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**TERMS**

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**Who Pays the Tax?  
Who Runs the State?**

Ever since John P. Baldwin, attorney general in Nebraska for the U. P. railroad, gave it out two years ago that "We have agreed on Mickey as our man," it has been charged that Governor John H. Mickey was the pliant tool of the railroad bosses. Now, there are people who ask themselves the question, what do the railroads care who is governor; what do they care who is state auditor; who is secretary of state, or in fact, who fills any of our public offices. If these people will watch the proceedings of any legislature they will soon discover why it is the railroads through their law and political departments look after the politics of the state. If they had been at Lincoln during the last session of the legislature they would have found that the same John N. Baldwin, who selected Mickey as "our man," maintained a headquarters at Lincoln during the entire session of the legislature. Scarcely less prominent was B. T. White, attorney general for the C. & N. W. railroad in Nebraska. As for the other great railroad, the Burlington, it out did the other two in the number of attorneys and paid political bosses that it maintained at Lincoln during the session.

If you cannot understand why the railroads should be interested in the selection of candidate for the various state offices, will you explain why it is that the railroads are so interested in the deliberations of our legislators that they maintain an expensive lobby at the state capitol during the entire session of every legislature? Does the Union Pacific railroad take such an interest in the welfare of Nebraska that it will send its general attorney to Lincoln to advise the members of the Nebraska legislature merely for Nebraska's good? If it does, it is safe to presume that the C. & N. W., the Burlington and the other railroads operating in Nebraska are equally generous and that it is purely for the love they bear us that they send their general attorneys, their free pass distributors and their professional lobbyists to look after our legislature every time it convenes. If this is true, perhaps it is safe to assume that it is for the same unselfish reason that they have furnished their man Charley Rigg to act as assistant to the state board of equalization. Charley Rigg has been in the employ of the railroads of this state for years past with no other business or duty assigned to him than to look after the Nebraska legislature when in session; to see that it makes no mistakes of commission or of omission. And when the legislature is not in session he has hung around the state house looking after the railroad assessments and kindred matters in which the railroads are interested. With this notorious record staring the members of the board full in the face they select Charley Rigg as their assistant to gather data and compile statistics, from which a valuation of the railroads of this state may be made. There is an old saying that figures wont lie, but the fellow who said that liars would figure, came just as near to the truth. Now, does anyone doubt

**At Cost.**

1 Feed grinder,  
1 Slightly Used Wagon,  
2 Two-way Pumps,  
A Lot of Native Posts.

**Building Material AND Hardware**

We carry everything in the line of Building Material and Builder's Hardware; such as

**Lath, Siding, Shingles, Doors,  
Windows, Nails, Lime, Cement,**

which we buy in car load lots. Call and let us figure with you on Building Material.

**Wagons and Buggies**

Always carried in stock. We quote a few of the different makes handled by us:

**New Moline, Mitchell, Fuller & Johnson, Banner, Milburn, Wide and Narrow Tired Spring Wagons and Buggies.**

**Eclipse Windmills.**

When in need of a windmill call and examine the Eclipse. We have always on hand a stock of Pumps, Pipe and Stock Tanks.

**Farm Implements.**

**Riding and Walking Cultivators. Riding Disk Cultivators, Disk AND Knife listed corn Cultivators.**

Sole agents for DEERE Implements and Hancock Disk Plows. Repairs for farm implements.

**Barb Wire Barb Wire**

**LUDWIG LUMBER CO.**

L. C. SPARKS, Mgr.

that when Charley Rigg gets through figuring up the maze of figures which his associates in the employ of the railroads prepare for the information of the board he will not be able to make it appear that the railroads are already paying more than their share of the tax.

Railroads that sell in Wall street for more than one hundred thousand dollars per mile, taking their stock and bond issue, will be found worth but twenty for taxation purposes and then the board will make its levy on one-fifth of this. When our present iniquitous tax measure was before the legislature the railroad lobby was there to see it passed. It was just the measure they wanted. They realize that the expenses of the state must be met, so they passed the present measure which lays a heavier burden upon every tax-payer in the state, except the railroads, than the old law did, while with "our man Mickey" and "our man Weston" and "our man Rigg" to make the assessment on the railroads, their taxes will be less than before. It costs the railroads money to maintain high salaried lobbyists; it costs them money to look after the politics of the senate, but they can afford to spend it—it's worth the price. What they save in one year's taxes will maintain a lobby for ten years and the people foot the bill.

Isn't it about time the people selected their "own men?" Isn't it about time they run the politics of the state themselves? Isn't it about time the railroads were assessed like other tax-payers?

**More Local.**

J. F. Swain was up from Sparks Tuesday.

John Britt, of Britt, was trading in town Monday.

Miss C. Frush went up to Hot Springs Monday night.

Senator O'Rourke, of Gordon, is in town attending court.

Archie Pettycrew is painting his house and out buildings.

John Neiss was down from his ranch on Rock creek Tuesday.

Judge Hamar, of Grand Island, is here this week on court business.

Louie L'tetter returned from school at Kearney last Friday night.

Gordon Burge was in town last Tuesday hunting up old acquaintances.

Wm. Ferdon, of Brownlee, was in town the first of the week on business.

Dr. Campbell, of Cody, was in the city the first of the week on business.

Persons having papers or magazines to give away, please leave them at Bethel hall.

The east-bound passenger was eight hours late Tuesday, on account of a washout up the road.

Wallace McDonald went up to Crookston last Monday night after closing a successful year in our school.

Mesdames Jacob and Henry Stetter, accompanied by Jacob Tobien, left for Richmond, Va. yesterday morning.

Jesse Spaulding has resigned his position with the Electric Light Co. and will leave for his old home at Neligh this week.

Swift's Pride soap is perfectly made of pure soap ingredients. For all washing purposes, it is the most effective laundry soap made.

Dr. Wortman, having closed out his interests here, left yesterday morning for Longpine. From there he will go to the Big Horn Basin on business.

John West and sister Leo were visiting friends and relatives in this city the latter part of last week. Leo recently graduated from the Woodlake school.

**The Genuine "Royal."**

Never sold in bulk.  
 Never put in other people's cans.  
 Never sent out except in our regular tin-can package under our well known red and yellow label, bearing the words "Royal Baking Powder."

Salesman who offer baking powder as "The same as Royal," "Packed for us in our cans by the Royal Co.," etc., are trying to deceive you.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., New York.

**Catholic Church Announcement.**

On Sunday next, mass will be said at Crookston in the Prairie Bell school house at 11 a.m. Next Sunday is the last day for the performance of the Easter duty.

Cloyd Quigley departed Wednesday morning for a visit with relatives in El Paso, Texas. He expects to be gone three weeks.

FOUND—On the old Bill Wilson place at Reige, a pocketbook containing some money. Owner can have same by calling at Henry Brandt's and proving property.

Joseph Pickett, an old timer in Valentine, came down from Cody Saturday morning, where he has been visiting old friends. He is at present residing at Puget Sound Washington.

Grover Francke now holds the championship for catching black bass. Last Sunday afternoon he caught one that pulled him into the water. The bass was finally landed and weighed 7 pounds 1 1/2 ounces.

The cream business in and about Valentine is becoming quite an industry. Several of the leading separators are sold here. The Sharples Tubular sold by Ludwig Lumber Co. is indeed a unique machine, having a low supply can, an automatic oiling device and a simple three part bowl, also having all the gears enclosed.

While swimming Saturday afternoon, Fred Jones met with quite a serious accident, which may result in a permanent injury. He tried to pull Abdallah West (who didn't want to go) into the water and they engaged in a little friendly scuffle. Abdallah tried to jerk away, and in some way hit Fred in the eye with his elbow, knocking him down. As Fred fell he hit the chute with his forehead, cutting a deep gash. He hurried up to town to a doctor and had the wound dressed.

The friends of Miss Leta Stetter will be glad to hear the following extract from a letter received here from Miss Hess, formerly a teacher in our schools and now a teacher in the University. The extract is as follows: "I wonder if you people in Valentine know what a record Leta is making. I don't believe that a girl ever made a greater advancement in two years than she has done. She has graduated themes and literature papers all year, and has been admitted to the English club, a very strict and honorary club. She's also doing a great deal of writing aside from her University work and a great deal of it is published."

**THE VALENTINE HOUSE**

Valentine, Nebraska

RATES \$1.00 to \$1.25.

C. D. JORDAN, Propr.

Opposite the Court House, 2 1/2 blocks north of Depot.

Jas. E. Pepper W. H. McBrayer Canadian Club

**THE ELDORADO**  
Geo. N. Hershey, Propr.

All the standard brands of Whiskies, domestic and imported Wines, Gordon's Dry Gin, and Cigars of the choicest brands. Blue Ribbon Bottled Beer a specialty.

Oakland Hunters Rye Blue Grass Dewars Scotch Whiskey

**THE OWL SALOON**

JAMES B. HULL  
W. A. TAYLOR.

Sole Agents for

HERALD PURE RYE WHISKEY

Ale and Porter, And FRED KRUG'S BEER

Choicest Wines and Cigars.

VALENTINE NEBRASKA

HENRY TAYLOR. GRANT BOYER.

**TAYLOR & BOYER,**

Contractors and Builders, Carpentering.

All kinds of wood work done to order. Stock tanks made in all sizes. Work shop in Charbonneau's blacksmith shop.

VALENTINE NEBRASKA.

**Livery, Feed and Sale Stable**

New Rigs Good Horses Careful Drivers

Spacious barn, conveniently located, for splendid accommodations to the public who want to drive, or have horses to feed.

**SHEPARD BROS.**

(Successors to Tracewell & Bonser.)

Valentine Nebraska.

**The Palace Saloon**

HEADQUARTERS FOR

WINES, LIQUORS AND CIGARS

OF THE CHOICEST BRANDS

Valentine Nebraska

**Bring Your Next  
Order Here.**

We print Letter Heads, Note Heads, Bill Heads, Envelopes, Notes, Cards, Wedding Stationery, Sale Bills, etc., etc., at prices that are right. All work guaranteed to suit. Our stock stands inspection.

**THE DEMOCRAT**

Valentine, Nebraska

W. T. Bishop,

**LIVERY FEED AND SALE STABLE**

The Wilber Barn

Your Patronage Solicited.

**VALENTINE BOWLING ALLEY**

No. 1 Standard Alleys.

A healthful, innocent sport.

OPEN DAILY FROM 1 O'CLOCK TO 11 O'CLOCK P. M