

DECREASE IN MERCHANDISE

Assessed Valuation for State Over a Million Less Than Last Year.

OMAHA VALUATION NOT CHANGED

Insurance Department Issues Notice as to How to Operate in Nebraska Without a License.

Lincoln Staff Correspondent.

LINCOLN, Aug. 11.—(Special.)—The State Board of Equalization has completed the assessment of merchandise, making the total assessment of this class of property \$3,374,967, against an assessment of \$3,801,891 in 1907. The assessment in one county only was changed, Lancaster getting a 10 per cent reduction. The showing made by the delegation of Omaha business men yesterday prevented an increase in the assessment of that county, though Land Commissioner Eaton moved that it be increased 15 per cent. This was voted down. The board will finish its work within a few days.

Assessed Valuation.

Table with 3 columns: County, 1907, 1908. Lists counties from Adams to York with their assessed values for 1907 and 1908.

Total \$3,374,967, \$8,774,967. Treasurers Wanted. Guthrie Brothers of Superior have filed in application with the State Railway

commissioner for an order to compel the Burlington and Missouri Pacific to put in a transfer switch at that city. The board made such an order recently against the Burlington and Missouri Pacific at York, but the railroad promptly appealed to the courts and there the matter rests.

Writing Insurance Illegally.

John L. Pierce, insurance deputy, gave out the following statement: Information has just been received by the insurance department that agents are operating in Nebraska for the purpose of inducing the sale of life insurance policies in violation of the law. The agents are soliciting and securing life insurance risks in that institution.

The Exchange is an inter-branch institution somewhat of the character of the Lloyd's, where individuals, firms and corporations as subscribers mutually insure each other. As this concern refuses to give out sufficient information to the rating agency of its financial standing it is impossible to estimate intelligently whether its policies are desirable or not, but even if they were, the indemnity Exchange is not licensed to do business in Nebraska, and any agent who attempts to sell such policies here is unlawfully secured. In fact, its policies are made void by the statute.

For the protection of the companies and agents that have come to this office, the state tax department will prosecute any agent of or any company who attempts to sell such policies here as provided in a Nebraska when proper complaint is made.

Nebraska Looks Good.

"With corn selling for 70 cents in Nebraska in the middle of August—and in demand at that figure—the idle corn land in western Nebraska looks more valuable than it ever did before," says Labor Commissioner Ryder.

This bureau last December figured the corn crop of Nebraska as being worth \$72,851,495.51 at a bushel, the fair average price at that time. But the great bulk of the corn crop sold for much more than 43 cents. Some went at 60 to 65 cents, many thousands of bushels at 50 cents, and about all that was left at 40 cents was reached through 70 cents, or thereabouts.

Hayward's Friends Gratified.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., Aug. 11.—(Special.)—The recognition of Judge William H. Hayward by the republicans and his appointment as secretary of the national republican committee was highly pleasing to his many friends, irrespective of politics. In this city, Mr. Hayward is a bright young attorney and held in high esteem by every one here, where he was born and grew to manhood and has since made it his home.

Auburn Chautauqua Draws.

AUBURN, Neb., Aug. 11.—(Special.)—The second day of the Auburn chautauqua was one of the largest days the assembly has ever had. The occasion of this was the presence of the Innes band, which gave two concerts, one in the afternoon and one in the evening. Every day during the remaining days of the chautauqua promise to be a big day, as there is some excitement still on the program.

Beatrice Objects to Change.

BEATRICE, Neb., Aug. 11.—(Special Telegram.)—Many Beatrice people read with regret in The Bee today regarding the removal of Union Pacific headquarters from Beatrice to Marysville, Kan. The company employs about 150 men here and the Commercial club will do all in its power to prevent such a change.

Held for Bootlegging.

BEATRICE, Neb., Aug. 11.—(Special Telegram.)—Elmer Duncan pleaded guilty to three of the four counts in the complaint charging him with bootlegging. He was bound over to the district court in the sum of \$1,000, and in default of bail was remanded to jail.

Nebraska News Notes.

COLUMBUS—The Bryan club of this city held its first meeting last night. Judge I. L. Albert was the speaker.

Right of Council on Bids.

Exercise of Discretionary Powers. Pivot in Printing Case.

Whether or not the city council has the right to exercise discretionary powers in the printing contract for official printing was the principal point in dispute between the lawyers Tuesday morning in the mandamus suit of The Bee Publishing company to compel the city council to deliver the contract on the grounds that "The Bee" was the only paper submitting a legitimate bid.

The contention of Mr. Burnam for the city council and Mr. Stout for the World Publishing company was that The Bee's bid was opened at a meeting which was in fact an adjourned meeting of the council, and that only at the first regular meeting could a bid properly be received.

W. J. Connell for The Bee called attention to the fact that in the statute providing for the receiving of bids there is no stipulation that it must be a regular meeting and that it was purposely omitted to say that the delay of waiting until the first Tuesday in July could be avoided. Mr. Connell declared that the World-Herald had by its own carelessness neglected to send in a bid by 5 o'clock June 30 and therefore had no right to consideration as a bidder.

The argument of the defense in reply to this was that the World-Herald sent in a bid on July 1 and the action of the city clerk in refusing that bid on the ground that it was too late was wholly without authority and beyond his powers.

"The council only what condition a bid is legal and upon what conditions it shall be accepted or rejected."

In refuting the contention that the granting of the bids is entirely discretionary with the council, Mr. Connell said: "The city itself is in fact a competitor, as by the express provision of the charter a maximum is established beyond which a legitimate bid may not go. This provides for a standard of comparison for the council and it is not necessary, therefore, for more than one bid to be in consideration for the council to decide whether or not it is a fair and just bid. This provision of the charter requires a maximum price to be paid for printing, entirely destroys the discretionary powers of the council and gives this court authority to award the contract to The Bee for the printing of the city directory."

Judge Redick took the case under advisement until Saturday.

City Clerk Butler was put on the stand at the opening of court Monday afternoon for a direct examination, and was followed by Victor Rosewater, who was called by the plaintiff. Mr. Rosewater testified to the fact that the width of the columns of The Bee are one-half an inch wider than those of the World-Herald, and that in an equal number of lines that The Bee would contain one-twelfth more matter than would the World-Herald. He also testified briefly what occurred at a meeting of the council in session as a committee of the whole and of the evident intention to let the contract to the World-Herald had it not been for the motion of one member to refer the matter to the city attorney for an opinion.

G. M. Hitchcock, president of the World Publishing company, was then called by the defense. He stated that he drew up and sent to the city clerk the bid of his company for the official printing and that it was returned to him in the final envelope, sealed, the envelope was shown him and identified, but the witness did not state whether he or someone else broke the seal, but stated positively that the bid which was sent back to the council a week later was identical the same as sent to the clerk on July 1. Mr. Hitchcock was the only one who testified by the defense and the side rested upon the introduction of some documents as evidence.

Chief of Police Resigns. NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., Aug. 11.—(Special.)—Chief of Police Grant Yates has resigned and gone into the saloon business. Officer William Gunn has been promoted to the position as chief and William Meredith appointed to take his place.

Gas Company Gets Raise. BEATRICE, Neb., Aug. 11.—(Special Telegram.)—The Board of Equalization today raised the value of the gas company's property from \$5,000 to \$50,000. The board tied on a vote to raise the electric company's property. The board raised the valuation of a number of properties in Wymore in accordance with the recommendation of the city council, and left the value on many properties the same as returned by the assessor.

Fremont College Graduation. FREMONT, Neb., Aug. 11.—(Special.)—This week is commencement week at Fremont college and events incidental to the graduation of 279 students are claiming attention each day. This morning the graduation exercises of the department of pharmacy were held in the college auditorium with an illustrated lecture on "New Drugs."

FREMONT

The contract for the construction of a new brick high school at Fremont has been let to Woodward & Hooper, of Omaha, for the sum of \$110,000. The contract includes the construction of a new concrete dam and heating plant.

BEATRICE—The Blue Valley company at Holmesville is repairing a dam recently damaged by the floods. The company will now improve the plant by building a new concrete dam.

BEATRICE—A thunderstorm passed over this section at an early hour this morning. There was a heavy fall of rain, and the wind was accompanied by lightning. The moisture will be of inestimable value to the corn crop.

BEATRICE—A tract of 1200 acres of land located seven miles east of Beatrice, known as the Blodgett estate, was sold yesterday at referee's sale for \$5300 per acre to R. E. Blodgett, Miss Kittie F. Blodgett and Mrs. Anna M. Essex.

BEATRICE—Senator C. I. Aldrich of David City, Neb., who is making a bid for the office of congressman to succeed E. J. Campbell in the 11th congressional district, will probably visit several days in the county before returning home.

FULLERTON—Sunday was one of the best days ever to experience operations. Fullerton Northwestern yards for use in constructing a new steel bridge across the Platte river. Five miles in length. The work will now be pushed forward rapidly.

BEATRICE—Spill, a Beatrice pacing horse purchased some time ago by C. H. Dixon, has been doing some fine work. He was third in the 2:38 pace at Kalamazoo, Mich., the time of the heats being 2:02, 2:08.

COOK—The question of issuing \$100,000 in bonds for the purpose of building a new school building at Cook was voted upon and carried the vote standing 100 for and 2 against. The new building is to be located at the corner of 10th and 11th streets, and recently purchased just north of town.

GUIDE ROCK—Yesterday evening at 8 o'clock the funeral of the late Daniel Dickerson, aged 85 years. He died at the home of his son, Frank, with whom he had been residing for some time at Guide Rock. The funeral was held at the Methodist Episcopal church today at 2 o'clock.

ALBION—Yesterday was the banner day of the Albion chautauqua. The attendance is estimated at 3,000, and the weather was perfect. The program was well run from all directions, which brought in a large number of new patrons. A whole lot of chautauqua has been a success and will prove a money maker for the management.

ALBION—The Auburn chautauqua opened yesterday with a large crowd in attendance. The opening sermon was preached by Rev. H. H. Powell. In the afternoon Dr. H. H. Phillips delivered a lecture on "The Christian Church." In addition to this, the Rev. Phillips rendered several musical numbers, both vocal and instrumental.

TECUMSEH—General services were held at the Christian church over the body of the late Mrs. Flora Babcock, who died at her home in Tecumseh, Mo., on August 10. The funeral was held at her home in Tecumseh, Mo., on August 11, at 2 o'clock. The Rev. W. O. Babcock, arriving here by special train, officiated at the funeral.

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Shenandoah an Easy Winner. SHENANDOAH, Ia., Aug. 11.—(Special Telegram.)—The ball game between Shenandoah and Riverton resulted in 5 to 1 in favor of Shenandoah. No races on account of rain.

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Hot Weather. During hot summer weather men, women and children will drop down from sunstroke and heat prostration, if the constitution is weak.

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Duffy's Pure Malt Whiskey is an absolute pure distillation of malted grain; great care being used to have every kernel thoroughly malted, thus destroying the germ and producing a predigested liquid food in the form of a malt essence, which is the most effective tonic stimulant and invigorator known to science; softened by warmth and moisture, its palatability and freedom from injurious substances render it so that it can be retained by the most sensitive stomach.

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Mid-West Tennis Entries. Players from Various Places Are Sending in Their Names. Metz Cup Stimulates Interest. Arrangements for the Olympic Games Are Progressing Well. Guss Hense Being the Guide.

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The recent train will assist in making the course splendid and will also make the Field club more beautiful with its long stretches of green sward. The entertainment committee is still busy perfecting arrangements for the amusement of the visitors and some sort of entertainment has been planned for each evening.

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