

Notes from Nebraska's State Capitol

BY MELVIN PAUL
Statehouse Correspondent
The Nebraska Press Association

LINCOLN — Governor Morrison says he will ask the 1963 Legislature to approve the establishment of a new state development department which would be in charge of promotional ventures now handled by several different agencies.

He said he envisions the new department taking over responsibilities now under the direction of the State Resources Division and tourism activities handled by the State Game Commission.

Morrison praised the work of Dave Osterhout, head of the Resources Division, but added that he was not immediately prepared to say if Osterhout should head up the proposed new department.

The governor also said he can see merit in raising tourism revenue through the State Highway Department. South Dakota uses such a system.

Back to Court
The Fremont power case has been submitted to the State Supreme Court for the second time in three months.

Fremont, the Omaha Public Power District, and the League of Nebraska Municipalities have asked for a rehearing on the recent Supreme Court decision which held that a customer has a right to select its electricity supplier.

Involved in the ruling was the Dawson County Feed Products,

Inc., which has a plant located just north of the Fremont city limits. The city and Omaha Public Power had agreed informally that Fremont should supply Dawson with power. But Dodge County District Court said Dawson could choose its supplier.

Dawson said it wanted power from OPPD because of less expensive rates. After the district court said Dawson could make the choice, the Supreme Court concurred when the decision was appealed.

Enrollment Up Sharply
Enrollment in Nebraska's four teachers colleges has zoomed upward 22 per cent during the past two years "and this has boosted tremendously the cost of education in the colleges," according to Dr. Freeman Decker, State Normal Board coordinator.

The board is requesting nearly \$15 million for the 1963-65 period, up \$3.5 million from the amount received for the present biennium.

A hefty 51.1 per cent increase is being asked from the state general fund. The proposed budget also seeks substantial salary increases for faculty members.

Decker said Nebraska currently ranks 41st in the nation in the percentage of increased financial aid allocated by state Legislatures to education over the past four years. He said, "We simply are not holding our own."

Decker said 44 per cent of all Nebraska elementary teachers

licensed last year were graduates of the state teachers colleges "and 51 per cent of the high school teachers certified in the state were from our institutions."

The State Education Department—citing education responsibility and the "urgent" need for more skilled professional personnel—is asking for a budget of nearly \$14 million—up \$3.7 million from the present biennium.

Hamilton Milton of Fremont, chairman of the Nebraska Education Board, said the budget request is large but "we feel education is a big business in Nebraska and if the department is to fulfill its responsibility to the state, we need more money."

The bulk of the increase is being asked from the state general fund. The department asked for \$5.7 million from this source, up 38.4 per cent from the appropriation for the current two-year period.

Statistical Evidence
There is ample statistical evidence for the record pace of the highway death rate in Nebraska, according to the Nebraska Safety Council.

The council has reported these 1962 increases compared with 1961:

- Number of teen-age drivers involved in fatal accidents—up 40 per cent.
- Teen-age driver involvement in fatal accidents (18 and 19 years of age)—up 50 per cent.
- Pedestrian deaths—up 35 per cent.
- Railroad crossing deaths—up 50 per cent.
- Bicycle deaths—up 400 per cent.
- Driver drinking accidents—up 18 per cent.
- Urban fatalities—up 50 per cent.

These figures, compiled by the Nebraska Accidents Records Bureau, were for the first nine months of this year. The council said the rate of fatal accidents per 100,000,000 vehicle miles increased from 3.7 per cent in 1961 to an even four per cent during the first nine months of 1962. This represented an 11 per cent increase.

Psychiatric Visits
Regular visits from faculty members and resident psychiatrists from the Nebraska Psychiatric Institute in Omaha to evaluate inmates has been inaugurated at the state penitentiary.

The initial aim of the program will be to work with men observed as suspect mental illness cases. According to Warden Maurice Steier, 39 inmates might currently fit this classification.

It is hoped eventually to provide the Nebraska Psychiatric Service by resident doctors to all inmates as they are processed through the reception center.

Up to now, inmates found to be mentally ill have been committed to the Lincoln State Hospital's security building by a three-man board.

George Morris, state director of institutions, said with the more intensive service, some cases may be able to be treated at the penitentiary.

The expanded service will not involve additional expenditures

since it is viewed as another form of training in another setting for the residents training at the psychiatric institute.

Army Reserve Reorganization
The Secretary of the Army has proposed a plan for reorganization of the Nebraska Army Reserve National Guard which will add 97 men to the state's present guard force of 3,562.

The secretary has asked Governor Morrison to indicate by sometime this week whether he would accept the reorganization plan as it affects Nebraska.

Morrison immediately directed Maj. Gen. Lyle Welch, Nebraska's adjutant general, to conduct a staff study to determine the consequences of the new troop basis on the present organization of the state Guard.

The study, Morrison said, will indicate how the plan proposes to utilize all of the armories that are constructed and will compare equipment of a new organization against the equipment of the present structures "with the thought in mind of usefulness for the state in state disasters and in support of the state law enforcement agencies."

The study will also help determine how much re-training would be necessary to accomplish the reorganization and whether it would be necessary to eliminate units from any Nebraska towns.

Nebraska Army Reserve strength will remain about the same but there will be a shuffling of units in the Defense Department's reorganization plan.

A spokesman for XVI Corps Headquarters in Omaha said 10 Nebraska reserve units will be inactivated, 10 will be reorganized and three new ones will be activated.

The Defense Department said Nebraska Reserve strength would be upped from 2,427 to 2,468.

The spokesman said Reserve units slated for inactivation include those at Fremont, Norfolk, West Point, Grand Island, Lexington, Lincoln, McCook, North Platte and Omaha. Units at Columbus, Grand Island, York and Omaha will be reorganized. Two units at Omaha and one at Lexington are scheduled for activation.

Mixed Trend on Big Opening Run At Omaha Market

Varied trends on above-average supply ruled in opening Omaha livestock trade this week. Better fed heifers Monday sold fully steady, other heifers and slaughter steers and yearlings weak to 25c lower, instances 50c off on steers. Steers weighing 1267 topped at \$30; fed heifers reached \$28.40 and \$28.50. Other steers and yearlings were bracketed at \$25.50-\$29.50, other heifers \$25.50-\$28.25; plumper cattle \$25 down.

Cows sold weak to 25c off, bulk \$16.50-\$15. Stockers and feeders were steady, replacement steers \$23-\$29.50, latter for 564-pound Wyoming. Stock and feeding heifers went out at \$25-\$28.50, top figure for 575-pound Wyoming.

Colorado steer calves weighing 342 sold at \$4.50, other steer calves \$28-\$34; 309-pound heifer calves at \$34.

Butcher hogs opened mostly steady to 25c higher, closed steady to weak, some heavies 25c off, weights from 190-300, \$14.75-\$17, one small lot \$17.10. Sows likewise opened steady to firm, instances 25c up, then closed mostly 25c lower, 300 to 600's \$12.50-\$14.50.

Fat lambs lost 25-50c, wooled \$18-\$19.50, shorn \$18.25-\$18.75. Slaughter ewes held at \$3.50-\$7. Feeder lambs also sold steady, native \$16.50-\$18.25.

Among recent sales at Omaha for shippers from Cass County: Leo Rikkl, 32 hogs, wt. 297, \$15.50.

Warren Rikkl, 19 steers, wt. 1625, \$28.25; 46 heifers, wt. 915, \$28.

Clarence Fleishman, 27 hogs, wt. 245, \$16.25.

Myron Wiles, 29 heifers, wt. 985, \$27.10.

Rogers & Peterson, 22 heifers, wt. 945, \$27.

Attend Wedding

Relatives from here who attended the wedding of Norma Contryman at Grand Island Sunday were Mrs. Harry Henton, Mr. and Mrs. David Tomah, Mrs. Tom Doody and daughter Debbie and Dale Henton and daughter Patty.

Miss Contryman was married to Robert Silve in the Trinity Methodist Church in Grand Island. Both are seniors at the University in Lincoln.

The bride is a grand-niece of Mrs. Henton and a granddaughter of Mrs. Chas. Contryman of Oshkosh. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Orin Contryman, live in Grand Island.

Walter H. Judd, member of the House (R. Minn.): "I would rather lose living by the things I believe in than win by departing from them."

NEHAWKA

Mrs. F. O. Sand
Phone 2708

Mrs. Jack Lindsey and Mrs. Ruth Kettelhut visited Theima Rae Kettelhut at Nebraska City Sunday. David Lindsey, senior at the University of Nebraska was home Tuesday.

Paul O'Brian, Murdoch, was a supper guest Thursday of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Knabe. Wednesday dinner guests were Louis Fox, Brett, Iowa; Wally Nelson, Valley Springs, S. Dakota; Mr. and Mrs. Don Weaver, Beatrice.

Mr. and Mrs. Matt Midkiff called at the Carl Moore home near Union Thursday evening.

Mrs. Cecil Murdoch and son, Gary Alan, returned home from St. Mary's Hospital in Nebraska City Thursday. Gary Alan was born November 30. He has two sisters and a brother. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Guy Murdoch, Nehawka; Mr. and Mrs. Ted Brannon, Union; great grandparents, Mrs. Maude Phillips, Weeping Water; Mrs. Elizabeth Brannon, Pryor, Okla. Beverly and Jean Murdoch stayed with the Ted Brannons for the past week.

The Otterbein Aid met with Mrs. Guy Murdoch Friday for quilting. Mrs. Murdoch attended a Christmas tea at the EUB Mynard church Thursday afternoon.

Recent dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Murdoch were Mr. and Mrs. Glenn McAfee and family, Fullerton, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Reeves, Brownville; Miss Bessie Murdoch, the Leonard Thorne family, Union; Mrs. Maude Philpot, Mrs. Ella Cook, Weeping Water.

Mr. and Mrs. Neil Pierce and Mrs. Robert Jameson spent Friday in Omaha. Mr. and Mrs. Pierce and Neila were supper guests Friday of Mrs. R. B. Stone.

Mark Nutzman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Deane Nutzman was four years old Dec. 10. His Sunday dinner guests were Mrs. Margaret Garrison, Arnold Fahrlander, the Gail Hoback family, Union; Mrs. Amelia Balfour, the Vance and Kent Balfours, Ned Nutzman and Boyd Mayfield families, Henry Ross, Mr. and Mrs. Will Ost, Mrs. Emma Nutzman and Mildred.

Lois Hansen was 9 years old December 7. Her birthday party guests after school Friday were the girls of the 4th and 5th grades and her cousin, Marion Ross of Nebraska City. Her dinner guests Saturday were Mr. and Mrs. Allen Hansen and children of Columbus, Nebr., Mr. and Mrs. Art Hansen and Janie, John Hansen, and Frances.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry House and Debbie, Nebraska City; Mrs. Mary House, Dunbar were dinner guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Getchius.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Diekmann and Dennis of Union called at the Cecil Garrett home Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Rosencrans and sons of South Bend were Sunday afternoon and evening guests of the Robert Wunderlich family.

An oyster supper Sunday evening observed the birthday of Roger Stone, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Stone, who was 8 years old. His guests were Mrs. Fern Thorne, Mrs. Ed Vable, the Francis Thorne family, Weeping Water; Mr. and Mrs. Chester Stone, Mrs. R. B. Stone, Mr. and Mrs. Marion Hoback. Roger's guests Friday after school were Ron and Tom Ross, Bobby Bushnell, Tommy Pollard, Dickie Baller. They were his guests for supper and later attended the basket ball game.

2 Turkey Records Set 1st Season

LINCOLN — James E. Larson of Pierce and Gordon E. Peterson of Orleans established two state records during Nebraska's first Merriam's wild turkey season, the Game Commission said.

Larson's bird set the weight record. It tipped the scales at 23½ pounds field-dressed. Larson said he shot the turkey near Crawford on opening day.

Larson, whose previous bird hunting experience was confined mainly to pheasants, described turkey hunting as "different."

The 28-year-old local manager of a power and gas outlet hunted in a party of three. He said each member got his turkey.

Equally as important is the 19½-inch beard record set by Peterson. The beard is to a turkey what antlers are to a deer. The longer the beard, the more highly-prized is the turkey.

Robert C. Byrd, Senator (D., W. Va.) concerning relief in Washington, D. C.:

"We have discovered in the District of Columbia—the national capital—a situation which is deplorable. It has been determined to be factual."

DeSoto Deer Season Open Dec. 15 to 17

LINCOLN — Rifle deer permits for the special DeSoto Bend Refuge season opening Dec. 15 have been sold out for nearly two months, the Game Commission said.

The three-day season was authorized by the U.S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.

Game Commission personnel will operate only one check station near the entrance, which is reached by going 6½ miles east of Blair Bridge, then 4 miles south, and finally 2¼ miles west. Hunters are required to check in and out of the refuge at the check station.

The 250 permit holders will hunt on 3,200 acres on the Nebraska side of the refuge. This portion is bounded on the north and west by the Missouri River and on the north, east, and south by the Missouri River cutoff channel. Some 100 acres will be closed to hunting, and that area will be designated.

One deer of either sex is legal. Hunting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

An overabundance of deer prompted the special season. About 600 deer are believed in the refuge and high hunter success is predicted.

Call Your News And Social Items to 3141

Goose Season Ends Dec. 14

LINCOLN — Sunset Friday, December 14, marks the end of the 1962 statewide goose season in Nebraska, according to the Game Commission.

Daily bag and possession limit is five and may not include, in the alternative, more than: (a) 2 Canada geese or its subspecies, (b) 1 Canada goose or its subspecies and 1 white-fronted goose, or (c) 1 white-fronted goose.

State and federal sanctuaries designated by federal, state, or refuge, game farms, or areas municipal law are not open to hunting.

A Classified Ad In The Journal cost as little as 50 cents.

Snowy Owl Reported

LINCOLN — An early visitor to Nebraska this winter is the snowy owl who spends most of his time in the Arctic.

Two members of the Game Commission staff at Bassett, Gerald Chaffin and Bob Wood, spotted the winter visitor in the northwest corner of Keya Paha County last week.

Although the snowy owl comes to Nebraska every winter, the chances of seeing one are quite slim.

Milton M. Lory, president, American Coalition of Patriotic Societies:

"Mr. Kennedy should call Castro up on the phone and tell him to shave and report to Washington in two days."

It was the night of the 18th
And all through the town
Everyone was laughing—
Including the clowns.
What was this flight
This mystery of the Day?
OH! It was just the Freshman Class Play.

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! come one, come all, to the Plattsmouth High School Auditorium December 18th, 8 p.m. Admission Free!

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