

Nebraska

THINKS NEBRASKA HAS GAS

Dr. G. E. Condra Believes Land Near Fairbury the Place. RESULT OF INVESTIGATION THERE University Professors Make Tests and Give This Location as Most Probable for Conducting Drilling Operations.

(From a Staff Correspondent.) LINCOLN, March 10.—(Special.)—That there is really gas which may some day be of workable value in the shale near Fairbury is the opinion of Dr. George E. Condra, who has been conducting an investigation in this vicinity for some time past.

Interest in this proposition has been increased lately by a bill in the house of representatives appropriating \$5,000 for thorough research there. The territory involved has been surveyed previously by Dr. Condra and when the conservation commission ordered that the ground be inspected still further he sent Prof. N. E. Bengtson. The latter collected samples and brought them to the university, where tests were made, which resulted very satisfactorily to the investigators.

BEATRICE—The clothing and furnishing firm of Shiloh & Shields has been dissolved by mutual consent. E. A. Shields is retiring from the business. The deal was made Thursday, Jacob Goil, Jr., has purchased the business interest. FAIRBURY—James H. Scott was taken to Bayard, Ia., Thursday where he will make his home with his parents, Mrs. E. H. Hinzman on East Fourth street and will live there temporarily until Mr. Scott's new home here is completed.

BEATRICE—The coroner's jury yesterday investigated the circumstances surrounding the death of George Heimstader, who was killed near De Witt Wednesday by the discharge of a shotgun. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death. The funeral was held today at De Witt.

CENTRAL CITY—A men's club has been organized here with about twenty members. A large room has been secured over the Lyric theater, two fine billiard tables, considerable pool equipment and reading table installed. Everett Myers and A. A. Hastings are the organizers of the club.

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TAFT ENDORSES CONGRESS' WORK

(Continued from First Page.) poor practically limit our representatives abroad to millionaires. "The congress has passed the so-called Appalachian forest reserve bill authorizing experimental forestation on a large scale and the expenditure of \$2,000,000 a year for this purpose.

"The same congress has made a provision by which we can raise 3 per cent bonds to pay for the Panama canal and this without disturbing the values of bonds already issued and driving down the price of such bonds to less than par. This was made possible only by the votes of conservative southern congressmen with sound financial ideas.

"There is no better evidence of the business solidity of the south than its representatives voting wisely on financial legislation. This augurs well for the result of the deliberations of the monetary commission, which consists in its membership of so many prominent southern representatives and senators.

"In the same session the officers of the line of the army were increased by 30, the quartermasters by thirty and the engineers by sixty—a very wise provision, enabling the government to furnish instructions to the militia regiments in each state and enable the engineers' corps of the army much more efficiently and promptly to carry out the river and harbor improvement to which the country is now directing so much attention.

"The naval bill the strength of our navy is increased by two battlehips, two colliers, eight torpedo boat destroyers, four submarine torpedo boats, two gunboats and two seagoing ships. This is in accord with the plan adopted some years ago and if the rate is maintained we shall have a navy commensurate with the dignity of the country and able to resist possible attack.

"The same congress has provided for the fortification of the Panama canal. The canal was built partly for commercial purposes and partly for defensive purposes, so that the effectiveness of our navy might be doubled in that it could be quickly transferred from the Atlantic to the Pacific seaboard and vice versa.

"A great disappointment of the session was the final defeat of the permanent tariff board of five to be appointed by the president, whose duty it should be to acquire through impartial investigation all possible information as to the cost of production of articles at home and abroad, and all other facts relevant to the fixing of the tariff. While this bill failed, however, provision was made by appropriation of the sundry civil bill for the organization of a board which it had already created to make the same kind of investigation and to accumulate the same kind of information.

"With this board, as long as the annual appropriations are made, I hope to secure substantially the same benefits that we would have had if the permanent tariff board bill had become a law. But by demonstrating its usefulness we may be able to induce the incoming congress to make the commission permanent by enacting the bill which was defeated.

Wool Schedule Next. "The sundry civil bill, in which an appropriation was provided, directed that the new tariff board if established should devote its attention first to wool and woolen schedule—schedule 'K'—as it is called in the Payne tariff bill, a schedule that has not been changed for thirty years and make its report December 1, next.

"In the same sundry civil bill there is the same continuing appropriation for the development of an investigation which, it is hoped, will lead to increased efficiency and economy in the administration of the government.

"In the Postoffice department the machinery of the postal saving bank has been started and plans for the betterment of the postoffice are well begun and will inure to the benefit of the people-at-large and aid the fiscal operators of the government.

"In the somewhat acrimonious disputes over the question whether magazines are paying too little for second-class mail matter a solution has been found in the appointment of a commission of three—two of whom are to be members of the court to examine the evidence and report to congress.

Japanese Treaty Most Important. "Finally, and the most important thing done, was the ratification of the treaty with Japan. The old treaty was to expire in less than a year. It contained a clause with reference to a limit upon immigration which offended the sensibilities of the people. The new treaty omits this clause, but goes into effect under conditions that make certain a continuance of the present status under which Japan itself is limiting the immigration of its people into this country, and all this without the enforcing of any restrictions on our part.

"After the ratification of the treaty our neighbors on the Pacific, we are enabled to maintain an important national policy.

"Of course, the greatest disappointment of the session was the failure of the senate to ratify the agreement with Canada. Under this agreement the duties on the importation of agricultural products, including cereals, vegetables, fruits and live cattle, from each country into the other are abolished and free trade in them is established. In addition, there also is free trade in fish and in rough lumber, while there are substantial reductions in iron ore, coal, meat, flour and all secondary food products and upon a substantial range of manufactures.

Offer General Free Trade. "When we entered upon the negotiations I authorized the secretary of state and his commissioners to offer free trade in everything, but this Canada could not grant us, because it has a protective system and was afraid of the competition of our better-organized industries.

"The south is particularly interested in the fact that vegetables and cottonseed oil are put on the free list by the removal of the high duties. But I do not ask your support on the ground of any local advantage. I ask it because I regard this treaty, if adopted, as the beginning of a new relation with our rapidly growing neighbor at the north and ourselves, which will insure greatly to the benefit of both. The conditions under which agriculture and manufactures are carried on in both countries are substantially the same and the removal of the duties provides for in this agreement, or indeed, the removal of all duties between the two countries, if we could have it, would violate no principle that either a reasonable protectionist, or a reasonable tariff reformer upholds.

"Under my promise to use my utmost efforts to secure the ratification of this agreement I have felt it my duty upon the failure of the senate to act to call an extra session for the purpose of securing the ratification of the agreement. My opinion is that a majority of both houses, disregarding party lines, will seize a great national opportunity and promptly the agreement before proceeding to other business if it be deemed wise or necessary to proceed to other business.

"I feel confident that a test of six months

Half-Minute Store Talk

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The whole night was occupied with the discussion of the land clauses of the budget and the debate was the most bitter that has been heard in the lower chamber in ten years.

Taunts and insults were hurled fast and furiously, anger flared up dangerously and at one moment a riot was threatened when in the midst of an excited demonstration on the part of Nationalists, Captain James Craig, Unionist member for the east division of Down, sprang to his feet and addressing the chairman remarked that if the presiding officer would give the word, the opposition would gladly throw the whole nationalist party out of the house.

This remark drew a hurricane of angry shouts from the Irish bench and it was some time before the chairman was able to restore order.

The scene concluded one of the night in 1907, when the police were called in to make the Nationalists behave themselves.

Home Secretary Churchill stood in the breach for the government in the absence of Premier Asquith, who had been called to Switzerland by the illness of his daughter, Elizabeth, and of Chancellor Lloyd-George, whose health makes it impossible for him to take part in an ordinary debate.

The home secretary and the leaders of the opposition exchanged caustic remarks that were frequently personal and several times the secretary was called to order by the chair. Frequently the government leader resorted to closure, but the discussion was continued until the participants were fairly worn out.

Hundred One Years Old. ESTHERVILLE, Ia., March 10.—(Special.)—Mrs. Elizabeth Littlejohn, probably the oldest woman in Iowa, died yesterday at the home of her grand daughter, Mrs. G. W. Small, at the advanced age of 101 years and 26 days. Old age was primarily the cause of her death, but the direct cause was a severe cold. Her physical faculties up to the time of her death were exceptionally good for a woman of her age, the only visible sign of her great age was a slight dimness of vision. Mrs. Littlejohn was born in Scotland on February 12, 1810. She was married June 1, 1844 to Hugh Littlejohn and to this union three children were born, none of whom are now living. The first settlement made by this little family was at Grady county, Illinois, where August 15, 1860, her husband died, and in February, 1861, she came to Estherville to live with her granddaughter.

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Broken Bow Will Vote on Railroad Subsidy

Proposition to Bond Township for \$50,000 to Aid Tryon & Gandy Railroad.

BROKEN BOW, Neb., March 10.—(Special.)—The new railroad project is assuming a tangible shape and it begins to look as though there was something more substantial to it than the talk and the posting of extra bulletins. There is no question as to the sincerity of the people in wanting the road to touch at Broken Bow, and at the last meeting held here this week the enthusiasm was greater than ever. Many representatives from the Arnold, Tryon and Gandy districts were present and addressed the meeting. They were all unanimously in favor of the road coming to Broken Bow and seem unwilling that the present proposed course should be altered in any way so as to exclude the town. There is now serious talk of disincorporating the township for the purpose of soliciting money for the new road.

WETS AND DRYS MAY UNITE AGAINST THE SOCIALISTS

Municipal Campaign in Fairbury is Developing Some Unusual Features.

FAIRBURY, Neb., March 10.—(Special.)—The high license party held a caucus this week and appointed a committee to confer with the prohibition committee regarding the advisability of compromising upon a single ticket to be placed in the field and make the issue of "saloons" or no saloons to be decided regardless of party. This action seems to be a movement to consolidate the ticket so as to prevent any possibility of the socialists electing any of their ticket. There is a bitter feeling existing among the wet and dryers of Fairbury against the socialist element and it is quite likely that this will be the final outcome.

NEBRASKA NEWS NOTES.

PERU.—Dr. Wenzel F. Stewart, a noted divine from Brooklyn, is assisting a series of meetings at the Methodist Episcopal church.

BLUE HILL.—C. F. Bixby was re-elected superintendent of the Blue Hill schools for the year beginning September 1, 1911, at a salary of \$1,200.

BEATRICE.—Henry Clinton Gray and Mrs. Roxie O. Mattoon, both of Wymora, were married yesterday by Judge Wymora. They will make their home on Farm No. 1 near that place.

ALMA.—Charles Nelson lost his barn and

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