

CUSTER COUNTY REPUBLICAN.

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NO. 36.



THOSE DULL PAINS about the eyes are plain signs that there is something wrong with your vision. It may be nothing at all serious—probably is not. But wouldn't it be worth something to you to have these unpleasant sensations removed? We can do it accurately, and at small cost, too. Step in some day and let us find out for you exactly what the trouble is with your eyes.

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R. Y. Rate Bill Passed House.

The Hepburn Bill to Regulate Railroad Rates Passed by Lower House.

Last Thursday the house of representatives, by a vote of 346 to 7, passed the Hepburn R'y rate bill. Those voting against the bill were: Littlefield, McCall, Perkins, Sibley, Southwick, Vreeland and Weeks, eastern republicans.

The bill, according to Mr. Hepburn's statement in closing the debate on the measure, was intended and did, so far as it could be made, he said, comply specifically with the recommendations of President Roosevelt on the rate question. It gives the Interstate Commerce commission authority, when a rate has been complained of as "unreasonable" by a shipper to investigate that rate, say whether or not it is reasonable, and if found to be unreasonable to name a rate, which is to be the maximum rate to be charged.

This rate so fixed is to go into effect thirty days after it is announced by the commission subject during that time to be set aside or suspended by the commission or by the courts. After it has gone into effect it is to remain the rate for three years. During this time the opinion has been expressed by those who have participated in the debate, the rate may also be reviewed by the courts, and if found to be in conflict either with the terms of the act or with the constitution, by being confiscatory, it can be set aside by the courts.

Another important feature is the definition of the word "railroad" and "transportation" in a manner to include all auxiliary instrumentalities of the common carrier and to bring them within the control of the commission. This power to name a reasonable rate and the inclusion of the commission are said to be the new features. All other provisions are modifications of existing law. They include publicity of railroad methods, which is to be aided by prescribing a system of bookkeeping and enlarging the commission to seven members and increasing the salaries of members to \$10,000 a year.

The Omaha Bee says: "The measure passed is the result of careful deliberation and was thoroughly discussed. It was framed to meet the views and recommendations of President Roosevelt and is entirely acceptable to him. It was unanimously approved by the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce. Of the seven republicans who voted against the bill some are probably opposed to any rate regulation, while others simply objected to certain provisions of the Hepburn measure. They will have an opportunity next fall to explain to their constituents the reasons for their action."

"Interest in the matter will now center on the senate. On the 16th the committee on interstate commerce of that body will decide as to which one of the several bills it has under consideration shall be reported to the senate. The general opinion is that a measure essential the same as the house bill will be reported and that after prolonged discussion will be passed. It is understood to be the sentiment in the house to adhere firmly to its bill and to accept no measure that changes its vital provisions. At all events the promise of legislation at this session regulating railroad rates continues favorable."

Favors a Land Leasing Law.

Chadron, Nebraska, Feb. 3, 1906.

Editor REPUBLICAN:

The small cattle raisers of Nebraska feel that they have been very much maligned and misrepresented by newspaper articles which have been printed all over the country in the past year or so; articles which have treated of only one side of the question of land fencing and land leasing. But there is another side, and the small cattle raisers of the state

would be mighty glad to see their side of the matter printed.

Without speaking of the many years which most of us have spent on our sand hill ranches; years of hardships for ourselves and our families, we will say that it is generally known and understood throughout Nebraska, anyway, that the sand hill country, and the larger part of western Nebraska in general, is NOT a farming land, but is essentially a grazing country. It is generally known and understood that in that country it requires 20 acres for every head of stock to graze upon, and that one who devotes his time to farming alone, stands mightily little chance of getting enough to eat.

We are not defending the cattlemen for fencing the ranges, although we believe they had good reasons for doing so. The greater portion of the range was fenced, not by the large cattle raisers, but by the small ones. It is also true that these fences are all now either removed or are being removed rapidly.

But in removing these fences the small cattle man sees ruin staring him in the face. It is the greatest menace which has ever threatened the live stock industry of Nebraska. The situation is indeed different from that in other states where the land can be used for farming, but in the sand hills, where there can be nothing but grazing, the removal of the fences will, in the opinion of the small cattle raisers, simply force them out of business.

At the same time the cattle raisers know that it is impossible to continue under the present system, and all are in favor of some kind of a leasing bill. Almost to a man, the small cattle raisers of the state will support President Roosevelt in any kind of a leasing proposition which will insure the stability of the business. They are willing to pay for the use of the range, and they call attention to the fact that the state of Nebraska has no trouble leasing the school lands and making money from them, while the government gets not a cent, at present from the school domains. The homestead law was good, but it was made for a farming country. Let some kind of a leasing law be made especially for this grazing country—and let it be made, not by the politicians, but by business men. It can be made and carried out under the supervision of the land department of the government, which department can see that its tenants are strictly adhered to.

The cattle men are willing to agree on any reasonable proposition which can be brought forward in the way of a leasing proposition. W. H. Reynolds, Chadron, Nebr. J. L. Roseberry, Pullman, Nebr. A. F. Hatch, Mullen, Nebraska.

Decision Against Union Pacific.

Last Thursday Judge Munger handed down a memoranda opinion in the case of the Union Pacific Railroad Company, complainant, against Robert O. Fink, treasurer of Douglas county, and others, in which the assessment of the State Board of Equalization is upheld and the application of the complainants for an injunction to restrain the collection of the taxes assessed against railroad company for 1904 and 1905, by execution or distress warrant, is dismissed.

The opinion is very brief and is as follows:

"The case is substantially like the case of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railway company against F. C. Babcock, treasurer of Adams county, et al, heretofore decided, and finding and judgement is for the respondents dismissing complainant's bill for want of equity."

Cattlemen Call on President.

An Omaha telegram states that State Senator Reynolds and C. H. Cornell, cattlemen of Valentine, Neb., have gone to Washington to present to President Roosevelt a petition from the small cattlemen of Nebraska, asking him to co-operate with them in their efforts to secure a law for the leasing of government land for grazing purposes. It was the original intention to send a large delegation to Washington but the other plan was finally decided upon.

HOT WATER BAGS

During these chilly days and cold nights there is much sickness in the family. A cold, or ache, or even a more serious ailment. One of our Hot Water Bags will often relieve these. Get one now. Don't wait until the last minute.

J. S. & J. F. BAISCH

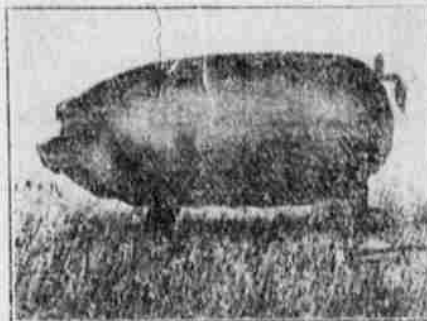
Successors to J. G. Haeberte.

Duroc and Herefords

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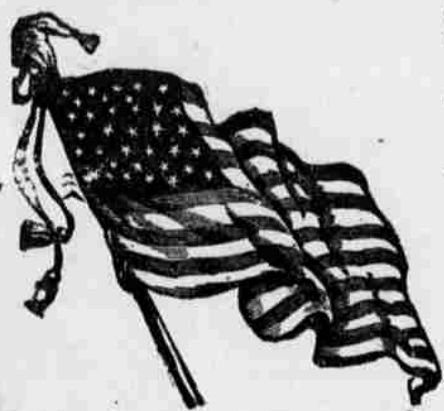


Bargains in Farm Land and Ranches

Write for list with prices and terms of sale. If you have land for sale list it with me.

Correspondence with non-resident land owners solicited

JAMES LEDWICH, Broken Bow, Neb.



SEVENTH ANNUAL MILITIA BALL

The members of Co. M., will give their Seventh Annual Military Ball at the

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Thursday Night, February 22nd, 1906.

Everybody cordially invited. Music by Taylor's Orchestra. R. J. Morton, Prompter.

Tickets 75 Cents.

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