

## NEW DEAL COST IRKS NEBRASKA, STOKES LEARNS

But Norris Is Tower of Strength for Mr. Roosevelt.

BY THOMAS L. STOKES  
Times Special Writer

OMAHA, Feb. 11.—A streak of frugality runs through the Nebraska nature, just as in neighboring Kansas.

Accordingly, scepticism is increasing here over New Deal expenditures, particularly since the toll of unemployment remains about the same.

Al Smith, though he failed to carry Nebraska in 1928, struck a responsive chord with his Liberty League speech emphasizing the cost of New Deal ventures. Mr. Smith has many friends in Omaha, where he opened his 1928 campaign with his farm speech.

In President Roosevelt's favor here is the general improvement in conditions. Nebraska farmers are in good shape, disappointed at the death of AAA but confidently awaiting a substitute. Business has picked up generally, though lagging in a few lines.

### Many Loans Reported

One big banker reported as many loans to industry for equipment and expansion in the last four months as in the previous four years. Manufacturers of farm machinery and implements have done well.

Consequently, despite dissatisfaction with this and that phase of the New Deal, the state of William Jennings Bryan and Senator George W. Norris is markedly safe for Mr. Roosevelt by local analysts—as of today.

The President, however, has lost ground here recently, they tell you, due to numerous causes which, cumulatively, might make the state doubtful as Nov. 3 approaches.

Beyond the anxiety over increasing expenditures, the visitor finds a feeling that administration of New Deal agencies has not been all it might be—and this is possibly because of some unfortunate examples in this neighborhood.

### One Reason for Feeling

One is the Ak-Sar-Ben rural rehabilitation project, recently taken over by Dr. Rexford Tugwell's Resettlement Administration. Ak-Sar-Ben today is a deserted village of 38 houses 20 miles from here on which \$25,000 to \$300,000—according to whether you count in relief labor and overhead—has been spent and not a soul has been moved in yet.

While there was once talk of abandoning the project, which ultimately envisaged 94 homesteads of 7½ acres each, Resettlement officials now say they will go ahead. They promise to have families moved in this spring.

Critics say the project is not economically feasible. Herbert Hoover, when here recently, asked lots of questions about it and jotted down some data.

A low-cost housing project in this city also has aroused criticism on the ground that rents will be too high for the people who formerly lived in the now eliminated slums, while the neighborhood is such that it may be hard to attract people able to pay.

These are small matters when considered in a national plan of recovery, but they encourage caustic comment about "impractical brain trusters."

### Norris' Influence Strong

The President has one tower of strength in Nebraska in the person of Senator Norris, an institution beloved by the rank and file. Everybody assumes that the 74-year-old Senator will run for re-election in November as an independent, though he has not announced. If he does, it is said, he is almost sure to be re-elected and his influence will offset minor dissatisfaction with the New Deal in the minds of many voters.

A factor which might affect the President's chances in November would be the nomination by the Republicans of Gov. Landon of Kansas, whose budget-balancing and economy ideas appeal to many Nebraskans.

An active organization is at work here for the Kansan under direction of Clinton Brome, a local lawyer, who said he expects that the delegate slate to be picked at the April primary will be virtually unanimous for Mr. Landon. Senator Borah of Idaho remains the unknown quantity here. He has not indicated whether he will file for the primary.

### Landon Aided by Old Guard

Sam McElroy, former Governor, member of the old Federal Farm Board and one-time Hoover leader in this state, is also out for Gov. Landon, whose fortunes are in the hands of the Old Guard Republican crew here.

One of Senator Norris's opponents—if he runs again for the Senate—is expected to be former Congressman Robert G. Simmons, who is a candidate for the Republican nomination and as yet unopposed. He is a vigorous campaigner and skillful enough to retain the friendship of both Mr. Hoover and Senator Borah.

The only Democrat who has announced is young Tom McGovern Carpenter, one-time filling-station operator who went to Congress in the 1932 Roosevelt landslide, raised a lot of commotion there, and was swept out when he tried to go to the Senate two years ago.

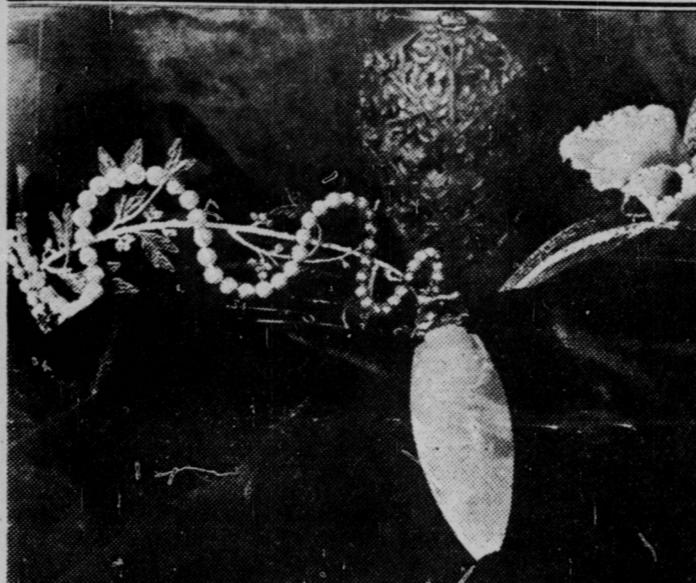
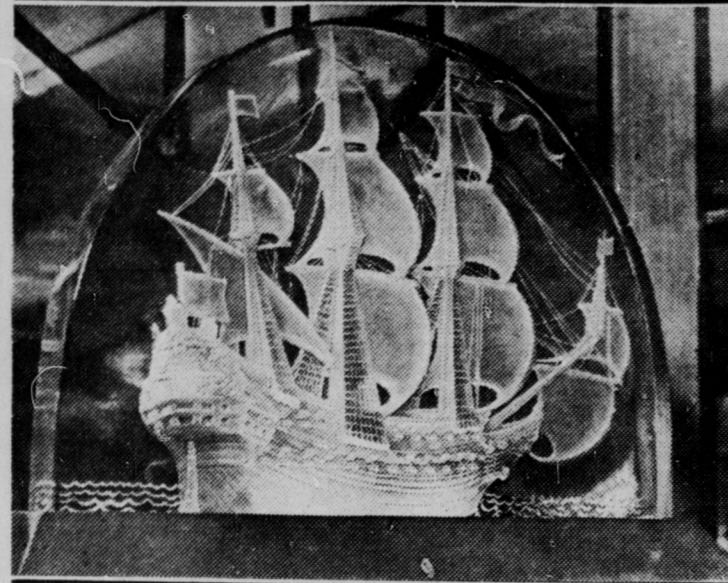
He has hopped onto the Townsend Fan bandwagon and is seeking to capitalize that movement, which is strong here. He is regarded here as of the Huey Long school of political dramatics.

There may be another candidate for the Democratic nomination in J. Thomas, who is retiring as a member of the Federal Reserve Board. He is a former Democratic State chairman, and was trimmed once before by Senator Norris.

### State PWA Chief Returns

Forrest M. Logan, state PWA director, has returned from Washington, where he conferred with Washington officials over the week-end.

## Glass That Captures and Imprisons Light



Left—Modeled in glass more than two inches thick, is this Spanish galleon on display at Charles Mayer & Co., in the Rene Lalique exhibit. It is one of the examples of modern art in glass included in the display.

Right—Centered in pearls and an orchid of ivory is the tear bottle that resulted from Lalique's first experiment. He molded it in a simple cooking stove over a fire in his own stove.

At the left is the tiara of pearls and diamonds modeled for the Czarina of Russia. The orchid and gold leaves set with diamonds at the right were designed for Sarah Bernhardt.

BY ANTON SCHERRER

PERSONS fearful for the future of craftsmanship in the Machine Age can take heart from the collection of Lalique glass on exhibition at Charles Mayer & Co. this week.

Even Benvenuto Cellini would have rubbed his eyes. As an artist, he would have recognized a kindred spirit. As a craftsman, he would have relished Lalique's way of making unruly materials behave. Cellini, to be sure, stopped short of casting liquid glass. He stayed with the problem of casting "Perseus" in bronze. At that, it was trouble enough.

Rene Lalique, too, has his troubles. To achieve "The Crucifixion," an amazing performance around which the crowd at Mayer's lingers longest, he had to make no less than 28 molds without the least assurance that any of them would yield their objects intact and unbroken.

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Mr. Hoerhammer said that prospects for 1936 are bright.

The sessions and trade exhibits are to continue through tomorrow at the Claypool.

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