

FUNNY THINGS ON ASSESSMENT ROLL

Peculiarities of Personal Tax Schedules in Nebraska Shown by State Reports.

BONDS AND BICYCLES DISAPPEAR

Annuitants Few and Amount Small on Tax Books.

NEBRASKA'S NAVY LOOMS UP BIG

Nearly Four Hundred Boats Ply on Waters of State.

FIREARMS, DIAMONDS AND CASH

Plenty of Cheap Guns, Few Gems and Only Little Money in Bank, According to Assessor Man.

Personal tax schedules in Nebraska, as in other states, are almost as peculiar as the heathen Chinese who was so popular that his innocent sleeve leaked winning hands.

Bonds for example, for a personal possession, have gone out of style, along with bicycles. On the assessment roll of the state for the year 1908 the total holdings of bonds listed was \$155,551; yet in the simple popular mind some men are credited with having a tight hold on wads of government and other bonds big enough to choke a double barn door.

One county rolling in bonds, comparatively, with \$3,000 worth, in Douglas county some frank and open taxpayers confessed to having bonds to the amount of \$3,200, while Lancaster the bondholders got quite chummy and felt only a trifle short of doubling that amount, turning in \$1,000 worth of the real thing. Seward county bondholders can show \$10,000 worth, but the Scott's Bluff county thirty ones are only a little behind, with \$8,900 worth. At first thought Scott's Bluff county wouldn't be considered in the same class with Douglas and Seward; but irrigation, and perhaps some old-fashioned conscience, brings the way-out border county up front.

Cass County Owns None

Richardson county confessed to \$7,240 of bonds, and Hamilton to \$6,000, while Douglas county men hold only \$1,700 and the "Kingdom of Gage" is rather poor, with \$2,800 worth. Platte county, rich and fat, doesn't run to bonds, only \$753 worth being held in its confines; and prolific York has invested in not quite \$3,000 worth. Cass county folks own no bonds, that they pay taxes on, at the same time, one of the residents of Merrick, though both are bicycle-owning counties. Some people in Furnas county list a bunch of bonds, probably of the "come-on" variety, at \$8, but in Nemaha, great for wealth, only \$4 worth could be found.

All 4 or even 5 per cent per annum the interest on the "best" kind of all Nebraska, as returned for taxation, wouldn't pay for one blow-out of a group of brewers at a Broadway cafe.

Annuitants Are Light

Annuitants are paid in Nebraska to the amount of \$10,675 a year. The highest amount goes to Antelope county, \$1,500. Boone annuitants total \$1,124. Saunders, \$1,109; Bart, \$1,080, while in Douglas the annuitants drawn amount to but \$1,020. In Lancaster, apparently, the measly sum of \$50 is paid in annuities. Considering the development of the annuity feature in insurance and the popularity of that form of investment with people of careful habits, the showing of the state is rather discouraging—from the standpoint of taxation.

Bicycles Vanish

Bicycles have fallen into disuse in a wonderful way, taking the tax roll as a measure of their popularity. In a population of probably 120,000 there are but 5,700 owning these machines. Lancaster has 142, Buffalo, 322; Douglas, 285; Merrick, 267; Gage, 213. All other counties fell below the 100 mark except Dodge with 123 and Hamilton with 110. Nine bicycles in Sherman county are valued at \$27.77 each, while the 205 in Merrick get on the tax roll at an average value of \$4 cents, and the thirty-four in Richardson county \$17 cents. Hamilton county bikes carry an average value of \$22.90. Gage, \$18.99; Franklin, \$12.11; Douglas, \$8.29; Lancaster, \$8.20, and Garfield's four, \$1 each.

Boats Are Proliferant

Nebraska boasts quite a navy, for an inland state, being able to muster 385 boats in all that may be called seaworthy. Douglas, as the most likely center of conflict, has a fleet of 50, big and little craft. They are listed at an average value of \$2.30, but the twenty-three boats in the Lancaster county fleet are put in the Dreadnought class, with an average value of \$28.82, and Otter's fleet of nine ships are given a rating almost as high, \$24.44 each. Cherry county's fleet of twenty barges and fish chasers are not regarded as very efficient, being valued at only \$2.35 each, but the one ship flying the flag of the principality of Merrick is rated at \$0, and Knex can put into service eight boats with the highest value of all, \$56 each. Saunders also has a high opinion of its sailing craft, rating them at \$41 each. Out along the coast line a very few ships are scattered here and there. During a consultation now in progress Admiral Shallenbarger and his fleet captains will review the Nebraska navy, with a view to a more thorough listing of its strength and value.

Shooting Irons Are Scarce

For the land forces there are enough firearms listed to in some fashion equip thirty-seven regiments of 1,000 men each. They are valued at \$53,342 for the whole number. No county is entirely unarmed, although Pawnee does not make return of the number of weapons on hand, simply stating it has 00 worth. Custer counts 1,333 guns of all calibers, carried on the rolls at an average value of \$1.24; Lancaster is second in efficiency, with 1,128 pieces of artillery, at an average valuation of \$1.81, while Douglas has on hand 401 weapons, valued at \$1.81 each. At different times rumors have been circulated to the effect that certain martial men of high standing as marksmen possessed weapons of exceeding merit, valued at several hundred dollars each. However, it appears such statements were mere idle boasts. No weapon of any greater value than \$2.34 is carried on the state rolls, and that figure is reached only in Antelope county. In McPherson the

Haskell Loses Point in Land Fraud Cases

Court Practically Sustains Charge of Fraud by Overruling Motion in Civil Suit.

MUSKOGEE, Okl., May 8.—Federal Judge Campbell here today overruled the demurrers of the defendants in the so-called Mott Creek Indian land suits, brought by the government against Governor Charles N. Haskell and other prominent Oklahomans.

The decision, involving as it does the legality of millions of dollars' worth of lots, created great consternation here. Not only is Governor Haskell and associates involved in the charge of fraud, but about 1,500 subsequent purchasers of lots are vitally interested. Judge Campbell announced, however, that all innocent purchasers would be protected.

These suits were brought by the United States government for the Creek Indian nation to recover for the tribe Muskogee town lots aggregating 3,000 acres of land and alleged to have been obtained by Governor Haskell and the other defendants by the fraudulent scheduling of "dummies." Judge Campbell overruled the demurrers of the defendants to the petition of the government, practically deciding the cases for the merits against the defendants, on the allegation that they obtained the lots by fraud.

Out of these civil suits grew the criminal prosecution against the governor and six others for which they were once indicted. These indictments were quashed at Tulsa recently, but a second grand jury has been called to meet in that city on Monday next to re-investigate the charges.

TULSA, Okl., May 8.—It was announced here today that Judge John A. Marshall of Utah will preside over the grand jury investigation into the Muskogee town lot frauds, involving Governor Haskell and others. The cases will be taken up in the federal court here Monday next.

Million Dollar Robbery Foiled

Clerk in Russian Bank Hears Sound of Excavating and Discloses Plot.

GORI, Russia, May 8.—A daring plan to rob the treasury of Gori, in which \$1,000,000 is kept, was discovered last evening. The scheme of the criminals, five men and a woman, was to dig a tunnel into the building from the outside. They had progressed a distance of 300 feet and had reached a point directly below the ceiling when a bookkeeper heard sounds of excavating and summoned the police to investigate, with the result that all six were captured. It seemed the criminals relaxed their precautions owing to the fact that yesterday was a holiday. This was the second similar attempt to rob this treasury.

This Town Will Have Sane Fourth

Business Men Join with Ministers to Observe Natal Day with Religious Services.

JOWA FALLS, Ia., May 8.—It has remained for the citizens of Radcliffe in this county to become the pioneers in the matter of a real sane and patriotic Fourth of July. As the fourth falls on Sunday, this year, the citizens of the town have decided to celebrate the national birthday on that day. The business men will co-operate with the ministers and other people of the town in arranging a program that will be at once sane and patriotic and wholly in keeping with the birthday of the nation and the Sabbath. This is, so far as the nation, the first town in the state to announce such a celebration of the anniversary.

WALKER IN COAST HOSPITAL

Governor of Guam, on Way to Washington, Has Severe Nervous Attack.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., May 8.—Lieutenant Commander James E. Walker, United States Navy, who left San Francisco two weeks ago for Washington, D. C., is suffering from a severe attack of nervous trouble at the Pacific hospital here. Walker registered at a prominent hotel April 25 and had apparently been in the best of health up to the early part of this week. On Tuesday he became quite ill and was removed to the hospital here, where the doctors say he will probably have to stay for several days. Lieutenant Walker will be on his way to Washington from Agaña, Guam, where he succeeded Commander Taussig as territorial governor some months ago.

AKINS ST. LOUIS POSTMASTER

President Taft Appoints Treasury Official as Successor of Mr. Wyman.

WASHINGTON, May 8.—President Taft today appointed Thomas J. Akins as postmaster at St. Louis, Mo., to succeed Mr. Wyman. Mr. Akins is assistant treasurer of the United States at St. Louis.

Dr. Connell Tells How to Make Omaha a Flyless Town

No flies on Omaha. This will be a literal fact and not a mere figure of speech if the efforts of Health Commissioner Connell meet with that measure of success which he hopes will result from orders he has given his seven inspectors.

"Fly cops" is the name the health commissioner has given his inspectors and he has enjoined all of them to "cop" out the flies on all occasions and to look upon the insects as special emissaries of disease and therefore chief among their enemies.

PARIS MENACED BY BIG STRIKE

Government and State Employees Are Marshaling Forces for the Impending Struggle.

CITY BECOMES ARMED CAMP

Soldiers and Police Guard Post and Telegraph Stations.

CLEMENCEAU IS STILL SICK

Premier Says He Will Resign Before He Will Make Terms.

TERROR TERMS USED BY MEN

Manifestos Declare They Are Martyrs to Liberty Going to Executions—Railroad Employees May Support Them.

PARIS, May 8.—Both the government and the state employees, including the men of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs, are today rapidly marshaling their forces for the impending struggle.

Premier Clemenceau is still confined to his room by sickness, but he is in constant communication with his colleagues and declares he will resign rather than make terms.

Troops and special police reserve were disposed this morning to guard the central post and telegraph station, the switchboard machinery, and the exposed lines leading to the provinces.

M. Barthelemy, the minister of public works, is of the opinion that a considerable proportion of the state employees will stick to their posts, and that with the aid of soldiers and the co-operation of the Chambers of Commerce and the Hotel Keepers' associations, who are organizing auxiliary forces, the public services will be maintained. One hundred thousand carrier pigeons, trained for war service, have been placed at the disposal of the government.

Revolutionary Tone in Manifestos. The strike committee of the postal employees ridicules the measures adopted by the government and promises big surprises. It is understood the committee does not intend to declare a strike until Tuesday in order to give Parliament, which will re-assemble on Monday, a chance to intervene in the employees' favor. The committee's manifestos, which are couched in the phraseology of revolution, read as if the postmen were martyrs to liberty. For instance, in announcing the refusal of seven postmen to appear before the council of discipline today on the ground that to comply would be an interference with their liberty, these men are described as "going to the execution in 'charrettes,' a term employed in the day and the boulevard to describe the carriages which conveyed the victims of the revolutionary tribunal to the guillotine.

Many of the groups of railroad men in the provinces have voted sympathy with the postmen and announced their support of the resolution of the railroad workers' congress to go on strike if Parliament does not vote a pension bill.

In the meantime, notwithstanding the excitement and the apparent approach of a crisis, Paris is as gay as ever. The social season is at its height, and the boulevards are filled with pleasure seeking crowds. One newspaper describes the situation as follows: "We are standing over a volcano, but Paris, as usual, only amuses itself."

Match Coins in Suicide Pact

Bodies of Man and Woman Are Found in Room at St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, May 8.—The bodies of Mrs. Anna Reed, aged 30, and Joseph Baker, aged 35, were found in a room here today. Both had been shot through the head, evidently the result of a suicide pact. Employees of a restaurant formerly kept by Baker told the police that they had frequently seen the couple match coins to determine which should kill the other before committing suicide. Baker formerly was a county officer at Flat River, Mo. The woman's husband was sought.

LIMA, O., May 8.—The suicide pact existed between them is the belief of Mrs. William Reeves, who found her daughter, Bella and Ralph Higginbotham of Toledo hanging suspended by the same rope from a rafter in the girl's bedroom today. Neither will die. Higginbotham is an employee of a shipbuilding company.

Dr. Benjamin Bauman, READING, Pa., May 8.—Rev. Dr. Benjamin Bauman, one of the most widely known ministers of the Reformed church in the United States, died today, aged 85 years. Dr. Bauman was for years a trustee of Franklin and Marshall colleges.

Senora Castro in Spain. SANTANDER, Spain, May 8.—Senora Castro, wife of the deceased president of Venezuela, arrived here today on the steamer Guadalupe from the West Indies. She was met by her husband, who came down from Paris.

Major Slaughter survived by his wife, four daughters and two sons. His children are Mrs. Webb Wheeler of Washington, D. C.; Mrs. Amelia Gilmore of Omaha; Mrs. Grace Lottridge of Omaha and Mrs. Grace Gamble, now studying music in Paris, France. His sons are Denton Slaughter of Boise, Ids., and Samuel D. Slaughter, student of the University of Nebraska.

Stables to clean up their premises daily or to provide light-fitting boxes which can not be entered by flies.

Out on West Douglas street a teamster with several head of stock has his stable where swarms of flies become a pest and menace to neighbors and Dr. Connell will have this place watched with special care.

Dr. Connell is also of the opinion that householders should put up their door and window screens now without delay. He says that the few flies now to be seen are busily engaged in laying eggs and the best way to keep them from depositing these in the houses is to keep them out in the first place.

"Keep the stables clean, garbage cans tight, screens on all doors and windows, and Omaha will be a flyless town," said the health commissioner.

Can Mahomet Go to the Mountain?



From the Philadelphia Inquirer.

BRAD D. SLAUGHTER DEAD

Paymaster in Army Here Dies of Heart Disease.

MILITARY AND MASONIC FUNERAL

Prominent in Both Circles and Active in Political Affairs of Nebraska for Long Term of Years.

Major Bradner D. Slaughter died at his home, 2022 Wirt street, at 3:30 Saturday afternoon after an illness of heart trouble of about three weeks' duration. The funeral probably will be held Monday, with interment at Forest Lawn cemetery. The funeral probably will be both Masonic and military, but complete arrangements will not be made until this morning.

Major Slaughter was born in New York, November 12, 1849. He came to Nebraska in the early '70s and was more or less identified with the political history of the state from that time up to his appointment to the United States army in 1899.

His first employment in Nebraska was as a solicitor for the State Journal company of Lincoln. In 1873 he removed to Nance county, settling in Fullerton. Prior to his removal to Fullerton he was united in marriage to Miss Ada Dorsey, who with four daughters and two sons survive him.

Long Time a Mason. Major Slaughter became identified with the Masonic fraternity in his first years in Nebraska and was grand master of the grand lodge of Nebraska Masons from June 19, 1901, to June 17, 1902. He was also a member of the Nebraska Veterans' association.

In the later '70s he was reading clerk in the Nebraska house of representatives and was chief clerk of the house of representatives in 1884, 1885 and 1888. He was made chairman of the state republican committee in 1888.

He was appointed United States marshal for the district of Nebraska in 1889 and after serving four years was succeeded by Francis E. White.

He served for one term as grand master of the Masonic fraternity of Nebraska. His military career began in 1899, when on February 2 of that year he was appointed to a second lieutenantancy in the Second United States Volunteer Infantry. He was discharged upon the abolition of the volunteer establishment in March, 1907, and has been acting chief paymaster of the department for over a year in the temporary absence of Chief Paymaster Major H. B. Lord at Washington.

Major Slaughter is survived by his wife, four daughters and two sons. His children are Mrs. Webb Wheeler of Washington, D. C.; Mrs. Amelia Gilmore of Omaha; Mrs. Grace Lottridge of Omaha and Mrs. Grace Gamble, now studying music in Paris, France. His sons are Denton Slaughter of Boise, Ids., and Samuel D. Slaughter, student of the University of Nebraska.

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Patten on His Way to Chicago

Wheat King Leaves Trinidad Improved in Health and Traveling Under Assumed Name.

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TRINIDAD, Colo., May 8.—Refreshed from two weeks hunting and fishing in the northern New Mexico hills, unburned and apparently greatly improved physically, James A. Patten, the Chicago wheat operator, is today speeding toward Chicago over the Santa Fe railway. This was confirmed today. He is due to arrive in Chicago tomorrow morning.

Mr. Patten reached Trinidad at 5:45 last night from the Bartlett ranch near Vermojo Springs, and went to a hotel, where he rested quietly until train time. He registered as "Ed Jones, Chicago," and took every precaution to keep his identity from the press, pledging the hotel employes and also the trainmen to secrecy.

Mr. Patten took Santa Fe train No. 2 for the east, leaving here at 7:45 p. m. He is due at Kansas City at 4:30 this afternoon.

CHICAGO, May 8.—Beate on the Board of Trade, encouraged by favorable weather for the wheat crop and attaching no importance to the fact that James A. Patten, the bull leader, is speeding back here after his vacation, took another drive at the market today. July wheat closed 3c lower at \$1.14 1/2, and December 25c down at \$1.05 1/2 and December with a like loss at \$1.05 1/2.

Roosevelt Party Reported Well

Expedition Still in Camp at Peace Ranch—May Move Next Week.

NAIROBI, British East Africa, May 8.—The Roosevelt expedition is still in camp on the ranch of Sir Alfred Pease, at a point near Machakos. All the members of the party are well. It is reported that two more cases of smallpox have been discovered among the porters of the expedition.

Mr. Roosevelt will proceed to George McMillan's Ju Ja ranch some time between May 18 and May 20. He will be accompanied by P. H. Percival, a brother of Major Percival, one of the assistant game wardens, and C. D. Hill, a settler.

WANTS TO DIVORCE STAR

"Queen of Moulin Rouge," Former Church Societ, Defendant in Suit.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., May 8.—Sue for divorce from Bertha Mills of New York, star of "The Queen of the Moulin Rouge," company, was filed here today by Frank J. Dancy, her husband, a railroad man of Los Angeles. Desertion is the charge. Mrs. Dancy was formerly soloist in a fashionable church here.

Ice Damages Steamer. ST. JOHNS, N. F., May 7.—The steamer Lake Champlain, bound from Liverpool to Montreal, put in here today, leaking from a hole stove in its bow by heavy ice off Cape Race yesterday. There are about 1,600 passengers on board.

ILLINOIS WINS FIRST PLACE

Iowa Fourth in List at Interstate Oratorical Contest at Cedar Falls.

CEDAR FALLS, Ia., May 8.—(Special.)—At the Interstate Oratorical contest, which took place last evening at State Teachers' college here, the judges gave first place to Illinois, second to Wisconsin, third to Kansas and fourth to Iowa. Missouri is the other state in the league.

CHINESE CROSS BORDER HID IN DINING CAR ICECHEST

CHICAGO, May 8.—In connection with the arrest at El Paso, Tex., of three members of a dining car crew charged with assisting in the smuggling of Chinese into this country, United States District Attorney Sims stated today that between 20 and 30 celestials had been brought from El Paso concealed in a dining car. "Two Chinese a week were brought to Chicago," said Mr. Sims.

"One crowd smuggled the celestials across the border where they were turned over to the dining car crew. This car made one trip a week and on each trip carried two of the illegal passengers, one concealed in the ice chest and the others in a linen press. At Chicago another set of conspirators composed of Chicago Chinese took charge of the importations. "The smugglers were paid \$400 or \$500 by each Chinaman brought in, and of this,

CUDAHY EXPERTS MAKE PLEA

Head of the Big Packing Concern is Now in Washington.

ASKS REMISSION OF HEAVY FINE

Penalty for Alleged Coloring of Oleomargarine and Affixing Wrong Stamps Involves Possible Imprisonment and Fine.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 8.—Earnest efforts to get clear of the government's clutches for alleged violations of the oleomargarine law are being made by the Cudahy packing company. Friday there arrived in Washington a number of attorneys and experts of that concern headed by Michael Cudahy, one of the elder members of the firm.

On Monday Mr. Cudahy and his assistants will meet the secretary of the treasury to tell why they think the oleomargarine tax of \$2,700 which the company recently paid to the collector of internal revenue should be returned.

In the department of justice, the Cudahy people will also make a plea for immunity from that part of the oleomargarine law which calls for a fine and imprisonment for having affixed improper revenue stamps to their imitation butter product.

Among treasury department officials the Cudahy are looked upon as being in a rather serious plight. If it can be proved that they put artificial coloring matter in the oleomargarine and affixed one-fourth to one cent revenue stamps to the packages instead of stamps denoting a tax of 10 cents a pound they are hardly likely to get any of their \$2,700 back from the government, nor are they likely to escape trial on the indictments which the grand jury at Topeka found against them.

The Cudahy company, however, apparently is taking a hopeful view of the matter, as it is reported that they hope to compromise the whole case for a matter of about \$5,000, probably as being in the rather serious plight. If it can be proved that they put artificial coloring matter in the oleomargarine and affixed one-fourth to one cent revenue stamps to the packages instead of stamps denoting a tax of 10 cents a pound they are hardly likely to get any of their \$2,700 back from the government, nor are they likely to escape trial on the indictments which the grand jury at Topeka found against them.

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BURKETT AND ALDRICH TILT

Lively Exchange Between Nebraska Senator and Chairman of Finance Committee.

DRAFTING OF BILL CRITICISED

Senators and Public Given No Information by Senate Committee.

ALLEGES STAR CHAMBER METHOD