

### Nebraska Legion Finances Sound. Report Shows

#### Adjutant O'Connell Says Department to Close Fiscal Year With No Deficit in Treasury.

Special Dispatch to The Omaha Bee, Hastings, Neb., Sept. 18.—For the first time in the history of the organization, the Nebraska department of the American Legion will close a fiscal year (January 1 next) without a deficit in the treasury. This was the statement made today by Adjutant Frank B. O'Connell of Lincoln, who presented his annual report to the department's general convention here this morning.

This favorable financial showing has been made in spite of the fact that the department has had a deficit from former years to meet, and in the face of a loss of some 1,500 members during the year.

Important among the recommendations of the adjutant is the proposal for the establishment of a department organ, through which the administration can keep in closer touch with members and eligibles who are not members.

Such a paper, Adjutant O'Connell said, is needed to increase the membership and to create new interest in the department's activities. Without materially increasing the budget from the total of last year, the adjutant presented a rearranged schedule for 1924 which includes in the total of \$12,750 the sum of \$2,000 to be used in financing a department publication.

Though the Nebraska department has suffered a loss of membership it still ranks fourth among all the states in the percentage of eligibles enrolled. Only Iowa and the Dakotas rank higher, and Nebraska is but 2.99 per cent below the leader.

#### Promotes Americanism.

The department administration has held 15 district meetings this year, two or more in each congressional district.

Adjutant O'Connell emphasized the department's work in the promotion of Americanism, including co-operation with the national Americanism committee and the publication of an Americanism manual. The Nebraska Legion was the first to publish a flag manual, which was supplied to all Nebraska teachers.

The convention was told that the remainder of Nebraska's \$2,000 quota for the American Legion's \$200,000 endowment fund for the decoration of American soldiers' graves abroad probably will be raised by next Memorial day. More than half the sum has already been subscribed. Slower progress has been made in the canvass for the Shiloh monument fund. This project will be discussed during the present convention.

Among the department's activities Adjutant O'Connell spoke of the Legionnaires' participation in the Armistice day exercises at the building of the new state capitol and in the Harding memorial services throughout the state.

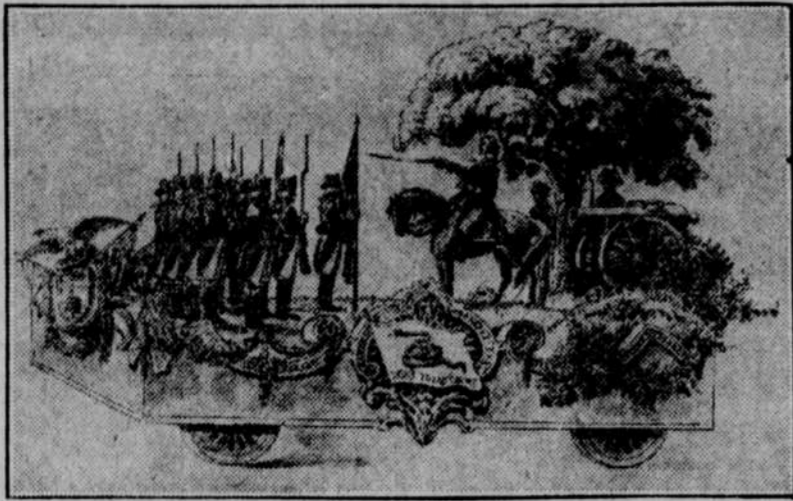
#### Financial Aid Given.

The receipts of the year were \$30,000, of which approximately one-half were national dues.

Adjutant O'Connell recommended that posts throughout the state hold their annual elections in the same week. The present plan of holding them at different times makes it difficult for the state officers to keep in touch with the posts, he said.

"It might be of interest to the state at this time to know," the adjutant said, "that state headquarters has during the past four years obtained more than \$1,000,000 dollars in compensation, vocational training, travel pay, etc., from the federal government for members of the Nebraska American Legion." Adjusted compensation was discussed today but action was deferred until tomorrow.

### Washington in Pageant Float



"Washington Taking Command of the Army" is the title of one of the floats of the Patriotic Historic American pageant which will move through Omaha streets October 3. The float is sponsored by the Chicago & North-western railroad.

John Lee Webster, pageant chairman, received word yesterday from General Duncan that he may have 650 infantrymen, 80 artillerymen with guns and more than 200 cavalry for the parade.

Mr. Webster received letters from three prominent men today regarding the pageant.

Former President Taft, writing from Canada, says: "I sincerely hope that your celebration will be successful and useful. I am in deep sympathy with your purpose."

"The scope and purpose of this exhibition," says United States Circuit Judge Walter H. Sanborn, writing from New Hampshire, "are worthy of every commendation and support." Governor Hyde of Missouri in his letter says, "I desire to congratulate you upon the character of your pageant. The historic subjects cannot otherwise than afford a strong inspiration of patriotism and will, no doubt, be of great value."

#### Postmaster Appointment Is Expected at Red Cloud

Red Cloud, Neb., Sept. 18.—News is momentarily expected from Washington of the appointment of a postmaster for Red Cloud to succeed H. C. Letson, who has completed eight years of service. His commission having expired August 5, E. S. Garber, local business man, has been mentioned for the appointment. Mr. Garber is one of three whose names were certified by the civil service commission. The office is of the second class and pays a salary of \$2,300.

#### Beatrice C. of C. Secretary Resigns to Cut Expenses

Beatrice, Neb., Sept. 18.—The chamber of commerce has accepted the resignation of Harrison Elliott, secretary of the organization. This action was taken in order to curtail expenses the coming winter. Mr. Elliott came here about a year ago from Columbus, Neb.

#### Gets Broken Leg.

Beatrice, Neb., Sept. 18.—Word was received here from Rolfe, Ia., to the effect that Maurice McIntyre of this city had sustained a broken leg and other injuries in a fall from a scaffold at that place. His son, Neil, who was working with him, escaped injury. They are painters and have been working out of Lincoln for some time putting up large signs in the country.

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### Economic Aspects of Coal Strike Cause Apprehension in Capital

#### Political Strategy of Pinchot Conference Given Little Consideration—Other Unions Expected to Ask Increase.

By MARK SULLIVAN.

Washington, Sept. 18.—Well informed Washington decidedly does not breathe any particular sigh of relief nor entertain any illusion about the coal question being really disposed of. Washington is more apprehensive about the probable business and economic aspects of the next stage of the coal situation than with any political aspects of it. Washington has never taken as seriously as apparently the rest of the country has the alleged intrusion of presidential politics into the coal situation.

President Coolidge's action in turning over the matter at the stage at which it then was to Governor Pinchot was not only logical in itself because more than 90 per cent of the subject matter was within the territory of Pennsylvania, but also was in the direction of a sound general policy of making the states handle more and more subjects and arresting the tendency to dump everything on Washington. That Governor Pinchot handled the matter without any reference to presidential ambitions is taken for granted, not only because of Pinchot's exceptionally high minded character, but because of the course he followed. There is hardly any other governor of the United States whose actions would be so surely inspired by individual conscience as Pinchot. His critics indeed say that adherence to individual conscience goes to such an extent with Pinchot as almost to be a handicap to his role as public official, that his individual sense of conscience is sometimes higher than the common public judgment and that Pinchot would almost make a self-indulgent luxury of going on the cross by doing what he regards as the conscientious thing, regardless of popular judgment or political consequences. In the present case, doubtless Governor

Pinchot, being close to where the miners live, and knowing more about their conditions and their relations with the companies than the public generally does made up his mind that the miner is the under dog and ought to have more pity.

#### Not Political Move.

The politicians say that if Pinchot had been looking to political considerations or any other considerations whatever outside of what happened to appeal to his personal temperament as the just thing to do, he would in that case have been more likely to oppose the miners' union, because, according to the politicians, the country generally was ready for a fight and quite ready to endure some sacrifice if it would result in lower priced coal and in a limitation of the power of compact organizations, whether of miners or of operators, to increase the cost of living. However that may be, the judgment of politicians is that Governor Pinchot neither tried to, nor actually did help himself politically. They report public feeling is that the governor of Pennsylvania gave a 10 per cent increase in wages to 150,000 of his own voters, amounting to some \$32,000,000 and then asked the governors of the rest of the states to make their local coal dealers keep the price of coal down.

It is possible, however, that there may be developments during the coming week which will cause Governor Pinchot to salvage something additional and something substantial from the coal situation. Apparently before the coal commission ends its existence next Saturday, emphasis is going to be laid on the fact that certain large estates, who have owned anthracite coal lands for generations, are exacting royalties running as high as \$1.50 on each ton mined. A single estate is said to take an

average royalty of \$1.27 on some 3,000,000 tons of coal. If this is pressed forward in the coal commission's report, it will be apparent that there is plenty of room to save the 60 cents a ton which Governor Pinchot's compromise adds to the miners' compromise, and that Governor Pinchot saw clearly where the real reduction in the cost of coal could come from. It is alleged that a reasonable royalty based on conditions in other coal fields outside of Pennsylvania would give owning estates not more than a few cents royalty.

Aside from the political conditions, most students of the coal situation and of the economic situation generally tend rather to deplore what has happened. They say that it neither sets up any new principle nor makes any permanent cure nor points the way toward one.

Instead of arresting the inflation of the cost of living which everybody regards as unfortunate, the coal settlement, so far as it has developed up to date, actually accelerates it. Instead of reducing the disparity of income between farmers and other classes, the coal settlement widens it further.

#### Other Unions Restless.

A further unhappy development predicted by some is that this success on the part of the miners' union is going to be followed by an effort on the part of the railroad unions to get an increase in wages. Union labor everywhere knows that the coal miners were already getting the highest wages ever paid in the history of the industry. They were the one conspicuous industry in which wages have been maintained at the war-time peak. On top of this, the railroad unions have seen this anthracite union get a 10 per cent increase through the resourcefulness and determination of their leaders. The railroad unions who, in their case have seen their wages reduced from the war-time peak are most likely to bring determined pressure on their leaders to be as efficient as the leaders of the miners' unions have been.

It is apprehended that there will be a demand from the railroad unions for increased wages. The only thing likely to prevent it would be a depression in business. Through all of this the farmers, who with their families compose 39 per cent of the population, see themselves still selling their products at low prices and

compelled to pay high prices for the things they buy into which the cost of union labor enters.

One of the recommendations of the coal commission is to the effect that a law shall be passed requiring that future situations like this shall be settled by the president of the United States personally. This suggestion runs counter to the strong belief that one of the imperative necessities of our national government is that the president shall be called on to do not more things but fewer things. The capacity of many an individual to furnish an output of accurate, matured thought has as definite a limit as the output of a machine.

#### Boone County Annual Fair Opens at Albion

Albion, Neb., Sept. 18.—Boone county's 36th annual fair is in progress here. A large increase in entries in nearly all classes indicates that it will be larger and better than any previous fair here. The grounds, consisting of 60 acres, have been put in the best of condition, and the race track is one of the best half-mile tracks in the state.

A large string of horses is on the ground and the races will start on Wednesday.

Eight of the best baseball teams in this part of the state will play during the week, and on Friday a football game will be played by the high school teams of Schuyler and Albion. An interesting program of free attractions will be staged each day, and Dan Desdune's band of Omaha will furnish music. This band will also play for a free street dance downtown each evening.

#### Central City Man Has Infantile Paralysis

Central City, Neb., Sept. 18.—Roy Donovan, 23, city mail carrier, is ill with a form of infantile paralysis and is paralyzed from the shoulders down. A nerve specialist of Omaha

was called and gave little hope of recovery. A number of years ago a brother succumbed to the same malady, and a few years later a sister.

#### Legion Carnival Dance at Fair at Beatrice

Beatrice, Neb., Sept. 18.—The American Legion of this city has arranged to stage a carnival dance during the county fair next week. A diamond ring will be presented to the most popular girl in Beatrice at the close of the affair.

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