

# CAPITAN MOUNTAINEER.

Art. Harvey

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NO. 28

## FARMER REAPS GAIN BY EIGHT-HOUR LAW

Prevented Tying Up of His Products Valued at \$6,000,000,000.

## PRESIDENT IS BEST FRIEND

By FRANK G. ODELL,  
Editor Nebraska Farm Magazine.

The New York Sun quotes James Wilson, of Iowa, former Secretary of

Agriculture, as saying that the farmers were hit hardest by the Adamson eight-hour law, which stopped the threatened general railroad strike. According to The Sun, Mr. Wilson said:

"The farmer has no eight-hour day. Should that number of hours become general in all occupations, including the farm, the prices of food would rise still higher than those current."

The logic of the venerable ex-Secretary is bad. The farmer is not worrying about the high price of food. He raises his own food. He grows food for sale. That's his business. If, as the ex-Secretary says, the eight-hour day will increase the cost of food, the farmer has everything to gain.

And "Uncle Jim" has overlooked the fact that the farmers of the United States had not less than \$6,000,000,000 worth of products practically ready to send to market when the strike crisis was imminent at the first of September. The threatened strike would have paralyzed the farmer's market and stopped the wage of the worker in every industry.

Incalculable losses, running into hundreds of millions, were averted when the strike was prevented. Woodrow Wilson did it.

"Uncle Jim" was Secretary of Agriculture through four Republic administrations—sixteen years. These were sixteen years of monopolistic control of the farmers' market. During this period, these great combinations, which have stood between the producer and the consumer, reached the zenith of their power. Greed and extortion ran riot. The high cost of living became a cry of universal complaint, for which the farmer was made the goat.

During this period the farmers of the country complained continually of capitalist extortion. They held conventions throughout the great grain and live stock belt to voice their protest. They sent delegations of able men to Washington. They sent their appeals for justice to the Secretary of Agriculture, and waited at the door of the White House during the administrations of McKinley, Roosevelt and Taft. They asked for bread and received stones of indifference. They demanded justice and received platitudes about "prosperity," "contentment," and "making two blades of grass grow where one grew before."

Then came another Wilson—Woodrow Wilson. Things began to change. David F. Houston was made Secretary of Agriculture. For the first time in the history of the Government the business problems of the farmer received the attention of his Government. The Office of Markets and the Bureau of Rural Organization were created to help him break the strangle hold of entrenched monopoly. The epoch-making Rural Credit Law was passed by Woodrow Wilson and a Democratic Congress. The power of the banker and extorter was broken when that act was signed.

The farmer has a good memory. He does not forget his life-long battle with entrenched privilege—organized and grossly proud. During forty years of Republican indifference and misrule he will not forget that it was WOODROW WILSON, the People's President, who saved his market from ruin on Sept. 2, 1916. The special pleading of Republican defenders of special privilege and monopoly will find the farmers ready on Nov. 7.

## VOTERS, THINK IT OVER.

Theodore Roosevelt is the guiding spirit of the Republican campaign.

He is the substance—Hughes is the shadow.

You know what Roosevelt stands for—agitation, jingoism. He has declared openly his regret that this country did not get into the European War.

Do you want Roosevelt and Hughes, and War?

Or do you want more Peace and Prosperity under Wilson?

## REVEAL TREND OF CURRENTS

Travel of Bottles Dropped Into the Ocean Convey Information to the Navy Departments.

The hydrographic bureau of the navy department is always interested in endeavoring to ascertain, by means of bottle messages, information as to the movements of the oceans. These bottles contain papers that have been dropped overboard from vessels in many places, to drift at the mercy of the winds and waves. Many of them have been found and picked up either in the open sea or on shores where they have been stranded.

Knowing from their records where the bottles had been thrown overboard, the bureau has been able to trace, in a general way, the path they must have followed in order to reach the places where they were found. In one report alone there were published the adventures of over one hundred bottles.

Being partially filled with air and then securely corked, the bottles float on the surface of the water and go wherever the wind and the current of the sea carry them. Each bottle contains a record of the place and the date of its starting. Some of those found have floated for many months, and sometimes years, and have traveled thousands of miles.

It has been found that bottles dropped overboard between the shores of the United States and England or France usually travel toward the northeast, following the course of that great river in the Atlantic ocean, the Gulf stream. Bottles started off the coasts of Spain and Africa travel, as a rule, westward until they arrive among the West India Islands. Along the European side of the ocean the bottle takes a southerly course and along the American side a northerly course.

## WORLD OWES DEBT TO THESE

Macadam, "Father of Good Roads, and His Contemporary, Telford, Worthy of All Gratitude.

The first great improvement in highway construction within modern times was effected by John Loudon Macadam, or Macadam, who was born in Ayr, Scotland, in 1766. This great Scotch engineer was the inventor of the road-making system known as "macadamizing," which is still in general use, although vastly improved. Macadam died in 1836, at the age of eighty.

When he was born the turnpike roads of England and Scotland were in an incredibly bad state. Macadam and his contemporary, Telford, were the first to check the prevailing chaos and to bring scientific methods and regular systems to bear upon the building, repair and maintenance of highways.

Macadam was engaged chiefly in the repair of existing roads rather than the construction of new ones, and the improvements which he inaugurated were of great and lasting benefit, not only to his native land, but to the world at large. Telford insisted upon a foundation of broken stone in road building, while Macadam insisted that this was unnecessary and that the subsoil would carry any weight if adequately drained and kept dry by an impervious covering.

## Forming Habits.

We believe in the greatest freedom for the youth; we believe in a happy environment that will create noble characters; we believe the spirit of the boy should be held sacred and directed toward the achievement of higher things in life than social gossip and amusement, and we believe that the encouragement of pool playing as an adjunct of the public schools, it makes no difference how many boards of education, committees, public meetings, may favor it, is a mistake. The idea that we must resort to games to hold the boys to their school work carries with it the impression that our school methods are wrong, and there can be no other justification of pool playing in schoolrooms than that impression. Education should be given world-wide room. It should be as free as the air on the prairies. It should never be contracted to a habit-forming amusement in response to the exactions of this materialistic age. Columbus (O.) Journal.

It was announced that Senator Warren of Wyoming has been placed on the special roll of honor that entitles him to a special pension "for heroism performed in actual conflict with the enemy beyond the call of duty." The pension is \$10 a month.

## WOODROW WILSON

President of the United States



## "HE HAS KEPT US OUT OF WAR"

This is the face of a man strong, courageous, patient and kindly, a man...

Always alert to the aspirations of his fellow-man and sympathetic toward their fulfillment;

Never complacent toward the encroachments of privilege nor tolerant of social wrong;

Always seeking to enhance the dignity of labor and better the state of the toiler;

Never lending an ear to the sophistry of exploitation or the blandishments of expediency;

Always patient to hear and weigh, to appraise and analyze, and passionate to find the way of right;

Never premature in purpose nor prejudiced in judgment, and never headlong in decision—

Such is WOODROW WILSON.

## Roswell Auto Company

The Best Equipped Garage in the State. We give the best of service and insure all customers entire satisfaction. A large assortment of Tires, Tubes and General Accessories.

"Everything for the Ford."

## The Art of Money Getting--

is hard work. Avoid debt, economize, improve small opportunities and invest your savings carefully. Deposit them with us till the opportunity for investment comes. We pay interest on time deposits.

EXCHANGE BANK, CARRIZOZO, NEW MEXICO  
Interest paid on Time Deposits

## TOILET ARTICLES

Of all kinds and descriptions at popular prices.—PRICES that will meet with the approval of your POCKET BOOK

## PRESCRIPTIONS.

—filled with ACCURACY by Pharmacists of years experience, thus insuring prompt and satisfactory service to our patrons.

## GIVE US YOUR BUSINESS

## The Nyal Store

## ROLLAND BROS.

"The House of Quality"

CARRIZOZO, N. M.

## CAPITAN GARAGE

If your Automobile is sick and under the weather, bring it or send it to us. We treat all diseases of the AUTO including the most difficult and contagious. SURGICAL OPERATIONS A SPECIALITY.

FREE AIR  
CAPITAN, NEW MEXICO.

## Conclusions

—it will be an EYE OPENER to you when you come to the conclusion to buy all of your drugs, patent medicines, fountain syringes, toilet articles, perfumes, stationery, toilet soaps, combs, brushes, tooth paste and all other drug store items in our store.

## The Only Drug Store in a radius of 20 miles.

"We Are In Business For Your  
---Health"

## THE SUNSHINE PHARMACY CAPITAN, NEW MEX,

CAPITAN MOUNTAINEER.

**CAPITAN MOUNTAINEER.**

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**Democratic Candidate Announcements.**

For Sheriff,  
W. C. HYDE

For Clerk,  
Wm. E. KIMBRELL

For County Treasurer,  
W. O. NORMAN

For Tax Assessor,  
FRANCISCO SALAZAR

For School Superintendent,  
J. E. KOONCE

For Commissioner Dist. No. 1,  
JOHN L. BRYAN, Jr.

**Republican Candidate Announcements.**

For Senator 15th Senatorial Dist.  
J. V. TULLY

For Representative,  
IRA WETMORE

For Sheriff,  
HENRY M. CORN

For Clerk,  
O. T. NYE

For Treasurer,  
A. J. ROLLAND

For Tax Assessor,  
ALFREDO GONZALES

For Superintendent Public Schools,  
Mrs. G. E. de NISSON

For Probate Judge,  
ELIASADO CHAVEZ

For Commissioner Dist. No. 1,  
MANUEL ANALLA

For Commissioner Dist. No. 2,  
FELIPE SANCHEZ

For Commissioner Dist. No. 2,  
FRED LALONE

**Candidates Take Notice.**  
All candidates wanting "stickers" with their names printed on them, should call or write this office and have in their order as early as the 20th of this month.

**For Sale.**

Eighty acres patented land, fenced, four room house, cellar, barn, corral, etc. Sixty bearing fruit trees, well, spring for garden, plenty of outside range, fifteen acres in cultivation, one and a half miles from school. Price \$600; inquire at Mountaineer office.

FOR SALE—Park Davis & Co's. Blackleg oids.

The Titsworth Co.

**To Goat Men.**

Can see my Billy Goats at my ranch in the San Andrea mountains, where they have lately been moved from my place on the upper Bonita.

G. B. Greer.

Parsons, New Mexico.

**Notice to the Public**

Notice is hereby given to the public that I will not be responsible for any debts made by Mrs. Clara Bino, my wife, who is not living with me as such.

Abel Pino.

FOR SALE—Two Studebaker buggies at a bargain.

The Titsworth Co.

Have your favorite Family Receipt filled at the Sunshine Pharmacy. We will fill it just like you want it.

**SOCIALIST TICKET.**

NATIONAL

For President  
Woodrow Wilson

For Vice President  
Thomas R. Marshall

For Presidential Electors:

NATIONAL

M. B. Smith,  
T. Smith,  
Ira N. Crisp.

For U. S. Senator  
W. P. Metcalf

For Representative in Congress  
A. J. Egum.

For Justice Supreme Court  
A. James McDonald.

For Governor  
N. A. Wells,

For Lieutenant Governor  
J. H. Bearup.

For State of Alto  
Vincent Thomas.

For State Auditor  
Frank Frost.

For State Treasurer  
Frank Phelps.

For Sup. Public Instruction  
Mts. Lurline Lane of Alto,

Lincoln County.

For Com'r Public Lands  
T. E. Pendleton.

For State Senator 15th District  
W. M. Anderson.

For State Auditor  
Eugene F. Jones.

(No County Ticket)

**ASKREN & WOOD  
LAWYERS**

Roswell and Carrizozo, N. M.

**GEO. SPENCE  
ATTORNEY**

In Bank Building. Phone No. 11  
Carrizozo, New Mexico

**H. B. HAMILTON  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

Will do a general Civil Practice  
Carrizozo, N. M.

**Valuable Birds of Trinidad.**

The natives of Trinidad make use of the young guacharo in an unusual manner. The young are very fat, and are frequently found to weigh more than the full-grown birds. Their fat is used by the natives to produce an oil which is a substitute for butter. Also it is frequently the custom of the natives to draw a wick through the body of a young guacharo and use it as a lamp or candle. This the guacharo is sometimes called the oil bird.

Political Advertisement.

**TO THE VOTERS  
of NEW MEXICO**

Early in this campaign the McDonald-de Baca campaign speakers and managers opened up a bold attack upon what they termed "Mr. Bursum's Corporation Mine Tax Law." The effort was to make you believe that the mine tax law enacted by the legislature of 1915 was in the interest of mining corporations in New Mexico, and not in the interest of the people.

You have heard little or nothing of attack upon the mine tax law during the past four weeks.

**WHY?**

Because the Democratic campaigners found, wherever they went, that the people knew something about the operation of the mine tax law and that plain lies about its operation were being repeated against the Democratic candidates. The facts about the operation of the mine tax law were so compelling that even Governor McDonald and his assistant disseminator of libel, Gilie Otero, were forced to cease their attacks upon it.

The New Mexico mine tax law, enacted by the Republican legislature of 1915, with the supporting votes of a majority of the Democratic members of the assembly, is one of the best laws of its kind upon the statute books of any state.

DURING ITS FIRST YEAR OF OPERATION, 1915, IT INCREASED THE TAXES PAID BY THE MINING COMPANIES INTO THE PUBLIC TREASURY BY APPROXIMATELY 100 PER CENT.

Here are a few illustrations of how the mine tax law "worked" for the benefit of the mining corporations—as Governor McDonald and his newspaper backers have charged:

In 1914, the year before the mine tax law went into effect, the Chino Copper Company

in Grant county, paid \$41,757.30 in taxes.

In 1915, the first year of mine tax law operation, the Chino Copper Company paid \$102,289.71 in taxes.

This particular corporation did not "benefit" much by the mine tax law, for which H. O.

Bursum worked, and which he assisted in drawing. The Chino Company's taxes were increased more than 100 per cent through the operation of this law.

The Hanover-Bessemer Iron & Copper Company, a smaller mining corporation in Grant county, paid \$44.50 in taxes in 1914. In 1915, under the mine tax law, this company paid \$1,227.24.

Miners companies operating in Socorro county, Mr. Bursum's home county, paid a total of \$8,635.89 in 1914. In 1915, under the mine tax law, these same companies paid into the treasury of Socorro county \$17,714.62—AND THEIR OUTPUT FOR THE LATTER YEAR WAS SLIGHTLY LESS THAN IN 1914.

In 1914 the Star Cañon Fuel Company at Dawson paid \$2,661.48 in taxes. In 1915, under the mine tax law, the Star Cañon Company paid \$7,263.72.

In 1914 the six largest producers mining properties in New Mexico paid a total of \$83,565.42. IN 1915, UNDER THE MINE TAX LAW, THESE SIX COMPANIES PAID \$155,605.03

AN INCREASE OF NEARLY 100 PER CENT.

THE FIGURES FROM THE PUBLIC RECORDS QUOTED HERE ARE THE REASON THE DEMOCRATIC CAMPAIGN MANAGERS, GOVERNOR McDONALD AND THEIR NEWSPAPERS HAVE CEASED ATTACKING THE MINE TAX LAW. THEY UNDERTOOK TO DECEIVE THE PEOPLE WHEN THE FACTS WERE SPREAD UPON THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HALF THE COUNTIES OF THE STATE. THEY COULD NOT MAKE THE PEOPLE BELIEVE FALSEHOODS IN THE FACE OF FACTS—THAT IS THE CHIEF REASON WHY IN EVERY COAL AND METAL PRODUCING COUNTY IN NEW MEXICO IN THIS CAMPAIGN, THE PEOPLE ARE FOR H. O. BURSUM FOR GOVERNOR AND AGAINST WILLIAM C. McDONALD AND HIS ASSOCIATES.

THE PEOPLE IN OTHER COUNTIES THAN THOSE HAVING PRODUCING MINES, ALSO ARE FOR BURSUM AND AGAINST McDONALD. SENTIMENT FOR BURSUM IS THE DOMINANT, OUTSTANDING FACT IN THIS CAMPAIGN.

BUT IN THE MINING COUNTIES THE PEOPLE HAVE HAD AN ACTUAL, CLOSE-TO-HOME ILLUSTRATION OF THE FACT THAT DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS WILLIAM C. McDONALD, WITH ALL THE POWER OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE AT HIS COMMAND, HAS DONE NOTHING FOR THE PEOPLE BUT TALK TO THEM CONSTANTLY OF HIS "HONESTY" AND HIS "INTEGRITY," WHILE HOLM O. BURSUM, WITH NOTHING BEHIND HIM BUT HIS OWN BRAINS, ENERGY AND PUBLIC SPIRIT, HAS ACCOMPLISHED RESULTS FOR THE PEOPLE AND FOR HIS STATE.

WILLIAM C. McDONALD HAS GIVEN FIVE YEARS OF AN EXHIBITION OF WHAT A WEAK, INDETERMINATE CHARACTER CANNOT ACCOMPLISH NO MATTER HOW POWERFUL THE POSITION HE HOLDS.

H. O. BURSUM, DURING THESE SAME YEARS, AS A FRAMER OF BENEFICIAL TAX LAWS, AS A BUILDER OF ROADS, AS A DEVELOPER AND LEADER IN A GREAT INDUSTRY, HAS BEEN GIVING A CONSTANT DEMONSTRATION OF WHAT A STRONG MAN CAN ACCOMPLISH FOR HIS FELLOW CITIZENS AND HIS HOME STATE—AS A PLAIN CITIZEN.

**YOU HAVE YOUR CHOICE**

BETWEEN TWO YEARS MORE OF WILLIAM C. McDONALD AND FUTILE CONVERSATION (McDonald says de Baca will make the same kind of a governor as he has been), AND TWO YEARS OF ADMINISTRATION OF YOUR STATE AFFAIRS BY H. O. BURSUM, A MAN BIG ENOUGH TO HAVE ACCOMPLISHED MORE FOR HIS STATE AS A PRIVATE CITIZEN DURING THE FIVE YEARS OF THE McDONALD ADMINISTRATION THAN HAS WILLIAM C. McDONALD AS THE GOVERNOR OF NEW MEXICO.

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

024703

Department of the Interior  
U. S. Land Office,  
Roswell, New Mexico.

Sept. 24, 1916

Notice is hereby given that Charles W. Edgar, of Alto, New Mexico, who on Nov. 3, 1913, made Homestead Entry, Serial No. 029443, for WNW 1/4, and NW 1/4, Section 20, Township 10-S, Range 14-E, N. M. P. Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final three year proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before C. C. Merchant, J. C. Commissioner, in his office, at Capitan, New Mexico, on Nov. 4, 1916.

Claimant names as witnesses: Lewis England, Jeff J. Alderson, these of Capitan, N. M. William H. Evans, Oscar Hughes, these of Alto, N. M.

EMMETT PATTON. Oct. 4—Nov. 1. Register.

**For Sale.**

Eighty acre relinquishment, fenced, cross fenced, shack and extra lumber: one-horse Climax planter, buggy, two horse light spring wagon, harness and one horse, seven years old, ride or drive, double or single; also six rolls slate Impress Roofing 110 square feet per roll. Sell together or separately.

RICHARD BROCKMAN, Fort Stanton, N. M.

**120 N. Main St.**

.....That's all.....

For rapid lunch and best  
cigars in Roswell.....

**W. S. BREUNIG**

**W. W. SLACK**

Dealer in all kinds of native lumber. Mill near Alto, New Mexico. Prices as low as any other mill in the County. All orders filled promptly.

**Lumber! Lumber!**

BACCA CANYON MILL

We are running our mill at full capacity and can fill all orders for lumber promptly. First-class Pine lumber eighteen dollars per thousand.

HUTCHISON & JOHNS



# To The People of New Mexico

Defenders of the McDonald administration are attempting to tell you that administration of your state highway affairs during the past five years has been efficient; that it has been free from favoritism and free from political control and influence.

## GIVE YOUR ATTENTION TO THESE FACTS

The present state road law, under which the State Highway Commission and county road boards are named and operated, makes the Governor of New Mexico absolute boss of all state road work, and practically of all county road work. The governor is also dictator as to how, where and when state highway funds shall be expended.

As to efficiency, under this system, keep in mind that more than half of the product of your state highway bond issue of \$500,000 has been held idle in banks for over fifteen months idle for all purposes except to earn big interest for the lucky banks so favored by Governor McDonald and his Democratic state chairman, Arthur Seligman, who maneuvered the sale of the highway bond issue. These funds have been idle in the banks until the middle of this campaign, when road work has been started all over the state with frenzied energy.

As to favoritism, it is well known that certain counties and certain districts in certain counties have been wholly ignored by the State Highway Commission in expenditure of state highway funds. In a single So. Oro county precinct long since have been spent on a single piece of road while more needed roads elsewhere in that county have been left entirely alone. The favored precinct is strongly Democratic. Political considerations first; road necessities second, have dictated the policies of the State Highway Commission, as directed by Governor McDonald.

As to the county road boards, they have been dominated by political considerations throughout. In three-fourths of the counties of New Mexico Democrats join with Republicans in condemning the road board system, in favor of executive appointment. The law requires no more than two members of the one political party to the Board of three, but Governor McDonald has so maneuvered his administration as to secure virtually three Democrats in most counties. During the month of October Governor McDonald in effect demanded the resignation of a Republican road board member who had refused to fall in with the political domination of road matters in his county.

### REMEMBER IN THIS CONNECTION THE FOLLOWING FACTS:

Arthur Seligman, with the aid of Governor McDonald, effected the state road bond sale, one of the most remarkable bond transactions on record. McDonald selected Seligman's election as Democratic state chairman. Seligman was willing to retain McDonald in control of your state government. His Democratic platform declares for another \$500,000 road bond issue, and dollars in favor of retaining the Governor as a member of the State Highway Commission in a position which makes him absolute boss.

**REMEMBER** that in the last Legislature a law was framed to correct the more glaring defects in the present road law, that this bill was submitted to McDonald and approved by him that it passed both houses practically by unanimous vote of both Democrats and Republicans. **AND THAT McDONALD IS SPITE OF HIS PROMISE VETOED THE BILL.**

McDonald says the bill he vetoed is not the same bill he proposed to sign. **THIS MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE WHO PASSED THE BILL SAY IT IS THE SAME BILL.**

McDonald, by vetoing the bill, remained in control of the State Highway Commission and retained the huge patronage given through power to appoint the county road boards.

The Republican candidate for governor, with his party behind him, are on record against retention of the governor as a member of the State Highway Commission and **IN FAVOR OF** non political commission of not less than five members, no more than one from any judicial district.

The Republican candidate for Governor and his party behind him are on record against continuance of the present political County Road Board system which gives the Governor a political machine in every county and the funds wherewith to operate it.

It is up to you not only to choose between the men and the records in this election—but between the policies for which they stand.

McDonald says that if Do Baia is elected governor he will make the same kind of a governor he (McDonald) has been.

### DO YOU WANT TWO YEARS MORE OF POLITICAL STATE AND COUNTY ROAD ADMINISTRATION?

**What is Good Rope.**  
Rope is sold by the pound so that there is always the temptation for a dishonest manufacturer to "load" his product with an excess of oil or other material, or to make the coil a trifle short. The consumer then pays the full rope price for oil, etc. Then, too, much so-called manila contains a percentage of inferior fiber such as sisal and has neither the strength nor wearing qualities that it should. Tensile tests do not tell the story, for some of the adulterants are almost as strong as manila, but the strength of poor rope falls off rapidly with use.

Open the strands and look at the inside of an old rope for signs of wear, as it wears faster there than on the outside. When a rope passes over the sheave of a block or around a cleat the strands slide a little on each other and the inner fibers gradually pulverize.

Good manila fiber is light colored, fine, silky, and strong. Rope made from it is smooth, with few ends of fiber sticking out. —Outing.

### Swimming by Searchlight.

For the benefit of the tired business-men and the tired-business-women, unable to take advantage of Chicago's 22 miles of lake front during the daytime, the city has installed along some of the beaches powerful electric searchlights, so that the bathers can see just where, and with whom, they are swimming. After nightfall, the lights are turned on, throwing their rays in various directions, so that the bathers have plenty of illumination both on the beach and at a generous distance into the lake.

Achieve from giving the Chicagoans a new form of water sport, it makes their swimming perfectly safe.—Popular Science Monthly.

### Somewhat Singular Case.

"Where," asked Lewis R. China, United States commissioner held for deportation, "were you born?" "Me born," said Sung Ling, without hesitation, "in San Francisco." "Where," asked the commissioner, "were your parents born?" "China," replied the Oriental. "Have they ever been in this country?" asked the official. "No, sir," replied the Chinese, sincerely.

### SOME FACTS ABOUT MERCURY

**Astronomers Have Been Studying the Planet and Published the Conclusions Arrived At.**

The planet Mercury is the smallest of the major planets and the nearest to the sun, which it circles in a little less than three months. It reaches its greatest distance from the sun at periods about six days apart. During the year Mercury is morning star three times and evening star three times. Owing to its nearness to the sun, it is ever visible for more than a period of about two hours after sunset or before sunrise.

The eccentricity of its orbit is greater than that of any other major planet; its greatest and its least distance from the sun differ by nearly 13,000,000 miles.

According to A. W. McCurdy of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, the most remarkable characteristic in the motion of Mercury is that when it is nearest to the sun it travels faster than it should if it moved only by the solar system.

Astronomers have long sought an explanation of the accelerated motion. Some believe that there are other planets at present unknown between Mercury and the sun—bodies that although numerous are too small to be seen. The movements of Mercury indicate an influence that might be accounted for by the presence of another planet revolving within its orbit. If such a planet really exists, there should come a time when it will appear as a dark spot moving across the face of the sun. Another way to detect the presence of

new planets in the vicinity of the sun is to take observations during a total eclipse. If there are no clouds at

such a time, the stars become visible as the sun disappears. During the total eclipse of the sun in 1878 one observer saw an object that he thought might be the long-sought planet; but no other astronomer has been able to confirm the discovery and many now believe that the hidden source of the unusual movement of Mercury may be looked for elsewhere than in the orbit of the planet.—Youth's Companion.

### Send Drinkers to Front.

On account of a diminution in the output of munitions, due to excessive drinking, the French minister of munitions has issued instructions that any munition workers found under the influence of alcohol shall be immediately sent to the fighting line.

The explanation is given that the penalty is not in the nature of punishment, but because the man in question is unlikely to experience the same temptations at the front.

# To the Voters OF New Mexico

## State Road Construction and Administration of State State Road Finances Constitute One of the Most Important Issues Before You!

Democratic candidates and campaign managers have found it impossible to avoid this issue and have undertaken the defense of the present political state highway commission, of which the governor is a member and the virtual dictator of how and where state road money shall be spent.

In his address at Las Cruces, Governor McDonald, charge now current in almost every section of the state, that large sums of state road money, realized from the sale of the state's \$500,000.00 bond issue for roads, are to be used in various doubtful counties during the latter part of the present month in a sudden, violent spurt of the state highway construction, and which will give employment to large numbers of men at excellent wages, who are expected to "vote right" or for the Democratic candidates.

### Governor McDonald Made a Conditional Denial of This Charge

The Governor said in his Las Cruces speech:

"If there is any such condition existing anywhere in the state, I know nothing of it."

It is entirely possible that "such condition" can exist in New Mexico and Governor McDonald remain ignorant of it. No specific case of such a misuse of state highway funds has been charged by any citizen, because thus far, conclusive proof has not been furnished.

Governor McDonald, however, cannot be ignorant of the fact that Arthur Seligman, present chairman of the Democratic State Committee, and active manager of the McDonald-Baia campaign, is the same Arthur Seligman who negotiated the sale of the state's \$500,000.00 bond issue, and so conducted the negotiations that more than one-half of that half million dollars of public money must remain tied up in banks. DRAWING INTEREST FOR THE BANKS BUT NOT FOR THE STATE, until the present month of October, the crucial period in the New Mexico state campaign.

There is the further fact that Mr. Seligman's selection as chairman of the Democratic state campaign committee was approved and promoted by Governor McDonald.

There is the further fact, which Governor McDonald may or may not know, that Mr. Arthur Seligman reached Luna county early in this week, co-incident with the unexpected establishment of a new state road camp east of Deming, and that men have been and are being hired for work at that camp in numbers which appear disproportionate to the necessities of the work.

It is not asserted that the State Highway Commission is employing men for work at the Luna county road camp who must have the O. K. of Mr. Arthur Seligman and his assistants in the management of the Democratic campaign, before being put upon the payroll.

IT IS ASSERTED THAT THE PRESENT SYSTEM OF POLITICAL CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT OF STATE ROAD BUILDING AND HANDLING OF NEW MEXICO HIGHWAY FUNDS MAKES SUCH ABUSES POSSIBLE AND EASY OF EXECUTION WITH SMALL CHANCE OF CONVICTION and that in political crises SUCH A SYSTEM PLACES A STRONG TEMPTATION BEFORE MEN IN POSSESSION OF PRACTICALLY AUTOCRATIC POWER OVER THE DISPOSITION OF LARGE SUMS OF PUBLIC MONEY.

THE DEMOCRATIC STATE PLATFORM IS FINAL PROOF THAT THE DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES FAVOR AND IF ELECTED WILL CONTINUE THE PRESENT POLITICAL STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION—with THE GOVERNOR AS A MEMBER AND BOSS OF THE COMMISSION.

THE REPUBLICAN PLATFORM DECLARIES FOR THE REORGANIZATION OF THE STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION FOR AN INCREASE FROM THREE TO FIVE MEMBERS, NOT MORE THAN ONE FROM ANY ONE JUDICIAL DISTRICT—AND THAT THE GOVERNOR SHALL NOT BE A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION.

The Democrats desire and propose to continue the present political system, with all the power in the hands of one man, and that man the governor and head of a political party—and they propose this in connection with another \$500,000.00 road bond issue, to be floated in the same manner as that other half-million dollar bond issue for which the Democratic state chairman negotiated his extraordinary sale.

THE REPUBLICANS PROPOSE A STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION WHICH WILL BE REPRESENTATIVE OF ALL SECTIONS OF THE STATE, WHICH WILL HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF THE NEEDS OF ALL SECTIONS, WHICH WILL LOOK OUT FOR THE NEEDS OF ALL SECTIONS—A SYSTEM WHICH WILL END FAVORITISM FOR ONE COUNTY OR DISTRICT AND DISCRIMINATION AGAINST OTHERS.

THE REPUBLICANS PROPOSE A STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION REMOVED FROM ALL POSSIBLE SUSPICION OF THE MISUSE OF THE PUBLIC ROAD MONEY TO BUILD UP POLITICAL POWER BETWEEN ELECTIONS—AND IMPROPER INFLUENCE UPON VOTERS WHILE AN ELECTION CAMPAIGN IS IN PROGRESS.

### The Issue Is: Political State Road Administration vs. Business Administration of Road Construction and Road Finances.

## WHICH ARE YOU FOR?

### CAMERA AID TO PATRIOTISM

Australian Troops Get Pictures of Hemis to Urge Them On to Work Asked of Them.

It was Green, the historian, who said

that the cheap photographic portrait did much, very much, to link the empire together. The homesteader in Canada works to make a home for a girl of his heart he hopes will follow him and whose portrait he often looks at. The old mother in England, Ireland or Scotland gazes on the picture of her boy in British Columbia—and he is not so far away after all.

Wise people in Melbourne, Australia, know the power of sentiment, and they are letting the photograph aid patriotism.

Placed conspicuously in all the post offices of the commonwealth, posters advertising the new snapshots from the Home League explain an enterprising plan for linking home and trenches.

Amateur photographers may enroll in the league and take photographs of the relatives and homes of soldiers

on actual service, with the object of sending the pictures to the men in the trenches. Here are incentives, if any are needed to win out and get back home.

### Steppedinuates.

Some jaw-twister, eh? Never mind

trying to pronounce the thing, just call

it "boo," or "x," and save time as well

as patience. It relates to a disease

recognized by osteopaths and caused

by high street car steps. Awful name

for a thing so simple, eh? One might

be pardoned, in view of such a name

for the ailment, in thinking that it

meant the whole dingshusted works had

been scrambled like so many eggs. Dr.

F. G. Cluett of Sioux City, Ia., told

the state osteopaths about it during

their convention the other day, ex-

plaining that the disease, steppedinuates,

is a general nervous disorder

and is spreading rapidly. The jar or

slipping from a high step causes a

misplacement of the innumerate bone,

and the trouble begins.

Doctor Cluett said he had treated

several patients recently, all living

near car lines, and all afflicted in the

same way. A step should not be

more than eight inches high, the

height of the average step," said the

doctor. "Anything higher causes a

jolt that may have serious conse-

quences."

### Has Learned Value of Thrift.

Madame Genée, the world-famed

ballet dancer, is the latest matronly

to magnify the virtues of thrift. As

an example, she determined to adapt

her old dresses as long as she could

do so with decency during the war,

and in an interview she stated that

she had only procured one new dress

since its commencement. Had there

been no war she probably would have

been richer or poorer, she said, by at

least ten.

"Now I find that instead

of being a source of distress to me

the loss of so many dresses has been

a gain, though the money that I have

been in pocket has all gone, of course,

to the prince of Wales and other

funds. I am afraid when the war is

over the dressmaker will not find me

waltzing into her boudoir so frequent-

ly as I have done."

### Protection.

A man who employed a number of

boys to pick strawberries was quite

anxious to protect them from mos-

quitoes in that locality, and also that

they couldn't eat any berries with

these walls on. The

## General Local News.

Wright's Liquid Smoke for curing meats at Titsworth Co.'s

Mr. Lewis England was in town Tuesday looking for a house with a view of moving here for the school.

A. H. Hayes and H. G. King, of Mountain View were visitors to Capitan last Monday.

Get your school tablets and pencils at the Sunshine Pharmacy.

C. A. Perkins is spending a few days in Carrizozo assisting the democratic county central committee with campaign work.

Don't forget the Sunshine Pharmacy for high grade stationery, perfumes, etc.

It is learned that J. V. Hobbs has resigned his position as forest ranger and will soon quit the service. It is said that he is arranging to engage in ranching somewhere in the Pecos Valley.

The mercantile firm of Creely & Smith, of Ruidoso, are evidently doing a good business, judging from the amount of goods they are hauling from Capitan. They buy from the Titsworth Co.

James A. Scott was here a few days the first of the week looking after matters connected with the forest service. It is now a settled fact that an office will be kept in Capitan, but the man who will have charge of it has not yet been designated.

Highest prices paid for hides, sheep pelts and goat skins.

(The Titsworth Co.)

Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Coe were over from their place on the Ruidoso a few days ago visiting their daughter, Mrs. Will Titsworth. Mrs. Coe and children have moved to Roswell for the winter, but she comes back occasionally to spend a few days at the pleasant old home on the Ruidoso.

Messrs. A. J. Wallace, J. A. Adams, W. H. Sellars and Dan Cox of Paradise Valley, were transacting business in Capitan the first of the week. These gentlemen all among the very best citizens in the county and the business men of Capitan appreciate their patronage.

The Mountaineer is placing before its readers this week three of the leading tickets which are to be voted for next Tuesday. This is done to let the voters see the names of the candidates on the Democratic, Republican and Social tickets and they can have their choice when they come to cast their ballots.

Your complexion depends largely on the kind of soap you use. We handle the best only. Sunshine Pharmacy.

Judge Geo. B. Barber, democratic nominee for District Attorney, came over from Carrizozo Sunday afternoon. Judge Barber has made a close canvas of the county and is very hopeful of election.

Mr. R. L. Martin, who lived in Lincoln last year, then moved to Ruidoso, died on the 11th of October in Alamogordo, New Mexico. Mr. Martin made many friends wherever he lived, who will regret to learn of his death. The family now live at Hotel, New Mexico.

Mr. C. C. Cleveland, who has recently purchased the Baca Ranch property, was buying supplies in Capitan last Friday. The Mountaineer editor knew Mr. Cleveland in Texas, and can congratulate the people of Lincoln county on having another first-class citizen settle among them.

The Mountaineer's four pages are now printed at home. It is true some plate matter is used, but this is only done to a small extent, and more available space can be used for home news. This home service is found to be more satisfactory in every respect, because it not only furnishes more space for home matter, but it considerably reduces the cost of getting out the paper.

### Baca Canyon Ripples.

One of the most important real estate deals that has been made in this country in some time was made last Monday at Roswell, N. M., when the famous old Baca Ranch, five miles north of Lincoln, in the Baca Canyon, was sold by J. Smith Lee, of Roswell, to Mrs. C. C. Cleveland, of Garden City, Texas. Mr. Cleveland came into the Canyon about ten days ago, looking for a location, and upon being shown the beauty spot of the whole canyon, with its never failing stream of fine water, he immediately decided that this was the home he had been looking for. Negotiations followed and the deal was closed in Roswell last week. Mr. Cleveland took possession of the ranch at once and has already commenced improving his property. Mr. Cleveland has a family at Big Springs, Texas, where they will remain till Mr. Cleveland has a house completed for them, when they will come through to their new home in a car. We extend a hearty welcome to our new neighbors.

Mrs. Lon Roberts, who has been quite ill the past week, is now on the road to full recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. F. Hubert have been visiting up in the canyon since the hunting season opened. Mr. Bob Morris was busy showing our genial postmaster where to find the deer and turkey (and Bob sure can find them), while Mrs. Hubert visited with Mrs. Nabours and Mrs. Morris. They kept the ladies busy cooking venison and turkey; so we really have no kick to make this year. Mr. J. A. Dean is slowly improving from his fall last week.

### Notes from Mountain View

We have had a good deal of rain lately, and have also had our first frost.

Bros. Windom and Hall preached for us the past week. They organized a Sunday school at Richardson. Bro. Hall will preach at Mountain View once a month hereafter. Mrs. Deacon will also preach for us once a month hereafter.

Mr. Jake House and wife came in from Texas last week, and we are certainly glad to have them back with us. They will make their future home at Mountain View.

R. E. Ferris is still making syrup.

Mr. Warren, of Texas, who has been visiting his daughter, Mrs. Minnie Mobley, of this place, left for his home Monday.

A. H. Hayes of this community won first prize at the state fair in Albuquerque on White Sheep Corn, and Frank Shult won first prize on Kershaw squash. He also lives in this community, and it makes us feel proud of the success of dry land farming at Mountain View.

Our Sunday school, Christian Endeavor and Pray Meetings are greatly improving since there are so many new converts in the community.

Our school is progressing nicely.

While coming through the gap from Capitan last week, Mr. C. A. Thompson played both man and dog. He ran a big Lynx up a tree and then killed it with rocks. It was an extra large cat and we think that Mr. Thompson showed a good deal of nerve in killing it without a gun.

The big adobe building in which Messrs. Murray & Green were doing business at Hondo, partly collapsed a few nights ago. The goods were removed and stored for the time being, and Murray and Green are putting up a good wooden building of their own. The adobe building belongs to Mr. Jim Gonzales.

### Wanted

To buy calves. Fisher Lumber Co.

Come in and look over our line of stationery before you buy. We handle the very latest.

Sunshine Pharmacy.

## FOUGHT IN MIDAIR

### EXPERIENCE OF STEEPLEJACK WITH CRAZY COMRADE.

Worker Tells of the Time When Dan O'Brien Had an Impulse to Jump and How Narrowly a Tragedy Was Averted.

"Did you ever have an impulse to jump off a steeple?" I questioned, recalling the sensation of many people looking down even from a house-top.

"I've kept pretty free from that," said he; "but there's no doubt climbing steeples does tell on a man's nerves. Now, there was Dan O'Brien; he had an impulse to jump off a steeple one day, and a strong impulse, too. He went mad on one of the tallest spires in Cincinnati; right at the top of it." "Went mad?"

"Yes, sir, raving mad, and I was by him when it happened. I forgot whether the church was Baptist or Presbyterian, but I know it stood on Sixth street, near Vine, and there was big hand on top of the steeple, the forefinger pointing to heaven."

"We were putting fresh glazing on this hand. I was working on the thumb side and O'Brien on the little-finger side, both of us standing on tiny stings about the size of a chair-seat, and both of us made fast to the steeple by lifelines under our arms. That's an absolute rule in climbing steeples—never to do the smallest thing unless you're secured by a lifeline."

"It was coming on dark, and I was hurrying to get the gold leaf on, because we'd given the hand a fresh coat of sizing that would be dry before morning. We hadn't spoken for some time, when suddenly I heard a laugh

from O'Brien's side that sent a shiver down my spine. Did you ever hear a crazy man laugh? Well, if ever you do, you'll remember it. I looked at him, and saw by his face that something was wrong."

"What are you doing?" said I. "He answered very polite and steady like, but his tone was queer. 'I'm trying to figure out how long it would take a man to get down if he went the fastest way.'

"I thought I had better keep him in a good humor, so I said: 'I'll tell you what, Dan, you brace up and get this gold on, and then we'll race to the ground in our saddles!'

"That's a fair idea," said he in a shrill voice, "but I've got a better one. We'll race down without any saddles; yes, sir, without any lines, without a blamed thing."

"Don't be a fool, Dan. What you want to do is to get that gold on—quick!" I tried to speak sharp.

"No, sir; I'm going to jump, and so are you."

"I caught his eye just then and saw it wasn't any time to bother about gold leaf. I reached up and eased the hitch of my line around the hand so I could

swing toward him. I knew if I once got my grip on him he wouldn't make any more trouble. But I'd never had a crazy man to deal with, and I didn't realize how tricky and quick they are.

While I was working around to his side and thinking he didn't notice it, he was laying for me out of the corner of his eye, and the first thing I knew he had me by the throat and everything was turning black. I let go of the line and dropped back on my saddle-bound helpless, and if it hadn't been for blind luck I guess the people down below would have got their money's worth in about a minute. But my hand struck on the toolbox as he pressed me back, and I had just strength enough left to shut my fingers

on the first tool I touched and strike at him with it. The tool happened to be a monkey-wrench, and when a man gets a clip on the head with a thing like that he's pretty apt to keep still for a while. And that's what O'Brien did. He keeled over and lay there, and I did, too, until my head got steady. Even then I guess we'd both have fallen if it hadn't been for the lifelines."

### What the Sign Says.

An unusual way of asking golfers for their co-operation in keeping their course in good condition and in restraining from undesirable practice is employed by a Cincinnati golf club, which has placed a large sign beneath the bulletin board on the first tee of the course, according to Popular Mechanics magazine. It reads: "Treat the course as though you loved it." Every player is sure to see the request before starting over the links. A similar sign has been put up at the tenth hole.

### Aeroplanes Meet in Air.

One of the most remarkable accidents in the history of aviation is reported from the cattle front. Two French flying machines, each containing a pilot and observer, were seen to meet as if attacking, "lock horn," and plunge downward together. For six thousand feet they fell, performing all manner of gyrations, while the spectators watched horrified. The machines finally landed in the top of a tree and the four men were taken down uninjured.

## THE TITSWORTH CO.

### We Carry In Stock

#### COAL.

#### STUDEBAKER WAGONS

#### BLACK LEAF 40-SHEEP DIP.

#### BINDER WIRE

#### DYNAMITE FUSE & CAPS.

#### PORTLAND CEMENT.

#### GRAIN BAGS.

#### FRUIT JARS.

#### PARAFINE.

#### LIME & ETC.

### Our Stock is large and our prices reasonable

## THE TITSWORTH CO. CAPITAN NEW MEXICO

### W. O. NORMAN.

THE MAN WHO ALWAYS HAS THE GOODS AND MAKES THE LOWEST GASH PRICES ON

### Everything For Everybody.

My Motto: "Quick Sales and Small Profits."

### Peters' Black Diamond Shoes.

For all wear Peters' "Black Diamond Brand" of Shoes are the best on the market. They are honestly made of solid leather throughout, with solid leather heel and full toe. Try a pair and be convinced.

### Country Produce bought and sold.

Lincoln, New Mexico.

## The Capitan Bar

CAPITAN, N. M.

Choice Liquors, Brandy and Wine  
Billiard and Pool Parlor.

# Income of New Mexico State Land Office Doubles That of a Year Ago for Period of October Settlements-- Ervien Check to State Treasurer for \$416,864.83

**RECEIPTS FOR SAME  
PERIOD LAST YEAR  
REACHED TOTAL OF  
ONLY \$234,445.97**

**GRAND TOTAL OF CASH INCOME  
FOR YEAR \$685,547.57, WITH IN-  
COME DUE FROM 1,200 LEASES  
AND BAILE CONTRACTS STILL  
TO BE PAID IN BEFORE  
NOVEMBER 30.**

**INCOME IN 1907, ERVIE'S  
FIRST YEAR, WAS \$7,552.15**

**OPERATING COST OF GREAT PUB-  
LIC BUSINESS HELD DOWN TO  
APPROXIMATELY EIGHT PER  
CENT THIS YEAR, WITH  
PUBLICITY DEPARTMENT  
COST INCLUDED.**

Santa Fe, N. M., Nov. 1.—Robert P. Ervien, New Mexico commissioner of Public lands late last week drew a check on the First National bank of this city, in favor of the Treasurer of New Mexico, for the sum of \$416,864.83, the largest single check ever turned into the state treasury as income from the state's public lands, or distribution to the funds of the various state beneficiaries of the federal land grants.

The big check represents the income of the state land office for the period of the October settlements and shows an increase over the income for the same period of last year of \$161,445.16, when the land commissioner's check to the state treasurer was \$234,445.97. The figures mean that there has been an increase in the state's income from public lands during the present year, over the income of last year of close to 100 per cent.

Prior to the annual October settlements the Land Commissioner had paid into the state treasury \$166,600, making a grand total for the year to this time, of \$685,547.57. There remains to be added to this the total income due and payable, on or before November 30, 1916, the end of the state's fiscal year, from 1,200 leases and contracts of sale, on which annual settlements have not yet been made.

For the first time the people of New Mexico have an opportunity to realize just how big the state's public land income and operations have become during the administration of the state lands by Mr. Ervien. It is by far the biggest business enterprise in the state, and it is administered on a smaller proportionate cost for operation than is any other big business enterprise in the state, either public or private.

It has cost the state, up to this time this year considerably less than 8 per cent to operate the big land department, and when the total annual cost has been footed up it will be approximately an even 8 per cent. This operating cost includes the new publicity department, added to the state land department by the legislature of 1916 by an act permitting the land commissioner to expand 7 per cent of the income of the state land department for promotion of the improvement and advancing values of the land, and for advertising and encouraging the industries and development of the resources of the state.

Some idea of the growth achieved in the state's land business can be had from the fact that in the first year of Mr. Ervien's administration 1907, the total of the annual October settlement was but \$7,552.15. Al-

most from the time Mr. Ervien took charge of the department under an appointment by the then territorial governor, there has been a rapid annual increase in the income. The additional grant of six million acres of federal lands under the enabling act, more than doubled the state's holdings, but with due regard to the proportionate value of the state's total land holdings, the income from the lands has increased at a ratio far in advance of the increase in the grant itself. The greatest increase has come during the last two years, during which time the land commissioner has been able to put into effect in a state wide way his policies for development.

Even he for long practically since the day he took charge of the department.

**Almost Income Almost Doubles.**

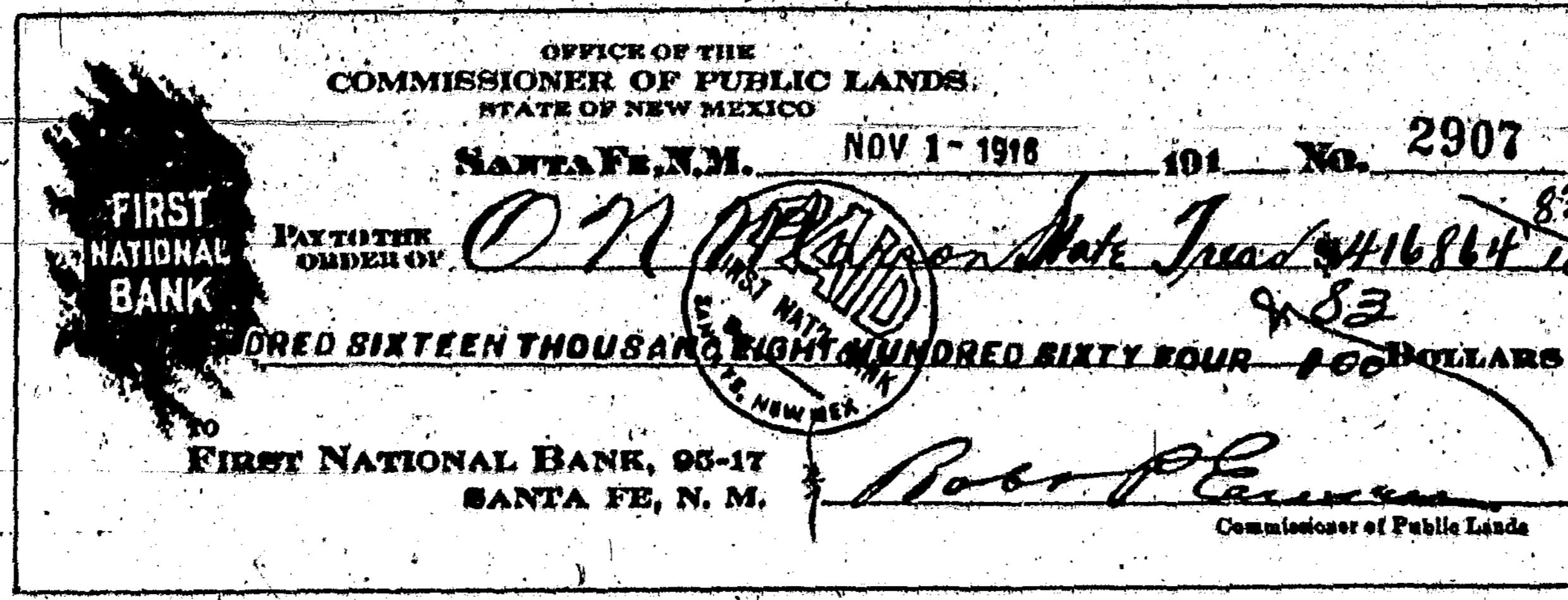
The total income from state lands, for the fiscal year ended November 30, 1916, was \$234,445.97.

When all settlements for the present fiscal year have been made, and the balance has been struck for this fiscal year on November 30, the total income for the fiscal year 1916 will be very close to \$400,000, and may possibly exceed that amount. The income enjoyed by New Mexico from its state lands has almost doubled within a single year.

Closely observers of the development of the state's land holdings, and of their administration attribute the huge increase in revenue of the past two years to three general causes.

These are, first, general development of the state, increased demand for land throughout the west, and the favorable selections from the public domain which have been made during the period of Mr. Ervien's administration, making the lands possible of ready lease and sale.

Second, to the general act of the



## HANDLING STATE LAND FUND DEPOSITS NO CINCH FOR BANKS, SAYS BANKER

Santa Fe, N. M., November 1.—"I have seen somewhere an intimation that New Mexico banks which have deposits of state land funds realize large profits therefrom, and in view of our own experience as the chief depository of those funds, it has caused me some amusement," said Leel A. Hughes, president of the First National bank of Santa Fe today, in response to an inquiry for some detailed information concerning the largest income payment from public lands ever turned into the state treasury in a single check. The state land commissioner's check for \$416,864.83, being the total of accumulated funds for the annual October settlement of the department, was drawn on the First National here, and is one of the largest checks ever paid by any New Mexico bank.

"People have an idea I think," said Mr. Hughes, "or at least some people seem to have it, that the state land commissioner comes around and leaves large sums of money with the banks for indefinite periods during which the banks can loan the money at current interest rates and make large profits. The impression, if it really exists, is wholly wrong. This bank, as the custodian of the state land department's checking account, generally carries a heavier volume of the department's business and deposits than any other bank in the state. Of course our bank wants the business and is glad to have it entrusted to us. The commissioner has made our bank the principal depository largely because of convenience, and to reduce expense to the minimum. It is a compliment to the institution which we appreciate, but any idea that our bank makes any large profit upon the handling of these funds is entirely wrong."

"As a matter of fact a bank finds it difficult to realize any profit on the state land office account. The period of the deposit is uncertain. The money is liable to be withdrawn at any time, and because of this its use in current commercial loans is not practical for a conservative banking institution. It is true that at times the state land deposits help swell our balances in the east, but anyone familiar with banking knows that the interest rate paid on such deposits is very small."

"On the other hand the cost of handling the enormous volume of transactions which make up the daily and monthly business of the state land office, practically uses up all profit accruing from interests paid to us on those deposits. Take this big check here for instance; it represents a total of 3,563 separate and distinct items ranging from \$2 up, all of which require separate handling, separate clearing on other banks, scattered all through the United States and Canada, and a banking detail which is very heavy, particularly during the settlement periods. The only time when our deposits of state land funds are very heavy in these settlement periods, confined almost wholly to the month of October when the business is very heavy indeed, as shown by this large check to the state treasurer, clearing from our bank the accumulations of the October settlement period for this year, and establishing a new record in such payments to the treasurer."

"Once every so often a check comes back and we have the task of sending it back over the route again or undoing the transaction all the way back to its source. The land office deposits made here during the past thirty days will aggregate half a million dollars. To have handled the banking end of those transactions in its own office the land commissioner would have required a special force of trained banking men almost as large as our whole bank force here. We handle all that detail, but we cannot make loans from these deposits, for we have notice that they are subject to immediate withdrawal, or at any time."

"The present land commissioner is exacting in his care for detail, and while this is highly commendable on his part, it makes the handling of his banking business a very arduous undertaking. Frequently payments are made in excess of the amount due. Whenever such an excess is under twenty cents the commissioner refunds it in postage stamps. But over twenty cents we are required to issue a cashier's check for the surplus which goes back to the man sending in the overpayment. I mention this as an illustration of the vast detail work which goes with this deposit. We are glad to have the land department business, in many ways it is a benefit to this bank as it would be to any bank, but anyone who thinks it highly profitable to the bank handling it simply does not know what the expense of handling that business is."

"There is one feature of the drawing of this \$400,000 check on our bank which is of real interest not only to bankers but to all the people of New Mexico. It shows an enormous increase in the revenue the state is deriving from its lands. Those of us who are familiar with the transactions of the land office have been amazed at the growth of the income for the state. If the operation of the state land department and the administration of our lands is continued upon its present efficient basis it is only a matter of a little time until our schools and practically all of our public institutions will be maintained very largely from the income from state lands alone, thus lifting a heavy load from the taxpayers. In the eleven months of this year the income from state lands has reached nearly \$700,000.00. The time is now very near at hand when this income will be over the million dollar mark each year."

Legislature, following statehood, which permitted the land commissioner to put into operation a broad-gauge business policy in the handling of state lands, and allowing him to do in the most practical way, while at the same time effectively safeguarding them from depreciation or unwise sales.

Third, to the hard-headed business administration which Mr. Ervien has given to the state's land business, from the most minute detail of office operation up to transactions such as the recent oil lease, which involves large areas and which may result in huge income for the state and its schools, practically without effort or expense.

The administration of the public lands by Mr. Ervien has been remarkable in that it has been almost entirely free from criticism, even from political opponents. During the entire period of nearly ten years while Ervien has been state land commissioner, only two general criticisms have been directed against his administrative policies. One of these is that a too great number of large leases have been made.

A Policy Which Justifies Itself.—The answer to the first of these criticisms, which has now practically ceased to be heard, as the wisdom of the commissioner's general policy has become recognized, is found in the annual reports of the state land office, which show that the total acreage under what are termed "small leases," 2,000 acres or less, is considerably greater than is the total acreage held under "large leases," as used in the department, to designate leases of 20,000 acres or more. The income from leases which has made the state's lands produce a revenue far beyond the greatest amount hoped for by anyone within twenty years after statehood, and which will make available for schools during the next year or two not less than a million dollars a year, is the final justification of the general policy of the land commissioner, which is to make the most advantageous disposition of the lands for purposes of securing cash revenue, without injuring the value of the lands.

## POWERFUL OIL EXPLORATION CORPORATION BEGINS WORK ON NEW MEXICO STATE LANDS

AGAINST BITTER OPPOSITION OF REACTIONARY GOVERNOR, STATE LAND COMMISSIONER ROBERT P. ERVIE AND REPUBLICAN LEGISLATURE SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDE LEGISLATION AND CONTRACTS, BY WHICH OIL RESOURCES OF NEW MEXICO ARE TO BE THOROUGHLY AND FINALLY TESTED WITHOUT A CENT OF COST TO THE STATE. IF OIL BE FOUND, NEW MEXICO'S DREAMS COME TRUE.

Santa Fe, N. M., Oct. 18.—Work that probably means more to the people and the development of the state than anything undertaken in the history of New Mexico—explorations for oil and gas upon state lands—is being started this week, officers of the leasing company having arrived from the East with \$100,000 worth of machinery and equipment to begin operations.

At last the people are to have thorough tests of the oft-repeated theory that New Mexico is rich in oil and gas deposits, without cost to the taxpayers—explorations which, if successful, will bring an unprecedented boom to the state and a new source of revenue for the state itself, permitting a reduction of taxes.

This is the boon to New Mexico which Robert P. Ervien, the Republican State Land Commissioner who is now up for re-election, and a Republican Legislature were able to secure over the determined opposition of W. C. McDonald, the Democratic Governor, who for some reason tried to block this progress, seeming determined that the people should not find out the real richness of their state lands, and that development should not proceed.

At the time he took office State Land Commissioner Ervien began working for a state law which would permit the state to make leases for explorations for oil and gas on public lands, in order that the potentialities of the state might be investigated without cost to the people, and that state land values might be enhanced. A Republican Legislature was quick to agree with Mr. Ervien that such a law would encourage development and test the real value of state land. The lessors would pay the costs, and if riches were found, a handsome royalty would be paid to the state, to say nothing of the general prosperity that would be inaugurated by important oil or gas discoveries.

The Legislature passed the bill and Governor McDonald, who had previously agreed to sign it, in sour opposition to paving the way to new wealth for the state and its people, vetoed the bill by the process of sticking it in his pocket and never signing it. It was too late for that Legislature to pass it over his veto. The Legislature had adjourned. But the next Legislature, in 1916, was Republican and it passed this progressive legislation over the veto of the progress-blocking McDonald.

Therefore to Land Commissioner Ervien and to the Republican Legislator which backed up his program to perform an important service to the state, belong the credit for the oil development that begins this week.

The leasing company has established executive offices in Santa Fe and field headquarters in Roswell. As soon as the specially constructed machinery can be set out, day and night crews will begin boring experimental oil and gas wells on state land northeast of Roswell, in Chavez county, and in the state land area comprising southwestern San Miguel county, southeastern Santa Fe county and a northern strip of Torrance county. As soon as these wells are under way, more will be started in the state land territory between the two original wells.

R. L. Lunaford, first vice president and general manager of the leasing company, has arrived from the East to take general charge of the work. The Roswell field headquarters have been opened by D. B. Van Nest, development superintendent for the company. Under the terms of its contract, the leasing company can lose no time.

The oil leases in no wise interfere with leases for agricultural or grazing purposes, so none of the rights of the people are interfered with. Some of the benefits may be summarized as follows:

The leasing company paid \$1,100 for the lease, the state prescribing the amount of work to be done and the cost being borne entirely by the lessee. After two years the lessee must pay 12 to 20 cents an acre, a rental.

The state receives 10 per cent royalties from all wells producing oil or gas. If either is found, it means a new source of revenue for the state and a consequent reduction of general taxes.

Where water is encountered in the wells instead of oil or gas, the leasing company must make water wells of the digging and the wells become the property of the state.

If oil or gas is found the value not only of the state land but of all surrounding country will be greatly increased.

Cheerful will attract manufacturing enterprises of all kinds. Refineries, tanks, pipe lines and so on will be built, providing work for many citizens and meaning huge new investments in the state.

## Capitan Mercantile Co.

Dealers in

General Merchandise.

We are still doing business at the Old Stand, and will sell you dry goods, clothing, hats, shoes, groceries, etc., as cheap as you can get them anywhere else.

We buy wool, mohair, hides, pelts, etc.

Capitan N. M.