

MONEY READY TO DISTRIBUTE

Three Counties Have So Far Failed to Report Number of School Children.

MAY LOSE THEIR SHARE OF THE FUNDS

Auditor Weston Denies Either Moral or Financial Responsibility for Failure of the Bank at Casper.

(From a Staff Correspondent.) LINCOLN, Dec. 4.—(Special.)—State Treasurer Mortenson will on Monday certify to State Superintendent Fowler the amount of the regular semi-annual apportionment of state school moneys. This will approximate \$20,000,000. In December, 1935, the amount was \$20,525,000. The apportionment is based upon the number of school children of from 5 to 21 years of age in the state. In December, 1935, this number was 778,989, and on this basis the amount apportioned to each county was 65 cents for each child. The present school census has not yet been ascertained on account of the failure of the superintendents of Cheyenne, Fillmore and Harlan counties to make to the state superintendent the annual reports due last July. It is the duty of the school directors to make their reports to the county superintendents within ten days after the annual meeting held last Monday in June. In the counties not reported the superintendent of Cheyenne is said to be busy on a ranch; the superintendent of Fillmore is busy running a newspaper and the superintendent of Harlan county is in a bank, which is taken as evidence that they are too busy with personal affairs to attend to the duties of their offices.

All three go out of office January 1 and are fusionists. Should their reports come in and the children in their counties—numbering between 15,000 and 11,000—share in the state apportionment of school moneys, the amount per capita will exceed 65 cents. Last year the number of school children in these three counties was as follows: Cheyenne, 1,554; Fillmore, 5,661; Harlan, 8,233; total, 16,448. The other eighty-seven counties show an increase in school census as compared with that of a year ago of only 27 children of school age. With the exclusion of any one or more of these counties from the apportionment the sum per capita will exceed 65 cents.

The first report came in last summer from Washington county July 23 and all the others have been heard from except the three above named. The state superintendent has no means whatever of compelling county or city superintendents or principals to make reports to his office. House roll No. 154 was introduced at the solicitation of Mr. Fowler during the last session of the legislature requiring teachers, principals and city superintendents to make out final reports to be approved by the director and county superintendent before they could receive full pay for a year's service, and also a receipt from the state superintendent for reports due the office, but the legislators would not approve the bill. Should the reports of the three counties not be received by Monday it is probable that Mr. Fowler will ask the supreme court for a writ of mandamus to compel them to report.

Weston Denies Responsibility. In a letter received from Auditor Weston, who is under arrest in Wyoming, the auditor stated that he was not morally nor financially responsible for the failure of the bank for which he was arrested. He stated also that he would remain in Casper until the affairs of the bank were settled and all of the depositors had been paid in full. This, it was thought, would be done this week. Mrs. Weston is with her husband.

Friends of the auditor maintain that he has been the victim of a holdup game, it being their belief that the depositor caused his detention, not because they thought he was responsible, but because they thought he was the member of the firm who had sufficient money to meet the bank's obligations. One of the partners in the bank is a relative of the auditor.

More Adulterated Vinegar. Deputy Food Commissioner Thompson is still going after the adulterated vinegar and today discovered in two samples he analyzed a quantity of benzoate, used as a preservative. This was found in vinegar manufactured by W. B. Duffy of Rochester, N. Y., and was marked "pure apple juice." This vinegar is sold at wholesale in Lincoln by the Hargreaves brothers, against whom proceedings will be instituted unless all the vinegar is at once taken off the market. The other sample found adulterated was manufactured by Field Murdoch of Chicago and is known as the Red Jacket Cider vinegar. This sample was brought to the commissioner by a merchant who had been selling it, but who was suspicious that it was adulterated. The analysis shows that about a pound of the preservative had been used in a barrel of the vinegar.

Seeks Elevator Site. This morning the depositions of several witnesses were filed in the office of the clerk of the supreme court, to be used in the suit of C. W. Comb, as relator, for a mandamus to compel the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad to grant him

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elevator site facilities. Comb, who is the owner of a small elevator at Wilsonville, Furness county, several months ago began suit for a mandamus. He testifies in the deposition that his elevator has a capacity for 6,000 or 7,000 bushels of grain and that he is able to load cars between trains without interfering with the train schedule. He says that the two other elevator concerns in business at that place are provided with cars, while he is unable to get any, and demands that the company be compelled to allot him cars in the same proportion that his grain hoists bears to the other concerns operating there. He brings the suit under the general provisions of the statute, and not under the Ramsey law, which provides for a minimum investment of \$2,000 before the law can be invoked. His elevator is several hundred feet from the tracks and cars are loaded by means of wagons.

Elks' Memorial Services. Memorial services will be held by the Elks at their club rooms at 12 o'clock noon, December 6. A program of unusual elaboration has been prepared, consisting of solos, quartets, etc., and the eulogy of the day will be delivered by Mr. James Manahan. This is the first time since the installation of the Lincoln Lodge of Elks that this service has special significance, as the local lodge has had no graves to keep green prior to this year. Two deaths have occurred in the lodge during the year.

Philippine Veterans Elected. At the regular meeting of Camp John M. Stotsburg No. 1, Society of the Army of the Philippines, officers for the coming year were elected. Lee H. Stoner was chosen president, Frank B. Naracong vice president, Arthur B. Colwell secretary, Leonard C. Post treasurer, Sheeley E. Heckman chaplain, Harry Jewett sergeant-at-arms and Martin Peterson bugler. The new officers will take up their duties on the first Thursday in next month. Preparations will be made for attendance at the fifth annual convention, which is to be held at St. Louis August 11, 12 and 13 of next year. At the present time the camp has 163 members.

Mickey Signs Certificates. While Governor Mickey was busy this morning affixing his signature to the last of the large bunch of election certificates, upon which he had been at work for several days, representatives from the offices of the auditor, secretary of state and the treasurer were busy checking up their books on appropriations, preparatory to the semi-annual report of the auditor to the governor. So far few of the institutions have made their reports. This morning Secretary Davis of the State Board of Charity and Correction got in with a statement that the board had expended \$75.37 out of the \$3,800 appropriated by the legislature for the biennium.

Hans Files Appeal. Several exhibits, including some clothing, a door, a revolver and other articles, were filed with the supreme court this morning in the case of Hans, the North-western detective, against the decision of the lower court reversed, that court having sentenced him to the penitentiary for life for killing David Luce. Hans secured a stay of sentence, pending the appeal.

Pioneer Found Dead. W. C. Griffith, aged 63 years, a pioneer citizen of Lincoln, was found dead in bed at his farm near this city, this morning. He had died during the night of heart disease. The body was brought to the residence in this city, and funeral services will be conducted there Sunday afternoon. Deceased leaves a widow and one daughter. He was worth about \$60,000, and carried \$22,000 life insurance. During the last few years he has resided in town, and had been in the habit of making trips to his farm daily.

Mr. Griffith came to Lincoln from Pennsylvania in 1869 with his brother, A. K. Griffith. He conducted a general merchandise store at Tenth and P streets for a number of years, and after selling that engaged in the stock raising business, with which he was identified up to the time of his death.

Supreme Court Calendar. These cases will be called for hearing December 15 in the supreme court of Nebraska: Bothwell against State, Cherry county; Klautsch against Security Mutual Life Insurance Company, Lancaster; Union Pacific Railroad Company against Westlund, Dawson; Omaha Gas Company against City of South Omaha, Douglas; County of Hitchcock against Latrobe, Hitchcock; Antwerp Cook against Custer, Hill; Against Kansas City & Oklahoma Railroad Company, Kearney; Reed against Reed, Douglas; Merchants' Refrigeration Company against Goldenberg, Water Power and Irrigation Company, Dawson; Banking House of A. L. Sawyer against Stewart, Washington; David Bradley & Co. against Bower, Keith; Gund against Ballard, Lancaster; Keith against Rasmussen, Wayne; Richards against Knapp, Kearney; Douglas against Brown, Hamilton; Fred Krug Brewing Company against Healey, Kearney; State Savings and Loan Association against Johnson, Lancaster; Sharp against Clinton Bank, Stanton; Mutual Life Insurance Company against Klautsch, Lancaster; H. E. Keadley Lumber Company against Conklin, Douglas; Sand Commercial Company against Phillips, Brown; Reiman Hooker; Reed against Wilcox, Custer; Maurer against Warden, Kearney; Gage; Kuhlman; State ex rel Gage County, Pawnee; W. A. Warden, Cole; Nebraska Farmers and Mercantile Insurance Company against Powell, Merrick; Stone; Burroughs; Haupt against Pacific Express Company, mandamus; Lincoln against Lincoln, Kearney; Otes; Colglaser against McClary & Martin, Kearney; Goodwin against Harris, Douglas; Pannini; Leonard against Leonard, Kearney; Sharp against New York Life Insurance Company, Douglas; Stocker; Johnson against Heath, Douglas; Tyson against Tyson, Washington; H. E. Keadley Lumber Company against Bartlett, Kearney; Sheridan; Giacomin; administratrix, against Cahoon, Douglas; Hamilton National Bank against Lincoln, Douglas; Hamilton National Bank against Lincoln; Nebraska Loan and Trust Company, Douglas; Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company.

The following cases will be called for argument on motion for rehearing: Farmers and Merchants' National Bank against Mosher, Lancaster; Chase against Frulis, Lancaster; McLeod against Lincoln Medical College of Chgoer University, Lancaster.

MISS THOMAS' PARENTS HUNT

Family of York Girl Who Mysteriously Disappeared Two Weeks Ago Rehearse Effort.

YORK, Neb., Dec. 4.—(Special.)—Beulah Thomas, the beautiful 16-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Thomas, respected and pioneer York county farmers, stepped out of her parents' house at about 8 o'clock Sunday evening and from that time, no trace of her whereabouts has been received. Her parents now give out a full statement of the circumstances of her disappearance in the hope that publicity may assist in unraveling the mystery.

Miss Thomas' description is given thus: Height, five feet four inches; weight, 115 pounds; grayish blue eyes, dark brown hair, round face, clear complexion. Miss Thomas was cheerful and contented with her home life, with loving parents, who did all they could for their daughter's happiness. What is supposed to have been the only unhappy event in the happy, contented life of the Thomases was when John Blair, a neighboring farmer, was arrested, charged with assault. Miss Thomas was the prosecuting witness when Blair is a married man with a family and high social position. Mr. Thomas in an interview said that one party came to him shortly after Blair's arrest, saying that he had been offered money to kidnap Miss Thomas and take her away so that she could not appear in the

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December term of court at the trial of Blair, who had been put under heavy bonds. For this reason Miss Thomas and her parents were ever on the lookout and took every precaution to prevent her being kidnaped. Within five minutes after Miss Thomas stepped out the door the parents followed, hoping to guard her, but were surprised at not finding her. A search was made and neighbors assisted. Then Dr. Fulton's dogs from Beatrice were brought, but they would not follow any trail. Farmers then organized in searching parties. Dogs were brought from Hamilton county. They traced from the door to a bridge west of the farm, where each time the dogs stopped, refusing to go farther. Those in charge of the dogs believe Miss Thomas was gagged and carried to this bridge, where a carriage was in waiting. "Was Miss Thomas murdered? Many believe she has met with foul play. Footprints of men's shoes near the Thomas home indicate a struggle, and the same footprints are near the bottom and side of the bridge. At one time feeling in Arborville township was intense toward Blair, but calmer judgment prevailed and an summary punishment was indulged. There is so far no evidence that Blair had anything to do with the kidnapping, and he denies the same.

Enjoins Extension of Time. PAPILION, Neb., Dec. 4.—(Special.)—An injunction has been served upon the county commissioners by County Attorney Patrick to prevent the commissioners from allowing the Sheely bridge builders an extension of time upon their contract to repair and build the bridges in Sarpy county. Sheely's claim that owing to their inability to obtain the necessary material from eastern houses they could not complete the contract inside the time limit. The contract had been extended three months by the commissioners, but Patrick, declaring this void, brought the matter before Judge Day, who issued a temporary injunction against the commissioners and Sheely.

Modern Woodmen Elected. CLARK, Neb., Dec. 4.—(Special.)—At the annual election of officers of Fidelity Camp, No. 1230, Modern Woodmen of America, held last evening, the following members were elected: U. S. Adams, V. C.; James Wolfe, W. A.; E. M. Wallace, clerk; George Campbell, banker; W. W. Ferguson, escort; John H. Cole, manager; Dr. Robinson and Dr. Little, physicians.

Hand Mashed in Grinder. BELLWOOD, Neb., Dec. 4.—(Special.)—A. J. This foreman as Supervisor A. J. Joseph was assisting in grinding corn for his cattle one of his hands was caught in the grinder and mashed into jelly up to the wrist. Surgical aid was summoned and now the patient is resting easily. After the accident members of the mashed hand were found strewn over the yard.

Mangled in Power Saw. NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., Dec. 4.—(Special.)—A. J. This foreman as Supervisor A. J. Joseph was today caught in the belt running to the engine and dragged into the saw. Both hands were badly torn and his forearm split open. The injuries will probably make him a cripple for life.

Damages for Injury. FLEMONT, Neb., Dec. 4.—(Special.)—William Schultz recovered judgment in the district court yesterday against the Fremont Brewing company for \$2,500. He sued the company for \$5,000, alleging that because of the negligence of the company in

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