

OPPOSED TO PLAN OF BURLESON IN TELEPHONE CASE

State Railway Commission Would Take Control of Telephone Companies From Postmaster General.

From a Staff Correspondent. Lincoln, Jan. 18.—The Nebraska State Railway commission wants to see the telephone companies jerked back out of Postmaster General Burleson's hands as quickly as possible.

The commission is diametrically opposed to Burleson's program of federal telephone control on the ground that he entered compensation contracts without an audit of the company's accounts, increased existing rates without investigation and conducted the business without giving the public a chance to be heard.

The commission has instructed C. E. Elmquist of Washington, representative of the National Association of Railway Commissioners to appear before the house postoffice committee and present its views in the hearing which is being held on the Moon resolution to extend the period of government control of wire systems after the treaty of peace.

Here is the commission's instructions to Elmquist: "Kindly express to house committee on postoffices and post roads our position on Moon resolution extending period of government control or purchase of wire systems as follows: We favor termination by congress as soon as possible of federal control and operation of the telephone systems for the following reasons: The postmaster general has entered into compensation contracts with telephone companies without making any audit of their books of surveys of their properties. The postmaster general has increased existing charges and has made new charges for service without substantial investigation of their necessity and practicability. The postmaster general has conducted the telephone business without affording the public an opportunity to be heard."

Big Force of Workers Engaged in Methodist Centenary Drive



From left to right—Front row: Miss Marie Rackley, stenographer; Miss Sayde Neely, stenographer; Miss Hess McMullen, organization secretary; Miss Katherine Howell, secretary to Dr. Isham; Mrs. H. C. Stuntz, office secretary. Rear row: C. N. Garland, minute man secretary; C. C. Cissell, district superintendent; W. G. Babcock, publicity secretary; C. W. Isham, executive secretary; F. D. Empey, assistant executive secretary; H. P. Hunter, literature secretary.

Up in the City National Bank building, among lawyers and doctors and lumbermen and real estate and insurance men, is a suite of rooms where more things happen to the square inch, and in the round hour than in almost any other part of the skyscraper. It is the headquarters of the Missionary Centenary of the Methodist church for the Omaha area, which includes the states of Nebraska and Iowa.

The missionary centenary is a recent movement undertaken by the Methodist church for the purpose of readjusting itself to new world conditions and putting itself on a basis of greater efficiency for doing its work. Accurate and systematic surveys have been taken to ascertain the needs of every field, and a definite program mapped out for meeting these needs.

NEBRASKA MEN HEAR SWAN SONG OF 127TH BAND

Men Visibly Affected as Musicians, Under Leadership of Omaha Man, Give Last Concert at Dodge.

Camp Dodge, Ia., Jan. 19.—(Special.)—The band of the 127th field artillery, formerly the Fourth Nebraska band, under the leadership of Lieut. J. F. Fiala of Omaha, played its swan song this afternoon as it was its last concert as a military organization.

Members of the band as well as doughboys of the whole regiment of former Nebraska Guardsmen were visibly affected as the last notes died away, when the realization came that they were to part with those strains which had cheered them since the Mexican border days.

This concert, in the regimental area, was the only high point in the second day spent by these lads on their return to the middlewest. But sentiment at parting with those comrades of months was mingled with the joy of hearing officially that their discharges would be handed them Wednesday, and that by Thursday night practically every one would be home.

Battery A, of this 127th is an all Nebraska outfit. There are 89 men in it, from all parts of the state, with a goodly share from Omaha.

One of these is Corp. Louis Greenhagen, who gave his address as Twenty-ninth and Martha streets, Omaha, one of four brothers in the service, two of whom are still in France.

There are a number of more or less noted Nebraska men in this battery, among them being Sergt. C. C. Weigel, who holds many basketball championship medals and Quartermaster Sergeant Bernard A. Hageman, who was president of the amateur base ball players' association in 1916.

American Casualty List

The following Iowa, South Dakota and Wyoming men are named in the casualty list sent out by the government for Monday morning, January 20:

DIED OF DISEASE. Sergt. Joseph Jones, Eldridgeville, Ia. Gen. G. Strange, Madrid, Ia.

Twenty-seventh was stationed during their heavy artillery training. And while all this was going on, a youth from Decatur sat in the sun, with his tin hat perched on his head, awaiting the "camouflage paint" to dry on it. He had acquired paint from some place and, dividing the top of the derby into a checker-board squares, he proceeded to make it much like the old-fashioned patch work quilt.

On the suggestion that such vivid array of paint would be a good target for enemy snipers, he replied, "Yes, but what the hell, there ain't no war now." And he was serious about it.

Industrial Unrest Is Causing Anxiety in Great Britain

London, Jan. 19.—The industrial unrest prevalent throughout the country is causing serious anxiety, not only to large employers of labor, but even to conservative labor leaders. The labor leaders taking this attitude include J. H. Thomas, general secretary of the railway men's union, who yesterday warned a meeting of postal workers who were demanding a 42-hour week, more holidays and curtailment of night work, that "the industrial and economic position of this country gives cause for alarm."

The attitude of the miners has caused the most comment as coal and its price more directly affects the public. It is estimated that to grant a 30 per cent increase in wages would send the price of coal up at least \$1 a ton.

Nebraska Fugitive, Wounded in War Captured at Denver

Denver, Jan. 19.—Sergeant Walter B. Reel, alias Walter Rifenberg, recently discharged from the Canadian army with which he served in France, where he was wounded three times, was arrested here last night as an escaped prisoner of the Lancaster, Neb., penitentiary. Reel, who, the police say, admits his identity, was sentenced to prison ten years on a murder charge and escaped after serving five years.

Testimony on Cost of Living in New York City Startles Labor Board

New York, Jan. 19.—Testifying that 20,000 children are being cared for by the City of New York and that 21.6 per cent of the city's children are "under nourished," Ben Howe, secretary of the community council of defense, startled those participating in the hearing of the harbor board's wage complaints under the auspices of the war labor board here by his observations on social conditions and the high cost of living in the metropolis.

The witness, who said he formerly was purchasing agent for the City of Louisville, declared that in 1917 every 12th citizen of New York City had been buried in potter's field. The underfed children, he said, "were the children of underpaid people." He asserted \$1,800 a year was the minimum upon which a family of five could live in New York.

Increase in the cost of living, according to Mr. Howe, was due to profiteering by brokers, sabotage by manufacturers, freight charges, cartage, use of package containers for food products and the rise in harbor expenses.

Bolsheviki Butcher Hundreds of Civilians in Cities of Esthonia

London, Jan. 19.—The Estonian general staff reports that the bolsheviki are rapidly retiring toward Pskov, 160 miles southwest of Petrograd. The mouth of the Narova river, which flows between the governments of Petrograd and Esthonia, has been occupied by the Esthonians.

According to a communication from Reval, the bolsheviki, before giving up Dorpat, Livonia, shot 225 men and 80 women. Among those executed were the chief orthodox bishop of Esthonia and four Lutheran pastors. The number of persons shot at Wesenberg, Esthonia, before the bolsheviki fled, exceeded 170.

Rough Weather Delays Liner With U. S. Troops

Halifax, Jan. 19.—The French liner Rochambeau, which left Bordeaux for New York on January 8 with 883 American troops, will put in here tomorrow for coal and supplies, according to a message from the Rochambeau's captain, received tonight at the local office of Compagnie Generale Transatlantique. The shortage of food and fuel was occasioned by rough weather, which delayed the crossing.

AIMS OF BRITAIN VIRTUALLY SAME AS THOSE OF U. S.

Only Minor Differences of Opinion on Adjustment of World Affairs Remain to Be Reconciled.

Paris, Jan. 19.—Careful investigation here has made it possible to give more completely an outline of the war claims of Great Britain and her general desires regarding the making of the peace.

The British aims, the unofficial representation of them shows, are regarded as in general coinciding with those of the United States delegation at the peace conference. There are some minor differences of opinion between Great Britain and America regarding the final adjustment of the world's affairs and these differences remain to be reconciled. On the whole, however, the aims of the two nations are considered by British commentators as identical.

Great Britain believes first, it is declared in these sources, that a league of nations is desirable and attainable, and that none of the British war aims will be considered practicable unless they conform with the tenets of such a league as is contemplated to realize and govern the affairs of the universe. She also believes that things should be so adjusted that the war aims of every country will conform with those of the others—in other words, that there should be a compact of give and take.

In addition to the league of nations, one of the great things which Great Britain hopes will grow out of the peace conference, it is apparent, is a thoroughly good working agreement with the United States.

As to the freedom of the seas Great Britain, it is maintained, if the future as in the past, aim at securing the greatest possible freedom of commerce to all nations in time of peace. This, it is said, is what she means by the freedom of the seas. The question of the rules of warfare by sea she considers quite separate and as requiring discussion, but she hopes that the causes of war will be removed.

Red Cross Gives Meals. Archangel.—The American Red Cross has begun with the children in an effort to relieve the hunger of northern Russia and is now giving hot breakfasts daily to the pupils of the Archangel schools.

Middle West Has Sent Much Food to Warring Nations of Europe

Chicago, Jan. 19.—Chicago representative of the middle west, to which the world has looked for its provisions, has had a great share in victualing peoples and armies during the four years of the war and in that period an enormous amount of provisions has passed through the Chicago gateway.

In the same period the meat shipments, according to the Drovers' Trade Journal, including cured, canned and fresh meats amounted to more than 6,000,000 tons.

Fats, including lard, butter and tallow, totalled more than 1,800,000 tons. In addition to grains, meats and fats 20,415,000 bushels of potatoes were handled out of Chicago, and 3,973,891 live hogs, 3,587,415 head of cattle and 4,166,570 sheep were shipped.

Prior to the spring of 1917 the usual agencies of trade conducted the distribution of the vast quantities of food-stuffs sent out of Chicago and contracts for provisions were made by foreign governments direct with the dealers in Chicago. With the entrance of America into the war the food administration through its various branches took over the handling of provisions in quantity and the distribution was conducted under governmental supervision.

Y. Supplies Reading Matter to American Boys in Russia

London.—There will be plenty of reading matter for the American soldiers isolate in northern Russia this winter, frozen in for seven months as far as water transportation is concerned. The American Young Men's Christian association has dispatched 9,336 general books, 1200 reference books, 10,445 text books, 19,782 magazines and newspapers, 600 testaments, 350 bibles, 11,500 pictures, and numerous other adjuncts called for.

WOULD PLACE A SURRENDER TAX ON INSURANCE

Representative Fulps Believes Five or Ten Million Dollars Could Be Added to Assessment Role.

From a Staff Correspondent. Lincoln, Jan. 19.—(Special.)—To tax the surrender values of life insurance policies is a new legislative plan hatched by Rep. J. F. Fulps of Furnas county, chairman of the house judiciary committee during this session.

Mr. Fulps believes that \$5,000,000 or \$10,000,000 more assets will be added to the assessment role and he will try to accomplish it by introducing a bill on the subject. One man in Furnas county, Mr. Fulps points out, is carrying \$40,000 of life insurance and his policies are worth a considerable portion of that sum, as a cash surrender value. There are reported to be a few men in Omaha and Lincoln with insurance running from \$50,000 to \$100,000. The total in the state runs into many millions, but the surrender value is not in excess of 15 to 20 per cent of the face of the policies.

Omahans to Leavenworth. James Ford, Martin J. Salvito and Henry Caspari, prominent Omahans convicted in federal court here of conspiring to violate the federal liquor laws, will be taken to Leavenworth, Kan., tomorrow to begin serving their sentences. The men were sentenced to serve one year and a day each in the federal prison by Judge J. C. Munger.

Petition to the Secretary of War to Send Soldiers Home With Six Months' Pay

Sign this petition, get your friends to sign it and forward it to The Omaha Bee. To the Hon. Newton D. Baker, Secretary of War: The undersigned respectfully urge you to return to their homes as soon as possible the soldiers who have accomplished so brilliantly every object America had in the war.

We urge, also, that you obtain the necessary authority to pay these men their military wages for six months, or for some sufficient period after their discharge from the army until they can obtain useful and remunerative employment. We urge this as an act of simple justice by a great nation to its heroes. (Signed)

WOULD COMPEL FRUIT GROWERS TO SPRAY TREES

Representative Van Patten Introduces Bill Looking Towards Eradication of Insect Pests.

From a Staff Correspondent. Lincoln, Jan. 19.—(Special.)—Compulsory spraying of Nebraska orchards for the purpose of better controlling and more completely eradicating diseases and insect pests will be proposed in a bill which Representative Van Patten is having drawn for introduction in the legislature. Nebraska fruit growers and the Western Fruit Growers' association, of which L. A. Kinney of Hastings is president, are behind the bill.

A provision is to be included requiring the owners of orchards which are beyond redemption to have them cut down. This is on the theory that old, worthless trees furnish the breeding place for destructive insects, which, after attaining maturity, spread to adjoining orchards.

The bill has back of it the horticulturalists interested in improving the quality of the Nebraska fruit crop, which, although superior now in favor and keeping qualities, has been able to command only a fair price on the market because of the unscientific methods of orcharding in many sections of the state.

Copied After Oregon Law. The bill to be introduced will make it the duty of the careless orchard owner to spray the same as does the man who raises fruit for market. Penalties will be provided for failure to do so. The general provisions of the law will be copied after the Oregon and Washington statutes where fruit growing is of the first magnitude. The commercial growers claim they can raise better fruit than the article produced on the Pacific coast, but they cannot convince the commercial market because of the lax restrictions regarding the keeping of orchards.

The bill will cover the point as to what constitutes an orchard. It will not attempt to hit two or three scattering fruit trees in the back yards, but will apply where there is a group of a dozen or more trees of the same variety. Spraying will be necessary at least twice a year.

ROOSEVELT DAY IN STATE FIXED FOR FEBRUARY 9

Memorial Day for Former President Is Set by Governor McKelvie for Next Month.

Lincoln, Jan. 19.—(Special.)—Gov. S. R. McKelvie, in a proclamation issued yesterday, calls upon Nebraskans to observe February 9 as Roosevelt memorial day. The proclamation follows:

Our country confers few honorary titles upon its leaders; it uses few medals as symbols of outstanding fortitude or distinguished service. But it does deeply revere the memory of those whose lives and acts embodied the principles for which the blood of the nation has again and again been sacrificed.

On January 6 Theodore Roosevelt was stricken. The flags of the nations of the world stood at half mast and the heads of thoughtful people everywhere were bowed in deference to his passing. His was a life of exceptional leadership and distinguished service to his country.

No monument will adequately symbolize the characteristics of this illustrious American, nor would it be his wish that such artificial effort should be made to perpetuate his memory. He believed in, and loved, the sentiments that were virile and real—the expressions that come from the heart.

Therefore, in order that the people of Nebraska may unite in paying tribute to the memory of one who so well characterized our nation's ideals, and in keeping with an act of congress, I do declare February 9, this year, "Roosevelt Memorial Day" throughout Nebraska. It is my sincere wish that all the people of this commonwealth shall observe that day in fitting manner.

Former Plattsmouth Man Dies in Trinidad, Colo.

Plattsmouth, Neb., Jan. 19.—(Special.)—Dan Miller, who came to Plattsmouth in 1870, died at Trinidad, Colo., Saturday morning and will be buried at Plattsmouth Tuesday. Mr. Miller was engaged in the harness business here for a number of years and was deputy sheriff under J. C. Eikenberry, after which he went to the Black hills, where he remained two years.

University of Nebraska Wins Denver Stock Judging Contest

Denver, Jan. 18.—The University of Nebraska defeated Colorado Agricultural college in a stock judging contest, the only event on the first day's program at the annual live stock show here. Nebraska was awarded a score of 2,825 to 2,650 for the Colorado team.

Advertisement for American Radiator Heating Outfit in the Old Home. The war has taught us the value of Home Thrift. Thousands have saved more fuel money than they expected or we advertised, by their purchase of IDEAL-AMERICAN heating outfits. The war demand to use Soft Coal and the extra severe Winters have been more than met by the wonderful adaptability of IDEAL Boilers to these unusual fuel and weather conditions. Exceptional comfort, easy care-taking, and rigid economy have been the gratifying, profitable dividends to owners of IDEAL-AMERICAN outfits—

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