

NEBRASKA IN BRIEF

Timely News Culled From All Parts of the State, Reduced for the Busy.

SCORES OF EVENTS COVERED

A jury in the district court at Fremont awarded Le Roy McGee \$20,000 damages against the Stockyard and Land Co. for permanent injuries received while in the employ of the company. After settlement had been made under the workmen's compensation law, the suit was brought and the court refused to dismiss it, sustaining a point that since the boy was under the age whereby he might be legally employed, the compensation act did not apply.

Plans for the centennial celebration of the location and establishment of Ft. Calhoun, Washington county, are progressing rapidly. The centennial of Fort Calhoun occurs October 11 this year, 100 years from the date that a regiment of soldiers came up the Missouri river on steamboats and landed there. The government has ordered troops from Fort Omaha and Fort Crook to participate in the celebration.

Investigation into the high cost of living at Lincoln has brought to light the startling fact that dairymen in the city are buying milk from the producer at \$3.50 per 100 pounds and selling it at \$6.58 per 100, making a profit of about 100 per cent. Skim milk is used to reduce the butter fat contents of the milk one dealer testified.

Home-grown Nebraska seed wheat this year tests as low as 60 per cent germination, while that imported from the east and north contains "darnel," a noxious plant seed from which Nebraska has hitherto been free, according to Secretary of Agriculture Leo Stuhr.

The recently organized Home Builders company at Albion, which proposes to erect moderate priced modern homes and sell them close to the cost price expects to start construction work just as soon as a contractor and crew of men can be secured.

Dissatisfaction with the operation of the former state board of health through the department of public welfare under the code bill is said to have been responsible for Dr. W. F. Wild resigning as head of the state health department.

By a special election vote of 104 to 75 the citizens of Wymore authorized the sale of Arbor State and Riverside parks, the money to be used in constructing a sewer system. The proposed sewer system will cost about \$50,000.

H. C. McGrath of Ames paid \$6,000 for a 6-month-old porker at a sale in Illinois a short time ago. He has the valuable porker on his place now and all of Dodge county is boasting of being the home of the highest priced pig in the country.

The 120-acre Mohr-Harder farm southeast of Scribner was sold at referee's sale for \$300 an acre, A. Slosser of Dodge being the highest bidder.

Greeley is in the midst of a building boom that promises to surpass anything like it in the history of the city. The paving question is also gaining much headway.

It is estimated that tame hay production will amount to 4,422,000 tons in Nebraska this year, as compared to 2,380,000 tons last year.

Lovers of football at Lincoln predict that Nebraska will have one of the best teams in the history of the State University this year.

A hundred co-eds at the University of Nebraska have enrolled in military and dress making courses, according to registration officials.

The Tri-state fair held at Crawford was a success from every standpoint. Attendance for the three days exceeded 20,000.

Sufficient stock has been sold in the proposed butter factory at Bloomfield to make sure the establishing of the enterprise.

Wheat threshing is about half completed in Chase county and so far the yield is running from 20 to 46 bushels to the acre.

According to reports the Hord potato plant recently destroyed by fire at Lakeside will be rebuilt in the near future.

Potato growers in the western part of the state are receiving from \$1.50 to \$2.00 a bushel for their crops.

A commercial club, consisting of thirty-six members, was organized at Greeley the other day.

A movement is under way to establish an ice plant at Tekamah, an enterprise badly needed by the city.

Annual fire day will be observed in all public schools throughout Nebraska, Friday, November 7.

A 2,000-acre tract of land near Bushnell, sold the other day for \$75,000, is to be divided into 100-acre farms and put under cultivation.

Assurance has been given that a new concrete state-aid bridge will be built across the Platte south of Shelton to replace the wooden structure now in use.

Eleven of twelve steers exhibited by the Nebraska college of agriculture at the state fair won premiums. Their winnings included five firsts, six seconds and six thirds.

Governor McKelvie has called upon Director General Hines of the railroad administration to take some action to save hundreds of thousands of bushels of wheat in western Nebraska from rotting on the ground, because freight cars for its shipment have not been furnished. Great damage has already been done and a further loss will follow unless relief is had soon.

Leo Darling, negro, who is said to have confessed to the murder of R. L. Massey of Omaha, Union Pacific conductor at North Platte, narrowly escaped being lynched at Grand Island where he was spirited for safe keeping. A daughter of the sheriff of Hall county learned that a crowd of enraged men were on the way to the jail to lynch the negro. She informed her father who called his deputies and in a high-powered automobile took their prisoner to the state penitentiary at Lincoln.

Nebraska boys and girls won twelve prizes at the Interstate Live Stock fair at Sioux City, Ia., including first for pig club judging and second in canning. With eleven teams competing, 3 Seward county boys, Norval Clark, Peter Pratt and Walter Briggs, took high honors as judges of pigs, and three Omaha girls, Mary Haney, Ruby Crippen and Anna May Boland, second place in canning.

Governor McKelvie has announced the appointment of Mrs. Emily P. Hornberger of Lincoln as director of the child welfare bureau, provided for by an act of the last legislature. Mrs. Hornberger was juvenile court officer and superintendent of the detention home in Lincoln for eight years.

The work of organizing the Alliance Packing company is proceeding rapidly. Offices have been established in Alliance. The company will have a capitalization of \$2,000,000 to \$3,000,000. Its directors will include stockmen in western Nebraska and Wyoming.

No trace has been found of the three bandits who entered the Citizens State bank at Ralston, a suburb of Omaha, in broad daylight, locked the cashier and three other officials of the institution in the bank vault and escaped with \$4,000 in cash in an automobile.

Hog cholera in Dodge and surrounding counties is practically wiped out, according to Dr. H. Kerston, inspector for the government, stationed at Fremont. There are a few cases of pneumonia, he says, but the attacks are being successfully coped with.

Two hundred and fifty candidates were initiated into the mysteries of the Mystic Shrine at a monster gathering of Masons at Grand Island. Delegates from Omaha, Lincoln, Hastings, Alliance, Broken Bow and many other Nebraska cities attended.

Harvesting of the 1919 potato crop is under way in Sheridan county. The yield is from forty to fifty bushels per acre, in place of the usual one hundred and twenty to one hundred and fifty.

Washington advises are to the effect that King Albert and Queen Marie of Belgium will visit Omaha on their trip to the west. The date of their visit was announced as October 25.

A contract has been let for the building of a road from the railroad station at Peru to the state normal road, the cost to be approximately \$50,000, the distance about one mile.

During the past week one case of Spanish influenza was reported at Omaha, it being the first appearance of the disease in Nebraska this fall, it is believed.

The most serious sugar shortage in the history of Adams county was relieved by the arrival at Hastings of 800 bags of the sweetness from California.

Elks of Beatrice closed a deal for the purchase of the old auditorium building on North Fifth street, which they expect to put in shape for a permanent home.

A new national guard company is to be organized in Nemaha county. The movement has the backing of a number of former guardsmen at Auburn.

According to a monthly bulletin issued by Gus Hyers, chief state agent, but twenty-two automobiles were stolen in Nebraska during August.

The recent heavy rain at Superior washed out the dam of the Southern Nebraska Power Co., the oldest dam in the Republican river.

A new sixty-room hotel, to cost about \$150,000, is to be built at Chadron. The hostelry will be modern in every detail.

Work on paving the three miles of the Lincoln highway west of Columbus is not expected to start until next spring.

A home-coming celebration for Brown county soldiers and sailors will be held in Atsworth on October 10 and 11.

Falls City people are vigorously backing a movement to build a new up-to-date hotel in the city.

The 40-acre Chapman orchard near Table Rock promises to yield 6,000 bushels of apples this year.

The Fremont post of American legion cleared \$1,125 by the carnival held just recently.

Because of so many alleged illegal raids and a number of damage suits filed against its members, the Omaha moral squad has been abolished.

Wild ducks are reported more plentiful in the sand hill regions of Nebraska than for many years and an excellent season of fall shooting is expected.

Only two of the several thousand hogs exhibited at the state fair, which were ordered quarantined after shipment home because some of the animals had been exposed to an infectious form of bronchitis, have died.

Despite the fact that lack of material has retarded the work of paving twelve blocks of Tecumseh's streets, contractors expect to finish the job this fall.

The state board of educational lands and buildings approved valuations of school lands in the counties of Boone, Buffalo, Chase, Dawson, Harlan, Johnson, Pierce, Richardson, Sarpy, Webster and Wheeler, which show an increase of \$1,148,048. The former valuation of these lands was \$350,832. The new total on the 78,985 acres re-valued is \$1,449,780.



1—President and Mrs. Wilson photographed as they began their return trip from the Pacific coast; at the left is Gavin McNabb, the president's western representative. 2—Troop of the Pennsylvania mounted constabulary leaving their barracks to disperse turbulent steel mill strikers. 3—Lieut. Col. D'Annunzio, the poet-soldier whose seizure of Fiume has precipitated a crisis in Italy.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Indications That Union Labor May Get the Worst of the Great Steel Strike.

SENATE STARTS AN INQUIRY

Many Workers Said to Be Returning to the Mills—Status of the Peace Treaty Contest—D'Annunzio's Raid Precipitates Crisis in Italy.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

Developments of the week in the great strike of steel workers indicated that this, perhaps the severest test to which union labor in America ever has subjected itself, would result adversely to the unions.

At the beginning many thousands of men in the United States Steel corporation's numerous plants scattered throughout the country quit work, regardless of whether or not they were members of the unions. W. Z. Foster, general organizer, claimed that 342,000 had gone out before the week was half over. This was not directly disputed by the corporation officials, but they declared the tide already had turned and that the men were coming back to the mills in large numbers seeking their old jobs. A great many of the plants were closed down at the beginning of the week, but in some of the districts these were being reopened gradually with increasing forces of workers. In the Pittsburgh district the employers asserted they were increasing production in all the important plants; the Gary and Indiana Harbor mills resumed partial operation; the strikers at Canton, O., and Birmingham, returned to work. On the other hand there was virtually a complete tie-up in the Mahoning valley, the Colorado district and at other points.

Though the union officials had declared the strike would be conducted without violence on the part of the men, rioting started promptly in some regions, especially in Pennsylvania. Several deaths and many injuries resulted. The state constabulary got into action promptly and effectively, breaking up all assemblages and in general restoring order. Sabotage was in evidence in various plants.

The strike leaders were earnestly endeavoring to expand the strike into a walkout of allied crafts, which include the men in 25 unions. On the Great Lakes it appeared likely the seamen and marine firemen who transport iron ore would go out, and switchmen on railroads that especially serve steel plants were reported to be ready to quit.

The senate committee on education and labor began an inquiry into the strike and the first witness was John Fitzpatrick, chairman of the committee on organization of the steel workers and real leader of the strike. It was announced that Mr. Gary would appear before the committee later to present the case for the employers. Fitzpatrick admitted to the committee that there had been no demand from the steel workers for unionization, but that the Federation of Labor considered it necessary because the steel industry was a "bad spot" in the industrial situation and that the conditions prevailing in it led other large employers to consider imposing similar conditions on their employees. He told at length of the vain efforts to induce Mr. Gary to confer with his committee, and said that even if the steel corporation should now consent to meet the union representatives it would be too late to stop the strike, as the men "are going to demand decent justice of the United States government."

However, Fitzpatrick said, the unions would call off the strike if the steel corporation would agree to submit the issue involved to arbitration by a commission to be named by President Wilson. When this was told to Mr. Gary in New York, he replied that,

speaking for himself, he believed the board of directors could not negotiate with Fitzpatrick and his associates as union labor leaders and that questions of moral principles, such as are involved in this struggle cannot be arbitrated nor compromised.

Samuel Gompers, testifying before the senate interstate commerce committee, gave the steel strike his approval though he said he would have preferred to have postponed it until after the industrial conference in October. He laid all the blame for the strike on Mr. Gary for his refusal to deal with the union chiefs. As a matter of plain fact, the whole contest hinges on the question of the open or the closed shop and its outcome will go far to determine the power and right of the unions to organize industries that have not asked such action and to enforce their closed shop policy everywhere.

Mr. Gompers also appeared before the senate committee on the District of Columbia, where he maintained the right of policemen to organize, but said they should not go on strike. "Private employees" he said, "can quit work, while policemen have no such recourse." At the same time he defended the policemen of Boston by asserting that the trouble there was not really a strike but a lockout. As for the constabulary of Pennsylvania, he declared the events of recent days have proved they are nothing but Cossacks, and they would not be admitted to the Federation of Labor.

The resentment of the public, which of course is always the "goat" in industrial disputes, is being reflected in congress. Senator Thomas of Colorado leads the fight in the upper house against tyranny by union labor, and last week introduced a resolution condemning the closed shop principle as un-American and calling for the repudiation by congress of the special immunity it has granted to labor unions from prosecution for violation of the anti-trust laws. In the lower house Representative Cooper, who is from the Youngstown district and is himself a union labor man, uttered a warning against the danger of organized labor being misled by such a "revolutionary leader" as William Z. Foster, secretary of the steel worker's committee. Foster is the author of a book on syndicalism and secretary of the Syndicalist League of North America and in his book defends the syndicalist methods of violence, sabotage and lawlessness to win strikes. Congressman Kahn of California, asked Attorney General Palmer if Foster could not be prosecuted in connection with deaths and injuries caused since the steel strike began, but Mr. Palmer said he thought any such action should be brought by the various states rather than by the federal government. Mr. Gompers and other "conservative" union labor leaders must enjoy their close relation with Foster and his like.

If anyone supposed President Wilson would compromise with the reservationists concerning the peace treaty, he seemingly was mistaken. The president, on his way back from the Pacific coast, delivered himself of speeches that showed his spirit was, if possible, more uncompromising than ever, and he rather plainly intimated that if the pact were not ratified as it stands he would pigeonhole it for the present and make it the issue of next year's presidential campaign. To his audience in Cheyenne he said if the proposed reservation to article ten were adopted by the senate he would regard it as rejection of the whole treaty, and that it would mean the negotiation of a separate peace with Germany, which would turn the whole world against us. He predicted that without the League of Nations covenant, including article ten unchanged, the world would be plunged into a war far more horrible than the conflict just ended.

Mr. Wilson also continued to defend the arrangement by which the British empire has six votes to one for the United States in the league assembly. The proposed amendment to this article was causing both sides in the senate considerable worry, and they dodged a vote on it for the time being. The proponents of the covenant wanted to wait until after the president returned in the hope that he might be able to bring some pressure to bear,

and the opposition were not at all sure of their strength. The mild reservationists hoped some way might be found to avoid the direct issue.

The French chamber of deputies, in which the government was pressing for ratification of the treaty, was much exercised by the hostile attitude of the American senate and the government was called on for explanations. Tardieu said he was satisfied the senate would ratify the treaty, and Pichon said even without the United States the League of Nations could exist, legally speaking. Barthou replied that France wanted political, not legal guarantees. Premier Clemenceau then said:

"Should the United States reject the League of Nations, two treaties of alliance between France and Great Britain and France and the United States exist. Nevertheless it was precisely because we felt that the League of Nations was an insufficient guarantee for some years to come that these treaties were drawn up. The League of Nations for the present has nothing to do with the Franco-British-American treaties, which constitute sufficient guarantees for France."

Italy was in the midst of a tremendous crisis, brought on directly by the seizure of Fiume by D'Annunzio and blamed by the Italians themselves on the great powers which refused to carry out all the promises in the treaty of London. Foreign Minister Tittoni was compelled to resign, and the peace conference in Paris was deeply concerned by the situation. The Italian government asked the allies to oust D'Annunzio and his followers, but at this writing nothing in that line had been started. The poet-soldier was still defiant and his forces were increasing in strength. Other Italian leaders, it was reported, were following his example and making raids on Spalato, Sebenico and Trau, towns on the Dalmatian coast which have been under the domination of the Jugo-Slavs. In Ragusa, near the Montenegrin frontier, there was a veritable reign of terror. There are rumors, also, that the Italians are planning to restore King Nicholas to the throne of Montenegro. He is the father of the queen of Italy.

Late advices from Spalato by way of Copenhagen said an American destroyer appeared at Trau and landed marines, compelling the Italians to leave, after which the Jugo-Slavs took over the town from the Americans.

Officials of the state department at Washington admit that the president has agreed with the allies on a plan to give support to Kolchak and Denikine in their fight against the bolshevik. The United States is to supply the former with the things he needs, and Great Britain and France will take care of the latter. Presumably this arrangement means that the American troops now in Siberia will not be brought back for some time. Both these Russian leaders have been scoring considerable success against the bolshevik lately, and it may be the recognition of the Omsk government by the allied powers will not be much longer delayed.

The bolshevik government, while willing to make peace with the Baltic states, is laying its plans to conquer the rest of its foes. Trotzky, speaking recently in Petrograd, said his armies would continue their methods of beating their enemy singly, taking Kolchak first and then Denikine. "If Finland wants war" he said, "it will be necessary to begin against her a campaign of extermination such as hitherto has been unknown to history."

Lenine, it is said, is anxious to be at peace with all the world. There was a report in Paris that he had been assassinated. If this were true Trotzky probably would be more powerful than ever, and the peace he seeks is founded on the destruction of his enemies.

The king and queen of the Belgians are on their way to visit the United States. Before his departure Albert said he had much to learn in this country owing to the "excellent relations existing between capital and labor" here. Can it be that Albert was spoofing us?

LYNCHING AT OMAHA

NEGRO, ACCUSED OF ASSAULT, HUNG AND BURNED BY MOB.

MAYOR HAS NARROW ESCAPE

One White Man Shot and Killed.—Many Persons Injured—Magnificent Court House Wrecked.

Omaha, Neb.—Red terror reigned in this city Sunday night when an infuriated mob estimated at over 10,000 attacked and virtually wrecked the magnificent Douglas county court house, lynched William Brown, the negro identified as the assailant of Agnes Loebeck, 19-year-old white girl, attempted to hang Mayor Smith and then launched forth into a wild debauch of bloodshed and destruction.

At least one white man was killed, scores of men were shot or beaten, store fronts were smashed by rioters in search of weapons, police automobiles were overturned and burned and the whole heart of the business section thrown into grisly fear.

The police were powerless to stem the avalanche of fury after it had once gained momentum, and a shortage of ammunition brought about the final collapse of the defense of the beleaguered garrison in the county jail.

The negro was then dragged from his cell, hanged to a telephone pole and his body torn to pieces by salvos of pistol shots. It was then dragged through the streets by cheering thousands and burned into ashes.

Mayor Smith was assaulted by the mob before the forcing of the jail. He was leaving the court house, which then resounded with explosions and the reports of pistols, several of the big offices being in flames, when an unknown soldier shouted that the mayor had shot him through the hand. Smith was dragged from the police emergency automobile, into which he had stepped, a rope placed about his neck, and he was hung to the signal station at Sixteenth and Harney streets. He was immediately cut down but is said to be in a serious condition.

Troops were rushed to the scene from Fort Crook and Fort Omaha and the city placed under martial law.

The spectacular features attending the burning of the court house, with damage estimated from \$200,000 to \$1,000,000, were entirely subordinated to various aspects of the crowd's action, which were without precedent in any affair of the kind that has taken place in the country in the last quarter century.

For three hours the fire burned, room after room being set afire by members of the mob, without hindrance from police or firemen, the latter being utterly unable during that time to get a stream played on any of the rooms.

Most serious of the loss was the utter destruction of the current records of the city and county treasurer's office, which were not in the vault.

Records of cases pending in the district court, which were similarly not in a vault, are not believed to have been seriously damaged.

The numerous attacks on white women by Negroes in this city in the past few months and the lack of punishment meted out for such brutalities is the direct cause of the riot, the most serious of its kind in the history of the city.

Hurricane Death Toll 345.

Corpus Christi, Tex.—A revised summary of the casualties made public by the Bureau of Information places the known dead in the vicinity of Corpus Christi as the result of the hurricane and tidal wave which swept over the South Texas coast, Sunday, Sept. 14, at 820. Of this number, 157 were identified. The known dead in the vicinity of the Rockport, Arkansas Pass and Port Arkansas, is officially given as 35, bringing the total death toll to 345. In Corpus Christi, alone, the list of persons still accounted for contains 275 names, making a grand total of 520 for the affected districts, including known dead and missing.

Hitchcock Strong for Treaty.

Baltimore.—Senator Hitchcock of Nebraska vigorously defended the league of nations covenant in an address here under the auspices of the Baltimore Press club.

U. S. to Be Represented.

Washington, D. C.—At the urgent request of Senator Hitchcock, Secretary of War Baker has ordered the colonel and his aide of the Sixth regular regiment to proceed to Fort Atkinson (Fort Calhoun), Neb., for the centennial celebration to be held October 11.

The secretary of war likewise has ordered that troops and material also proceed to the old fort from Fort Crook and Omaha and that they and their bands join in the centennial celebration.

Methodists for Treaty.

Charles City, Ia.—The Upper Iowa conference of the Methodist church endorsed the league of nations peace treaty and demanded its ratification by the United States senate.

John D. Makes Gift.

New York.—A gift of \$20,000,000 from John D. Rockefeller for the improvement of medical education in the United States was announced by the general education board.