

CAPITOL NEWS

(Compiled by Nebraska Press Ass'n.)

LINCOLN—The Nebraska Veterans of Foreign Wars, finding the going unexpectedly tough in their effort to corral signatures to petitions which would suspend the 1949 legislature's rent decontrol law, will go to court here this week to challenge an attorney general's ruling on the distribution of signatures.

Larry J. Gaughen, the desk pounding chairman of the VFW

drive, and its immediate past commander, said a suit would be filed in the Lancaster county district court or in the state supreme court to test Attorney General James H. Anderson's stand that the number of signers needed to suspend a law must be equal to 10 per cent of the vote cast for governor in the last general election in each of any 38 counties.

Gaughen says five per cent is enough.

He went on, "We are determined to firmly fight this petition battle to the finish. This issue is bigger than the issue of rent control or decontrol. It involves the democratic principle of home rule and home government. We believe democracy begins with local decisions by local people.

A state official of the VFW who may not be quoted directly, admitted that signatures were slow coming in.

Gaughen, at the start of the drive, told participants: "We're going to look awful silly if this thing falls thru."

Meanwhile, Secretary of State Frank Marsh entered the controversy. He filed a demurrer in the Lancaster district court suit brought by Joseph Wishart, Lincoln lawyer and chairman of the Nebraska Property Owners association, to restrain him from accepting the petitions.

Marsh maintained that the court had no jurisdiction and that the original petition didn't contain enough facts to constitute a cause of action.

There was big money talk last week from the offices of State Tax Commissioner Philip Johnson and State Auditor Ray Johnson.

The tax commissioner reported Nebraska's valuation for this year is 5.7 per cent higher than in 1948. The figures are \$2,637,701,560 for 1949 and \$2,495,563,799 for 1948.

Personal property assessments account for a 12.2 per cent gain, whereas real property was up only 4.3 per cent.

Philip Johnson pointed to the "shift of the tax burden from real property to personal property over a period of recent years. In 1940, real property assessments made up 76 per cent of the total assessment and all other property, 24 per cent. By contrast, the 1949 real property assessment accounts for 59 per cent and all other property 41 per cent."

Ray Johnson, meanwhile, reported that the general fund appropriation made by the 1949 legislature for the first half of the current biennium is \$23,033,733. This is four and a half million dollars more than for the same period two years ago.

General fund appropriations include a big slice of cash funds, principally the lucrative cigarette and liquor levies.

And for some more big figures, the tax commissioner had another report; the state's gov-



DARN CLEVER, THESE KOREANS . . . but they're learning it from the G.I.'s. A U.S. military advisory group in Korea is training the Korean security forces to maintain order in that republic. The Korean government has asked for this training and the United States has complied. The training forces will remain until Korea can maintain its own security. The American group consists of approximately 500 officers and men, with Brig. Gen. William Roberts in command. Here Pvt. Francis Varnada, Farchman, Miss., instructs in the use of the M-65 artillery sighting scope.

ernment cost \$143,655,723 during the two years ending July 1.

The 1947 legislature was almost 50 per cent wrong in its estimate of how much would be needed from the cash fund. It had envisioned spending \$31,465,365 but actually, \$60,971,741 came out of the cash fund. Considering the general fund and federal monies, the 1947 legislators underestimated expenses by about 25,000,000.

Just about every department finished up the biennium with unnumbered balances, which totaled nearly \$13,000,000. Of this, some was spread around to other agencies, but most went into the general fund.

Governor Val Peterson was back at his desk after attending the Missouri Basin Inter-Agency Committee meeting, of which he is chairman, at Helena, Montana.

He was asked to explain his "inconsistency" in sponsoring the Gladwin Young plan for agricultural development of the basin.

"I recognize no inconsistency," the governor told a reporter with some sharpness. "At the Rapid City Inter-Agency Committee meeting, when the plan was first proposed, I said, 'I don't see where it is geared into the Missouri Basin program.'"

"I also said, 'After we study it, maybe we'll get on our fighting clothes and fight for it.'"

"Further, I asked two questions. 'What part of the plan would be required to more directly supplement the Pick-Sloan plan, and what part is due to expansion activities, fine in themselves, but not directly part of the river development plan?'"

"Those questions still stand. 'I moved that we endorse the general objectives of the (USDA) plan. There will be plenty of time to discuss in congress those parts of the program which are supporting in nature.'"

Nebraska has a good chance to equal the bumper 1948 corn crop.

That's the opinion of State Agriculture Director Rufus M. Howard who reported conditions splendid all over the state.

The director, recently returned from a farm meeting, said Iowa and Indiana farmers feel they are likely to produce the great-

est corn crop in the history of their states.

Only grasshoppers and corn borers are threats now, Howard said, and he believed farmers are equipped to do battle with the pests.

A plan by Gov. Val Peterson to keep Dr. W. S. Petty in the State health department ran into a legal roadblock.

Dr. Petty, who resigned, effective Aug. 1 as state health director, would have taken the position as director of public health services, and as acting director until a successor could be found. But Attorney General James Anderson said this wasn't according to law. Dr. Petty has offered to stay as long as Nov. 1, while the governor continues the search.

Quick looks at state house news:

State Fire Marshal E. C. Iversen reported a near-50 per cent drop in fire fatalities in the first six months of the year. Last year at this time, 39 persons had died. This year the figure was 20. Total property damage and total fires were way down, too.

The highway department opened bids on nearly \$2,000,000 worth of work, the third letting made possible by the 1949 legislature's increased highway revenues. Most of the work will get underway this year.

State Auditor Ray C. Johnson reported an epidemic of resignations among county officials, particularly county treasurers. Johnson said they blamed the fact that while the legislature increased the ceilings on such officials' salaries, the attorney general ruled the boosts couldn't become effective while the incumbents were in office.

Gov. Val Peterson said he plans to attend the second annual reunion of China-Burma-India theater veterans in Freeport, Ill., Aug. 12 to 14. The governor was a lieutenant colonel in the army air forces during World War II.

Cass County Extension Notes

July 30, 1949

The Cass County Home Extension Council meeting was held at Weeping Water, Tuesday, July 26th. The Constitution was read and amended and approved.

The National Council of Home Demonstration clubs will be held in Colorado Springs, Colo., October 3-8. Any Home Extension Club member may attend.

The State Convention of the Home Extension Clubs will be held at Hastings, November 1, 2 and 3. Mrs. Jesse Westlake, County Chairman, is the first delegate to go. Two other delegates and two alternates were elected. The delegates are Mrs. Marshall of Elmwood and Mrs. Lindsey of Union. The alternates are Mrs. Ray Norris of Weeping Water and Mrs. Comstock of Greenwood. Any other member may attend Pearl Schultz, Home Extension Agent.

Seed Wheat Supply: Wheat growers who will need to secure seed for fall plantings perhaps should be making their purchases at an early date.

As a result of winter killing in spots of fields which were seeded to oats, mixtures resulted. It is imperative to have good pure seed, in order to command the highest prices for milling wheat.

In 1948, an analysis of 92 samples of wheat collected county wide and grown in 1949 showed that 2.4% of the samples contained rye and 1.2% contained mixtures of objectionable varieties.



UNION HEAD DIES . . . A. F. Whitney, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, died suddenly at his home in Cleveland of a heart attack. Seventy-six years old, he had been a railroader from the late '80's.

With but 100 acres of certified pawner wheat grown in 1949 in Cass county, the source of locally grown pure seed is limited.

Growers who have good pure seed will be of service if they will list with the County Extension office any quantity of seed they will have available. Clarence Schmadeke, County Agricultural Agent.

Cass County Men In Sixth Nebraska

Edgar L. Glaze of this city, brought to The Journal office a copy of The Journal of June, 1917, in the first World War telling of the recruiting here for a company from Cass county that later was the machine gun company of the 6th Nebraska regiment, later at Camp Cody, New Mexico, was made Co. C of the 126th machine gun battalion under the basis reorganization under world war plans.

The article tells of the recruiting made in the county to fill up the company that on June 27, 1917 was mustered into the federal service. When finally assembled at Omaha for swearing in the company was completed by a number from Omaha and vicinity. The list from here that was transmitted to the office of the Adjutant General comprised:

H. Floyd Stone, Monrot Battman, Frank H. Smith, Edgar L. Glaze, Emil Flinder, Maldon D. Brown, Daniel B. Cooney, Richard A. Wells, Matthew Jirousek, Hiram A. Sheldon, W. H. Brinkman, Carl A. Wohlfarth, Percy A. Warthen, Paul W. Hatt, Paul C. Sprecher, William Barnhart, William A. Sheldon, Lloyd Gilmore, Robert E. Wolfe, James R. Applegate, Simon Gruber, Union; Albert H. Kerns, Henry G. Soennichsen, George E. Wolfe, Union; Harold Hulfish, Roy Wade, Floyd Coon, Elmwood; Frank Meade, Union; Warren and Ernest Trumble, Roy Vickers, Eagle; Harry Johnson, Murray; Frank A. J. Miller, Later Raymond J. Larson, then in the 4th Nebraska transferred to the company.

Matthew Jirousek died while enroute to Europe in 1918 and Harry Johnson of Murray was left at Liverpool as the company left for France, later dying of the flu. Very few of the men are still residents of Cass county.

Much Work, No Profit
HAMMOND, Ind. (U.P.)—Hard-working auto thieves stole a 1935 car belonging to Otto James. They abandoned it after pushing it six blocks because it wasn't in running condition.

Union

Mrs. L. G. Todd

On last Wednesday afternoon, Mrs. Kathryn Madsen was hostess at her lovely country home in tendering a shower for Miss Irene Finkle, whose marriage to John McQuin will be Aug. 7th. The rooms were decorated attractively with summer flowers and a "beautiful bride" (doll) attracted a great deal of attention on the large table loaded with many beautiful and useful gifts. Several games were played during the afternoon. In the "girls name" contest, Mrs. Mitchell Rich won the prize. In the "name" contest Mrs. Carl Cross was the lucky winner and in the "musical romance" game, Mrs. Lester Hathaway won first honors. Mrs. Paul Madsen played the songs on the piano. After the bride-to-be had opened all of her gifts and graciously thanked all of her friends, the hostess with her assistants, served lovely refreshments of ice cream, cake, mints and ice tea. The guests were: Mrs. Ray Frans, Mrs. Rich and daughters, Mrs. Hargus, Mrs. Mougey, Mrs. Lester Hathaway, Mrs. John Hansen, Mrs. Schaefer and son, Mrs. John Christensen, Mrs. Leona Jensen, Mrs. Alma Burbee, Mrs. Chas. Land, Mrs. Rogers, Mrs. Betty Easter and children, Mrs. Cecil Garrett, Mrs. Herman, Mrs. Carl Cross, Iva Mougey, Mrs. Clifton Garrison, Mrs. Duncan, Mrs. Olive Ehlers, Mrs. Arden Rhanum, Mrs. Lowell McQuin and daughter, Mrs. Donald McQuin, Mrs. Paul Madsen, Mrs. Fred Stearns and daughter, Mrs. Allan Madsen and children, Mrs. Will Whipple, Mrs. Delbert Lindsey, Mrs. Todd and Miss Irene Finkle, the bride-to-be.

Norma Lindsey accompanied the Donald McQuin family to Valley last Sunday where Donald is preaching each Sunday during the absence of Rev. Sawyer. Norma was a dinner and supper guest at the McQuin home also.

Barbara, Paul and David Anderson of Plattsmouth are spending several days with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Anderson, last week.

Ramona McQuin left Friday to spend a week in camp at Polk, Nebr. She joined a group of young people in Omaha who will also attend this camp.

Donna McQuin spent last week at Bellevue visiting her aunt and family, Mrs. Marsh Thompson.

John McQuin and Irene Finkle were Sunday dinner guests at the L. B. Mougey home last week.

Mrs. Earl Upton went to Lincoln last Wednesday to visit a cousin, Steve Houghton, at the Veteran's Hospital.

Mrs. Opal Martin was taken to St. Mary's Hospital last Monday where she is threatened with typhoid fever.

Mrs. Louis Crunk, Jr. and Miss Phyllis Grenwald returned from their visit to Kentucky last Wednesday evening.

Funeral services were held last Thursday afternoon at the Baptist church for John Chidester. The Pastor from the Methodist church conducted the services. Burial was in East Union cemetery.

Mr. and Mrs. John Carter and two daughters of Wentzville, Mo., Mrs. Don Costanzo and son of Flint, Mich., and Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Burton and two children of Huntsville, Mo., are spending the week at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Comer.

Mr. and Mrs. Russ Schaefer and two sons left Friday to camp a couple of days at the Louisville State Park. They returned Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Millie LaRue was in Union last Thursday visiting her friend, Matt Pickering, and also celebrating her 80th birthday. She also attended John Chidester's funeral.

The Woman's Society of Christian Service met at the church last Thursday after-

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noon with Mrs. Carl Cross as hostess. Eighteen members were present. Mrs. Delbert Lindsey gave an interesting talk on "Puerto Rico." Delicious refreshments were served at the close of the meeting. The next meeting will be Aug. 11th and will be a Stanley party.

Betty Galloway Returns from West

Miss Betty Galloway returned this week from a two-week sightseeing trip to the west, during her vacation from the Mutual Benefit Insurance offices at Omaha. She left here on the Grayhound bus on July 14th, talking the southern route that took her into Texas, where she was a guest of her brother, Conley, who is stationed there in the Army. While there she enjoyed a visit at El Paso and Juarez, Mex.

In company with Conley she enjoyed a trip to California to stop at Fallbrook, to visit the John Galloway family and with another brother, Harlan Galloway, seeing all the sights in and near Fallbrook. She was taken to Los Angeles, where she spent the time in visiting others of the family. The brothers and sisters gave her a fine opportunity of seeing the places of interest in

that part of the west. Miss Galloway took the northern route home and visited many very interesting places. The family in the west send their greetings to the old friends.

Only One of its Kind
HENNIKER, N. H. (U.P.)—There's only one Henniker in the world residents of this community claim. They say the town's name was derived from the Greek, meaning "a very slow passing of time."

Wasp Was Reckless
MEMPHIS, Tenn. (U.P.)—The Rev. J. B. Jones won dismissal of a reckless driving charge when he told the court why he had crashed into another car: he was attacked by a wasp.

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