

LAND VALUES GO UP

THE COUNTY OF HARLAN ALONE SHOWS A DECREASE.

WILL HAVE TO EXPLAIN WHY

Thirteen Counties Report Total Increase of Nearly \$10,000,000 in Assessed Valuation.

Thirteen counties have reported to the state board of assessment and the total increase in assessed valuation is about \$10,000,000, and it is believed that a total increase of \$25,000,000 will be shown by all counties, thus increasing the total assessed valuation of all property of the state to \$450,000,000. This is only one-fifth of the real value of the property reported, as the law provides that property shall be listed at its full value, but assessed at one-fifth value. Notwithstanding the big increase it is not likely that the state levy of 6-15 mills will be reduced this year. The state board will meet in July to determine the levy.

Real estate is valued for assessment in Nebraska only every four years and this is the year when a revaluation is required. It is admitted that land in nearly every portion of the state has increased in value within four years and most of the increase is caused by an increase in the listed value of lands. Personal property in most counties shows a slight decrease.

Thus far the county of Harlan has reported a decrease. That county will be obliged to explain to the state board of assessment and equalization why its total assessed or one-fifth valuation decreased \$642,096, or more than \$3,000,000 in full value, when other counties show a big increase. Some attribute the decrease in Harlan to the fact that under the Mardin bill the county abolished the office of county assessor. Others say it is because of crop failures during the past few years. Under that law elective precinct assessors, as in other counties list the property, and the work of the county assessor is performed by the county clerk and the assessment as in other counties is equalized by the county board. The decrease in Harlan county has caused the county considerable unpleasant advertising. Webster county, near by, shows an increase.

The four counties that reported to the state board last week show a total increase of \$1,325,165 in the assessed or one-fifth value of property. Kearney county shows a total increase of \$134,957, Sarpy \$375,878, Dixon \$539,423 and Platte \$381,307. The report of Platte county was brought to the state house by County Assessor Shad Clark. He said he believed he had made a fair valuation of property, but he said he could not say whether railroad property is assessed as high as other property because the state board alone values railroad property. He said it was not difficult to arrive at the value of farm lands, but it was a hard problem to value railroad right of way, rolling stock and railroad franchises and he was glad he was not required to do so.

The report of county assessors shows that the average actual, full value of lands in Platte county has increased from \$53.75 an acre to \$64.24; in Dixon county from \$40 to \$50.79; in Sarpy from \$64.70 to \$79.27.

The following are the assessed values of different classes of property reported by the counties that filed statements:

	1911	1912
Personal	\$1,425,439	\$1,327,123
Lands	2,466,742	2,696,291
Lois	263,482	257,206
	\$4,155,663	\$4,280,620
Sarpy		
Personal	\$1,057,674	\$1,061,240
Lands	1,897,512	2,244,636
Lois	263,679	268,967
	\$3,218,865	\$3,574,843
Dixon		
Personal	\$1,365,069	\$1,373,689
Lands	2,438,992	2,953,004
Lois	273,359	284,150
	\$4,077,420	\$4,610,843
Platte		
Personal	\$3,467,386	\$3,425,699
Lands	4,598,535	5,449,095
Lois	728,629	761,724
	\$8,794,550	\$9,636,518

New Machinery Hall.

About two-thirds of the steel work on the new machinery hall at the state fair grounds is in place and work is being pushed rapidly so that the big building will be completed in plenty of time for the fall meeting. The building will be 122x430.

Coming Meet of Sheriffs.

Sheriff Hyers and former Sheriff Hoagland are making extensive preparation for the entertainment of the sheriffs of the state who are to meet in semi-annual convention in Lincoln on July 9. They have reason to believe that of the ninety sheriffs of the state, seventy-five will attend the Lincoln meeting. The closing feature of the session will be a banquet, which it is expected will be one of the best of its class ever given in the state.

Supreme Judges Busy.

A great many people are of the opinion that because it was announced that the supreme court had adjourned some time ago that the judges were taking a layoff and were enjoying themselves off somewhere fishing or visiting in the east with some folks. Some papers even went so far as to article them for laying down on their jobs when the jobs were just beginning for someone to fill them down. The fact is the judges are not taking a layoff every day.

FARMING LAND LEFT.

Labor Commissioner Tells How to Secure It.

Labor Commissioner Cury has prepared a set of letters which he is sending out to those who are making inquiries regarding the land opened to homestead entry which was made public some time ago. Since the publication of the article a large number of people have written the commissioner asking for information how to proceed in order to secure any of the land and the following letters of information are given for their benefit:

There are at present, 1,192,624 acres of vacant government land in the ten northwestern counties in Nebraska, which are as follows: Cherry, 525,429; Garden, 151,728; Hooker, 76,960; Sheridan, 76,800; Thomas, 76,390; McPherson, 68,402; Morrill, 59,255; Scott's Bluff, 55,220; Sioux, 57,180; Grant, 44,930; thus giving us 1,192,624 acres in one district. This vacant land is scattered all over these tracts in tracts which embrace several adjoining sections down to isolated farms. It should be remembered that fair land near a town, a railroad, a river or a lake is generally filed upon before some of the better land at a distance from these points is taken. Therefore intending settlers will understand that the greater part of the government land near the towns and along the streams and by the lakes of these counties has already been filed upon. This does not mean that all of the best land in such counties has been taken, by any means, for new settlers always hesitate to go any further away from the towns than is necessary and therefore are often content to take land near a town which is not as good as some of that further out.

The land now open to entry under the Kinkaid act is not farming land as the term is generally used. If it were it could not be homesteaded in section tracts. It is largely sandy grazing land, interspersed in many cases with small "dry valleys." The dry valleys are suitable for cultivation in most seasons or may be used to produce hay. The intending settler should not expect to make a living for himself by farming a section homestead. He should have some capital to start with, say from \$500 to \$1,000, with which to erect a house and buy a few head of cattle, and he should expect to make his living by cattle raising.

Who May Take Homesteads.

Any head of a family or person who has arrived at the age of 21 years and is a citizen of the United States or has filed his declaration of intention to become such is entitled to enter a homestead.

Persons who have relinquished or lost a homestead without receiving a consideration or whose former entry was not canceled for fraud.

A deserted wife may also take a homestead.

Persons who committed a homestead entry before June 5, 1900.

Any unmarried woman 21 years of age may enjoy the benefits of the homestead law.

Term of service (not to exceed four years) in the army or navy of the United States during the civil or Spanish-American wars, or during the Philippine insurrection, may be deducted from the five years' residence required on a homestead.

Settlers have six months from date of filing to establish residence. The five years' residence required.

June Weather.

The first twenty-five days of June this year were the coolest for this time of year ever known in Lincoln. Beginning Tuesday the thermometer began to rise, reaching a maximum of 96 degrees at 8 p. m. Wednesday, Thursday was the hottest so far recorded this year. Last year the highest temperature, 110 degrees, came on July 5. The thermometer had been steadily rising from 104 degrees the first of the month, and those six days were the hottest of the season. The highest point previously reached had been 103 degrees on June 25 and 29.

Farmers and the State Fair.

Secretary W. R. Mellor of the state fair board has appealed to the farmers of Nebraska in this way: "Mr. Farmer, one of your great problems may be to entice your boy or girl to give honest, earnest assistance in farm work during the summer months. Why not hold out to an inducement a trip to the state fair at Lincoln, September 2-6, where the best exhibits and greatest attractions are gathered together? Just think, in addition to the best horse races, will be seen aeroplane flights, the entire Cheyenne frontier days show, Liberator's great band and grand opera concert company, night attractions, fireworks, and a number of other events in addition to the very best exhibits of stock, products of the soil, improved machinery, etc. is it not worth trying?"

Water for Prison.

Water has been struck at the penitentiary new well at a depth of thirty-two feet. About six feet of water is now in the well, which has been sunk about six feet below where the flow began.

Civil Service Examinations.

The United States civil service commission announces the following examinations to be held at Lincoln, Grand Island, North Platte, Alliance, Norfolk, Nebraska City and Omaha: July 24, junior chemist (male), department of the interior July 24, entomologist (male), department of agriculture; July 24, instructor in machine shop, foundry, etc. (male, Indian service); August 28, 29, assistant (male); teacher (male and female), industrial teacher (male), Philippine service.

Increase in Land Values.

The indications are that the assessed or one-fifth valuation of the property in Nebraska will be increased this year \$25,000,000 if the present rate of increase is kept up. County Assessor R. J. McKee of Fillmore county has reported an increase of \$449,620 for his county and County Assessor Charles A. Daly of McPherson county has reported an increase of \$124,125 in the sparsely settled county, making a total increase of \$573,745 reported by the counties that have reported to the state board of assessment.

OLD RIVALS PLAYING WITH JERSEY CITY



Billy Purtell, Formerly With Boston and Chicago.

Billy Purtell and Harold Janvrin, who were on the Boston Red Sox team at one time, are now playing with Jersey City. Until recently Janvrin has been leading off the batting list, with Purtell second. Purtell played second base while Janvrin was on third. Purtell, however, was later shifted to the outfield. He was a favorite with Chicago White Sox fans.

SAYS BAN JOHNSON IS WRONG PITCHERS CAN'T MAKE GOOD

Manager Who Appears on Field in Uniform Should Not Be Counted as Player, Says Griffith.

Clark Griffith, manager of the Washington team, does not agree with President Ban Johnson in counting as a field player a manager who appears on the field in uniform, even though he may not go to bat. He does not believe in the justice of the latest edict of the boss of the American league. "A club is allowed 25 players," says Griffith, "and that ought to include players, not coaches. I am not a player just because I wear a uniform. I wear a uniform in order to be closer to the game than I could be if compelled to make complaints to umpires and assist my team at critical pinches with my experience. But that shouldn't make me one of the players allowed the club. Harry Wolverton may rightly be considered a player. So might Harry Davis and Jake Stahl and Jimmy Callahan. They appear in regular championship games and figure in the box scores. But Hughie Jennings and I are no more players than Connie Mack, even though we do wear a uniform and coach on the lines. I am not in sympathy with President Johnson in this view of the matter, but hardly expect to make a test case, as I haven't the limit of players even counting myself."

Miserable Exhibition of Cincinnati Twirlers Has Been Great Disappointment to Fans.

The great disappointment of the Cincinnati Reds this year has been in the pitching staff and Manager O'Day's flingers, taking them as a whole, are putting up the most miserable exhibition in the National league, their failure having practically killed the hopes of Red fans for a look-in at the pennant. One of the big disap-



Harry Gaspar.

pointments has been Pitcher Harry Gaspar. The Iowa photographer started off well, but recently has joined his fellows on the pitching staff in boosting batting averages of opponents, says the Detroit Journal. O'Day now hopes to make a trade for him and it is possible that Gaspar in new company will recover some of his old prowess.

VALUE OF PLAYERS' AVERAGES

One Can Judge Better of Man's Real Ability by Seeing Him Work Than by Statistics.

After all, fielding averages do not indicate exactly a baseball player's value to a team. In the long run they may furnish some substantial indication, but one can judge of the real ability of a player better by seeing him work.

A good example of the general proposition here submitted was shown in Chicago recently when Zelder was given an error on a play, which analyzed, was a mighty good effort, says the Milwaukee Sentinel. McBride getting to deep short and Weaver, batting the ball after an effort, threw wide to first, drawing Zelder off the sack. Zelder scooped in the ball, and at the same time touched McBride as he went by. The umpire waived the play out, but the impact of the horsehide and player caused Zelder to drop the ball and the decision was reversed. There was nothing to do but give Zelder an error on play, whereas he should be commended for splendid work and quick thinking.

This indicates that sometimes where errors are made, the plays are, as a matter of fact, well attempted, and that those making them are better players than others who have a fine average because they refuse to take chances.

Excitement at McKeesport. There must have been stirring times in a game recently at McKeesport. The Salem club missed train connections and was 20 minutes late for the first game of a double header. Umpire Gohiert forfeited against Salem. When Gohiert called the captains together to give the ground rules Manager Hugh Shannon of the Salem club walked up to join in the confab and he was ordered off the field, when he demurred he was escorted off by the police. Then late in the game Gohiert and Wagner of Salem had an argument and Gohiert punched the player and had him taken off the field. Wagner brought information against Gohiert, and before Alderman Mansfield, who has had more experience in baseball, Gohiert was scored for his alleged officiousness on the field.

SEVEN HARD HITTERS

Make Five Clean Hits in One Game This Season.

Bobby Byrne and "Dot" Miller of Pittsburg, Together With Hoblitzel, Daubert, Olson, Yerkes and Collins in the List.

Hitting out four and five hits in a single game looks like a great task, but it has been frequent this season for the batters in the American and National leagues. To date just forty-two players have succeeded in hitting 'em where they ain't, and equally divided, twenty-one in the American and twenty-one in the National. Four National leaguers have piled up five bingles in a single contest, while three have turned the trick in the Ban Johnson organization.

Four members of the Cardinal team have clouted out four bingles in a single game. Eddie Koney was the first to turn the trick, getting them on April 14, with Miner Brown the opposing twirler. Reb Oakes duplicated the stunt April 22 when he opposed Humphries, Keefe and Bagby of the Reds. Rube Ellis was the next Cardinal to get four safeties in one game. He did this on May 5 against the Reds, when he banged out a single, triple and lifted two into the right field bleachers. Lee Magee gathered four singles on June 1.

The players to hit safely five times in a single game are Byrne and Miller of the Pirates, each collecting four one spots and a double. Hobby of the



"Dot" Miller of Pittsburg.

Reds gathered the same bevy on May 5, while Jake Daubert of the Superbas did it against the Cubs with three singles, a double and a home run. There were the only four to turn the stunt in the National league.

Ivan Olson started the ball rolling in the American league when he hit out five singles off Bill Burns of the Tigers on April 13. Yerkes of the Boston Red Sox was the next to hang five hits in the Ban Johnson organization. This came on April 20, when he got three singles and two doubles. Eddie Collins got five singles on May 15 in the farce game with the Detroit Tigers.

Larry Doyle of the Giants has had the most success in hitting the opposing pitcher safely four times in one game. The Giant's captain has turned the trick three times this season. The first time was April 16, with two six-



Eddie Collins of Athletics.

gles, a double and a three-bagger. Next came May 1, when he got two singles, a two-base knock and a home run. Five days later he again got two singles, a double and a three-base hit.

Ty Cobb of the Tigers is the only player in the American league to get four hits in more than one game. The demon Detroit has ripped off four bingles twice in one game this season.

Clarke Wins Many Bets.

Fred Clarke, leader of the Pittsburg Pirates, has won over \$500 worth of clothing by reason of his staying out of a ball game until June 1. Clarke made a number of wagers with Pittsburg friends mostly for suits, hats, shoes and socks. It looks as if Clarke would have enough clothing to last him for three years. The Pittsburg leader has made other bets that he will not take part in a game of ball this season, but having won the biggest part of his bets, he may be seen in action in the near future, when a pinch hit is needed to bring in a run.

TARIFF REFORM IS DEMOCRATIC CREED

Leading Plank of Platform Adopted by Baltimore Convention.

FAVORS FIGHT ON TRUSTS

Action of Republican Administration in Compromising With Standard Oil and Tobacco Combines Condemned—Views on Other Subjects.

Following are the principal planks of the platform adopted by the Democratic national convention at Baltimore.

The Tariff Reform.

"We declare it to be a fundamental principle of the Democratic party that the federal government under the Constitution has no right or power to impose or collect tariff duties except for the purpose of revenue and we demand that the collection of such taxes shall be limited to the necessities of government honestly and economically administered.

"The high Republican tariff is the principal cause of the unequal distribution of wealth; it is a system of taxation which makes the rich richer and the poor poorer; under its operation the American farmer and laboring man are the chief sufferers; it raises the cost of the necessities of life to them, but does not protect their product or wages.

"We favor the immediate downward revision of the existing high duties, insisting that material reductions be speedily made upon the necessities of life. Articles entering in to competition with trust-controlled products and articles of American manufacture where sold abroad more cheaply than at home could be put upon the free list.

"We denounce the action of President Taft in vetoing the bills to reduce the tariff in the cotton, woolen, metals and chemicals schedules and the farmers free list bills, all of which was designed to give immediate relief to the masses from the exactions of the trusts.

"The Republican party, while promising tariff revision, has shown by its tariff legislation that such revision is not to be in the people's interests and having been faithless to its pledges of 1908 it should no longer enjoy the confidence of the nation.

High Cost of Living.

"The high cost of living is a serious problem in every American home. The Republican party in its platform attempts to escape from responsibility for present conditions by denying that they are due to a protective tariff. We take issue with them on this subject and charge that excessive prices result in a large measure from the high tariff laws enacted and maintained by the Republican party, and from trusts and commercial conspirators fostered and encouraged by such laws, and we assert that no substantial relief can be secured for the people until import duties for the necessities of life are materially reduced, and those criminal conspiracies broken up.

Anti-Trust Law.

"A private monopoly is indefensible and intolerable. We therefore favor the vigorous enforcement of the criminal as well as the civil law against trusts and trust officials, and demand enactment of such additional legislation as may be necessary to make it impossible for a private monopoly to exist in the United States.

"We condemn the action of the Republican administration in compromising with the Standard Oil Company and the tobacco trust and its failure to invoke the criminal provisions of the anti-trust law against the officers of those corporations after the court had declared that after the undisputed facts in the record they had violated the criminal provisions of the law.

"We regret that Sherman anti-trust law has received a judicial construction depriving it of much of its efficacy, and we favor the enactment of legislation which will restore to the statute the strength of which it has been deprived by such interpretation.

Income Tax and Popular Election of Senators.

"We congratulate the country upon the triumph of two important reforms demanded in the last national platform, namely, the amendment of the federal constitution authorizing an income tax and the amendment providing for the popular election of senators, and we call upon the people of all the states to rally to the support of the pending propositions and secure their ratification.

"We note with gratification the unanimous sentiment in favor of

publicly before the election of campaign contributions—a measure demanded in our national platform of 1908 and at that time opposed by the Republican party, and we commend the Democratic House of Representatives for extending the doctrine of publicity to recommendations, verbal and written, upon which presidential appointments are made, to the ownership and control of newspapers and to the expenditures made by and in behalf of those who aspire to presidential nominations and we point for additional justification for this legislation to the enormous expenditures of money in behalf of the president and his predecessor in the recent contest for the Republican nomination for president.

Presidential Primaries.

"The movement towards more popular government should be promoted through legislation in each state which will permit the expression of the preference of the electors for national candidates at presidential primaries.

"We direct that the national committee incorporate in the call for the next nominating convention a requirement that all expressions of preference for presidential candidates shall be given and the selection of delegates and alternates be through a primary election conducted by the party organization in each state where such expression and election are not provided for by state law.

Term of President.

"We favor a single presidential term, and to the end urge the adoption of an amendment to the constitution making the president of the United States ineligible to re-election, and we pledge the candidate of this convention to this principle.

Railroads, Express Companies, Telegraph and Telephone Lines.

"We favor the efficient supervision and rate regulation of railroads, express companies, telegraph and telephone lines engaged in interstate commerce. To this end we recommend the valuation of railroads, express companies, telegraph and telephone lines by the interstate commerce commission, such valuation to take into consideration the physical value of the property, the original cost, the cost of reproduction, and any element of value that will render the valuation fair and just.

Banking Legislation.

"We oppose the so-called Aldrich bill or the establishment of a central bank, and we believe the people of the country will be largely freed from panics and consequent unemployment and business depression by such a systematic revision of our banking laws as will render temporary relief in localities where such relief is needed, with protection from control or domination by what is known as the money trust.

Parcels Post and Rural Delivery.

"We favor the establishment of a parcels post or postal express, and also the extension of the rural delivery system as rapidly as practicable.

"The campaign contributions plank pledges the party to the enactment of a law prohibiting any corporation from contributing to a campaign fund. It also limits individual contributions to a "reasonable maximum."

"The Democratic congress is heartily commended for its long list of laws for the benefit of the people after a generation of unlimited power by the Republican party. The next plank arraigns the Republican party for the waste of the money wrung from the people by oppressive taxation."

"A plank on rural credits is of importance. It is recommended that an investigation of agricultural credit societies in foreign countries be made looking toward devising a suitable system for the United States. A waterways plank provides for federal control of the Mississippi and other waterways. The plan is to maintain an average depth on the big river so it will be navigable, and construct docks to prevent further floods. This plank also favors draining of all swamp lands.

"The platform favors post roads. It reaffirms its declarations in the 1908 platform in regard to labor. It holds there should be a modification of the injunctive laws.

"It also recommends a department of labor with a cabinet officer.

"The conservation plank is also of importance and holds that conservation and development should proceed for the benefit of all the people. Immediate action is favored to make available the coal deposits of Alaska.

"A pure food and public health plank declares for the union and strengthening of the various governmental agencies relating to pure food, quarantine, vital statistics and human health. This department should be administered without partiality or discrimination in favor of or against any school of medicine. The civil service law should be honestly and rigidly enforced. Legislation is favored to promote law reform. The "policy of emeralism" in the Philippines is denounced. It favors the declaration of the independence of these islands. Arizona and New Mexico are welcomed to the sisterhood of states.

"We note with gratification the unanimous sentiment in favor of wood fire in the cook stove and sit around as in his old boyhood days on the farm. "What memories it recalls," he would say, "to hear the crackle of the wood and sniff the smoke that seems to be purifying rather than oppressive!" "Affairs and Folks," Joe Mitchell Chapple, in Joe Chapple's News Letter.

Institution.

"Fish is a good brain diet." "I suppose you take weakfish for yours."

"the same condition as the fist, and his friends are urging Feldkirch to discard it for a third. The old boy, who is hale and happy as ever, declared that he will make one more, and if he finds it decaying, he will give the business up as a bad job.

Berlin's Disposal of Sewage.

"None of the sewage of Berlin is allowed to empty into the river or canals of that city. It is all pumped through large pipes to the city sewage farms.