

This paper issued in Two Sections—Section 1, Stories, Correspondence, Local News and Farm News Department.

DES MOINES IOWA Aldrich chas curator Historical dept

THE DENISON REVIEW

THE PAPER YOU TAKE HOME

Mr. Farmer and Stock Raiser: Read pages six and seven of this paper. Interesting news awaits you.

VOL. 54

DENISON, IOWA, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 1919

No. 11

GOVERNOR TALKS TO ASSEMBLY

Called for Joint Session of House and Senate on Thursday Last and Discussed the Rathbun Case

DEAN BILL CAUSES ORATORY Instead of \$75,000 for the Attorney General's Office, the Appropriation is Cut to \$37,500

DES MOINES, March 10—(Special to the Review)—Upon the reconvening of the legislature after a week's recess matters of interest and deep concern were rushed in at a rapid rate. The first thrill came in message received from Governor Harding asking that the two houses meet on Thursday in joint session, as he had an important message to present. Everyone knew that the matter to be discussed was the pardon of Rathbun at Ida Grove and this announcement was of sufficient interest to fill the house chamber to overflowing. Not only was the floor of the chamber packed, but also the galleries. Hundreds were turned away.

At the appointed time announcement was made that the joint session was ready to receive the governor. The entrance of this official into the house chamber was greeted with vigorous applause. As he arose to read his explanation of his official conduct in releasing the culprit who had confessed to a heinous crime, evidence of his recent illness was plainly in evidence but his voice was clear and strong and upon the completion of the reading and his departure from the hall generous applause brought to his countenance that familiar smile which has ever been a strong asset in winning approval.

The governor's forceful reference to the part Attorney General Havner took in getting Rathbun into the penitentiary brought from that official a vigorous rejoinder in the newspapers and it may be said in all truth that from this time forward the Harding faction and the Havner following will create a division of sentiment among the friends of either in both branches of the legislature which will have a large influence in developing certain phases of legislation.

For instance, the hour that the governor asked for the joint assembling of the two houses had been agreed upon as the time for the consideration of the Dean bill which had passed the house providing for an appropriation of \$75,000 a year for the biennial period to be used by the attorney general in law enforcement throughout the state by means of numerous state agents. The governor's call for a joint session deferred the consideration of the Dean bill to the afternoon session and with the governor's vigorous reference to the attorney general the uppermost topic of discussion it is plain to be seen that the consideration of the Dean bill was sure to produce a dazzling display of fireworks. Both sides were ready for the fray and the public knowing what was coming made a rush for the senate chamber similar to that which had bombarded the house in the forenoon of the same day.

It took five hours of the most brilliant demonstration of argument and oratory that ever graced the senate chamber to get the decks cleared for action. Numerous amendments were offered as the discussion proceeded and by the time a vote on the passage of the bill was reached it was in this form: Instead of \$75,000 the amount was reduced just a half—\$37,500; instead of giving the state agents over to the exclusive use and direction of the attorney general it was decreed that no court expenses in any county could be created without first getting consent from a judge of the district court of the district in which the agent was located; all men employed as state agents must give bonds in the sum of \$5,000; all expenses of state agents must appear in the form of itemized bills and be audited and allowed by the executive council. These amendments took all the teeth out of the measure and there is no likelihood that the house will accept the amended bill. In case neither house recedes from its previous action the old law under which the attorney general and his agents have been working the past two years will remain in force. That law allows \$25,000 per year. However, a motion has been filed in the senate for a reconsideration and the defeated bill may be called up at any time.

The challenge made by the governor that in order to remove all suspicion of bribery and dishonesty in the pardon of Rathbun a full and thorough investigation be made by the general assembly found endorsement when the committee on judiciary presented to the house Friday the following resolution: Be it resolved by the house of representatives of the Thirty-eighth general assembly, that the committee on judiciary of the house be and is hereby authorized and directed to make a full and thorough investigation of all matters pertaining to the granting by the governor of a pardon to Ernest Rathbun, convicted of the crime of rape in the district court of Ida county, and for that purpose said committee is authorized to employ such counsel and stenographic assistance as it may deem necessary, and to take such steps as may be necessary to procure the attendance of witnesses and the production of books, papers, documents and records and the proper subpoena therefor shall be issued by the officer of the house, upon the requisition of the chairman of said committee. When such investigation is completed, said committee shall make report to this house of its findings and recommendations.

To Curb Pardon of Governor

Having in mind the sensation episode connected with the Ida Grove case Representative Rogers' bill to compel the governor to publish notice before granting pardons was reported out of the house judiciary committee for passage Wednesday afternoon. The subcommittee in reporting amended the original bill so that publication is necessary where the offender pardoned has been convicted of a felony, the sentence for which is death or life imprisonment.

Change in County School Board

There is an organization of which the general public has but little knowledge. It is called the county board of education and at present it consists of the members of the board of supervisors, the county auditor and the county school superintendent. The duty of this board is chiefly the selection and adoption of the kind of text books to be used in the rural schools. Senator Newberry's bill which has already passed the senate, changes this board to six members to be chosen by the "presidents of school boards of a county, the same that now elects the county superintendent. Three members of the new board will be elected for two years and three for five, and thereafter the terms of the members will be six years. The county superintendent will be an ex-officio member of the board.

Suffrage Bill Passed by House

The house of representatives passed the woman's suffrage primary bill. The bill permits all women of the state to vote at primaries. The bill was introduced by J. E. Polk county. The bill passed was originally introduced except for the amendment of Representative O'Donnell of Dubuque, which provides for a separate ballot box for women voters. The vote on the bill was 85 to 15.

Those who voted against the bill are: Hansen, Knickerbocker, Longfitt, Long, Miles, Moore, Morrow, Newton, O'Donnell, Oertel, Quick, Smith, Temple and Vance. The woman's bill will go to the senate, where another similar bill was reported out by a committee without recommendation.

More Stringent Dog Laws

The committee on agriculture of the house stands sponsor for a bill which classifies dogs as lawful or unlawful. A lawful cur is one upon whom the tax has been paid to the county auditor and wears a collar with a license tag as evidence of a right to live and be respected, providing it is kept from running at large between sunset and sunrise. Dogs not wearing the official tag may be shot by anybody at any time in any place. Not only this, but a bounty of \$1 will be paid for every dog so killed. The sheriff of the county is made the official dog catcher and cents a mile is allowed that officer who, in pursuit of the fast canine. Others who kill them receive no mileage fee.

Committee on Public Health Get Busy

The house committee on public health, in consultation with the state board of health and the government experts at Fort Des Moines and Camp Dodge, will soon introduce three bills as committee bills. The most important of these is a bill to regulate marriages. The bill provides that a clerk shall be prohibited from granting licenses to marry unless both parties to the marriage have certificates from a physician that they are free from venereal diseases.

If either of the persons is afflicted with disease, the clerk must refuse a license.

The duty of the clerk to carry out the provisions of the law will be a misdemeanor.

Another bill now being drawn up by the committee provides that the legislature appropriate \$33,000 to meet the \$33,000 to be given the state by the government to carry on a rural sanitary survey.

The third bill provides that in case of emergency the state board of health may be given a maximum of \$10,000. This bill is to give the board of health funds to fight sudden epidemics.

Aimed at Bolshevism

Senator Evans of the Butler-Bremer district, on Washington's birthday introduced a bill which passed the senate without a dissenting vote, Friday. The bill is directed against what is known as criminal syndicalism, which reduced to common language means that doctrine, that advocates crime, sabotage, violence or other forms of terrorism as a means of accomplishing industrial or political reform. The bill provides that any person who, by word of mouth or writing, advocates or teaches the duty, necessity or propriety of crime, sabotage, violence or other unlawful methods of terrorism as a means of accomplishing industrial or political reform; or prints, publishes, edits, issues or knowingly circulates, sells, distributes or publicly displays any book, paper, document or written matter in any form, containing or advocating, advising or teaching the doctrine that industrial or political reform should be brought about by crime, sabotage, violence or other unlawful methods of terrorism; or openly, wilfully and deliberately justifies, by word of mouth or writing, the commission or attempt to commit crime, sabotage, violence or other unlawful methods of terrorism with intent to exemplify, spread or advocate the propriety of the doctrine of criminal syndicalism; or organize or helps to organize, or become a member of or voluntarily assembles with any society, group or assemblage of persons formed to teach or advocate the doctrine of criminal syndicalism is guilty of a felony and punishable by imprisonment in the state prison for not more than ten (10) or by a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or both.

Whenever two or more persons as

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WAR SECRETARY VISITS DODGE

Secretary Baker and Chief of Staff March Visiting Camp Dodge Yesterday on Tour of Inspection

MANY MEN ARE DISCHARGED Maximum Number to be Discharged Will be 30,000 Per Month—Many Soldiers Now Returning

CAMP DODGE, March 8.—(Special to the Review)—Demobilization of fifteen companies and three battalion headquarters of the depot brigade, Camp Dodge, will begin immediately. Brig. Gen. B. T. Simmons, commanding the 16th depot brigade, has received authority for this action. Following the demobilization of these units, the brigade headquarters, casual and discharge group of officers and clerks; one battalion headquarters; one headquarters company; six companies; Co. A (development) and a development company of colored soldiers. This reorganization will result in the immediate discharge of practically every depot brigade officer who has not applied for a commission in the regular army. It also will make available for discharge men who are released on dependent or industrial grounds. A few will be retained if it is found their services are necessary in the work to be done. General Simmons will have charge of the discharge of casual officers and enlisted men. The maximum number to be released will be 30,000 a month.

Units of the 70th and 71st coast artillery corps and the 148th machine gun battalion, composed of 370 men, arrived at Camp Dodge Tuesday morning from Camp Merritt, N. J., over the Chicago Great Western railway. On Wednesday morning 357 soldiers are expected from Newport News, Va., over the same road.

Two Brothers Met in France

Fourteen years ago at Carbondale, Ill., two brothers named Batson parted, the elder going west to do for himself. The young man did not keep up a correspondence with each other except in a casual manner and neither kept in touch of the other's fate when the war broke out, but one day in a glorious reunion the brothers had. At that time one was with the 1st division and the other was sergeant in Co. A, 1st engineers. They again became separated in France and the younger one, Private Royal Batson, was severely burned while doing military duty. He is now at the base hospital convalescing and he recently heard that his brother is safe and the brothers are planning to meet at the old home at Carbondale just as soon as Royal is able to travel.

A Bit of Club Life for Nurses at Base

Drill, literary and card clubs have been formed by base hospital nurses. The literary club held its first entertainment Friday night at the Red Cross nurses' building with Miss Genevieve Russell, for several years an army nurse, speaking on her experiences in Cuba, Japan and the Philippine Islands. Miss Blanche Heiserman, occupation therapy aide, sang many of her own compositions.

Nurses who are doing night duty have organized a basket ball team and play from 4 p. m. to 6 p. m. The student nurses have resumed their Monday night programs. The literary club will meet weekly.

Hails to "L" Work Overseas

Harry L. Eells, Y. M. C. A. educational director at Camp Dodge, has

been ordered overseas, to do supervisory educational work among men of the A. E. F. He has been in charge of the educational work at the cantonment since June. Before entering "Y" service he was superintendent of schools at Rolfe, New Hartford and Schaller, Iowa, and for the last five years has been professor of rural education at the State Teachers' college, Cedar Falls.

Will Stop Selling Soldiers' Uniforms

In compliance with orders received from Washington the military police set out to prevent the sale of uniforms made by tailors or other tailors to enlisted men. The government has been relying on the patriotism and co-operation of the tailors and merchants for the enforcement of the wearing of unauthorized uniforms, but in some cases tailors have disregarded the order of the war department, according to Major Townsend. Local clothing dealers have thousands of dollars tied up in military uniforms.

Immense Sum for Camp Dodge Soldiers

Nurses are included in the list of "military folks" who are to receive a \$60 bonus from the government upon their discharge from service. The bill providing for this gratuity was signed by President Wilson upon his return from overseas. It states that all enlisted men and nurses who entered the service prior to Nov. 11, 1918, and who are discharged from the service at or prior to the current date, shall receive this bonus in addition to all other amounts due them. In the case of officers, the bonus will be paid to all those who resign or are honorably discharged prior to or within a year after the termination of the war. Those who haven't received their bonus, should write the selling agent, the Zone Finance Officer, Lamon to the Zone Finance Office, Camp Dodge, Iowa, for a check. The total number of men discharged at Camp Dodge is 53,946. Of that number 1,471 are officers who will also be eligible for the \$60 Eight thousand men were members of the 19th division, Maj. Ludwig Miller, former adjutant of the division, states: Order Out Against Military Insignia

The Des Moines military police received orders from Washington to prevent the selling and wearing of unauthorized service badges and insignia. The gold and silver stars worn on the left sleeve by men in the service had been tabooed, according to the order. Maj. Spencer Townsend, provost marshal, instructed the military police to order all men in the service to take them off and place them under arrest. Major Townsend also instructed his men to inform all stores that have been selling the insignia that it was not regulation and should not be sold to men in the service, as they were not allowed to wear it.

Officers Transferred to and From Dodge

Capt. David C. Wylie, medical corps, is relieved from duty at Camp Dodge and will proceed to Ft. Worth, Tex. Capt. Rodd Holland Gregory, medical corps, is relieved from duty at Camp Funston, Kans., and will proceed to Des Moines. Capt. George C. Jeffries, quartermaster corps, is relieved from duties at Camp Dodge and will proceed to Washington, D. C. Maj. Casper C. R. Byers, medical corps, is relieved from duty at Camp Dodge and will proceed to Fort Sam Houston. Secretary of War Baker and Chief of Staff March will spend twelve hours March 11th on a tour of inspection of Camp Dodge, enroute to the Pacific coast. The program thus far arranged calls for only a visit to Camp Dodge.

HOME STORE SERVICE

This service is not confined merely to bringing the products of the world to your front door. It includes a civic service as well.

Home merchants are keenly interested in town progress. Even if they are no more public spirited than other people, it is for their interest to work for town improvement. The better and bigger their town gets the more business for them. So progressive enterprises get a splendid degree of support from them.

Thus the home stores of Denison are centers of energy and influence for movements calculated to improve home conditions. When you spend your money in some distant city, you give your support to people who have not the slightest interest in your home town. When you spend money with the home store you add to the power and influence of men who are working every day for the good of Denison.

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COURT CONVENES ON MARCH 31

Judge M. E. Hutchinson, of Lake City, Will Preside—Petit Jury Was Drawn on Saturday

JURYMEN TO REPORT APRIL 7TH Petit Jury Called for Monday, April 7th at 2:30 P. M.—Grand Jury Called for the Same Day

The March term of the district court will convene on Monday, March 31st, with Judge M. E. Hutchinson, of Lake City, on the bench. Every indication points to a busy term.

The petit jury was drawn on Saturday and notices were mailed out on Monday by Sheriff A. C. Greene, ordering them to report for duty at the grand jury on April 7th, at 2:30 p. m. The grand jury will report for duty at the same time.

Below is the list of names of those drawn on the petit jury:

- Fred Moeller, Milford. L. C. Thiedemann, Hayes. Fred Schroeder, Goodrich. John E. Kulberg, Stockholm. Mart Dugan, Milford. Frank Simons, Val. M. D. Mahoney, Paradise. T. F. Binal, Union. Jacob Reedy, Kiron. Louie Stammer, Hayes. Charley Stanley, Willow. P. C. Dunham, Boyer. Elmer H. Watson, 3d ward Denison. Hugo P. Jensen, 3d ward Denison. Chas. Heiden, 3d ward Denison. H. G. Scott, Union. Christ Voss, Goodrich. C. P. Hansen, 2d ward Denison. Henry Bral, Hayes. August F. Mohr, Morgan. J. W. McIntosh, Boyer. Christ Groth, 3d ward Denison. Arthur King, 3d ward Denison. John B. Heinrichs, 3d ward Denison. Albert Youngberg, Kiron. Wm. Rothe, Morgan. Herman Popken, Goodrich. Otto Brown, West Side. August Hamann, 2d ward Denison. Jas. McCone, Nishnabony. Fred Rodey, 3d ward Denison. Ed White, Jackson. F. A. Scott, Union. Albert Nipkow, Charter Oak. John Ehlers, Nishnabony. Henry Rowedder, Hayes. E. M. Sheridan, Val. E. L. Millon, Union. Linfred Ahart, Union. H. J. Willey, Nishnabony.

MARRIED AT BISMARCK, N. D.

Miss Margaret Theobald United in Marriage to Mr. Frank Rotenberg, on February 22d.

MANILLA, March 10—(Special to the Review)

The marriage of Miss Margaret Theobald, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Theobald of this city, to Mr. Frank Rotenberg, of Parshall, N. D., occurred at Bismarck, N. D., on Saturday evening, February 22d, at 8:30 o'clock. The ceremony was performed in the parlors of the Hotel McKenzie, which were attractively decorated for the occasion, the Rev. Probst performing the ceremony. The bride was becomingly gowned in a dress of blue georgette crepe trimmed with satin and carried a bouquet of bride's roses. The groom wore the conventional blue serge.

The bride is a young lady of very pleasing qualities, possessing a kindly and unselfish disposition, and has a host of friends in the vicinity of Manilla, where she grew to womanhood. About six years ago she, with her brother Herbert, moved to Berthold, N. D., where they each took a claim on the Berthold reservation, which they still own. During her residence there she became acquainted with Mr. Rotenberg, who is a son of Mr. and Mrs. John Rotenberg of Marion, N. D., an industrious young man of excellent habits. After a week's visit with friends in Bismarck the young couple will make their home on the groom's farm south of Parshall, where they will be at home to their friends after March first.

GOOD WORDS FOR FISHEL

Editor Brown, of the Harlan Republican, Classes Engineer Fishel as Most Progressive in State.

"Herb" Fishel is making for himself an enviable reputation as an engineer by close application to his work, and making a thorough and exhaustive study of needs and conditions. Recently he had an article in the Review under the caption "What Will Your Team Pull" and this article has been widely quoted. Mr. Brown, of the Harlan Republican, reprints the entire article and heads it with the following complimentary notice:

"This writer takes it that County Engineer Fishel of Crawford county is about the most progressive of his class in the state. The idea is born of the fact that Crawford county has about completed grading its entire county road system, in which respect it is ahead of any other county of which we have knowledge. This improvement, we take it, was recommended by the engineer to the board of supervisors in a way that convinced that body of its desirability.

"This good opinion is further enhanced by the article which follows, written by Engineer Fishel, and printed in last week's issue of the Denison Review. It shows most vividly the capacities of work horses and the total of power necessary to draw loads over all kinds of roads. It looked good enough to reprint."

FARM IMPLEMENTS AT AUCTION

Bruce Rogers Will Sell Entire Stock at Public Auction, March 18 and 19 at 1 O'Clock Each Day

On another page of this issue will be found a full page advertisement for Bruce Rogers, the well known implement man, in which he advertises his entire stock of farm implements at public auction. The dates set for this sale are March 18th and 19th, and the sale will begin at 1 o'clock each day. The reason given for this sale is that Mr. Rogers contemplates the erection of a new fireproof implement building, and wishes to reduce stock at once, in order that work on the new structure may be begun at the earliest possible time. Plans for the new building are now being drawn by the architect. By reading the advertisement you will note that every piece of machinery in the warehouse is to be sold, and goes at your own price, and carries the usual guarantee. Mr. Rogers says all the machinery is of standard make. In addition to selling, and to stimulate bidding, there will be given away a number of valuable presents, the only stipulation being that you be present when your name is called. Mr. John Cambrie, an experienced implement man, will have charge of the sale. Look up the advertisement and read it.

The many friends of the well known Chase-Lister Theater Co. will be glad to learn that the company will appear in Denison one week, beginning with Monday, March 17th. New plays are to be put on, and the opera house has been secured for the week. Monday night, the opening of the engagement, there will be staged the sensational comedy "The Millionaire's Son" and the Shop Girls." Prices as usual, 10 and 25 cents. Ad appears in another part of this paper.

Messrs. Frank Pepper, Wm. Wilson and S. J. Purchase, of Omaha, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Karr Saturday and Sunday.

Probably the greatest force in this country working against bolshevism is not the learned economic arguments of the professors, but the prospective opening of the baseball season.

The reason that the farmers oppose daylight savings seems to be that the farm help have an ineradicable tendency to get up in the morning by sun time and quit work by daylight saving time.

OMAHA WINS BY ONE POINT

Omaha Commercial High School Team Wins From Denison on Local Floor Saturday Night

JEFFERSON WINS A GAME ALSO Second Team Played at Jefferson on Friday Night—Small Floor Disadvantage to Denison Players

The Omaha commercial high school basket ball team met Denison on the local floor last Saturday night and won by the narrow margin of one point. The Ames game a week ago last Friday was chock full of breathless play, but it wasn't in a class with the Omaha contest. The Denison five with brilliant basket shooting, and speedy passing and team work, on their part undoubtedly played the best basket ball of the season. And Omaha, well Omaha too she must have been in the game too. Denison excelled in passing and team work, while Omaha somewhat at a loss on our small floor, was more successful in placing long shots. Captain Saggau with a total of field and free throws led the home team in scoring while every other member of the team was also "there and over." One rather unique feature of the game was that during the first half every member of the Denison team shared equally in scoring, each making two or three goals. Mahoney, Omaha's star forward, was in splendid form and in spite of Finn's close guarding secured a total of seven baskets and a perfect score of standing shots. Denison started her scoring machine vigorously and by the middle of the half had a lead of 5 points on the ranga lads from Omaha. This advantage did not last long, however, for it was with a spurt in playing the visitors cut down the odds and the half ended 21 to 20 in our favor.

Both teams guarded more closely in the last twenty minutes of play. Every time the purple and gold forged ahead the Nebraskans crowded up their score. And then in the last moments of exciting play Mahoney pushed in a long, lucky shot from the center of the key, which clinched the game for the enemy. The second half ended with the score one point in favor of Omaha as the first half had ended in favor of Denison. These close shaves are all right but next time we prefer to do the shaving.

Jefferson Wins From Second Team

On last Friday Denison played Jefferson at Jefferson. The game was played in front of the high school assembly on a floor somewhat narrower and but a few feet longer than Denison's. On the east side there was not room for a boundary line and on that side the players crashed into rough partitions and broken beaver board. Two steam radiators also held forth gently within the playing area. On the west side the boys crashed into the school desks. We are assured that next year it will be different, for Jefferson is building a fine high school building this summer and a splendid gymnasium is included in the building specifications.

Coach Helsey thought it wise to play the second team and save the first string men for the Omaha game. The score is hardly an accurate indication of the real quality of the playing. The Denison team was fagged to get away on the offensive with the dash they usually show in practice.

With just twelve minutes left in which to play and the score 19 to 4, the first team made its appearance upon the floor. The narrow floor made team work difficult, but in spite of this, the baskets soon began rolling in. Gebert shot in four baskets in rapid succession and the other members of the team followed suit. When the game ended a few moments later the score was 16 to 24, Jefferson winning the game.

The boys go to Council Bluffs to play a return game there tonight. There is not much doubt about the outcome of the game for only last Friday the Council Bluffs second team defeated Omaha central high 23 to 15. However, the boys feel confident that the score will not be as one sided as it was here.

Woodbine Here Friday

On Friday in the final home game of the season, Denison plays Woodbine high school at Denison. This game with our neighboring town promises to be an interesting contest. Come out and see the boys play in this final game of the season.

Supt. Humphrey to Des Moines Superintendent Humphrey, who with Superintendents Hicks of Clinton, Clark of Sioux City, Blackmar of Ottumwa and Aldrich of Keokuk, as a member of the legislative committee representing the school interests of the state, was called 40 Des Moines on Friday to see about some important matters that are to be brought before the present session of the legislature.

Interesting Program The kindergarten and central grade parent teachers association enjoyed an interesting program at the gymnasium Friday afternoon. Unusual interest was shown in Miss Paul's explanation of the tests being given to the first grades. Copies of the questions with the opportunity of answering them were given to those present. The second grade physical training class under Miss Wright's direction gave a splendid exhibition. Fully as interesting was the Eskimo play in which the various exercises have been organized in the form of a story of Eskimo life. The representation of falling snow, or hunting, or building the snow man, etc., was very clever. This was acted by the second and third B grades.

OUR FEDERAL AID PROSPECTS

A few years ago congress appropriated 75 million dollars for aid in building roads in those states of the union which were able to comply with the regulation set forth by congress and the office of public roads. Only those states which had organized as to insure proper supervision of federal aid work were permitted to share in the distribution of federal money. This state was well able to meet all the requirements, and was allotted considerable of funds which when apportioned to the counties within the state gave this county about \$27,500.

During the last few years, a part of the automobile registration fees has been held by the state to create a fund with which to meet, dollar for dollar, the federal funds as they became available, year by year, with the result that we now have available the \$27,500 federal and a like amount of state funds, or about \$55,000 in all from the first appropriation.

During the last few days of session, congress appropriated 200 million dollars more for highway work. This amount apportioned as before will give Crawford county about \$73,300 more of federal money, making a total of about \$100,800 of federal funds due us from highway appropriations. State funds, as before, added will increase that to \$201,900 available for use on the inter-county roads, the most important parts of our whole road system.

With provision to assess 25 per cent of the cost of improvement to the abutting and adjacent property for the special benefit it gets, that state and federal money will, with special benefit assessments, permit of our doing \$268,800 of road work without any general property tax. But the county at large ought to contribute some toward the improvement of any and all main roads. With a present annual-maintenance expense of \$200 per mile on the main roads, the county could afford to pay \$3000 to \$5000 per mile to avoid the heavy maintenance and to avoid having the earth road surfaces worn down from two to four inches each year, and profit thereby.

Owners of the abutting and adjacent property can well afford to pay, in all, 25 per cent of the total cost if assessed in zones of half mile widths extending two miles on either side of the improvement. No other improvement, such as the building of home barns, sheds, silos or fences, upon the farm would add so much of value for so small an investment as would the building of a hard surfaced road.

A few years ago property owners in Union and Boyer townships, wishing to improve their lands by drainage, petitioned the board of supervisors to establish a drainage district, stating therewith their willingness to pay the cost of such work according to their several benefits derived. The ditch was built. In the assessment of benefits, the owners of land benefitted paid a maximum rate per acre of about \$15. The railroads within the district were assessed several thousand dollars and the townships and county were assessed for benefits to their highways. No objections came from owners of land outside the boundary of the drainage district. They were not assessed and there was no reason for them to complain.

It is very probable that the present legislature will make provision to use substantially the same principle in the hard surfacing of roads. When owners of land in any locality desire to improve their farms by building pavement, they may petition the board to construct same, the petitioners signifying their intention to pay their share of the cost according to location of land and the benefits derived, and, on roads of national importance, the federal government, the state and the county will contribute their share.

Don't wait for your fellow taxpayers in other parts of the county to build paved roads for you or you may have to stick in the mud for years. You can't expect something for nothing from them. It wouldn't be fair to expect the public to drain your land or build your barns and fences for you. The mere fact that your farm happens to be located along the Lincoln highway or any other main road constitutes no valid reason for you to expect the public to increase the value of that farm, in several ways, by building a paved road past or near it without requiring you to pay a little more than is paid by those who own property miles away and not in the least so directly benefitted.

With federal and state money now waiting to assist in surfacing the main roads, an excellent opportunity is offered the owners of land along which those roads pass, and is a very probable that the entire cost of such work will be equitably distributed.

The last appropriation was made by congress, to stimulate road improvement and to provide employment. The total of both above allotments of funds becomes available for use very soon. Congress realizes that, during the next year or two, private capital is not going to finance much of new construction and that, if labor is kept busy, it is the patriotic duty of the public to continue steadily with the road and bridge building. Let us now get as busy with business as we have been with war and, by so doing, help to make this county and state a fit place in which to travel.

CONTRIBUTED BY H. B. FISHEL