

MORE ABOUT COUNTY SALARIES

Attorney General Clancy is trying to get the district attorneys together on a recommendation to the county commissioners of all the counties, on the subject of what may be paid on salaries and expenses of county officers. He has issued a quite lengthy opinion on the subject addressed to district attorneys, from which we quote the following:

"I have received a number of requests from county officers and others for opinions and advice as to what, if anything, can be done for the relief of county officers in view of the failure to provide by legislation for their salaries in accordance with the requirements of section 1 of article X of the constitution as construed by the supreme court of the state. As the district attorneys are the legal advisers of county officers and in no way under the control of the attorney general, I have felt compelled to decline to give opinions to the county officers, but it has appeared to me that there would be no impropriety in my giving some expression of my views to the district attorneys themselves in the hope of bringing about some uniformity of procedure throughout the state, if those officers should agree with me, and advise their county officers accordingly.

To those county officers who have not in the past received compensation in any other form than salaries for services rendered, the negative clause of the section of the constitution above referred to, which the court has held to be self-executing, does not seem to have any application. As far as they are concerned they stand as though there were nothing more in the constitution on this subject than the order to the legislature to classify the counties and fix the salaries of county officers, which it is conceded is not self-executing. By section 4 of article XXII of the constitution, all laws of the Territory, not inconsistent with the constitution, are to remain in force as the laws of the state. The laws of the territory fixing the compensation of salaried county officers, are not inconsistent with the constitution, and therefore should be considered as remaining in force. This is applicable to county commissioners, probate judges and county school superintendents who receive annual salaries, and I can see no objection to their continuing to receive the salaries heretofore provided. The compensation of the county surveyor I believe can still continue as heretofore provided by law, although it is not an annual salary.

As to the other county officers whose compensation has been derived from fees or commissions we are compelled to take the position that they can receive nothing to their own use for their services until the legislature acts. It does not follow, however, that the county government must practically stop for this reason. These officers will at some time when the legislature provides, receive salaries for their services but such salaries cannot be considered as including necessary actual expenses incurred in the conduct of their offices. For instance, it is the duty of the sheriff to take charge of the county

jail, to provide for the keeping and feeding of prisoners committed to his custody and in performing this duty he must necessarily pay out money for food, fuel, bedding and possibly clothing. The county must provide jailers and guards for the jail. It is not practical for the sheriff to perform all of his official duties in person and he must necessarily employ deputies to act for him, and they must be paid for their services. I am clearly of the opinion that all such expenses can properly be paid by the county commissioners from the county treasury, including nothing, however, in the way of compensation to the sheriff himself. The county clerk must necessarily at times, and in some counties at all times employ assistants adequately and properly to attend to the work of his office, and it cannot be reasonably contended that he from his private funds should advance money for such expenses. It is certainly quite enough of a burden that he should be compelled to wait on the legislature for his own pay without expecting him to pay out large amounts of money to keep the county government running. The same reasoning applies to the offices of treasurer and assessor in these counties where it is impracticable for one man to perform all the work of the office.

It now occurs to me in closing that I should say as to county commissioners that I do not believe they can at present properly receive the mileage provided by statute for attending board meetings, but in harmony with the suggestions made as to other officers, they might properly receive payment of their actual and necessary traveling expenses.

While I have, as hereinbefore stated, no control over the official action of district attorneys, yet I venture to hope that what I have herein set forth, which you will consider in the nature of suggestions and recommendations, will meet with your approval, and if they do that they may be made to serve as a basis of some uniformity of procedure in the various counties at the present time.

Some suggestions have been made by different persons as to the possibility of permitting those officers heretofore paid by fees, to retain in their own hands some portion, if not all, of such fees, with the expectation of having a settlement or adjustment after the legislature shall act, each one holding himself responsible for the amount of money received. I cannot believe that this would be desirable or proper. It would lead to great confusion, discrepancies and difficulties, and as one of the district attorneys has stated to me, in substance, it would not be in accordance with good public policy or in keeping with honest and efficient service to the county or state, and would create a sort of carelessness on the part of officials as to the illegal and irregular use of public money, and such a feeling must inevitably tend towards a disregard of the exact limitations of law."

DIAMANTHUS
If you are a housewife you cannot reasonably hope to be healthy or beautiful by washing dishes, sweeping and doing housework all day, and crawling into bed dead tired at night. You must get out into the open air and sunlight. If you do this every day and keep your stomach and bowels in good order by taking Chamberlain's Tablets when needed, you should become both healthy and beautiful. For sale by ALL DEALERS.

A COUNTY ORGANIZATION

Hon. W. M. McCoy, secretary of the Mountainair Chautauqua, is writing to a number of people over the county in regard to the proposition of forming a booster county organization, a meeting to be held during the Chautauqua for that purpose.

Following is a copy of his letter:

The suggestion, originating with the Willard Record, that the people of Torrance County, irrespective of geography, occupation or previous condition get together at this year's meeting of the Chautauqua, and form a county organization for mutual publicity and promotion purposes and for any other purpose that might suggest itself for the public good, seems to us timely and opportune. The need of such an organization and its possibilities for good will readily be apparent to you, and I feel sure you will give it your heartiest support. The development idea to accomplish the most good must be general in its scope. In a broad sense what hurts one hurts all and what helps one helps all. No particular section of Torrance County can prosper without benefit to the entire county. With this I think you will readily agree.

As soon as the suggestion was made, we took it up with Mr. Hitt, editor of the Record, and suggested to him that Resources Day, July 29th, under the auspices of the Bureau of Immigration would be the logical day to hold such a meeting unless the day were already full. Mr. Hitt wrote Mr. Hening, the secretary who immediately took very kindly to the suggestion and has already perfected a plan of organization. The meeting will be held in the Chautauqua Tabernacle, in the forenoon of that date, and secretary Hening's plan is to then use the Torrance County organization as a nucleus for a state organization, with the county as a unit, something after the California plan which has worked so successfully. Feeling assured that you will give this your enthusiastic support I write to urge you to attend and bring as many of your neighbors with you as you can. This is only one of the many progressive ideas being featured by the Chautauqua, and I wish you could spend the entire ten days with us, and share in the responsibilities and satisfaction incident to the great work which we have undertaken.

Hoping to see you personally on this occasion, I remain

Yours truly,

W. M. McCoy,
Secy.

WILLARD

From the Record.

Mr. L. E. Herndon, sister and mother have moved out on their claim southwest of town. M. L. Moore now occupies the Dalies Cottage.

J. B. Underwood was a business visitor in Estancia Monday.

H. C. Williams of Estancia was in Willard the first of the week.

Isabel Garcia and Juanita Torres were married at the church last Saturday morning, the Rev. Hartman officiating. A dance was given in honor of the young couple at the Salas Hall Saturday night.



Don't Select a Corset by Waist Measurement

For a corset may be your right waist size and yet the proportions may be wrong for you in other respects.

The correct way is to choose a corset designed for your individual figure and not according to your waist measure alone.

PARISIANA CORSETS

Are made in 48 distinctive styles.

Among them there is one which has been especially designed for you.

We have this model in stock. Come in and see how it will give you the graceful, slender, hipped lines without your making the slightest effort. The prices are not excessive—\$1 to \$5, silks, brocades come higher.

Why not call and have this model sent out to you, if only to see how readily your figure will take the new, beautiful lines?

Estancia Drug Co.

Prescription Druggists

WHERE IS THE MONEY

you have been earning for several years back, spent it and the other fellow put it in the bank. Why not let the other fellow save what you earn? Start a Bank account if you have but one dollar to begin with.

Estancia Savings Bank

SAFETY DEPOSIT BOXES FOR RENT

FRESH MEATS

We have installed a large refrigerator and will carry a supply of Fresh Meats at all times. Fish and Oysters in season. Call and see us and you will buy.

Loveless & Co.

Estancia, New Mexico