Lincoln Bureau of The Omaha Bee

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CONSTITUTION ELECTION TO BE HELD SEPT. 21

All Proposals Have Been Voted Upon in Third Reading—Adopt Form of Changes.

Lincoln, March 24.—(Special.)—Ratification of the proposed amendments to the constitution, as submitted by the constitutional convention which has been in session since the first of the year, will be at a special election to be held September 21, 1920, and unless otherwise specified, each proposal will go into effect January 1, 1921.

This action was taken by the convention after it finished adopting the last four proposals before the convention on third reading.

Cost Will Be Same.

Submitting the ratification to a special election instead of at the regular election has been discussed for three weeks. It was discovered that if the proposals were submitted at the regular election that it would require a special election board in most of the voting precincts and the cost of the election would be practically the same, and that with the long presidential election ballot it was likely the ratification of the proposals would be lost sight of.

The committee of the whole spent considerable time on the form in which the proposals will go before the people and this form will be submitted after the convention has adopted it. The ballot will show each proposal by number with the section it seeks to amend. This will be followed by an explanation in a short way of the proposal which will follow with the usual square in which the cross may be made.

Pass Third Reading.

The following proposals have passed third reading:

No. 335.—The separate salary schedule, placing the salary of the governor and members of the supreme court at $7,500 per year, state officials including railway commissioners, $5,000, except lieutenant governor, who shall receive twice the pay of a state senator. Vote 76 to 19.

No. 325—Adds to present provision that sectarian instruction shall not be allowed in educational institutions owned by the state, the provision that the state nor any subdivision thereof shall make any grant or contribute funds to any educational institution not owned and controlled by the state. Vote 84 to 6.

No. 222—Creates a board of education of state normal schools, slightly changing present normal board, by making the state superintendent ex-officio member. The other six members to be appointed by the governor and affirmed by the senate, two to be appointed each year the legislature is in session.

No. 327—The executive department. Rearranges present department by adding a tax commissioner, providing for a budget to be prepared by the governor; a board of pardons composed of the governor, attorney general and secretary of state. Tax commissioner to be appointed by the governor and with other state officials comprise the board of equalization. State superintendent to be elected for four years, other officers two years as now. Vote 84 to 5.

No. 320—Requires majority vote of electors of each county to transfer territory from one county to another. Cases where country boundary in dispute to be adjusted by legislature on nearest county line. Vote, 93 to 0.

No. 275—Every public utility corporation as well as common carriers must submit statement to railway commission as may be required by law. Vote, 67 to 26.

No. 277—Public utility corporations as well as common carriers shall not consolidate parallel or competing property without permission of the State Railway commission. Legislature may require public utilities to exchange business through joint use, connection service or otherwise. Vote, 90 to 4.

No. 278—Public utility corporations as well as common carriers shall not increase capital stock except as provided by law. No dividends shall be declared except out of net earnings after paying operating expenses including depreciation. Vote, 93 to 1.

No. 312—Omaha by majority vote of electors of city voting upon the question may adopt present charter as its home rule charter. Vote, 94 to 0.

No. 328—Gives legislature authority over organization, regulation, supervision and general control over mutual and co-operative associations and companies. It may provide a limit for number of shares a stockholder may own in co-operative associations and may provide one vote for each shareholder. Vote, 93 to 1.

No. 129—Declares waters of natural streams for domestic use and irrigation to be a natural want and gives rights to divert unappropriated waters from natural streams which shall not be denied when demanded by public interests. Priority of appropriations shall give the better right. Vote 88 to 8.

No. 282—The use of water for power purposes is deemed a public use and shall never alienate, but may be leased or developed as provided by law. Vote 85 to 9.

No. 111—Jerry Howard's proposal that the legislature may provide a minimum wage and regulate hours and working conditions for employment of women and children. Vote 79 to 12.

No. 333—Laws may be enacted providing for investigation, submission and determination of controversies between employer and employes in any business or vocation effecting the public interest and for the prevention of unfair business practices and unconscionable gains in any business or vocation affecting the public welfare. An industrial commission may be created for administering its provisions, appeal to lie in the supreme court. Vote 71 to 21.

No. 309—Constitutional amendments proposed by the legislature may be ratified by majority vote, providing majority vote is not less than 35 per cent of total vote cast at the election. Vote 91 to 2.

The following proposals were defeated:

No. 332. Providing for the election of railway commissioners by districts. Vote 39 to 55.

No. 124—Raising amount of indebtedness state may contract from $100,000 to $500,000. This is the proposal that some members sought to amend to establish a system of rural credits. Vote 21 to 74.

No. 196—Providing for township organization by majority vote of those voting on the proposition instead of total vote cast. Vote 45 to 51.

American Legion to Probe War Record of Candidates

Lincoln, Neb., March 24.—(Special.)—It is announced at American Legion headquarters in the city that the legion will probe the war record of every candidate for office in the state, and that the candidate must stand on that record when asking for the vote of the Americans of the state.

State headquarters of the American legion is also arranging for "Americanism Day," May 1, and is urging every organization in the state to celebrate that day.

Tabor Head Discusses State Compensation Law

Lincoln, March 24.—(Special.)—Secretary of Labor Frank L. Kennedy has gone to Alliance, where he will deliver an address before the state meeting of insurance agents which is in session there. His subject will be "Administration of the Nebraska Workman's Compensation Law."

On Friday Mr. Kennedy will go to Omaha, where he will address the Manufacturers' association upon the same subject.

Constitutional Convention in Favor Of Equal Suffrage

Lincoln, Neb., March 24.—Nebraska women would be given full voting privileges under a constitutional amendment finally passed by the state's constitutional convention, in session here.

At present they are probihited from voting for officers provided for by the constitution. The suffrage amendment, with other proposed constitutional changes adopted by the convention, will be submitted to the voters for their approval or rejection at a date to be decided upon later.

Reynolds Elected Head of Legislative League

Lincoln, March 24.—(Special Telegram.)—Officers of the Nebraska Legislative league were elected as follows:

President, Victor D. Reynolds, Omaha; vice president, W. M. Stebbens, Gothenburg; secretary, J. Reid Green, Lincoln; assistant secretary, Will Hitchcock, Sterling; executive committee, L. A. Flansburg, Lincoln; C. A. Saunders, Omaha; F. F. Haas, Emerson; R. A. Matteson, Geneva; Charles Epperson, Fairfield, and F. A. Reisner, Thedford.

The annual banquet of the leaghe was held at the Lincoln hotel with a fairly good number in attendance.

"Lydia Pinkham Breath" May Betray Lincoln Robbers

Lincoln, Neb., March 24.—(Special Telegram.)—Robbers entered the Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority house here and stole a piano lamp, doormat, kitchen clock, two bottles of cream and one bottle of Lydia Pinkham vegetable compound, according to a report made to the police. The piano lamp was later recovered on the front porch of the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity house.

A paddle of the sort used by fraternities during probation week was found in the yard and police, with that clue and a search for a "Lydia Pinkham breath," hope to locate the bandits.

Parole Attorney General From Confinement in Home

Lincoln, March 24.—(Special.)—Attorney General Clarence Davis has been paroled. Mr. Davis was recently ordered to keep confined in his own home because he had been exposed to disease. After looking him over and being assured by Mr. Davis that he would conduct himself with proper decorum if let out, his physician ordered the doors opened and the attorney general walked forth.

Kansas and Oklahoma Soil Blown North to Nebraska

O'Neill, Neb., March 24.—(Special.)—Sidewalks, streets and buildings in O'Neill were covered with the fine red, oily clay soil of Kansas and Oklahoma as the result of high winds, and even the interior of stores and residences received coatings of the fine silt drifting in through cracks and under doors and windows. That the dirt came from some section of the country south of the south line of the state is evidenced by the fact that no soil of the nature indicated by the fine dust is known to exist within several hundred miles of this section. The wind shifted from south to west and smoke of prairie fires said to be burning in Cherry county and to the west prevaded the atmosphere. The tops were blown from many hay and alfalfa stacks in Holt county.

REFUSE FILING OF MOREHEAD FOR GOVERNOR

Attorney General Rules That Receipt For Filing Fee Had Not Reached Lincoln in Time.

Lincoln, March 24.—(Special Telegram.)—Former Governor John H. Morehead of Falls City has accepted the petition filed by Lancaster county citizens for his nomination as a candidate for governor on the democratic ticket, but he accepted too late. He sent a telegram to the secretary of state Wednesday, but the attorney general has ruled that the receipt for the filing fee must be in the hands of the secretary of state before the closing of the time for filing.

According to a message received by the secretary of state, the fee was paid by Mr. Morehead on Saturday, the last day for filing, but as it has not reached the office of the secretary of state the name cannot go on the ballot.

Omaha Loses Out.

The name of T. Hermanson of Omaha will not appear on the primary ballot as a candidate for state auditor on the republican ticket. Secretary of State Amsberry ruled after discussing his application with the attorney general's office and receiving the opinion that Mr. Hermanson had no legal right on the ballot.

The secretary of state says that last week he received a letter asking that the name of T. Hermanson be filed as a candidate for state auditor on the republican ticket. The request has no legal status unless a receipt accompanies it showing that the filing fee had been paid in the home county of the candidate, Mr. Amsberry says.

Had the request come in the way of a petition with the required number of names thereon, Mr. Hermanson would have had five days to accept the petition, but in the case of a mere request from a single individual, the law makes no provision for its receipt unless it is shown that the filing fee has been paid, the ruling says.

Another man who came in too late is F. E. Harmon of Eustis, who filed for representative on the democratic ticket from the Sixty-sixth district.

Plan to Force Apartment Owners to Give Service

Lincoln, Neb., March 24.—(Special Telegram.)—City Commissioner Wright announced that he will introduce an ordinance at the next session of the city council requiring flat and apartment house owners to keep lights burning all night. Recent holdups in apartment corridors, he said were responsible for his action.

"People who live on the fourth floor of apartment houses are entitled to some service for their $100 a month," he declared.

Officers Still In Dark

Lincoln, Neb., March 24.—(Special.)—State Agent Hyers declared today that officers are still groping in the dark in their search for the robbers who blew the vault of the First National bank at Greenwood Monday night. No arrests have been made.

NEGRO SLAYER OF RAILROADER ADMITS CRIME

Leo Darling Sentenced to Life Imprisonment For Murder of Conductor Robbert Massey.

North Platte, Neb., March 24.—(Special.)—Leo Darling, negro, accused of the murder of Conductor Robert Massey, 3017 Davenport street, Omaha, here last December, waived trial by jury and pleaded guilty to the charge in district court here. He was sentenced to 99 years in the state penitentiary at hard labor.

Darling was arraigned in county court here at 9:30 last night. County Attorney Keese read the charge against him, and he pleaded guilty.

He was bound over to the district court and brought before Judge Grimes at once. He sat before the judge with a small group of witnesses, very quiet, displaying no emotion, and slightly nervous.

He waived trial by jury and the services of attorneys.

Following the reading of the murder charge Darling at once pleaded guilty and then took the witness stand.

He told of his early life, giving his age as 32 years. He said he was a native of Hawaii, being born in Honolulu. He had been a sailor most of his life, he said.

Worked as Dishwasher.

He said he arrived in North Platte 20 days before the murder took place, and was employed as a dishwasher in the Liberty Inn.

When asked if he knew his victim before the crime, he said no, but that he might have seen him several times.

He went out of the cafe that night, he said, determined to hold up the first man he should meet.

As he saw a man approaching, he dodged behind a bush and waited until he was within six feet of him, he said. He leaped out and ordered the man to throw up his hands.

Massey made a fluttering movement with his hands, he said and leaped to Darling's side.

The negro opened fire, he said, but did not remember how many times he shot.

Sheriff Salisbury told of capturing the negro, his confession, and how he was led by police to the scene of the murder, where he enacted the entire crime all over for them.

Darling displayed no emotion when the sentence was pronounced.

Sheriff Salisbury and Leo Darling left here last night for Lincoln, where the negro will spend the rest of his life in the state penitentiary.

Township Plans to Issue Bonds for Road Building

O'Neill, Neb., March 23. — (Special.)—Inman township, Holt county, is not going to wait for federal or state assistance in building permanent township roads. The taxpayers of the township in which the village of Inman, the second largest hay shipping point in the world, is located, propose to issue $20,000 of road bonds. A delegation from the township interviewed county officials Monday regarding the bond proposition, which it is said, will have but little opposition in the entire township.

Plan Precint Campaign Against Bryan in Holt

O'Neill, Neb., March 24.—(Special.)—An organized effort will be made by the Hitchcock-Mullen leaders to carry Holt county against Bryan in the democratic primaries in April. Democratic leaders from the several precincts of the county were in conference in O'Neill perfecting plans for a precinct and school house campaign in the interest of the Hitchcock delegation to the national convention.

Wood Refuses to Talk On Source of Campaign Fund

Norfolk, Neb., March 24.—(Special.)—Gen. Leonard Wood, en route to Chicago from a campaign in South Dakota, spent a few minutes here Tuesday. The general, when asked to make a further statement to that of his Chicago headquarters, concerning the campaign funds, declared that he has nothing to add to Mr. Proctor's statement.

Prominent Farmer Held; Cattle Stealing Charged

Stanton, Neb., March 24.—(Special.)—A sensational arrest was made Monday afternoon, when Sheriff Eli Best served papers on Tom Johnson, accusing him of stealing cattle from Gus Schueter, shipping them to the South Omaha market and thence to Manning, Ia. Gus Schueter missed four large steers from his pasture the first of this month and, following up clues, had papers sworn out for the arrest of Tom Johnson. Mr. Schueter had traced these steers to Manning, Ia., where he picked them out of a herd of 94 cattle.

Preliminary hearing was set for Friday afternoon, March 26. The case is being watched with much interest by people of Stanton county.

Big Farm Deal

Burwell, March 24.—(Special.)—One of the large real estate deals of the last few days is the sale of the estate of the late Thomas G. Hemmett to A. H. Meyer for $71,000. This is one of the best farms in the valley, and was homesteaded by Hemmett when the Indians were numerous in the valley.