

STATE CAPITAL GOSSIP

Want Lower Assessments

Representatives of the H. M. Byllesby Co. of Chicago, owners of the Oklahoma City Gas and Electric Co., the Muskogee and Enid Gas and Electric Companies, served notice on the state board of equalization that unless the board fixed the assessment of their properties in Oklahoma this year the same as last year they would carry the matter to the supreme court.

The board already has fixed the assessments and at figures higher than last year. The board will not reconsider its action, it was stated, but will leave the assessments as fixed.

That no action is likely to be taken by the board for some time in the matter of fixing the valuations of the four big pipe line companies operating in the state was indicated when Governor Cruce announced to the board that Attorney General West had informed him that he could not attend any of the board meetings until after the August primary, in which he is a candidate for the democratic nomination for governor.

Attorney General West is demanding an increase of 30 per cent in the valuation of pipe line companies, and the board, it is said, does not care to take action until the attorney general can be heard.

Jake Hamon, promoter of the Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Pacific railroad, known as the "Ringling road" appeared before the board and protested against the proposed assessment on a valuation of \$10,000 per mile for main line and \$5,000 per mile for side tracks. According to Hamon, the road's construction has averaged \$15,000 per mile, but the promoter insists that its valuation for taxation purposes should be comparatively the same as that of other short roads, and he mentioned the Oklahoma, Clinton and Western road in particular as being valued for taxation purposes at \$5,000 per mile for main line and \$3,000 per mile for side track lines. Hamon told the board that the Ringling brothers were pouring a large portion of their circus receipts into the building of the road, and that if the assessment was not lowered he would have a hard time explaining to the circus men why the "elephant money road" was valued higher for taxation purposes than other roads with a similar mileage.

A compromise was finally effected and the road's valuation for taxation purposes fixed at \$7,500 per mile for the main lines.

Property owned by the Pioneer Telephone Co. was valued at \$6,405,000 for taxation purposes, an increase of \$1,000,000 over that of last year. Western Union Telegraph Co. property was valued at \$2,206,000, a cut from \$2,254,000 of last year. The Mackay Telegraph and Cable Co. property was valued at \$198,000 and the United States Express Co. property in Oklahoma valued at \$95 a mile.

Six Months of Two-Year Term.

In November, 1912, Clyde Smith, republican, was defeated for sheriff of Kingfisher county by Charles A. Love, democrat.

Smith refused to give up the office, which he had held for the previous term and Love brought mandamus proceedings. The state supreme court which finally received the case, decided last week that Love was entitled to the office, and he will now serve for the remaining six months of the two-year term. Smith has been sheriff, though not entitled to the office, since the 1912 election.

Love filed mandamus proceedings against Smith, but the lower court held against him. The supreme court in an opinion by Justice F. E. Riddle held that the lower court had no right to go behind the election certificate, held by Love, in a mandamus proceeding. The high court issued its own peremptory writ of mandamus, directing Smith to vacate.

Connell's Place Still Empty

Without selecting a president of the A. and M. college at Stillwater, the state board of agriculture adjourned subject to the call of the president. Another meeting will be called some time after the first of the month.

Until Connell's successor is chosen the school will be under the direction of J. F. Darby of Muskogee, who was appointed by the board some time ago to assume control of the institution and perfect a temporary organization, pending the selection of a permanent successor to Connell.

Another emolvoe of the A. and M. college, Joe McKeown, financial secretary, was removed by the board at its meeting. General neglect of duty was the reason of his removal. His successor has not been selected. His removal is effective immediately, the work of the office being turned over to his assistant.

10,000 Phone Rebates Sent.

Approximately 10,000 letters were sent out by the corporation commission last week, containing telephone refund checks aggregating about \$62,000 out of the total of \$62,000 owed by the Pioneer Telephone & Telegraph Co. to Oklahoma City subscribers. The balance was assigned by the patrons to whom it was owed, to the chamber of commerce, and by that body turned into the state capitol building fund. This amounted to a contribution in the neighborhood of \$35,000.



Judge W. R. Bleakmore, of Ardmore, who was named by Gov. Cruce to complete the unexpired term of Justice Stillwell H. Russell of the Supreme Court.

Ordered to Grant a Dental License

District Judge J. J. Carney issued a writ of mandamus against the state dental board directing that body to issue to S. W. Bancroft, of Ardmore, a license to practice dentistry in this state or to appear in court at once, and show cause why the license had not been issued. Bancroft in his application for a writ alleged that for several years he was a practicing dentist at Perkins, and moved from there to Kansas, where he remained until he returned to Oklahoma last fall. According to the application, petitioner lost his license to practice in Oklahoma and the state dental board has refused to issue a duplicate because the record of the former license is now lost. Bancroft presented to the court the affidavit of Dr. W. L. Maupin who was secretary of the state dental board in 1898 who asserts that a license was issued to Bancroft in that year.

Appeal is Filed by Lee-Huckins

Alleging that the 1913 assessment on the Lee-Huckins hotel and furnishings was too high in the sum of \$128,249, an appeal was filed in district court by the Huckins Hotel Co. asking that the assessment of last year be corrected to overcome this alleged error.

The petition alleges that the property, including undivided profits, is worth \$547,000 and that the company so reported it to the assessor, but that these figures were altered and a false and fictitious value substituted.

The first half of the 1913 taxes has been paid by the company, but it asks that the excess be applied on the last half of the year's taxes. It is alleged that if the over-assessment were paid, the company would be the loser to the extent of more than \$2,600.

Glover Files Damage Suit

Damages in the sum of \$50,000 is asked by Lynn Glover, president of the Oklahoma Institute of Technology at Tonkawa, in a suit filed in the district court against William R. Nelson, owner and publisher of the Kansas City Times. The suit is based on the publication in the Times on June 12 of an article telling of his having been arrested and fined \$1 in police court for using profane language and disturbing the peace. The article states that he was arrested, pleaded guilty and paid the fine.

Railway Appeals Case

Convicted and fined \$50 in the county court of Oklahoma county on the charge of having ignored the state regulations on quarantine against cattle from tick-infested districts, which required the railroads to have a sign on the cars and the way bills stamped "Southern Cattle," the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway Company appealed to the state supreme court. The cattle were shipped from a city in Oklahoma City had started the tick quarantine, state or to appeal in court at once.

Drummers' Initiated Bill Fails

The proposed initiated bill which would allow commercial travelers and others who are away from home or election day to vote in the precinct where they happen to be, has failed to secure enough signatures to place it before the people. The time for filing petitions with Ben Harrison, secretary of state, expired on June 13 and no petitions have been presented. The preliminary copy of the proposed bill was filed with the secretary of state by the United Commercial Travelers.

We May Not Have a Dome.

If the people of Oklahoma desire a dome on their capitol building it will be necessary to take the matter up with the next legislature as tentative plans which have been agreed upon by the state capitol commission do not include such an embellishment. The capitol commission has decided that in order to secure the necessary floor space for all the state departments in the new statehouse it will be necessary to omit the dome and rotund features in order to keep within the \$1,500,000 limitation fixed by law.

OKLAHOMA NEWS NOTES

SHADOWS OF COMING EVENTS.

- July 3-4-1. O. O. F. celebration, Granite.
July 7-11. Encampment school, Stillwater.
July 6-Aug. 1-Cotton school, Stillwater.
July 9-McIntosh-Hughes annexation election.
July 14-18. Encampment school, Ada.
July 21-25. Encampment school, Hollis.
July 28-Aug. 1. Encampment school, Cordell.
Aug. 4-8. Encampment school, Tonkawa.
Aug. 6-7-Celebration of opening day anniversary, Frederick.
Aug. 7-Summer school closes, State University.
Aug. 20-Sept. 1-Ryan Fair, Ryan.
Aug. 26-29. Corn Carnival, Caddo.
Sept. 2-15-Jackson County Fair, Blair.
Sept. 7-12-Caddo County Fair, Anadarko.
Sept. 8-10-Caddo County Fair, Binger.
Sept. 8-10-Photographers convention, Oklahoma City.
Sept. 9-12-Kingfisher County Fair, Kingfisher.
Sept. 9-12-Greer county Fair, Mansum.
Sept. 14-19-Wah-Shah-She Fair, Pawhuska.
Sept. 15-17-Pottawatomie County Fair, Shawnee.
Sept. 15-18-Pawnee County Fair, Pawnee.
Sept. 15-18-Beckham County Fair, Elk City.
Sept. 15-18-Kay County Fair, Newkirk.
Sept. 15-18 Cimarron Valley Fair, Guthrie.
Sept. 16-Celebration Opening Cherokee Strip, Perry.
Sept. 16-18-Haskell County Fair, Stilwell.
Sept. 16-18-McIntosh County Fair, Eufaula.
Sept. 16-18-The Sterling Fair, Sterling.
Sept. 16-18-Pittsburg County Fair, McAlester.
Sept. 16-18-Lincoln County Fair, Trappe.
Sept. 22-24-Delaware County Fair, Grove.
Sept. 22-Oct. 3, 1914-State Fair, Oklahoma City.
Oct. 7-17-Dry Farming Congress, Wichita.
October-Southern Commercial Congress, Muskogee.

Roff voters will decide on July 1 whether to permit the further operation of pool halls.

Ray E. Braggs, aged 19, was drowned while swimming in Bellamy's lake, about a mile distant from El Reno.

A Butler merchant sold 3,000 pounds of binder twine in one afternoon to farmers getting ready for the wheat harvest.

George Wade of Grove, 73 years of age, has married his sixth wife, the other five being buried in the cemetery of that town.

A locomotive spark set fire to a Grant county wheat field and before the flames died out 285 acres of wheat had been destroyed.

A farmer named Dornier recently died near Jet and left a fine farm and money in bank, but no known relatives to mourn his death.

The Frisco Railroad Co. is improving its passenger station facilities at Thomas by tearing out the old board structure and building a fine brick platform.

A woman was killed and six persons were injured, two of them perhaps fatally when a wagon loaded with picnickers was struck by a switch engine in the Muskogee railroad yards.

The president sent to the senate the following nominations to be postmasters in Oklahoma: Thomas Stone, Custer; Monroe Moore, Lamont; Omer Schneebelen, Moorehead; Eugenia F. Turner, Krebs; D. R. Wright, Taloga; H. S. Blair, Drumright.

Two men were killed and a team and wagon blown to atoms on the banks of the Verdigris river, twelve miles south of Claremore when 640 quarts of nitro-glycerine being hauled overland from Tulsa to Inola exploded while being ferried over the river.

Word has just been received from Dean Julian C. Monnett at Leland Stanford university, California, where he went to investigate a call to a chair of law at a salary considerably higher than he receives as dean of the university law school here, that he has finally declined the offer. He said he considered there is a greater field for usefulness in Oklahoma.

A big electric light is to be placed on the Texhoma water tower. Because he says he could not work in harmony with the people of the town, Dr. E. D. Murdaugh tendered his resignation to the state board of education as president of the Durant Normal School.

Judge J. W. Harrel, who has been referee in bankruptcy in Oklahoma for the past eight years, has tendered his resignation to Judge Campbell at Muskogee and W. T. Ward, his law partner, and who has been clerk of the bankruptcy court for the past five years, has been appointed to succeed him.

David B. Teem, a chiropractor, was placed under arrest at Madill, County Attorney Conkley having lodged two complaints against him. One complaint charges him with practicing medicine without a license, the other charges him with manslaughter. It is alleged in the complaint that Teem, by the methods used by chiropractors caused the death of a little boy, aged 3 years, whose parents had brought him to the doctor for treatment for bowel trouble.

Doyle Norman, 3-year-old son of Mrs. Doyle Norman of near Davis, was drowned in a pond near their farm house. Mrs. Norman is a school teacher and was attending the annual summer normal at Ada when her son met death.

A well-merited honor which has lately been conferred upon the Right Reverend Theophile Meerscheart, bishop of St. Joseph's Cathedral, Oklahoma City, is that of the Royal Order of the Crown, presented by King Albert of Belgium, for long service to the church.

FEEDING WASTE PEANUTS TO HOGS

Many peanut growers never think of the peanut as a crop to be sold in any way except in the form of pork, while others are growing the plant entirely as a cash crop for market purposes. That there is a way to do both is shown by the experience of G. A. Holderness of Tarboro, N. C., as told in the Progressive Farmer.

Last year Mr. Holderness bought 250 pigs and turned them into the peanut fields after he had marketed all that could possibly be gotten out of the ground. The crop of waste peanuts afforded grazing for these 250 pigs for 72 days and during this time the pigs made an average gain of 83 pounds each. The average peanut grower allows these waste nuts to lie in the ground and rot, but Mr. Holderness turned them into 20,750 pounds of pork instead.

Following the peanut pasture the hogs were fed on corn and cottonseed meal—some of them on corn and tankage—for 26 days and were marketed in Richmond on January 14, 1914. When these hogs were brought to the farm they weighed 112 pounds each. When they left their weights averaged 228 1/2 pounds. Their total cost, including meal, tankage, \$104 for inoculation against cholera, freight, stockyards charges and 8 1/2 cents per pound on the original purchase, was \$3,862.88. The same hogs sold for \$4,706.59, or a net gain of \$843.71, practically all of which came from the peanuts which could not have been harvested in any other way.

FEEDING WITH KAFIR. In the 110-day feeding experiment carried on at the Kansas Agricultural College this year, the most rapid and economical gain was made with kafir silage. Cane silage ranked second, and corn silage third. One hundred and two Hereford calves were used in this experiment. They were divided into six groups, to demonstrate the value of the different feeds commonly used by Kansas feeders. The average daily gain for each calf for the 100 days ranged from 1.12 pounds to 1.48 pounds. The average cost of the gain was between six and seven cents a pound.

Many Model Farms. More than 3,000 Oklahoma farmers have contracted this year to handle their land according to the advice of the county farm demonstrators. There is also a list of more than 12,000 other farmers who are to some degree following the same practices.

Another Record Cow. P. T. Davidson, of Miami, has a cow, not yet five years old, that has been milked 2,088 times. She brought her first calf April 29, 1911, and was never dry until February 27, 1914.

Kind of Hogs That Pay



At the sale show, in connection with the recent meeting of the Panhandle and Southwestern Cattleman's Association at Oklahoma City, some fine hogs as well as cattle were shown and sold. The market was topped by the two sows shown above, which were raised by N. D. Pike, of Weatherford, and sold to R. A. Welch, of Red Oak. They are named State Blossom and Lady Fair.

GARFIELD FARM BEING IRRIGATED ENID CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IS BOOSTER OF PROJECT.

Beneath the Most Fertile Land in State is Inexhaustible Reservoir of Water.

Much interest was centered this spring at Enid in the prospects for irrigation in Garfield county. Through the efforts of the Enid chamber of commerce, the United States geological survey sent A. T. Schwennesen to Enid to make an examination of conditions there in reference to the underground water supply known to exist in some parts of the country. Mr. Schwennesen spent some time there in January and within the past month the geological survey has issued a bulletin on the water supply of Garfield county with reference to irrigation. In this bulletin is a map showing the part of the county having the water supply.

Enid is shown to be the center of an area covering more than 100,000 acres in this county, which is underlaid at a depth varying from twenty-five to sixty feet, with an almost inexhaustible supply of pure water. The system of coarse gravel in which the water flows is from ten to twenty feet deep. This water supply is the same which furnishes the city water through a system similar to only two others in the United States. The water by analysis is shown to be the purest in the state, and the water which is pumped direct into the city mains without ever entering a reservoir.

The Rock Island railroad has an irrigation expert, E. R. Bennett, who is spending considerable time in Garfield county aiding in the development of irrigation. Several farmers have used irrigation on a small scale in this county, using this water supply. Charles King, residing just west of Enid has irrigated on the largest scale having about fifty acres irrigated in the season of 1913. Most of this land was planted to fruit and vegetables and alfalfa. This year Mr. King is extending his system so that he can irrigate 100 acres. The entire acreage is irrigated from one large well, at the King farm, the water being pumped into a reservoir and from that distributed.

Mr. Roy Corry living near Mr. King has put down an irrigation well. This well goes through forty feet of soil and clay, and at this depth encounters the sand stratum which is nine feet deep and through which the water flows almost like a river. It has not yet been possible to fit a pump to a well so that it could be pumped dry. Mr. Corry has planted more than five acres of Spanish onions.

MR. SMOOT NOT FAIR

Serious Flaw in Senator's Recent "Calamity Howl."

If Inevitable Business Depressions Are to Be Attributed to Party in Power, Republicans Must Take Their Share.

If the sluggishness of business at the present time—though the volume of trade continues large—is to be attributed to the Democratic tariff, to what is to be attributed the panic of 1907? Will any intelligent man, who is not making a stump speech, pretend that business depressions are due to the government when that is Democratic, and are wholly independent of it when it is Republican?

Senator Smoot's entire "calamity howl" was based on larger imports and smaller exports in April, 1914, than in 1913. The smaller exports cannot possibly be attributed to the tariff, and greater variations in imports and exports than are worrying Mr. Smoot have within recent years occurred when there was no tariff change to attribute them to.

The exports in April, 1914, were less than in April of the last two years, but greater than in April of 1911, 1910 or 1909. The imports in April this year were substantially larger than one year ago, but the increase over two years ago was not great, and if the growth of imports from 1913 to 1914 is to be attributed to the Underwood tariff, will Mr. Smoot hold the Payne-Aldrich tariff responsible for an increase of \$43,000,000 in imports in April, 1912, over April, 1911?

When an adverse balance of trade occurs under a Democratic administration Mr. Smoot sees that the cause is political. But there were adverse balances in June, July and August, 1909; in February, March, April, July and August, 1910, during which periods Theodore Roosevelt was in the White House, and the Dingley and Payne-Aldrich tariffs were in operation.

If the cause of trade fluctuations is to be political when the Democrats are in power it must be when Republicans are in power. If the Republicans will not take their own medicine they may save themselves the trouble of offering it to Democrats.

Unfair to Leave Lorimer Out.

Now that Senator Aldrich has been drawn again into the limelight through Mr. Mellon's statement that he was largely instrumental in foisting upon the New Haven railroad for some \$20,000,000 a trolley system worth not over \$10,000,000, it will not be surprising to hear that he is planning to return to his old place in the senate. "Uncle Joe" Cannon, now verging upon eighty years of age, has already made announcement of his candidacy for congress, and ex-Senator Foraker is making a great fight in Ohio to return to the senate. In this prospective reunion of the Old Guard is Lorimer to be left outside the breastworks?

Would Seem to Be Wasted Time.

Col. Roosevelt is now coming in for condemnation because he admitted that during the great coal strike of 1902 he was prepared to send the Federal troops into Pennsylvania with orders to seize the anthracite coal fields and operate the mines. Instructions, it is stated, were actually issued to Gen. Schofield that he "was not to pay attention to any court orders or any other authority than me." As there are still many things which the colonel actually did or did not do left to criticize, what's the excuse for beginning on those things which he merely intended to do?

Great Prosperity in Sight.

Chairman Gary, of the United States Steel Corporation, feels that we are "approaching the door of prosperity," and he gives good reasons for his belief. A great many Republican politicians are trying just now to shut that door and to keep it closed until after the election, but they are likely to find this an impossible task. Improving railroad earnings, increased bank clearings, weather that stimulates buying and record-breaking crops in view, are all factors that are going to push the door of prosperity wide open.

Will Be a Hard Task.

Possibly the unworried Republican and the erratic Progressive can agree on the principle that what is wanted for 1916 is a man who can beat Woodrow Wilson, but can they unite votes on such an individual?

Different Now.

In the Roosevelt days the government did not get a chance to inspect the books of J. P. Morgan & Co.

Sign of Business Revival.

The pig iron business has been dull for some time, but the announcement in the trade papers that several steel companies had bought an aggregate of 75,000 tons is encouraging. One swallow may not make a summer, but it is to be remembered that the steel companies are large producers of pig, and if they have to go into the market and buy 75,000 tons it raises hopes that orders for steel are growing more abundant, or that there are imminent signs of more business for the rolling mills.