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TWO CENTS

Nebraska Facing Tax Problem

Question Is How Much Government Cost Can Be Cut Without Injuring Public Service.

Bee Series Tells Facts

Following is the first of a series of articles on taxation in Nebraska, designed to clear up misunderstandings, insofar as possible, and to present clearly a picture of what the taxes are, why they are and where the money goes. In a word, the Bee proposes to tell the truth about Nebraska taxation.

By PAUL GREER.

The biggest question before the people of Nebraska is taxation. Without doubt every candidate for office in the next campaign, whether for state, county or local office, will promise a reduction in government costs. That this is true is shown by the jockeying that is going on in front of the grandstand before the race begins.

What the intelligent public will note before the campaign gets very far is that none of these men is going to the trouble to outline a definite program of retrenchment. Politicians prefer to deal in generalities. There never has been an election day on which lower taxes were not promised—and how many administrations can the voter name that actually fulfilled their pledges of decreasing public expenditures?

Tax Commissioner on Trail of Intangibles

Lincoln, March 10.—(Special.)—New methods are being employed by W. H. Osborne, state tax commissioner, to catch the "intangible tax dodgers." He announced today that he had written to numerous foreign corporations for names of Nebraska stockholders and is learning much more about the wealth of certain Nebraska than he ever dreamed could be true.

This stock and bond provisions of Senate File 45, is subject to one-fifth the tax placed on tangible property. Another plan is to get from county treasurers the amount and number of county warrants issued to wholesale paper, drugs and machinery firms. These warrants are subject to a small tax under the new law.

Meetings explaining the new tax provisions have been held by Osborne and his helpers at Lincoln, Grand Island, Bridgeport, Alliance, Sidney.

Governor Shows Figures to Prove Hard Times Past

Mckelvie Reports Nebraska Has Turned Corner on Way to Permanent Prosperity.

Lincoln, March 10.—Nebraska has turned the corner and is now well on the way back to normal and permanent prosperity, says Governor Mckelvie in a statement issued today, showing figures which indicate an increase of from 51-2 to 68 per cent in the prices of farm products and livestock.

With the exception of poultry and dairy products, respectively, showing decreases of 43 and 25 per cent, all Nebraska products are growing under "favorable conditions," the statement declares.

"The total value of all crops and live on November 1, 1921, was \$392,228,000, while the total value on March 1, 1922, was \$457,585,000," the statement reads. "Cotton shows an increase of 85 per cent, the highest, and mules an increase of 51-2 per cent, the lowest."

Benefit Farmers.

Admitting that a portion of these products already have been disposed of, not only on November 1, last, but a larger measure on March 1, the governor points out that it is important to note that the items, approximating the larger amount of the increase, are most largely in the hands of the farmer at the present time.

The decrease in value of poultry and dairy products, aggregated rather large, the governor states, but there is still a margin of profit in these branches.

"These figures do not include the value of produce carried over from 1921, which is an important factor, as in corn alone, the carry-over is estimated to have been 25 per cent," according to the statement. "Another significant fact is that while the prices of farm products have increased, the prices of things for which these products must be exchanged, have declined. This readjustment of exchange values is of basic importance and is perhaps the most significant indication of a return to normal prosperity."

Farmers Make Profit.

There is profit now in nearly all branches of farming, states the governor, and with these facts in hand, it would be fair to assume that there will be a gradual recovery from the low ebb to which was reached in 1921, and there is every reason to expect that business in this immediate field will show an unusual improvement during the weeks and months to come.

"The need in Nebraska of funds from the War Finance corporation have passed when the corporation's existence will terminate July 1," according to the governor, who adds that demands upon the corporation now are rapidly receding.

The statement also points out the condition of state finances, showing a 10 per cent legal reserve over a 15 per cent requirement, and with increased deposits and a lesser demand for loans locally, some of the stronger banks have been able to seek outside investments and buy commercial paper quite freely.

Demands Wage Increase.

What may happen in the Pennsylvania anthracite field depends on the outcome of the meeting between union officials and operators at New York next Wednesday. To the extent only of having arranged for a joint conference, the strike situation is not serious, says Governor Mckelvie in a statement issued today, showing figures which indicate an increase of from 51-2 to 68 per cent in the prices of farm products and livestock.

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Twelve Charges Used to Electrocute Youth

Little Rock, Ark., March 10.—James Wells, 18-year-old murderer, was electrocuted at the state penitentiary after 11 unsuccessful attempts had been made by an inexperienced electrician. The execution was the 12th attempt, according to witnesses, was successful.

Going to the chair singing, he continued to sing until the first charge of electricity was sent through his body. Wells was examined by the state physicians, who pronounced him still alive.

Another charge of electricity was sent through his body but with the same result. Witnesses began to leave the death room and only a few were present when the last charges were sent through his body and Wells finally was pronounced dead. Fully 20 minutes were consumed in putting him to death.

Wells was convicted of killing Peter Treutz, a farmer near Monticello. He was one of those who escaped with Tom Slaughter.

Los Angeles Trembles With Slight Earthquake Shock

Los Angeles, Cal., March 10.—A light earthquake shock was felt here at 3:27 o'clock this morning. The tremor lasted but a few seconds and no damage has been reported.

15 Days Between Death of Pope and Election Fixed

Rome, March 10.—(By A. P.)—A papal decree will be made public shortly concerning the 15 days interval between the death of a pope and the beginning of the sacred convocation to elect his successor, Cardinal O'Connell, archbishop of Boston, told The Associated Press today.

The decree, the cardinal added, also will grant the sacred college the power to extend this period if necessary.

De Valera Refuses to Reply to Griffith on Limerick

Dublin, March 10.—(By A. P.)—Eamon De Valera, the former republican president, declared today he would issue no statement in answer to that of Arthur Griffith, president of the Dail Eireann, on Tuesday. It was added that he was virtually certain the new secretary would not be Andrew Bonar Law. The eventual resignation of the Earl of Reading as viceroy of India is still regarded as inevitable.

The India incident has intensified the strong feeling between the liberal and conservative wings of the coalition ministry. The liberal newspapers, without exception, lament that Mr. Montagu allowed himself to be drawn into a "false step."

Situation in Limerick Is Quiet But Critical

Limerick, March 10.—(By A. P.)—The situation in Limerick today was quiet, but still critical. Business has suffered since the advent of the hostile forces and the traders express themselves as anxious for peace.

Quartermaster Hurley was released from Tipperary yesterday after four days' hunger strike. Capt. O'Shaughnessy, the liaison officer, who was arrested on Monday, has started a hunger strike and his early liberation is expected.

Five-Inch Snowfall Reported at Fairbury

Fairbury, March 10.—(Special.)—Five inches of snow fell Friday morning in this part of the state. The temperature was so warm that the snow partially melted as it fell and none of it drifted. This is the kind of moisture needed for fall wheat.

Majority of Miners Want Strike

Union Officials Estimate Nintenths of Workers Favor Walkout Unless New Agreement Is Made.

Tabulate Vote Tuesday

By The Associated Press.

Indianapolis, March 10.—The strike vote of soft coal miners was completed tonight by local unions scattered throughout the country, and though the exact returns will not be known for a week, officials of the United Mine Workers of America here believe that nine-tenths of the miners cast their ballots for a walkout on April 1, unless a new wage agreement is made in the meantime.

Chances of getting a wage conference with the operators of the central competitive field, comprising western Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, seemed remote to the union chiefs for no change in the attitude of operators opposing the conference resulted from the appeal of Secretary of Labor Davis asking the two sides to get together. The only possibility of a conference, as viewed by union officials, was for the government to call both operators and miners to Washington, but no one at union headquarters had any information that such a call was contemplated.

Demand Wage Increase.

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Livestock Men to Open Co-Operative Company

Chicago, March 10.—Immediate establishment of producers' co-operative commission companies in Chicago, Peoria and Indianapolis was decided upon today at a meeting here of the executive committee of the National Livestock Producers' association, which grew out of the farmers' livestock marketing committee of 15, appointed by the American Farm Bureau federation.

George W. Briley, Carthage, Ill.; Warren Crabb, Delavan, Ill.; George McKerron, Pevaukee, Wis.; A. Sykes, Ida Grove, Ia.; M. Sar, Essex, Ia.; and Frank Coyne, Montross, Mo., were appointed directors of the Chicago company.

Boy, 16, Tries to Blast Downtown Denver Bank Safe

Denver, Colo., March 10.—Harry Singer, 16, arrested at 4 o'clock this morning, is said by police to have confessed to an attempt made last night to rob the vaults of the Metropolitan State bank.

Singer, according to the police, declared that he had worked without the aid of an accomplice and had drilled and blasted his way through the giant walls of the vault before he became frightened away by the detonations of nitroglycerine which he had used in attempting to effect an entrance.

Frightened by Blast.

According to Chief of Detectives W. A. Rinker, Singer declared that the last blast which he used had been so loud that it frightened him. Hearing the police riot squad, he dashed out and hid on the roof of the bank building, which is near the heart of the downtown business district. After a moment in the soot and water, he jumped from the roof to the roof of an adjoining building, which houses a restaurant. Then he entered the cash register and hid in the machine. He also took a water-coat which he found in the building as he had left it over in the bank building when he escaped. It was while he was leaving the restaurant that he was arrested.

Turns Burglar.

In addition to leaving his coat in the bank building, Singer left two suit cases, containing an elaborate set of burglar tools.

Singer, according to the police, came to Denver two months ago in search of work. Failing to find it, he turned burglar, and police are confident from the statement that Singer had confessed to a series of robberies which for the last two weeks have been baffling the police.

Democrats Fight Bill to Increase Federal Judges

Question of Prohibition Enforcement Involved During Debate of Measure on Floor of Senate.

Washington, March 10.—A new fight, involving enforcement of prohibition, opened today in the senate during consideration of a bill to authorize 19 additional federal district judges. Democratic senators opposed the bill immediately, some opposing more judges, others criticizing the assignment proposed for the extra judges and others opposing a provision which, it is said, might place "dry" judges in "wet" states, or vice versa.

The prohibition enforcement question was brought up by Senator Broussard, democrat, Louisiana, one of the leading opponents of the Volstead law. He said the bill's provision authorizing the chief justice of the supreme court to assign district judges to work in other than their own states might result in trials by judges who were "not in accord with the ideas of the community."

Senator Caraway, democrat, Arkansas, said he had been approached by a man urging support of the bill and told that "the only excuse" for the assignment provision was to meet a situation, caused by refusal of certain judges to enforce the law.

Students Uphold Faculty in Suspending Dances

Hastings, Neb., March 10.—(Special Telegram.)—Students of Hastings college endorsed the action of the faculty, by which about a score of students were suspended for two weeks for attending a dance given for the Order of De Moly.

The vote of the student body followed a petition by the business men of Hastings protesting against the suspension. The bar against attendance at or participation in dances is an old one at the college and the penalty of suspension was adopted by the students a year ago.

Omaha School Teacher Will Be Parish Worker

West Point, Neb., March 10.—(Special.)—Miss Mabel Braxda, who has been teaching in the Omaha schools during the past year, resigned the position as parish worker to assist W. E. Rangelier, pastor of Grace Lutheran church here.

Dissolution of Lincoln Insurance Company Asked

Lincoln, March 10.—Alleging that in order to protect the stockholders and creditors of the Bankers' Automobile Insurance company of Lincoln, it is necessary for the court to order its dissolution, E. J. Whitney, an agent of the department of trade and commerce, filed a petition in the district court today for such an order.

At the same time he secured a court order limiting time for filing of claims against the company. Mr. Whitney said the stockholders had agreed that dissolution was the most practical step to take to protect themselves and creditors. The state department of trade and commerce took over the affairs of the company in December.

Merrick County Township Cuts Road Expense in Half

Central City, Neb., March 10.—(Special.)—At the annual meeting of Lone Tree township, called by L. L. Hensley, clerk, the former levy of \$7,000 for bridge, road and township funds was cut just in half. Residents of Lone Tree township declare themselves well satisfied and proud of their efforts to try and curtail public expenditures.

Farm Bureau President to Address Community Club

West Point, Neb., March 10.—(Special.)—J. N. Norton, president of the Nebraska Farm Bureau federation, will address an open meeting of the Community Club on "Community Co-Operation" Monday.

It Must Be the Coal Man



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Kinkaid Explains Irrigation Bill

Water Users on North Platte May Derive Benefits From Proposed Pact.

Washington, March 10.—(Special Telegram.)—Congressman Kinkaid, in response to a question whether the so-called Baker bill, amendatory of the reclamation act permitting the secretary of the interior to enter into a contract with any regularly organized irrigation district, would in fact benefit the water users on the North Platte project in Nebraska, said: "If the water users of the North Platte will substitute the district system as provided by the bill for the present way of paying for the water, they will be entitled to the benefits thereof, which means that the water users may borrow money from the federal land banks."

Judge Kinkaid said that the friends of the measure had been trying to get some such bill through congress for the last four years. Two years ago they were defeated because of certain objectionable features of the measure and consequently they set about to meet these objections in the bill reported from Judge Kinkaid's committee.

"When we came to consider the bill, under the call of committees last Wednesday, we had to fight our opponents of two years ago just the same," said the Sixth district representative, who nevertheless congratulated the friends of the measure that they were able to master votes enough to pass it.

McLaughlin Wins Fight for Hearing on Rail Bill

Washington, March 10.—(Special Telegram.)—Through the activity of Congressman McLaughlin of Nebraska, who is championing the fight of the travelingmen of the country for an interchangeable mileage book of 1,000 to 5,000 miles, the interstate and foreign commerce committee of the house capitulated today, Chairman Winslow agreeing to hold a one-day hearing on the senate bill, fixing March 21 for the hearing.

While recognizing the pressure that Mr. McLaughlin brought on the chairman, Mr. Winslow said it had been an inviolable rule of the committee not to report a measure until hearings had been had. Mr. McLaughlin was greatly pleased with the situation and readily acquiesced in the chairman's decision to hear both sides.

Feeling High in Crawford Against Alleged Assault

Crawford, Neb., March 10.—Following complaint of the 8-year-old daughter of Mrs. White, a widow, that she had been assaulted by Frank Propp, Propp was arrested by Sheriff Canfield today. The alleged assault took place several days ago, according to the child. Because of feeling against the accused man Sheriff Canfield today had him removed to Chadron. The condition of the girl is said to be serious.

Central City School Head Will Not Accept Salary Cut

Central City, Neb., March 10.—(Special.)—Miss Beulah Dexter, for three years superintendent of the public schools, has notified the Board of Education she will not be a candidate for re-election. The salaries of the present teaching force will be reduced approximately 7 per cent and those of newly elected teachers about 10 per cent.

U. P. Office IS ROBBED OF \$14,000

Combination of Strong Box Guarded by Time Lock Is Released by Jimmy Valentine Thief.

Loot Is Payroll Money

Between \$13,000 and \$14,000 in cash was stolen from a big safe in the office of the assistant treasurer of the Union Pacific railroad yesterday morning.

The safe is provided with a time lock, originally set so it cannot be opened until 7 a. m.

But the safe was not locked. No nitroglycerine or burglars' tools were used on the mysterious job. It was opened by means of a combination, which, detectives believe, was worked by means of an alibi, that it may have been an inside job.

Shops' Payroll Taken.

The safe contained the payroll of the shops. Yesterday was to be payday. The men at the shops are paid in vouchers, which are cashed in the treasurer's office.

There is only one watchman in the entire 12-story building, and one elevator operator at night.

The office of the assistant treasurer is on the seventh floor.

W. H. Sanford, assistant treasurer, and has occupied this position for many years. His chief clerk is R. H. Rhoades. They are the only men who knew the combination of the looted safe.

A record of the combination, however, was kept in a huge safe in a corner of the office. This safe was left unlocked Thursday night, according to reliable information given out at noon yesterday.

Consideration of Soldiers' Bonus Bill Postponed

House Ways and Means Committee to Take Up Compromise Measure on Monday.

Washington, March 10.—Announcement by Chairman Fordney that the house ways and means committee would postpone the meeting, at tomorrow, to consider the compromise soldier bonus bill, was the chief development today in the bonus situation.

Inability of several committee members to be on hand tomorrow promptly postponed the meeting, according to the chairman, who declared, however, that the delay in obtaining committee action on the bill would in no way affect the program, which calls for a vote in the house within 10 days.

Favorable Report Assured.

Favorable report on Monday by the committee of the revised bill, he assured, committee members agreed. They generally were of the opinion that no further changes of consequence would be made in the measure.

Several committee members are expected to vote against reporting the bill to the house, but a safe majority is said to feel that the measure is a "satisfactory" compromise.

Mr. Fordney, on his return from a western trip, refused to comment on the announced intention of Comptroller of the Currency Cissinger to advise national banks not to accept certificates as security for loans to former service men.

Plan Vote on March 20.

Representative Mondell, republican leader, said that plans for a house vote on the bill, under suspension of the rules on March 20, were unchanged. As this program would bar amendments, leaders expressed the opinion that there was no possibility of a tax-raising provision being attached.

With debate limited to less than an hour under the suspension of the rules program, various members of the house are expected to take advantage of lulls in debate to air their views on the bonus question. Several members are said to be planning to comment on the stand taken by Comptroller Cissinger.

Norris Has Bill for U. S. Control of Shoals

Washington, March 10.—Chairman Norris of the senate agriculture committee announced in the senate today that he was presenting for submission to his committee a bill creating a government owned corporation, empowered to develop and operate the Muscle Shoals nitrate and water power project. Mr. Norris added that he was not prepared to say that he favored operation by a governmental corporation as against acceptance of offers of private interests to the same end, but believed such a proposition worth the senate's study.

Star Witness in Box Car

Fort Worth, Tex., March 10.—C. A. Barnegrove, star witness in a series of box car trials, which were started in United States district court Monday, was shot to death this afternoon in the Fort Worth & Denver railroad yards. The killing is a mystery, the police said. Barnegrove was also the star witness for the government in another series of cases that were tried at the last term of federal court here and resulted in many convictions.

Perish Because of Cold

Sacramento, Cal., March 10.—Hundreds of wild horses have perished of starvation in the Owens Desert, as a result of deep snow and cold, according to dispatches from Winnemucca, Nev. Stockman arriving at Winnemucca brought in reports of the loss to livestock. The cold weather hardened the snow to such a degree that horses were unable to reach the grass. Numerous cattle and sheep also were lost through the record-breaking snow and cold in February.

Near East Organization in Jefferson County for Corn

Fairbury, Neb., March 10.—(Special.)—E. S. Vargason, of Omaha, representative of the near east relief commission, has been organizing Jefferson county for the corn campaign. Rev. P. A. Davies of Fairbury is county chairman. Two cars have been shipped out of Jensen, one from Plymouth, one from Harbine. The banks of each town and all farmers' elevators will receive the cash or grain.

Swan, Ia., Banker Fatally Injured in Auto Crash

Carlisle, Ia., March 10.—Frank Kildigan, president of the Swan Savings bank of Swan, Ia., was fatally injured when an automobile in which he was riding collided with another car and turned turtle near Old Avon last night.

The Weather

Saturday fair and warmer.

Monthly Temperatures.	
5 a. m.	31
8 a. m.	32
11 a. m.	33
2 p. m.	34
5 p. m.	35
8 p. m.	36
11 p. m.	37
Lowest	38
Highest	
Cheyenne	44
Denver	45
Des Moines	46
Lincoln	47
St. Paul	48
Sioux City	49
St. Louis	50
Valentine	51

Next Sunday's Bee

The second installment of "The Wanted Man," thrilling serial by Harris Dickson, appears in NEXT SUNDAY'S BEE.