. m. 25 4 p. m. 28 11 a. m. 25 5 p. m. 26 12 noon 25 7 p. m. 26 12 noon 27 8 p. m. 25

Shippers' Bulletin. Protect shipments during the next 24 to 36 hours from temperatures as follows: North and west, 10, east, 20; south, 25.