

INVENTORY OF THE *Dug*
COUNTY ARCHIVES
OF
NEBRASKA



GOSPER COUNTY
No. 37

Nebraska Historical Records Survey Project
Division of Professional and Service Projects
Work Projects Administration

INVENTORY OF THE COUNTY ARCHIVES
OF NEBRASKA

Prepared by

The Nebraska Historical Records Survey Project
Division of Professional and Service Projects
Work Projects Administration

Sponsored by

The Nebraska State Historical Society and
The Board of County Commissioners of Gosper County

No. 37 Gosper County (Elwood)

Lincoln, Nebraska
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The Historical Records Survey Program

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F O R E W O R D

The Inventory of the County Archives of Nebraska is one of a number of bibliographies of historical materials prepared throughout the United States by workers on the Historical Records Survey Program of the Work Projects Administration. The publication herewith presented, an inventory of the archives of Gosper County, is number 37 of the Nebraska series.

The Historical Records Survey Program was undertaken in the winter of 1935-36 for the purpose of providing useful employment to needy unemployed historians, lawyers, teachers, and research and clerical workers. In carrying out this objective, the project was organized to compile inventories of historical materials, particularly the unpublished government documents and records which are basic in the administration of local government, and which provide invaluable data for students of political, economic, and social history. The archival guide herewith presented is intended to meet the requirements of day-to-day administration by the officials of the county, and also the needs of lawyers, business men, and other citizens who require facts from the public records for the proper conduct of their affairs. The volume is so designed that it can be used by the historian in his research in unprinted sources in the same way he uses the library card catalog for printed sources.

The inventories produced by the Historical Records Survey Program attempt to do more than give merely a list of records - they attempt further to sketch in the historical background of the county or other unit of government and to describe precisely and in detail the organization and functions of the government agencies whose records they list. The county, town, and other local inventories for the entire county will, when completed, constitute an encyclopedia of local government as well as a bibliography of local archives.

The successful conclusion of the work of the Historical Records Survey Program, even in a single county, would not be possible without the support of public officials, historical and legal specialists, and many other groups in the community. Their cooperation is gratefully acknowledged.

The Survey Program was organized and at first directed by Luther H. Evans. Under its present director, Mr. Sargent B. Child, it operates as a nation-wide series of locally sponsored projects in the Division of Professional and service projects of which Mrs. Florence Kerr, Assistant Commissioner, is in charge.

F. C. Harrington
Commissioner

PREFACE

In March 1936, the Historical Records Survey, a project of the Women's and Professional Division of the Works Progress Administration, began the task of inventorying state, county, and city archives, and church records and manuscript materials in Nebraska. During the first seven months, the survey was attached to the Federal Writers Project, the director of which served also as director of the Historical Records Survey. In October 1936, Mr. R. Harold Marks, who had served as Assistant State Supervisor and had thus been in actual charge of the survey's operation, became the State Supervisor when the Historical Records Survey was constituted an independent unit of Federal Project No. 1 of the Works Progress Administration. In June 1938, Mr. Marks was appointed director of the Inventory of American Imprints, and the present director of the Historical Records Survey succeeded him.

Effective September 1, 1939, the Historical Records Survey ceased to be a federal project sponsored by the W.P.A. and the Nebraska unit became a state project under the sponsorship of the Nebraska State Historical Society. The project is now a state unit of the Historical Records Survey Program. Mr. Sargent B. Child directs the national program, having recently succeeded Dr. Luther H. Evans, who organized and first directed the Survey.

Although the survey of manuscript materials in Nebraska depositories is well in hand and the records of one-half of the Nebraska churches have been listed, preparation of inventories of county records has drawn the larger share of the Historical Records Survey Project's attention. Records in courthouses in all parts of the state have been cleaned, classified, and arranged into orderly series. This makes possible an inventory of the records to the end that archival guides expediting their use may be published.

These guides will constitute, when completed, The Inventory of the County Archives of Nebraska. There will be a separate volume for each county in the state. The counties are numbered in alphabetical order and the inventories are given corresponding numbers. In this alphabetical arrangement, Gosper County Inventory is No. 37. Inventories of state, township, and municipal archives and of church and manuscript records will constitute separate publications.

The Survey is indebted to many who have aided in the production of this volume. The courtesy and help of the Gosper County Officials; Roy Shepherd, County Clerk; John M. Canada, County Treasurer; James H. Farrow, County Judge; Ted R. Frogge, County Attorney; Doris E. Bigelow, County Superintendent of Public Instruction; Emanuel Nelson, Robert R. Roepke, and John A. Paulson, County Commissioners; Leonard J. Gruber, County Surveyor; Mabel Colver, County Assistance Director; Byron Sadle, County Agricultural Agent; and Robert L. Bragg, Sheriff, are appreciated. Dr. A. E. Sheldon, Superintendent of the Nebraska State Historical Society has been very helpful.

Members of the project personnel are, of course, responsible for the Gosper County Inventory. Ella C. Reeder started, and Carl Ecklund completed, the local inventory work, Russell Hawkins of the state editorial staff

Preface

re-checked the survey in March 1940. Users of this volume should note this date, since subsequent changes in the county records will not be reflected in the inventory. Maude Bever wrote the Historical Sketch, and Arthur L. Bailey, Section Supervisor, the Housing, Care, and Accessibility essay. Gunnard Bergman, Orville McCracken, and William Martin edited and arranged the descriptions of the records. Dale J. Hart, Assistant State Supervisor, is the general editor.

Helpful editorial criticism of this inventory in manuscript form was offered by Mr. Jacob Hodnefield, Regional Supervisor. The Librarian of Congress in Washington recommended that the inventory be approved for publication.

Inquiry concerning this volume or other publications of the Survey should be addressed to the State Supervisor, Nebraska Historical Records Survey, Room 1021, the State Capitol, Lincoln, Nebraska.

April 25, 1940
Lincoln, Nebr.

Frank J. Stanosheck
State Supervisor
Nebraska Historical Records Survey
Project

TABLE OF CONTENTS

A. Gosper County and its Records System		Page
1.	Historical Sketch	3
	Map of Gosper County	13
2.	Governmental Organization and Records System	15
	Chart of County Government	34
3.	Housing, Care and Accessibility of Records	35
	Floor Plans of Gosper County Courthouse	38
4.	Abbreviations, Symbols and Explanatory Notes	41
B. County Officers and Their Records		
I.	Board of County Commissioners	45
	Proceedings; Financial; Reports; Claims; Warrants. Bonds; Official; Indemnity. Relief. Jurors. Roads and Bridges; Record; Reports; Equipment; Petition; Bids and Contracts; Claims; Warrants. Insurance. Maps. Correspondence.	
II.	County Clerk	57
	Chattel Mortgages and Releases. Taxation; Tax List; Levies. Corporation. Registration. Bonds; Bond Issues; Notary; School Treasurer; Druggist. Elections. Military. Vital Statistics. Licensing. Bounties. Financial; Accounts. School. Liquor. Hail Insurance. Miscellaneous. Maps. Corre- spondence.	
III.	Register of Deeds	72
	Numerical Indexes. Deeds. Real Estate Mortgages. Liens. Miscellaneous Record.	
IV.	Clerk of the District Court	77
	Civil and Criminal; Index; Dockets; Court Files; Exhibits; Decrees; Jurors and Witnesses. Naturalization. Elections. Coroner's Inquest. Fees.	
V.	County Judge	84
	Probate Court; Record; Case Files; Estates; Wills; Adoptions; Guardianship; Financial. Civil Cases. Criminal Cases. Ju- venile Court. Marriage Records. Elections. Bonds. Fi- nancial.	
VI.	County Sheriff	92
VII.	Coroner	95
VIII.	County Attorney	97

Table of Contents	Page
IX. County Assessor	101
Assessment; Abstracts; Real Estate; Personal; Intangible; Recapitulation; Corporation; Field Notes. Military. Pensions. Agriculture.	
X. Board of Equalization	106
XI. County Treasurer	108
Receipts and Disbursements; Receipts; Fines; Canceled Checks. Taxation; Tax Lists; Tax Receipts; Tax Collections; Tax Distribution; Tax Settlements; Tax Sales. Distress Warrants. Bonds. Road Districts. School Lands. School Districts. Motor Vehicle; Tax List; Registration; Transfer; Refund; Drivers License. Maps.	
XII. Election Officers	124
XIII. County Superintendent of Public Instruction	126
Proceedings. Reports; State Superintendent; School District. Census. Elementary Schools; Teachers' Reports; Pupils Ex- amination. Plats.	
XIV. Board of Health	135
XV. County Physician	136
XVI. Commissioners of Insanity	136
Proceedings.	
XVII. County Assistance Committee	138
Reports. Farm Aid. Correspondence.	
XVIII. County Relief Board	140
XIX. Old Age Assistance Board	141
XX. County Child Welfare Board	143
XXI. Blind Assistance Board	144
XXII. Soldiers' Relief Commission	144
XXIII. County Surveyor	145
Records. Field Notes. Plats.	
Bibliography	149
Chronological Index	151
Subject Index	153

1. HISTORICAL SKETCH

Physical Features

Gosper County, organized in 1873, is situated on a high divide or tableland between the Platte and Republican Rivers, about sixty miles south of and a little to the west of the center of Nebraska. It is twenty-four miles in length from north to south and eighteen miles from east to west, except in the southern tier of townships,¹ which tier has an extra township six miles square extending westward. The area of the county is 464 square miles. It is bounded on the north by Dawson County, on the east by Phelps, on the south by Furnas, and on the west by Frontier.² Its southern boundary is twenty-four miles north of the Kansas-Nebraska line, and its eastern boundary is approximately 190 miles west of the Missouri River.

Most of the area of Gosper County constitutes a watershed for two drainage basins; there is a short slope northeastward to the Platte River and a long slope southward to the Republican River. Plum Creek flows from west to east across the north side of the county until it enters the Platte River near the northeast corner. The long southward slope is drained by three small streams, the Elk, the Muddy, and the Turkey Creeks, all of which flow into the Republican River.³

Physical characteristics of the two slopes of the divide are similar. The surface is of a smooth tabular formation traversed by shallow valleys, except in the western part where cross drainage has cut canyons deep into the subsoil rock. The result is a series of blufflands. Wooded areas are confined to the borders of streams and to groves and orchards planted by the settlers. There is an abundance of diverse grasses, though buffalo grass predominates in the grazing area in the western part of the county.

The geological characteristics of the two slopes offer few dissimilarities. There is present in the sub-surface a layer of Pierre shale, steel gray to dark gray in coloring, and varying in thickness from a few feet to a considerable depth, depending on the amount remaining after the late Cretaceous or early Tertiary erosion.⁴ The upland is mantled with

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1. Township as used here implies the government survey township, not the township in the supervisory type of county government. For a discussion of the difference between the commissioner-precinct type of county government, the type Gosper County has always had, and the supervisor-township, see p. 17.
 2. L. 1881, p. 215.
 3. Water Resources of Nebraska (Lincoln, 1936), Map, p. 1.
 4. Ibid., p. 13.

a lower roddish clay known as the Loveland formation. This may reach to forty or more feet in thickness and is covered by a gray to buff silty clay called Peorian loess. The latter is a relatively impervious material and is conducive to a high degree of water run-off.⁵

Certain bedrock formations are exposed along the principal valleys. The older and lower of the out-croppings of the Cretaceous age are variously known as Pierre shale, Niobrara chalk, and Carlisle shale. The Niobrara chalk erodes as bluffs and hills, the Pierre shale as clay slopes, while the loess deposits, where excessively eroded, form canyon areas extending back into the upland plains. The terraces are nearly flat, cut across by ravines, and mantled on their blufflands by colluvial fans and slopes. The flood plains below become scoured, silted, or sanded at places during periods of overflow.⁶

Approximately sixty-seven percent of the annual precipitation occurs from May to September. Droughts are not infrequent, because of either an insufficient annual supply of moisture or lack of uniform rainfall during the growing season. The mean annual precipitation is twenty-two inches, and the extreme temperature readings on record are forty degrees below zero and 115 degrees above. There is an average of 155 frost free days, a period sufficient to mature the field crops commonly grown in the region.

The Indians

The tall grass lands in the present Gosper County and the areas to the south and west were formerly the natural habitat of the buffalo; the buffalo was food, clothing, and housing material for the Plains Indians. For the Indians to the east, the Gosper County area served as a gateway to the hunting grounds. While there were no settled villages, various tribes did have regular camping places along the creeks. Chief of these tribes was the Pawnee, whose principal villages were on the Loup River in Nance County, 120 miles north and east of the point where the Platte touches the northeast corner of Gosper County. It was the custom of the Pawnee to go on two hunting expeditions yearly, one in early summer after the crops were planted and one in the fall after the harvest.

Starting in Nance County, the bands traveled rapidly along the north bank of the Platte until they crossed the Platte River ford at Plum Creek and entered the present area of Gosper County. From there, they moved slowly south and west toward the Frenchman River, curing the meat of the elk and the buffalo as they went. Enemy tribes, the Sioux, the Cheyenne, and the Arapahoe, disputed the hunting rights of the Pawnee and made

5. Water Resources of Nebraska (Lincoln, 1936), p. 505.

6. Ibid., p. 504.

frequent forays on the camps to steal meat, horses, and women, as the Pawnees moved westward along the streams.⁷

Early Exploration and Settlement

To the Indians, Gosper County and the high plains region meant a land of plenty. But for many years white men regarded the region as a land hardly fit for human habitation. Edwin James, the scientist, who accompanied Major Long on his expedition through the Nebraska territory in 1820, did much to develop this concept. He declared that the best soil was limited to a strip ten or twelve miles wide on the west bank of the Missouri River, and that all the region west of this fertile strip was only fit for habitation by Plains Indians and desert animals.⁸

In 1823 General William Ashley, of the Rocky Mountain Fur Company, while traveling on the Lewis and Clark route to Oregon, suffered severe losses at the hands of the Aricakarees in the Dakota country. Desiring to avoid further trouble, he sought a new route to the fur fields in 1824. This route was up the Platte River, whence he led a pack train through to the mountains. In 1830 three of Ashley's lieutenants, Jedidiah Smith, Daniel E. Jackson, and William Sublette, took a train of fourteen wagons over the route laid out by Ashley and known as the cut-off trail to the mountains. This trail (soon known as the Oregon Trail), crossed the northeast corner of Gosper County.⁹

In 1832 William Sublette guided Nathaniel Wyeth of Boston and a party of eight men and 300 horses over the route to the west. In the same year Captain Bonnaville went through with twenty wagons.¹⁰

In 1836 the Oregon Trail had become a well established route to the Pacific. In the 1840's and 1850's, thousands of travelers crossed the corner of Gosper County. One of the most famous of these, Francis Parkman, Jr., entered the county in the first week in June 1846. While taking a southward course to the Republican River, he noted gray wolves and herds of elk and buffalo. He was impressed with the extensive prairie dog villages, "wherein dwelt owls, checkered snakes, and prairie dogs,"¹¹

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7. Wm. M. Bancroft, "Plum Creek, New Lexington," in Nebraska Pioneer Reminiscences, ed Lula Correll (Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 1916); S. C. Bassett, "The Sioux-Pawnee War," Nebraska History Magazine, (Lincoln, 1922), V, No. 1, 30.
 8. Reuben Gold Thwaites, Early Western Travels, (Cleveland, 1905), XIV, 213-14.
 9. Report of William Sublette, Document 39, Senate Executive Documents, 2nd Session, 21st Congress, 21-23.
 10. A. E. Sheldon, History of Nebraska, (Chicago, 1931), I, 212.
 11. Francis Parkman, Jr., The California and Oregon Trail (Chicago, no date), p. 71.

One of the results of this great migration was the destruction of the immense herds of buffalo. This had a disastrous effect upon the economy of the Plains Indians, who therefore soon offered resistance to the migrants. Valuables carried by the travelers incited the greed of White or Half-breed outlaws. As a result of these two conditions, the route became so hazardous that Fort Kearney was established and garrisoned in 1848 in order to protect the wagon trains. The fort was approximately thirty miles east of the present Gosper County.

The first settlement in the area later to be organized as Gosper County was in 1860, when a pony Express Station was established on the south side of the Platte River at the Indian ford near the northeast corner of the county. A busy town grew up around the station, which consisted of a post office, a blacksmith shop, and a resting place for travelers. At about this time, Plum Creek, as the station was called, became a rendezvous for outlaws who plundered travelers going to and returning from the gold fields and took refuge in the canyons farther west.¹²

Because it was thirty-five miles from Ft. Kearney to Plum Creek, too great a distance for military protection by the Fort's detachment, two companies of soldiers were sent to Plum Creek in 1866. Conditions improved immediately, and the soldiers were removed in 1867.¹³

The first white settlement in the territory now known as Gosper County was not only concomitant with, but was the result of the increasing traffic over the Oregon Trail. A family named Humphries kept the pony express station mentioned above. In 1861, or early in 1862, Daniel Freeman started a little store across from the station and began buying buffalo hides for shipment to the east. In the spring of 1862, Mrs. Freeman and her three children drove out from Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, in a stage coach. She set up a bake shop which sometimes used one hundred pounds of flour a day. Bread was sold to travelers at fifty cents a loaf; cheese was twenty-five cents a pound and meals were priced at two dollars a plate.¹⁴ Settlement by other families was slow and only those connected with the travel route took up residence in the county prior to the 1870's. "Otto Renze made the first permanent settlement in the county in the fall of 1871. He was followed slowly by others who selected choice spots along Plum Creek in the northern part and along the Huddy, the Elk, and the Turkey Creeks in the southern part."¹⁵ This settlement had been preceded by several homestead entries. The first was that of James S. Hindman on section 1, Township 4, Range 23, West on the 26th day of April, 1870. The entry was

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12. Federal Writers Project, The Oregon Trail (New York, 1939), pp. 71-72.
 13. Albert Watkins, "History of Ft. Kearney," in Collections of Nebraska Historical Society (Lincoln, Nebraska, 1911), XVI, 248-49, House Executive Documents, 2nd session 39th Congress, Document 23, p. 5.
 14. Mrs. Daniel Freeman, "Recollections of the First Settler of Dawson County," in Nebraska Pioneer Reminiscences, op. cit.
 15. Edward Johnson, History of Nebraska (Omaha, 1880,) p. 362.

anceled and the claim pre-empted by T. W. Russell in April, 1874.¹⁶ On December 18, 1870, James W. Misner filed on forty acres of land in section 7, Township 5, Range 23, West, paying \$1.25 an acre. The patent was granted October 1, 1880.¹⁷

By the year 1874, the population had reached 100 and it was 261 in 1875.¹⁸ At ten year intervals since 1880, when it was 1,673, the population has been: 4,816, 5,301, 4,933, 4,669, and 4,289.¹⁹ Of the 1880 population, only 165 were foreign born. The rest came mostly from the North Central States. In 1900, the foreign born numbered 657. The most prominent nationalities represented were: the Germans, 437; the Swedes, 68; the English, 41; the Canadians, 26; the Danes, 26; the Swiss, 23; the Norwegians, 22; the Scotch, 7; and the Irish, 7.²⁰

Organization of the County

The increase in population in the early 70's led to the organization of county government. In 1873, after the receipt of a petition from the settlers,²¹ Governor Furnas issued a proclamation setting August 29th as the date for the election of county officers. John Davis, A. N. O'Dell, and R. G. Gordon were named Judges and Fred H. Beach and George E. Torney clerks of the election. Meeting in section 1, Township 6, Range 23, West, the settlers elected G. H. Jones, E. G. Vaughn, and H. A. Willard, county commissioners. John J. Gosper, Secretary of State, who had signed the proclamation along with Governor Furnas, was honored in the naming of the county.

On November 26, 1873, the county commissioners met in special session and appointed the following men as officers of the county; R. G. Gordon, county clerk; John Baugh, treasurer; George H. Bock, sheriff; John Davis, probate judge; J. Y. Davis, coroner; Fred Prosser, superintendent of public instruction; Ansor C. Rogers, surveyor; S. B. Judd and P. R. Hall, justices of the peace; B. K. Vaugh, assessor; J. T. Wise, road supervisor; J. S. Holloway, John Dodd, and J. R. Roxby, judges of election; and J. T. Trip and W. S. Wise, clerks of election. E. W. Cesner, E. T. Gregory, and B. A. Foote were named constables.

Gosper County came into being in a manner quite different from that

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16. United States Land Office Records, (for Nebraska), at Nebraska State Historical Society, Lincoln, v. 76, p. 168.
 17. Ibid., p. 182.
 18. Johnson, *op. cit.*, p. 362.
 19. Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920, Population, v. 1, p. 117; Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930, Population, v. 3, part 2, p. 114.
 20. Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900, Population, I, part 1, p. 768.
 21. Governor's Vault, 22A, State Capitol Building, County Government File, Box 35.

of most Nebraska counties. Generally, there have been two aspects to the creation or setting up a county. The Legislature first lays out the boundaries and names the county and somewhat later, as population increases, the settlers take the initiative in securing an election for the first county officials and in effect organizing the county.

The Gosper County boundaries were not established and the county was not named in 1873. The area was surrounded by four counties laid out and named by the Legislature.²² The settlers, as indicated above, proceeded as if the county had in fact been laid out by the Legislature against the day the population would warrant the organization of the county.

This somewhat extra legal arrangement was legalized by the legislature in 1881 because the Constitution of 1875 had included Gosper County when apportioning the legislative representatives and laying out the judicial districts and because the county had, in fact, been organized since August 20, 1873, although no sufficient records or evidence of the fact existed. Furthermore, the acts of the several county officials were declared to be legal and binding.²³

County Seats and Courthouses

Daviesville, situated on Muddy Creek in the southwestern part of the county, was made the first county seat, as it was the only town in the county. It had two good general stores, a hotel, a schoolhouse, a blacksmith shop, and several homes.²⁴ For some time there was no courthouse and the county clerk kept the records in his home, while the other officers also conducted the county business from their homes. On the sixth of December, 1873, the commissioners passed a "bill" for the erection of a courthouse upon the townsite of Daviesville, but no appropriation was made for this work. It was to have been a sod building 24 feet long, 16 feet wide, with walls 9 feet high. On the second of March, 1874, more detailed specifications were made as to the building, and the clerk was directed to solicit sealed bids for its erection. It appears that a building was never actually constructed, although the county seat remained at Daviesville until 1884.²⁵ In June 1883, the county board received a petition from three-fifths of the voters requesting that the question of the location of the county seat be submitted to the electorate.²⁶ At a special election on July 16, none of the five places for which ballots were

22. G. S. 1873, pp. 215, 216, 223, and 224.

23. L. 1881, ch. 36, sec. 1, p. 215.

24. County Commissioners Record, v. 1, p. 1, see entry 1.

25. Wm. Salisbury, Elwood Bulletin, Sept. 12, 1935.

26. County Commissioners Record, v. 1, p. 130, see entry 1; L. 1875 p. 159.

marked received a three-fifths majority.²⁷ However, more than three-fifths of the votes cast²⁸ were for places other than Daviesville.

Under the law, therefore,²⁹ the county board was required to call immediately another special election. In this election, which was held on August 20, 1883, the number of sites for which ballots could be cast was limited to three: Daviesville; the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of sec. 19, in Township 6, north of Range 22, West; and the S $\frac{1}{2}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of sec. 18, Township 6 north of Range 24, West. In this election the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of sec. 19, in Township 6, north of Range 22, West, received the highest number of votes. The county records and offices were shortly moved to the new county seat and a new town known as Homerville was platted and grew up around the seat of government.³⁰ It had a post office, a general store, a drug store, a hotel, a newspaper, churches, a blacksmith shop, three livery stables, an implement dealer, three lawyers, and one doctor. There was a two-story frame courthouse, the county offices being on the ground floor and the upper floor being used for social gatherings and as a courtroom.³¹

Two years after the transfer to Homerville, the construction of the Burlington Railroad across the north side of the county started another agitation for relocation of the county seat; but it was not until 1889 that Elwood, the present site of the government, became by popular vote the county seat. Most of Homerville's wooden buildings were moved, some of them in sections, over the rough roads of the county; the "soddies", however, were left to fall down. The courthouse was cut into sections, loaded into wagons, carted to Elwood, and assembled near the site of the present courthouse.

On the morning of November 14, 1895, this two-story courthouse was completely destroyed by fire, "undoubtedly incendiary."³² The fire seriously crippled the operations of the county government for some time and made more difficult the audit of the county books by a representative of the State Auditor who had arrived at Elwood a few days previously to perform the regular audit of the treasurer's books. The records were not completely destroyed, however, because most of them had been left in the vault which stood between the offices of the county clerk and the county treasurer.

The insurance of \$4,300 on the building provided for the erection

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27. County Commissioners Record, v. 1, p. 134, see entry 1; L. 1885, p. 159.
 28. County Commissioners Record, v. 1, p. 134, see entry 1.
 29. L. 1875, sec. 2, p. 160.
 30. County Commissioners Record, v. 1, p. 147, see entry 1.
 31. Mrs. W. A. Willard, Mrs. Chas. Hibbs, Chas. F. Frank, in Elwood Bulletin, Sept. 12, 1935.
 32. Nebraska State Journal, November 15, 1895.

of a two-story courthouse.³³ This building served the county until November of 1939. In that month and year, the county officials occupied a new P.W.A. financed courthouse in Elwood near the site of the older building.

Education

The first county superintendent of public instruction was, as previously stated, Fred Prosser, who was appointed to the post the 26th of November, 1873. For a number of years after that, the office appears to have been filled by anyone who could be induced to accept the responsibility.³⁴

In the meantime, schoolhouses were being set up in the county. The first was at Daviesville in 1874. Charlie Robbins, John Way, and a certain Rolles built another on Turkey Creek. Benches were constructed for the pupils, while the teacher used a large tree stump for a desk. Books were locked up in a trunk at night to protect them from the field mice. Since there were no available public funds, the patrons subscribed \$20.00 for the teacher and took turns "boarding" him. Conditions in the other five school districts, which had been organized by 1877, must have been somewhat the same. In all, there were forty pupils enrolled. The next year, the number of pupils increased to fifty-six, and the school days numbered sixty-five. Total tax receipts for schools were \$122.68 in 1877, and the expenditures were of equal amount. There was no bonded indebtedness.³⁵

An early resident described the teachers as young and usually not well trained, although the annual county institute gave some professional instruction through a program of review classes and teacher training lectures.³⁶

By 1880 there were eight school districts, six schoolhouses, four qualified teachers, and 119 children of school age. School property was valued at \$170.00 and the four teachers were paid a total of \$138.88.³⁷ The schoolhouses in most cases were abandoned "soddies" of homesteaders who had gone back East.

There has been a steady progress in matters of education since then, and today there are sixty-five school districts in Gosper County.³⁸ There

33. County Commissioners Record, v. 2, 164, see entry 1.

34. County Commissioners Record, v. 1, p. 29, passim, see entry 1.

35. Report of County Superintendent Calihan, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, State Capitol, Lincoln, County Report File.

36. G. S. 1873, p. 978; Elwood Bulletin, Sept. 12, 1935.

37. Johnson, op. cit., p. 362.

38. Biennial Report of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1939, p. 281.

are approximately 1,086 pupils enrolled and sixty-seven teachers employed.³⁹ In addition, there are three parochial schools.⁴⁰

Gosper County schools have kept step with modern methods. From the sod houses with dirt floors and backless benches, short winter sessions, a few books, and a limited course of study, they have progressed to a complete educational program. High school courses in normal training, commercial subjects, and general college preparatory subjects are offered, and these are fully accredited at the University of Nebraska. A well-rounded program of extra-curricular activities in music, dramatics, and athletics is maintained throughout the year.⁴¹

Religion

It is probable that the earliest religious services in Gosper County were held on Elk Creek in the early 1870's, at the home of Rev. John Davies, a Baptist Minister for whom Daviesville was named. When the rush of settlers came in the middle of the 1870's, many of them brought "letters" (authorization to organize certain denominations) from their pastors with the intent of organizing denominational churches. However, sectarian differences were forgotten in the need for spiritual companionship and people of all creeds banded together to hold meetings in centrally located homes. If a minister was present, he conducted the services; if not, a member was selected to act as leader, reading the services and conducting prayer and song. Sod schoolhouses provided meeting places in many instances until small frame buildings took their places. Once people turned to their respective denominations, adequate church edifices were erected.

The Methodists and Lutherans were the first denominations to organize in Gosper County. The Methodist Church at Smithfield and the Immanuel Lutheran Evangelical Church in a sod schoolhouse in Union Township came into being in 1882. These were followed by the Christian Church at Elwood in 1886, and Quakerville, or Friends Church, in 1890 at Smithfield. The Valley Union and a Mennonite Church in 1892, the Baptist Church at Smithfield in 1894, the Catholic in 1897 at Smithfield, and the Highland Union organized in 1901 in the extreme southeast corner of the county (but which has been defunct since 1938) completes the roll of early churches.

Other churches and religious organizations include: The Bethel Methodist at Elwood (1888) (defunct, however, since 1935); the Pleasant Grove or Gosper Methodist Church (1890), R. F. D. #2, southwest of Elwood; the

39. Biennial Report of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1939, pp. 289, 305.

40. Elwood Bulletin, Sept. 12, 1935.

41. Ibid.

Hope Lutheran (1891), R.F.D. #1, east of Smithfield; the St. Matthews Evangelical Lutheran Church (1893), R.F.D. #1, southwest of Elwood; and the Blackwood School or Free Will Baptist (1915), in the southeastern portion of the county. Pantor Union Church (1917) has the distinction of being the last church to be built and organized in Gosper County. It is located eight miles south of Smithfield.⁴²

Agriculture

Except for a few merchants and professional men at Smithfield and at Elwood, practically all the inhabitants of Gosper County depend directly upon agriculture for a livelihood. There is about one farm to every five persons (including women and children) in the county. In 1899, when Gosper County was approximately at its peak population of 5,301, there were 1,013 farms within its boundaries.⁴³ The subsequent gradual decrease in population⁴⁴ resulted in a corresponding decrease in the number of farms; in 1909 there were 915 farms,⁴⁵ and in 1929 there were 846 farms in the county.⁴⁶ Meanwhile, the size of the average farm increased: the average farm was 277 acres in 1899,⁴⁷ 309 acres in 1909,⁴⁸ and 329 acres in 1929.⁴⁹

Nearly every farmer in Gosper County either owns his farm or is a share tenant; cash tenants are few. The number of share tenants have risen since 1900, while the number of owners has declined. Thus in 1899 there were 636 full or part owners of farms and only 355 share tenants;⁵⁰ by 1929 the number of full or part owners had fallen to 390, while the number of share tenants had risen to 423.⁵¹

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42. The section on Gosper County church history is based upon documents resulting from the Historical Records Survey's inventory of Gosper County church records. These documents are in the Project files and will, along with similar documents from other counties in Nebraska, furnish the information for a Directory of Churches in Nebraska and a series of guides to records held by the various churches and church organizations in the State.
 43. Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900, Agriculture, V., part I, 102.
 44. See above, p. 7.
 45. Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910, Agriculture, VII, 32.
 46. Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930, Agriculture, III, part I, 927.
 47. Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900, Agriculture V, part 1, 102.
 48. Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910, Agriculture, VII, 32.
 49. Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930, Agriculture, III, part 1, 927.
 50. Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900, Agriculture, V, part 1, 102.
 51. Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930, Agriculture, III, part 1, 981.

The farmers have two important sources of income, namely livestock and field crops. Income from the sale of livestock has more than doubled since 1900. This increase, however, corresponds to the increase in the cost of living and the prices of farm implements during these decades. Gosper County farmers received from the sale of livestock \$423,387 in 1899,⁵² \$743,402 in 1909,⁵³ and \$1,244,563 in 1929,⁵⁴

Income from the sale of crops, on the other hand, exhibits no such tendency to increase. In 1899 the value of products not fed to livestock was \$878,325.⁵⁵ Though the value of crops rose to \$1,106,602 in 1909,⁵⁶ in 1929 the value of crops sold or traded was only \$696,141.⁵⁷ The chief livestock raised in Gosper County are cattle, hogs, and horses; the chief crops, wheat, corn, barley, alfalfa, and hay.

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52. Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900, Agriculture, V., part 1, 287.
 53. Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910, Agriculture, VII, 42-43.
 54. Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930, Agriculture, III, part 1, 945.
 55. Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900, Agriculture, V., part 1, 287.
 56. Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910, Agriculture, VII, 50-51.
 57. Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930, Agriculture, III, part 1, 945.

2. GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION AND RECORDS SYSTEM

Introductory

The Nebraska Supreme Court has defined a Nebraska county as a body corporate and politic which acts purely as an agent of the state.¹ In 1880 the Supreme Court quoted approvingly an Ohio opinion: "A county organization is created almost exclusively with a view to the policy of the state at large for purposes of political and civil administration in matters of finance, of education, of provision for the poor, of military organization, of the means of travel and transport, and especially for the administration of justice. With scarcely an exception all the powers and functions of the county organizations have a direct and exclusive reference to the general policy of the state, and are in fact but a branch of the general administration of that policy."² The county-state relationship has been described as a system embodying "legislative centralization with administrative decentralization."³

Constitutional provisions bearing upon the nature and size of counties include the following: the area of an existing county may not be reduced below 400 square miles; nor may a new county be formed from an area of less than 400 square miles.⁴ A division of counties to form new units or a transfer of a part of one county's area to another must be approved by the county electorate, and such division or transfer of area must be accompanied by a proportionate division or transfer of the debts and obligations of the counties concerned.⁵

In 1873 the area to be organized into Gosper County was bounded on all four sides by organized counties, on the north by Dawson County, on the west by Frontier County, on the south by Furnas County and on the east by Phelps County.⁶ Petitioned by a majority of the citizens of this area, the Governor called for an election of county officers. The Governor also designated the judges and clerks who presided at the election of the three commissioners of the county board.⁷ The county board-elect then appointed the other county officers who served till officers could qualify after the next regular election.⁸

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1. 109 N 35.
 2. 10 N 552.
 3. Survey of the Financial Administration of Nebraska Counties, University of Nebraska, Department of Political Science (Lincoln, 1938), p. 22.
 4. Const. Rev. 1920, art. IX, sec. 1.
 5. Const. Rev. 1920, art. IX, sec. 3.
 6. G. S. 1873, pp. 212-225.
 7. The board of county commissioners is frequently referred to in this inventory simply as the county board.
 8. L. 1867, p. 95; County Commissioners Record, v. 1, p. 1, see entry 1.

Gosper County was organized in 1873, when most of the present offices, boards, commission, and courts had already been provided for by the State Constitution and by legislative enactment, and had been made standard for most Nebraska counties. In Gosper County these offices were; the board of county commissioners,⁹ which was also ex officio the county board of equalization;¹⁰ the county clerk,¹¹ who was also ex officio the register of deeds,¹² clerk of the district court,¹³ and county assessor;¹⁴ the county judge;¹⁵ the county treasurer;¹⁶ the sheriff;¹⁷ the coroner;¹⁸ the justices of the peace,¹⁹ who were also ex officio the overseers of the poor;²⁰ the superintendent of public instruction;²¹ the commissioners of insanity;²² and the election officers.²³

The structure of Gosper County government has undergone little change since 1873. In 1885 the office of county attorney was added to the foregoing list;²⁴ from 1904 to 1912 the office of county assessor was filled by an elected assessor instead of ex officio by the county clerk;²⁵ and since 1917²⁶ the office of coroner has been filled ex officio by the county attorney. Though the statutes provided for a county physician in 1875,²⁷ and for a county highway commissioner in 1911,²⁸ the board of county commissioners employ a county physician only when needed and fill the highway commissioner's office themselves by annual rotation.²⁹ The soldier's relief commission was created in 1890,³⁰ in accordance with a law passed in 1889;³¹ the county board of health was created in 1919.³²

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9. G. S. 1873, p. 233.
 10. Ibid., p. 907.
 11. Ibid., p. 352.
 12. Ibid.
 13. Ibid., p. 261.
 14. Ibid., p. 353.
 15. Ibid., p. 352.
 16. Ibid.
 17. Ibid.
 18. Ibid.
 19. Ibid.
 20. Ibid., p. 511.
 21. Ibid., p. 975.
 22. Ibid., p. 413.
 23. Ibid., p. 229.
 24. L. 1885, p. 215.
 25. L. 1903, p. 391; L. 1911, p. 370.
 26. L. 1915, p. 493; C. S. 1929, 26-910.
 27. L. 1875, p. 89.
 28. L. 1911, p. 404.
 29. Interview with county officials, Elwood, Nebr., Dec. 12, 1938. See also p. 43.
 30. County Commissioner's Record, v. 1, p. 424, see entry 1.
 31. L. 1889, p. 528.
 32. L. 1919, p. 159.

Administration and General Management

Four welfare boards, the county relief board, the county old age assistance board, the county blind assistance board, and the county child welfare board, were all created in 1935; the four welfare boards are composed ex officio of the county assistance committee, also created in 1935,³³ which is in turn composed ex officio of the members of the board of county commissioners.³⁴

The Constitution of Nebraska authorizes the Legislature to create such county offices as may be necessary.³⁵ Only two officers, the county judge and the justice of the peace, are mentioned in the constitution.³⁶ But the constitution makes mandatory upon the Legislature to make provision for the establishment of a supervisor-township system of county government, which voters of the county may substitute for the commissioner-precinct system.³⁷ Briefly, the distinction between these two forms of county government may be stated thus: townships, the political subdivisions of a county employing the former system of government, carry on governmental functions; whereas precincts, the political subdivisions of a county employing the latter system of government, do not carry on governmental functions.³⁸ Gosper County, however, has never adopted the supervisor-township system of county government.

Administration and General Management

The administrative and general management functions of Gosper County consist primarily in the formation of a county policy and in the supervision of individual county officers. Policy-forming functions include: the setting of the tax levy, the control of county property, the approval and establishment of public works and county institutions. As legal advisor for fellow county officers, the county attorney may influence county policy through his interpretation of the law.³⁹ But the establishment of county policy is a function of the county board.⁴⁰ Likewise the county board is in charge of the supervision of individual county officers. This function includes: the approval of their deputies and of their indemnity bonds,⁴¹ the examination of their reports,⁴² the acceptance of resignations,⁴³ and the filling of vacancies by appointment.⁴⁴

33. L. 1935, Special, p. 134.

34. L. 1939, p. 493.

35. Const. Rev. 1920, art. IX, sec. 4.

36. Ibid., art. V, secs. 15-16, 18-19.

37. Const. Rev. 1920, art. IX, sec. 5.

38. L. 1883, p. 202; L. 1895, p. 131.

39. L. 1885, p. 217; C. S. 1929, 26-903.

40. L. 1873, p. 234; C. S. 1929, 26-105.

41. L. 1855-56, p. 43; C. S. 1929, 12-107.

42. L. 1877, p. 216; C. S. 1929, 33-135.

43. L. 1879, p. 269; C. S. 1929, 32-1702.

44. L. 1879, p. 269; C. S. 1929, 32-1703.

Registration of Instruments Affecting
the Title to Property; Administration
of Justice

Registration of Instruments Affecting the Title to Property

Changes in title to real property in Gosper County are recorded by the register of deeds.⁴⁵ The recordation of real estate mortgages, assignments, satisfactions, and other instruments is also a duty of the register of deeds.⁴⁶ Descriptions of boundaries of real property are recorded by the county surveyor in the plat book which he files with the county clerk.⁴⁷ Chattel Mortgages are recorded by the county clerk,⁴⁸ and no sale or contract in which the transfer of title depends upon some condition is valid against the judgment creditor of the vendee or lessee unless the same is in writing and a copy thereof is filed with the county clerk.⁴⁹

Administration of Justice

The administration of justice in Gosper County has to do with civil, criminal, probate and juvenile cases; it is a function of the district, county, and justice of the peace courts. In point of area, the district court has jurisdiction in more than one county. Gosper County was in the third judicial district from 1873 to 1875,⁵⁰ in the fifth from 1875 to 1891,⁵¹ and has been in the fourteenth from 1891 to the present.⁵² The county court has county-wide jurisdiction.⁵³ There is but one justice of the peace court in Gosper County, consequently this court also has county-wide jurisdiction.⁵⁴ Civil cases in which the sum in controversy does not exceed \$200 are under the jurisdiction of the justice of the peace.⁵⁵

Civil cases, involving a sum in controversy exceeding \$1,000 or title to real estate, malicious persecution, slander, libel, and misconduct in office of any county officer except the county judge, are under the original jurisdiction of the district court.⁵⁶

Criminal cases in which punishment may exceed a \$500 fine or six months

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45. L. 1879, p. 376; C. S. 1929, 26-1211.
 46. L. 1885, p. 221; C. S. 1929, 26-1206.
 47. L. 1913, p. 145; C. S. 1929, 26-1612.
 48. L. 1879, p. 108; C. S. 1929, 36-301.
 49. L. 1877, p. 170; C. S. 1929, 36-208.
 50. G. S. 1873, p. 258.
 51. Const. 1875, art. VI, sec. 10.
 52. L. 1891, p. 71; C. S. 1929, 5-103.
 53. Const. 1875, art. VI, sec. 19; 52 N 514.
 54. 15 N 81.
 55. Const. 1875, art. VI, sec. 18; Const. Rev. 1920, art. V, sec. 18.
 56. L. 1870, p. 8; Const. Rev. 1920, art. V, sec. 9, 16.

Law Enforcement

imprisonment, or both, are under the original jurisdiction of the district court;⁵⁷ criminal cases in which punishment may not exceed a \$500 fine or six months imprisonment, or both, are under the original jurisdiction of the county court;⁵⁸ criminal cases in which punishment may not exceed a \$100 fine or three months imprisonment, or both, are under the jurisdiction of the justice of the peace.⁵⁹

Probate matters, however, are exclusively under the original jurisdiction of the county court. It probates wills, hears and decides cases in estate matters, receives applications for and grants letters of administration of the estates of minors and for guardianship over minors, insane persons, idiots, and spendthrifts.³⁰

A provision making possible special treatment of juvenile cases has resulted from a law of 1905. The district judge presides over the juvenile court set up at this time, except when the district court is not in session in the county, in which case the county judge presides over the juvenile court.⁶¹

Naturalization of aliens in Gosper County, however, may be effected only through the district court.⁶² Likewise, appellate cases from the county and justices of the peace courts are under the jurisdiction of the district court. Such appeals are allowed in all criminal cases on application of the defendant and on all civil cases on application of either party.⁶³

Law Enforcement

The sheriff and the constables are responsible for the preservation of the peace.⁶⁴ In Gosper County one constable is appointed by the justice of the peace and one by the county judge. Constables serve for two years unless removed by the court appointing them.⁶⁵ Inquests, out of which prosecutions may result, are held by the coroner, at first an independent office, but since 1917 filled ex officio by the county attorney.⁶⁶ The coroner may summon a jury, subpoena witnesses, administer oaths, take depositions, and issue warrants for the arrest of persons

57. L. 1870, p. 18; Const. Rev. 1920, art. V, sec. 9, 16.

58. Const. 1875, art. VI, sec. 16; Const. Rev. 1920, art. V, sec. 16.

59. Const. 1875, art. VI, sec. 18; Const. Rev. 1920, art. V, sec. 18.

60. L. 1857, p. 118; C. S. 1929, 27-503.

61. L. 1905, p. 306; C. S. 1929, 43-202.

62. Rev. Stat. of U. S. 1875, p. 330; C. S. 1929, p. 1791.

63. Const. 1875, art. VI, sec. 17; Const. Rev. 1920, art. V, sec. 17.

64. R. S. 1866, p. 586; C. S. 1929, 26-1404.

65. L. 1915, p. 505; C. S. 1929, 27-520.

66. L. 1879, p. 241; L. 1915, p. 493; C. S. 1929, 26-910.

implicated.⁶⁷ Indictments are drawn by the county attorney who may also prefer charges to the district court by an alternate process known as the information.⁶⁸ The sheriff and the constables apprehend criminals and malefactors, and commit them to jail.⁶⁹ Prosecutions are conducted by the county attorney.⁷⁰ Sentences are pronounced by the presiding magistrate, that is by the district judge, the county judge, or the justice of the peace, as the case may be.

Finance

The Gosper County budget has been prepared since 1879 by the county board. It prepares an annual estimate of the necessary expenses of the county during the ensuing year, the total of which must not exceed the amount of taxes authorized by law to be levied during that year, including the amounts necessary to meet outstanding indebtedness.⁷¹ Under the provisions of a law enacted in 1937,⁷² the expenditures of every officer, department, or other expending agency are subject to budgetary control. Execution of the budget is checked by representatives of the State Auditor's Office.

County officers make no budgets; the county board is required to furnish them with offices, office equipment, and office supplies.⁷³ There is no provision for centralized purchasing in counties of Gosper's size.⁷⁴

All real and personal property, exclusive of the property of the state or its governmental subdivisions, is subject to taxation with the following exceptions: the Legislature, by general laws, may exempt property used exclusively by and for agricultural and horticultural societies, and property owned and used exclusively for educational, religious, charitable, or cemetery purposes, when such property is not owned or used for financial gain.⁷⁵

The inheritance tax schedule is established by the Legislature,⁷⁶ while the appraisalment of the estates of the deceased is under the jurisdiction of the county judge.⁷⁷ Tax levies, on the other hand, are set by the county board.⁷⁸ It may not, however, assess taxes the aggregate of which exceeds 50 cents per \$100 actual valuation as determined by

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67. L. 1879, p. 360; C. S. 1929, 26-1502 to 26-1515.
 68. Const. 1875, art. I, sec. 10; L. 1885, p. 397; C. S. 1929, 29-1601.
 69. C. S. 1866, p. 586; C. S. 1929, 26-1403.
 70. L. 1885, p. 216; C. S. 1929, 26-901.
 71. L. 1879, p. 362; C. S. 1929, 26-108.
 72. L. 1937, p. 224.
 73. C. S. 1873, p. 234; C. S. 1929, 26-108.
 74. Survey of Financial Administration of Nebraska Counties, op. cit.
 75. Const. Rev. 1920, art. VIII, sec. 2.
 76. L. 1901, p. 414; C. S. 1929, 77-2201.
 77. L. 1901, p. 418; C. S. 1929, 77-2211.
 78. C. S. 1873, p. 909; C. S. 1929, 26-108.

the assessment rolls, except for the payment of indebtedness existing before 1920, unless authorized by a vote of the people of the county. Each school district board sends to the county superintendent of public instruction and to the county clerk an annual report of all taxes voted by the district for the ensuing year. The county clerk is required to add such taxes to the tax list if voted according to law.⁷⁹ Villages also certify to the county clerk amounts which they require to be raised by taxation.⁸⁰ An annual statement of the rate of taxation required for the general State tax is transmitted to the county clerk by the State Board of Equalization.⁸¹ The franchise value of public utility companies in each precinct is certified to the county assessor by the State Tax Commissioner.⁸²

The original assessment rolls in Gosper County are prepared by precinct assessors working under the direction of the county assessor.⁸³ The county assessor corrects the assessment rolls.⁸⁴ Equalization of the assessment rolls is the function of the county board of equalization.⁸⁵ Appeal from the action of the county board of equalization may be addressed to the district court, and thence to the State Supreme Court.⁸⁶ The tax list is made by the county clerk who incorporates and consolidates the sums to be collected under the approved levies of State, county, and local governments, and delivers the tax list to the county treasurer.⁸⁷

Collection of all taxes is the function of the county treasurer as ex officio collector of taxes.⁸⁸ It is the duty of every person subject to taxation to attend at the treasurer's office and pay his taxes,⁸⁹ otherwise taxes become delinquent. When taxes on personal property become delinquent, the county treasurer first notifies each delinquent taxpayer. At the end of one month he prepares a list of all delinquent taxes on personal property, together with all interest and costs added. He then places this list, as well as distress warrants authorizing seizure and sale of personal property, in the hands of sheriff, who must collect and make returns to the county treasurer.⁹⁰ In regard to real property, the county treasurer, after publishing once each week for three weeks a list of lands to be sold for taxes, must offer at public sale all lands on which the taxes levied for the previous year remain unpaid.⁹¹ The

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79. L. 1881, p. 352; C. S. 1929, 26-108.
80. L. 1903, p. 437; C. S. 1929, 77-1803.
81. L. 1921, p. 593; C. S. 1929, 77-1008.
82. L. 1921, p. 587; C. S. 1929, 77-802.
83. G. S. 1873, p. 898; C. S. 1929, 77-403.
84. L. 1903, p. 427.
85. G. S. 1873, p. 907; C. S. 1929, 77-1702.
86. L. 1903, p. 430; C. S. 1929, 77-1705.
87. L. 1903, p. 437; C. S. 1929, 77-1804.
88. C. S. 1929, 77-1901.
89. L. 1903, p. 439; C. S. 1929, 77-1901.
90. G. S. 1873, p. 949; C. S. 1929, 77-1916.
91. G. S. 1873, p. 941; C. S. 1929, 77-2006.

owner of any land sold for taxes may redeem it at any time prior to the actual delivery of the tax deed by the county treasurer by paying the latter, for the use of the purchaser, the sum mentioned in the certificate of purchase and all costs and accrued interest charges.⁹²

Revenue is produced also through the issuance of licenses, especially tobacco and motor vehicle licenses. Tobacco licenses are issued to retail dealers outside incorporated towns by the county clerk, with whom written applications are filed.⁹³ Motor vehicle licenses are issued by the county treasurer as agent of the state.⁹⁴ In both instances the county officer who issues the license collects the fee at his office. All tobacco license fees must be paid over by the county clerk to the county school fund,⁹⁵ while automobile registration fees go into the county highway fund, except five cents for each registration which is the county treasurer's fee, and two and one half percent of the balance which is remitted to the State Treasurer.⁹⁶

Once the taxes are collected, the money, except for a small portion of county money retained by the county treasurer as till money, is placed in authorized depositories. Annually, and at such other times as the State Treasurer may require, he pays into the State Treasury all state funds, settling with the State Auditor on or before each date of payment.⁹⁷ Claims against the county are submitted to the county board, which approves or rejects them, and in the former event issues warrants. All such warrants are countersigned by the county clerk⁹⁸ and paid by the county treasurer.⁹⁹ School district money collected by the county treasurer is paid out by him on orders issued by the various district and village school boards.¹⁰⁰ Village money, not including school money, is paid out on orders issued by the village board.¹⁰¹

County officers' accounts are audited by the State Auditor once every two years,¹⁰² except for those of the county treasurer and county clerk, whose accounts have been audited annually since 1937.¹⁰³ The county board may require the treasurer to present an account at any time.¹⁰⁴

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92. L. 1903, p. 466; C. S. 1929, 77-2020.
93. L. 1919, p. 401; C. S. 1929, 28-1024.
94. L. 1919, p. 824; C. S. 1929, 60-317.
95. L. 1919, p. 403; C. S. 1929, 28-1029.
96. L. 1921, p. 921; C. S. 1929, 39-1405.
97. G. S. 1873, pp. 924, 1013; C. S. 1929, 84-305.
98. L. 1879, p. 374; C. S. Supp. 1937, 26-1002.
99. L. 1871, p. 45; C. S. 1929, 26-1301.
100. L. 1903, p. 456; C. S. 1929, 77-1944.
101. Ibid.
102. L. 1893, p. 148.
103. L. 1937, p. 231.
104. G. S. 1873, p. 925; C. S. 1929, 77-1931.

The issuance of bonds in Gosper County is one of the powers of the county board. It issues bonds sufficient for necessary public building and for existing county indebtedness. In no event are such bonds to be issued to a greater amount than ten percent of the assessed valuation of Gosper County and they must be approved by the county electorate.¹⁰⁵

Elections

There are generally, aside from elections held in villages and school districts, two elections in each precinct of Gosper County every two years, a primary and a general election. The primary election is held in April in the year of a presidential election and in August at other times;¹⁰⁶ the general election is now held in November.¹⁰⁷

At least sixty days before the holding of any primary election, the Governor issues a proclamation designating all of the offices to be filled by vote and transmits a copy to each county clerk. The county clerk, upon receipt of such proclamation makes, publishes, and posts a notice of such primary election in the same manner as is provided by law for notices of the general election in November.¹⁰⁸ At least twenty-five days before any primary preceding a general election the Secretary of State transmits to the county clerk a certified list of candidates whose nomination papers have been filed in his office. Upon receipt of such a list the county clerk makes public by posting in at least one public place in each precinct such a list together with other details in holding such primary election.¹⁰⁹

At least thirty days previous to the holding of any general election the Governor issues a proclamation of such election and mails a copy of this proclamation to the county clerk.¹¹⁰

At least twenty days previous to any election the county clerk publishes in designated newspapers a notice thereof as prescribed by law.

Any citizen of the United States, who has attained the age of twenty-one, and has resided within the State for six months and within the county and voting precinct for the terms provided by law, is qualified as an elector, except any person who is non compos mentis or who has been convicted of treason or felony.¹¹¹ On the other hand, qualifications for

105. L. 1879, p. 387; C. S. 1929, 11-501.

106. L. 1907, p. 204; L. 1923, p. 207; C. S. 1929, 32-1109, 32-1111.

107. L. 1879, p. 240; C. S. 1929, 32-101.

108. C. S. 1929, 32-1126.

109. C. S. 1929, 32-1127.

110. C. S. 1929, 32-301.

111. Const. Rev. 1920, art. VI, sec. 1-2.

candidacy to office in Gosper County are not uniform, but depend on the office sought (see the individual office essays). All candidates, however, must be citizens of the United States, and resident electors of Gosper County. Thus, in 1881, the Supreme Court ruled: "It is assumed to be the law...though not expressed literally, that a necessary qualification of an incumbent of an elective public office is that of an elector...."¹¹²

Ballots are printed and delivered to the election officials at the county's expense.¹¹³ It is the duty of the county clerk to provide printed ballots and to cause to be printed on the ballot the name of every candidate. It is his duty also to cause the ballots to be enclosed in sealed packets with the proper designation of the precinct and to be delivered to the election officials.¹¹⁴

Elections in Gosper County are held at polling places which must be equipped according to law. Each polling place must be provided by the county board with booths in which electors may mark their ballots in secret¹¹⁵ and with such supplies and conveniences as shall enable the voter to prepare his ballot for voting.¹¹⁶

At the time of Gosper County's organization, elections were presided over by three judges and two clerks of election in each precinct, elected annually by the voters of each precinct.¹¹⁷ Since 1897, however, election officials have been appointed. The power of such appointment belonged to the county judge between 1897 and 1901,¹¹⁸ to the clerk of the district court between 1901 and 1933,¹¹⁹ and to the county clerk from 1933 to the present.¹²⁰ The appointments are made by the county clerk from selections made by the precinct committeeman and committeewoman and submitted by the county central committee thirty days before the election.¹²¹ The judges of election may designate any constable of the precinct to preserve order at the polls; should the designated constable fail to appear, the judges may appoint a temporary constable.¹²²

Absent or disabled electors may vote by mail. An absent elector must apply to the county clerk not later than two days before election, a disabled elector not later than four o'clock on the afternoon preceding the

112. 23 N 385.

113. L. 1897, p. 213; C. S. 1929, 32-501.

114. L. 1897, p. 219; C. S. 1929, 32-502.

115. L. 1883, p. 183; C. S. 1929, 32-521.

116. L. 1897, p. 223; C. S. 1929, 32-521, 32-523.

117. G. S. 1873, p. 353.

118. L. 1897, p. 209; L. 1901, p. 331.

119. L. 1933, p. 287.

120. C. S. Supp. 1937, 32-401.

121. L. 1933, p. 287; C. S. Supp. 1939, 32-402.

122. L. 1879, p. 246; C. S. 1929, 32-736.

day of the election.¹²³ The county clerk then issues to the qualified elector an absent voter's ballot with an identification envelope, a return envelope, and an instruction card. The absent or disabled elector must exhibit such ballot unmarked to an official having a seal and authorized to administer oaths. The elector then marks the ballot and delivers it to said official, who places it in the identification envelope and seals the same.¹²⁴ Giving the elector a receipt, the said official places the identification envelope inside the return envelope and addresses the latter to the county clerk.¹²⁵

At the polls, on the other hand, the ballots are counted by the election officers of each precinct.¹²⁶ Upon the completion of the canvass, the judges and clerks of election prepare an immediate summary of the vote in their precinct, showing the total vote cast for each candidate, with the total vote cast for and against each measure submitted at the election. These statements, together with the poll books and ballots, are then sent to the county clerk.¹²⁷

Upon the receipt of these materials, the canvassing board, consisting of the county clerk and two disinterested electors appointed by him, make abstracts of the votes cast, including the votes of absent and disabled voters.¹²⁸ The county clerk then prepares an abstract of the votes cast for President, Vice-President, United States Senator, Congressman, all State Officers, Regents of the University of Nebraska, Judges of the Supreme and district courts, and for and against initiative and referendum proposals. One copy of the abstract he directs to the Speaker of the Legislature and a duplicate to the Secretary of State.¹²⁹ Certificates of election for each county and precinct office are then issued by the county clerk.¹³⁰

Education

The educational system of Gosper County is based upon school districts, which elect their own officers and levy their own taxes. There are sixty-six school districts in the county.¹³¹ Each school district board, with but one exception, is composed of three members, a moderator, a director,

123. L. 1921, p. 350; L. 1929, p. 357; C. S. Supp. 1939, 32-802.

124. L. 1921, p. 351; C. S. 1929, 32-804, 32-805.

125. L. 1921, p. 352; C. S. 1929, 32-806.

126. L. 1879, p. 252; C. S. 1929, 32-906.

127. L. 1917, p. 394; C. S. 1929, 32-916.

128. L. 1879, p. 254; C. S. 1929, 32-918.

129. L. 1879, p. 256; C. S. 1929, 32-922, 32-923.

130. L. 1879, p. 255; C. S. 1929, 32-931.

131. Thirty-Fifth Biennial Report, State Superintendent of Public Instruction. (Lincoln, Nebr., 1937) p. 317.

and a treasurer, who are elected annually by the electors of the district.¹³² A district may elect six trustees if it contains 150 or more children between five and twenty-one years of age.¹³³ In Gosper County only the district formed by the village of Elwood contains 150 pupils or more and elects a six member school board.

Supervising and unifying the work of the district boards, the county superintendent of public instruction is the chief educational officer in the county. He examines reports required of district directors and teachers, and transmits abstracts thereof to the State Superintendent upon the latter's request.¹³⁴ Thus he serves as a sort of connecting link between the districts and the State. The Gosper County school system, in fact, is a unit of the State School System and must conform to the State's minimum requirements as to length of school term, qualifications of teachers, and curricula.¹³⁵

Teachers are hired by the various district boards. No money belonging to the district may be paid for teaching to any but legally qualified teachers.¹³⁶ Until 1925 no teacher was qualified who lacked the proper certificate from a county superintendent, or the State Superintendent, or a State Normal School, or the University of Nebraska, or from some other school which was authorized by law to issue certificates and whose course was approved by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.¹³⁷ Since 1925, however, all certificates have been issued by the State Superintendent on the basis of a State Examination or a stipulated amount of academic training received at an approved school.¹³⁸ All teachers are required to attend the teachers' institute held annually by the county superintendent for the purpose of promoting uniform methods in pedagogy.¹³⁹

All county school districts receive monetary assistance from the State. The State School Fund is derived from the sale of school lands and from the interest on invested funds. Money thus accumulated is apportioned semi-annually to the counties by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and to the school districts by the county superintendent of public instruction. One-fourth of the whole amount is divided equally among the school districts of the State; the remaining three-fourths is apportioned according to the pro rata enumeration of pupils in each county and school district.¹⁴⁰

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132. G. S. 1873, p. 963; C. S. 1929, 79-501.
 133. L. 1881, p. 355; C. S. 1929, 79-601.
 134. L. 1881, p. 361; C. S. 1929, 79-1506.
 135. L. 1881, p. 341; C. S. 1929, 79-218, 79-503.
 136. L. 1881, p. 348; C. S. 1929, 79-411.
 137. L. 1881, p. 365; C. S. 1929, 79-1401.
 138. L. 1925, p. 471; L. 1937, p. 727.
 139. L. 1901, p. 446; C. S. 1929, 79-1411.
 140. L. 1881, p. 369; C. S. 1929, 79-2002.

In addition to aid thus extended to all school districts, any rural high school district which establishes a two-room school building, provides the necessary equipment for teaching agriculture, home economics, and other vocational subjects, and employs teachers holding certificates showing their qualifications to teach such subjects, may receive from the State Treasury \$100 toward the equipment required as well as an annual sum of \$150.¹⁴¹ Furthermore, a school district whose income, based on a tax levy of not more than forty mills, is not sufficient properly to maintain a school in the first eight grades, may also be entitled to State Aid under strictly limited circumstances.¹⁴²

Public Health

Supervision of mental health in Gosper County is performed by the commissioners of insanity, composed of the clerk of the district court, a practicing physician, and a practicing attorney, the latter two appointed by the judge of the district court.¹⁴³ Since 1905 their powers have included the commitment also of dipsomaniacs, inebriates, and drug addicts.¹⁴⁴

Interest in the care of feeble-minded youth culminated in the establishment of the Nebraska Institution for Feeble-Minded Youth in 1885.¹⁴⁵ Authority to allow commitments was vested in the superintendent of the institution until 1915,¹⁴⁶ and in the county court after 1915.¹⁴⁷ But in 1935 the State Commission for Control of Feeble-Minded Youth was created and given jurisdiction over the feeble-minded to the end that the latter should not be permitted to reproduce their kind; and the county commissioners of insanity were constituted a sub-commission under the State Commission, to which they are responsible for the supervision, commitment, and control of the feeble-minded.¹⁴⁸

Public interest in physical health led to the passing of a law, in 1901, which empowered the board of county commissioners to make and enforce regulations to prevent the spread of contagious diseases.¹⁴⁹ Two years later the county board was required to establish a county board of health, one member of which was to be a legally registered physician.¹⁵⁰ Since 1919, the statutes have provided that the county board of health

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141. L. 1901, p. 443; C. S. 1929, 79-810.
 142. L. 1907, p. 399; C. S. 1929, 79-223, 79-224.
 143. G. S. 1873, p. 413; C. S. Supp. 1937, 83-735
 144. L. 1905, p. 387.
 145. L. 1885, p. 255.
 146. Ibid.
 147. L. 1915, p. 294.
 148. L. 1935, p. 535; C. S. Supp. 1937, 83-412.
 149. L. 1901, p. 403.
 150. L. 1903, p. 358.

must be composed of the sheriff, a resident physician, and the county superintendent of public instruction.¹⁵¹ On discovering the occurrence of any contagious disease in the county, the county board of health, as well as any officer or resident physician, must report the fact at once to the State Board of Public Welfare.¹⁵²

Public Welfare

Public welfare in Gosper County aids four classes of unfortunate persons; the indigent, the aged, dependent children, and the blind.

When Gosper County was organized in 1873, the justices of the peace, as overseers of the poor, possessed "entire and exclusive superintendence" of the indigent. They were required to make reports of their activities to the county board, which levied taxes for, and approved payments from, the county poor fund.¹⁵³ The soldiers' relief commission, appointed by the county board, was set up in 1889.¹⁵⁴ The care of other needy persons, however, continued under the supervision of the justices of the peace until 1915, when the function was placed in the hands of the county board.¹⁵⁵ In 1935, special legislation was enacted to meet the requirements of the Federal Public Welfare Program, and the care of the county poor was entrusted to the county relief board, composed ex officio of the county assistance committee.

Old age assistance was not differentiated by statute from other forms of assistance to the county destitute until 1933, when the old age pension commission was created, composed of five appointees of the county board serving without compensation.¹⁵⁶ The chief duty of this commission was to administer the old age pension fund, derived from an old age pension tax of not more than fifty cents, levied by the county board on adults between the ages of twenty-one and fifty years within the county.¹⁵⁷ An act of 1935 replaced the old age pension commission and set an old age pension board composed ex officio of the county board and the county treasurer.¹⁵⁸ But this act was declared unconstitutional,¹⁵⁹ whereupon the special session of 1935 placed county old age assistance under the supervision of the old age assistance board, composed ex officio of the county

151. L. 1919, p. 159; C. S. 1929, 71-2301.

152. L. 1919, p. 159; C. S. 1929, 71-2303.

153. G. S. 1873, p. 511.

154. L. 1889, p. 528.

155. L. 1933, p. 484.

156. L. 1933, p. 470.

157. L. 1933, p. 476.

158. L. 1935, p. 491.

159. 129 N 651.

assistance committee.¹⁶⁰ No one may receive old age assistance unless he or she has been a resident of Nebraska five years, is at least 65 years old, and needs assistance. The old age assistance board investigates the allegations of applicants, grants or denies assistance, and determines the amount, if aid is to be given. In no case does such aid exceed \$30 per month.¹⁶¹ Rejected applicants may appeal to the State Assistance Director.¹⁶²

As county old age welfare deals with the aged, so county child welfare deals with the general well-being of dependent, destitute, abandoned, delinquent, defective, and crippled children within the county.¹⁶³ The earliest legislation affecting any of the above categories applied to delinquent children and prescribed the procedure to be followed by the county court when minors were discovered in houses of ill-fame. In such cases the county court was given jurisdiction to remove minors by habeas corpus proceedings and to place them with suitable individuals or with charitable associations within the county, or to commit them to some charitable or correctional State Institution.¹⁶⁴

There existed no special court for youthful cases until 1905, when the juvenile court was established.¹⁶⁵ The district court of the county and the district judges have original jurisdiction over delinquencies of children under sixteen years of age, and the court sitting in such cases is designated the juvenile court. The county court in each county has concurrent jurisdiction with the district court in juvenile cases, but only in the absence of the district judge from the county.¹⁶⁶

Until 1915, the activities of the juvenile court were directed in the main to the control of youthful wrong-doers. In that year, however, an act to provide pensions for mothers and guardians of dependent and neglected children was enacted, the aim of which was to prevent juvenile delinquency. The supervision of this act was at first assigned to the county court,¹⁶⁷ then placed under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court.¹⁶⁸ If upon investigation and a hearing at which the county attorney must be present, it is found that a mother is entitled to a pension, the county board is instructed by the court to pay a sum fixed by the court. This sum must not be more than \$10 monthly for each child and never more than \$50 monthly to any one family.¹⁶⁹

160. L. 1935, Special, p. 168.

161. Ibid., p. 168-169.

162. Ibid., p. 174-175.

163. Ibid., p. 180.

164. L. 1891, p. 264.

165. L. 1905, p. 307.

166. L. 1905, p. 306; C. S. 1929, 43-202.

167. L. 1915, p. 381.

168. L. 1919, p. 946; C. S. 1929, 43-401.

169. L. 1919, p. 947; C. S. 1929, 43-406.

In 1935 the child welfare board, another ex officio entity of the county assistance committee, was required thereafter to coordinate county child welfare with other county and State Welfare Agencies such as the Vocational Rehabilitation Division of the State Department of Vocational Education, the State Department of Health, Courts, and Charitable Institutions.¹⁷⁰

Another county welfare function of rather recent development is that of public assistance to the blind, although the state had taken an interest in the education of blind children as early as 1867.¹⁷¹ In 1915 the state created a relief fund of \$2,000 for the purpose of publishing data concerning the cause, prevention, and cure of blindness, and assisting blind persons to learn a trade, or find suitable employment.¹⁷² Two years later efforts to assist the blind were extended to the counties. The county board was authorized to make an annual contribution from the general fund of Gosper County of not more than \$300 toward the support of each worthy blind person who had attained his or her majority.¹⁷³ In 1935 the assistance to the blind was merged with the other types of county assistance and placed under the general control of the blind assistance board, another ex officio entity of the county assistance committee.¹⁷⁴

Two tendencies have marked the growth of welfare activities in Gosper County, one toward differentiation in function, the other toward coordination of the governmental agencies. Whereas early public welfare legislation had reference alike to all persons in need of assistance regardless of whether they were children or aged persons, the blind or the merely poor, at present different laws apply to these four classes of unfortunate persons. At the same time, the county assistance committee, in its general supervisory capacity, coordinates these agencies with one another as well as with State Welfare Agencies.

Public Works

Throughout the history of Gosper County, the general supervision of road and bridge construction and repair has been a function of the members of the county board. Actual road and bridge construction and repair, however, is carried out by the road district overseers. The road district overseers are elected by the voters of the various road districts, as laid out by the county board.¹⁷⁵ Though the county surveyor is required to view proposed roads and alterations thereof and report to the county

170. L. 1935, Special, p. 180.

171. L. 1866-67, p. 126.

172. L. 1915, p. 640.

173. L. 1917, p. 382.

174. L. 1935, Special, p. 140.

175. L. 1855-56, p. 70; C. S. 1903, p. 1386; C. S. 1929, 32-214.

board,¹⁷⁶ and to estimate the cost of all road improvements,¹⁷⁷ he is not elected in Gosper County, but is hired by the county board when his services are needed.¹⁷⁸

In 1911, in an effort to center administrative power and responsibility, the legislature permitted county boards in all counties of less than 50,000 inhabitants to appoint annually a county highway commissioner.¹⁷⁹ In Gosper County, however, the county commissioners themselves fill this office by annual rotation.¹⁸⁰ For such duty each commissioner receives \$5.00 per day of work.¹⁸¹ The county highway commissioner is given general control of all public roads and bridges; He recommends improvements to the county board, giving an estimate of the cost of such improvements.¹⁸² In addition to supervising the road district overseer's work,¹⁸³ he files annually with the county board a written report on all road work performed.¹⁸⁴

Control over the erection and upkeep of public buildings belonging to Gosper County is also vested in the board of county commissioners.¹⁸⁵ The county board is required by law to provide for a courthouse, a jail, and other necessary county buildings.¹⁸⁶ Before the county board may erect a county building, it must submit to the electors a proposition to vote a special annual tax for that purpose, not to exceed five mills on the dollar valuation of the taxable property in said county, for a term of not to exceed five years.¹⁸⁷

Improvement of Agriculture

An activity of quasi-governmental nature in which the county participates is that of agricultural extension work. To further the adoption

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176. L. 1879, p. 386; C. S. 1929, 26-1601.
177. L. 1905, p. 295; C. S. 1929, 26-1601.
178. Interview with county officials, Elwood, Nebr., Dec. 2, 1938.
179. L. 1911, p. 404; C. S. 1929, 39-1301; C. S. Supp. 1937, 39-1301.
180. Interview with county officials, Elwood, Nebr., Dec. 2, 1938.
181. C. S. 1929, 33-128.
182. L. 1911, p. 405; C. S. 1929, 39-1304.
183. L. 1911, p. 405; C. S. 1929, 39-1303.
184. L. 1911, p. 407; C. S. 1929, 39-1308.
185. L. 1879, p. 360; C. S. 1929, 26-105.
186. L. 1879, p. 361; C. S. 1929, 26-108.
187. L. 1895, p. 129; C. S. 1929, 11-701.

of improved farm practices, the 1913 legislature made provision for optional employment by the county board, on petition of landowners, of a county farm demonstrator.¹⁸⁸ He was to be responsible to the Agricultural Extension Department of the University of Nebraska. His successor, the county agricultural agent, was a legislative creation of 1919.¹⁸⁹ The farm bureau of the county, authorized by the same act and by one of 1933,¹⁹⁰ selects the agent for the county. As the local operative of the Federal Department of Agriculture, of the State's Agricultural Extension Service, and of the semi-private farm bureau, the agricultural agent is not a county officer. Hence descriptions of records kept by him are not included in this inventory.

Records System

In Nebraska the typical statutory requirement in regard to county records specifies that a given transaction must be recorded by certain officers or that a given document must be filed at a certain office. If any person wilfully alters, defaces, or destroys such a record, he may be fined in any sum not to exceed \$300 or imprisoned three months in the county jail, or both.¹⁹¹ There are no references to the length of time records must be preserved, unless, as in the case of ballots and poll books,¹⁹² their destruction is permissible after a brief period, 12 months in the case of ballots and poll books.

The statutes are more detailed in their specifications with reference to form and content of records, especially in records involving finance. Thus the fee book, required of the clerk of the district court, sheriff, county judge, county treasurer, county clerk, and register of deeds, must contain each item of fees collected by the officer concerned, showing in separate columns the name of the payee, date, amount received and for what service charged.¹⁹³

From time to time, too, the legislature has passed measures which have tended directly to improve the Gosper County records system. Anyone interested is authorized to examine public records during the hours the respective offices are kept open for ordinary transaction of business,¹⁹⁴ but this does not apply to the case records of people receiving social assistance.¹⁹⁵ Since 1893 the State Auditor has made regular audits of the books of the county treasurer and the county clerk. No notice of such

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188. L. 1913, p. 658.
189. L. 1919, p. 901.
190. L. 1933, p. 57.
191. G. S. 1873, p. 765; C. S. 1929, 28-711.
192. L. 1879, p. 255; C. S. 1929, 32-920.
193. L. 1877, p. 216; C. S. 1929, 33-136.
194. G. S. 1873, p. 883; C. S. 1929, 84-712.
195. Nebraska Survey of Social Resources, 2 vols., (Lincoln, Nebr., 1936)
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examination must be given to county officers prior to commencement of the examination.¹⁹⁶

Books and stationery for all county officers are provided by the board of county commissioners.¹⁹⁷ It is the duty of the county clerk, except when less than \$200 worth of material is to be purchased, annually to prepare estimates of books, blanks, and stationery required for the use of county officers during the coming year, and to place a brief advertisement in one newspaper published in Gosper County, stating the probable gross number of each item of books, blanks, and stationery required, and invite bids therefor, which must be filed with the county clerk. The county board is not permitted to award the contract to any but the lowest bidder, but it may always purchase in the open market.¹⁹⁸

A fine of from \$25 to \$100 is placed against any county officer who is required to keep a fee book but fails to keep it properly.¹⁹⁹ Generally, however, the law does not thus state the fine or penalty involved for failure to comply with statutory record requirements, but if failure on the part of a county officer amounts to habitual or wilful neglect of duty, he may be removed from office.²⁰⁰

County records of historical value may eventually be deposited with the Nebraska State Historical Society. The Nebraska State Historical Society, however, may take over records it deems of historical value only after such records have not been in active use for a period of twenty years.²⁰¹ To date none of the county records have been removed by the Nebraska State Historical Society.

Taking the Gosper County records system as a whole, one may say that three factors have had unfortunate effects upon it. Chief among these, of course, is the courthouse fire of November 14, 1895.²⁰² Secondly, all of the county's courthouses (except the present one) have been small, thus lacking ample space for the storage of records. Finally, lack of credit with stationery companies hindered the beginnings of the county's records system. Not having adequate record books, the county treasurer was obliged to borrow the county clerk's bond register and use it for his warrant register,²⁰³ while the superintendent of public instruction had to make entries in the county judge's estate book.²⁰⁴

196. L. 1893, p. 148; C. S. Supp. 1937, 26-1309.

197. L. 1855-56, p. 43; C. S. 1929, 26-108.

198. L. 1879, pp. 292-293; C. S. 1929, 26-706, 26-707.

199. L. 1877, p. 216; C. S. 1929, 33-137.

200. G. S. 1873, p. 250; C. S. 1929, 26-1701.

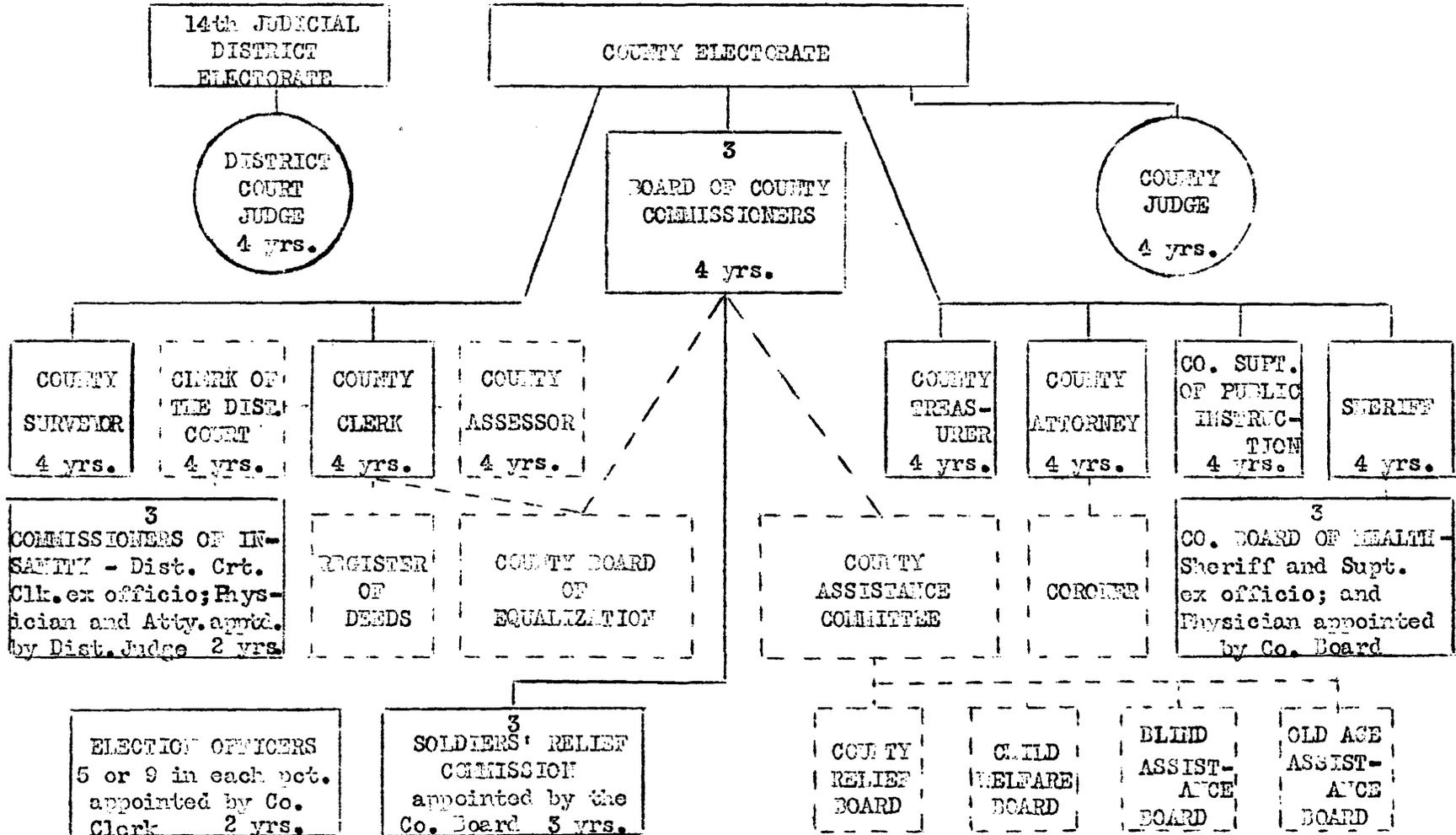
201. L. 1905, pp. 604, 605; C. S. 1929, 82-104, 82-105.

202. See above, p. 9.

203. Commissioners' Record, v. 1, p. 25, see entry 1.

204. Ibid., p. 30.

CHART OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT, GOSPER COUNTY
1940



Numbers indicate the number of members of boards and commissioners, or the number of years of office terms; circles denote constitutional officers; squares statutory and independent officers; and broken lines statutory but ex officio officers.

3. HOUSING, CARE, AND ACCESSIBILITY OF RECORDS.

A new building to house the county offices has recently been constructed in Elwood on Smith Avenue at Rochelle Street.¹ It is a two-story structure measuring approximately 100 x 55 x 30 feet. The exterior consists of a reddish brown, rough-faced pressed brick and a white cast ornamental stone, with a white Bedford trim. Architecturally, the building is modern and its orderly lines give it a neat appearance. A landscaping project now underway will add to the attractiveness of the building and its setting.

The interior of the building is tastefully decorated and furnished. The walls are of plaster and the floors of concrete with a linoleum covering. The corridors, however, have terraza floors and seven foot glazed brick wainscot. Office woodwork and furniture is of oak with a natural finish, except in the district court room, where a dark walnut veneer has been used.

The building is skillfully arranged to the end that the county offices be housed to the best advantage. Certain conditions are to be found in all offices and in all record storage places. The building is almost completely fireproof. The admittance of air and light by the windows and other openings is in all cases adequate. Space for the conduct of county business and the maintenance of county records is, in all offices and vaults, sufficient for the present and, it would appear, for many years to come. Records are generally readily available. The electric lighting, chairs and tables, and other accommodations in all places make record examination easy and comfortable.

Entering the building on the first floor through the main entrance at the west and moving counter clockwise around the central corridor, one finds most of the important offices of the county. The county attorney, who is ex officio the coroner, has a reception room and an office to the right of the entrance. The rooms measure 10 x 20 x 10 feet.² There are no county records here.

At the southwest corner of the building the county superintendent of public instruction has a reception room, an office, and a vault. Respectively, they measure, in feet: 10 x 30 x 10; 9 x 9 x 10; and 8 x 8 x 12. The vault holds the records of the office. There are 63 linear feet of steel shelving and 12 linear feet of file boxes, 16 to 27 inches deep. On the shelves there are nine linear feet of bound records and six linear feet of unbound material. The board of health meets with its clerk, the county superintendent, in his reception room. There are no records of the board, however.

1. See page 10.

2. Here and later, the first two measurements given are horizontal, the last vertical. The measurements are only approximate, not exact.

Housing, Care, and Accessibility of Records

(First entry, p. 48)

Directly across the hall to the east, the county clerk has an office and a vault. They measure 15 x 21 x 10 and 15 x 16 x 12 feet. In the vault, records of several offices are to be found. Included are those of the county clerk and of the county board, whose records are kept by the clerk. He is also ex officio register of deeds, clerk of the district court, and county assessor. In addition, he is a member of the board of equalization and one of the commissioners of insanity. Records of all these offices and boards are to be found in the vault. There is no attempt to segregate the records and allot part of the room or certain pieces of filing equipment to the needs of the several offices.

The filing equipment is extensive. Shelves of steel or of steel and wood measure 384 linear feet and hold 237 feet of bound volumes. Fifty-three linear feet of file boxes, 13 to 26 inches in depth, hold unbound material.

Next to the clerk's office, or in the center of the building, on the east side, is the 15 x 21 x 10 foot meeting room of the board of county commissioners. The room also serves as the meeting place for the board of equalization, the commissioners of insanity, the county assistance committee, and the latter's four sub-boards. No records are housed here.

In the northeast corner of the building, the county treasurer has an office and a vault. The office is 15 x 21 x 10 feet, the vault, 15 x 16 x 12. In the latter, 277 linear feet of shelving holds 141 linear feet of volumes, and 29 linear feet of file boxes containing unbound materials. There are no records in the office.

Across the corridor, in the northwest corner of the building, there is the county judge's office, his vault, and the county court room. Respectively, they measure, in feet: 8 x 11 x 10; 10 x 10 x 12; and 18 x 20 x 10. All the records are to be found in the vault. Steel shelving measures 111 linear feet and upon it are 49 linear feet of bound records. Unbound materials are filed in 39 linear feet of 9 to 26 inch deep file boxes.

Between the courtroom and the vestibule is a 12 x 20 x 10 foot room as yet unassigned to any officer or board.

On the second floor at the southwest corner the county agricultural agent has an office and a vault. These measure 15 x 18 x 12 and 8 x 9 x 12 feet. To the left in the center of the west side, is the office of the Agriculture Conservation Association. The room is 19 x 27 x 12 feet. The records held here and in the county agent's quarters are not listed in this inventory.

In the southeast corner of the building there is a small unoccupied room opening off of the hall and a jury room. The latter opens off of the large district court room. This 24 x 45 x 12 foot room houses the district court when it is in session and at other times serves the

Housing, Care, and Accessibility of Records

(First entry, p. 48)

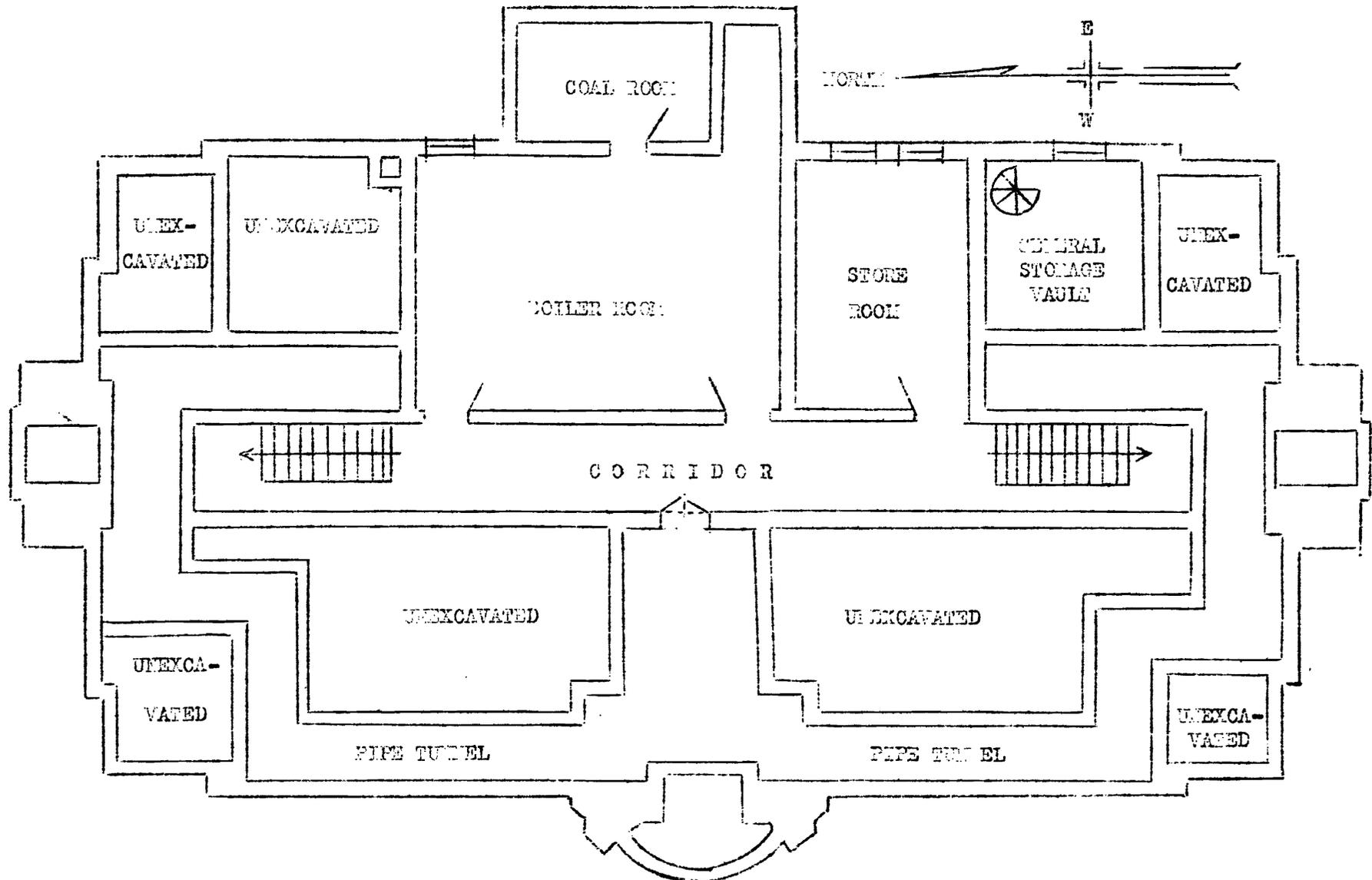
community as a public auditorium. The judges' chambers open off the courtroom to the north.

The county assistance office is at the northeast corner of this floor. An irregular space of approximately 200 square feet is assigned as a reception room, and an office for the director with a vault for record storage. The dimensions in feet of the office and of the vault are 7 x 8 x 12 and 5 x 15 x 12 respectively. The vault has $7\frac{1}{2}$ linear feet of 26 inch deep file drawers holding records of the county assistance committee and its four sub-boards, relief, old age, blind, and child welfare.

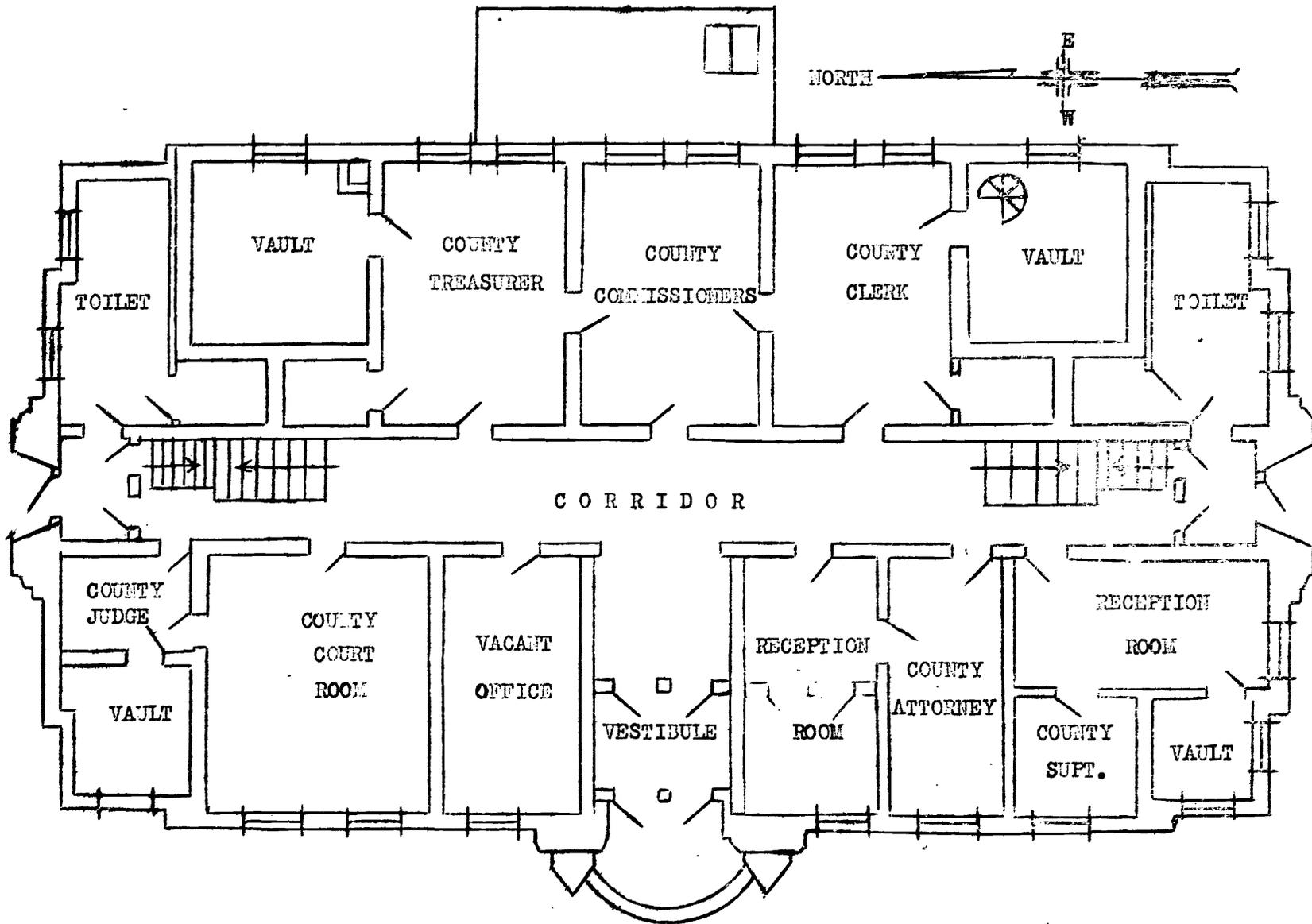
Across the corridor in the northwest corner are the sheriff's office and his reception room. In feet and in that order, they measure 8 x 11 x 12 and 10 x 11 x 12. The county jail opens off the sheriff's private office. All of the records of the sheriff are kept in or on a desk in his private office.

The only other record storage space in the building is the general storage vault in the basement. The 203 linear feet of shelving and the 87 linear feet of file boxes hold records belonging to several offices and boards. The vault itself is 15 x 16 x 12 feet.

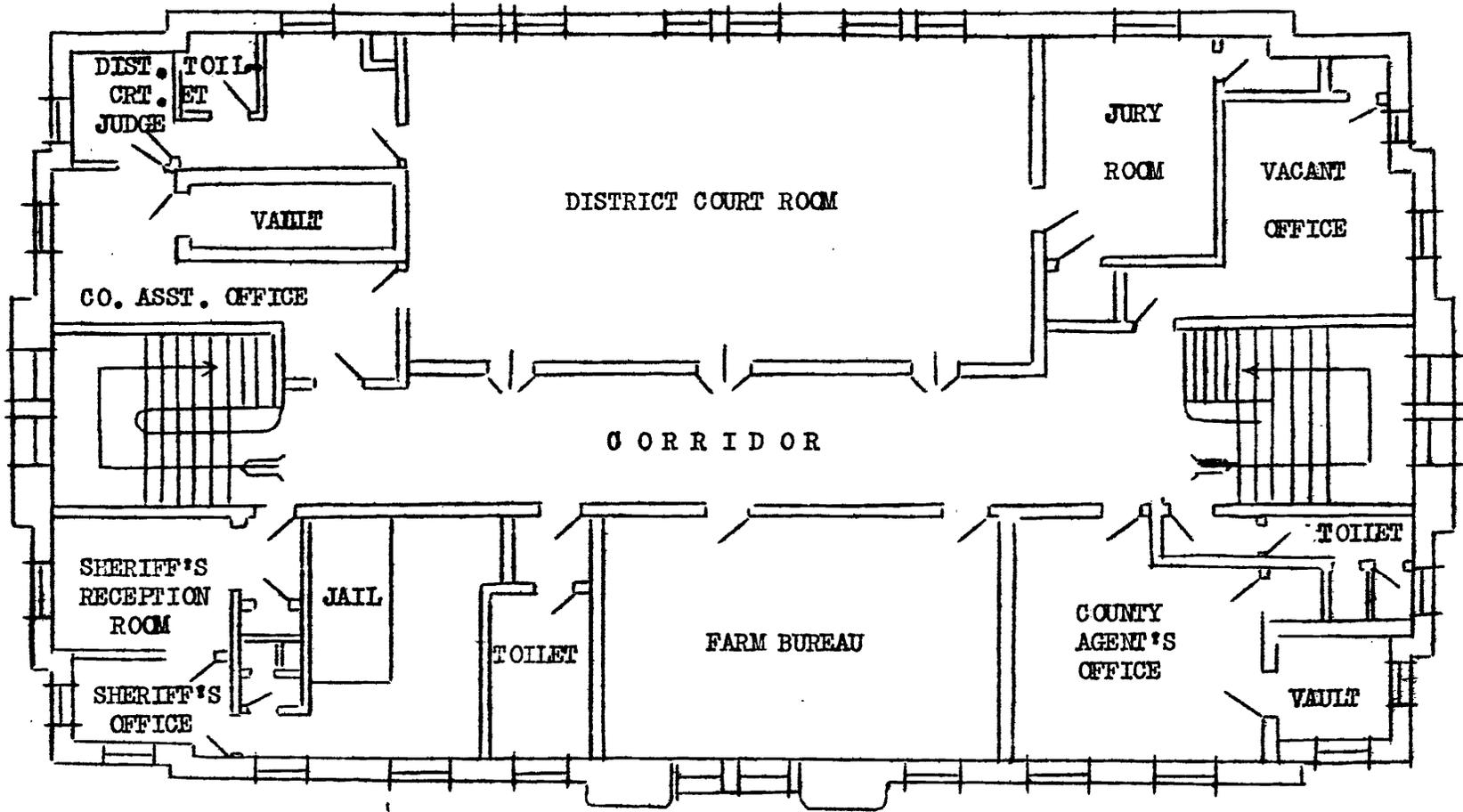
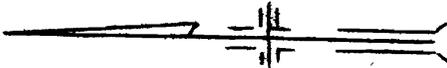
In addition to the officers and boards whose housing has been described, there are others who have no space in the courthouse and who have no regular office. What county business they do is carried on in their homes or private business places. Among these are the county physician and the county surveyor, the election officials and the soldiers' relief commission. There are no records attached to either of the boards or to the office of county physician. The records of the county surveyor are to be found in the clerk's vault.



GOSVER COUNTY COURTHOUSE, BLOUNT



JASPER COUNTY COURT HOUSE, FIRST FLOOR



GOSPER COUNTY COURTHOUSE, SECOND FLOOR

4. ABBREVIATIONS, SYMBOLS, AND EXPLANATORY NOTES

alph.	.....	alphabet, alphabetical(ly)
arr.	.....	arranged (arrangement)
art.	.....	article
assr.	.....	assessor
atty.	.....	attorney
bdl(s)	.....	bundle(s)
C.C.C.	.....	Civilian Conservation Corps
cert.	.....	certificate(s)
ch.	.....	chapter
chron.	.....	chronological(ly)
clk.	.....	clerk
co.	.....	county
Const. 1866	.....	Constitution of Nebraska, 1866
<u>Const.</u> 1875	.....	Constitution of Nebraska, 1875
<u>Const. Rev.</u> 1920	.....	Constitution of Nebraska, 1875 as revised, 1920
<u>C. S.</u> 1922 (1929)	.....	Compiled Statutes of Nebraska, 1922 (1929)
<u>C. S. Supp.</u> 1937	.....	Compiled Statutes of Nebraska, Cumulative Supplement, 1937
<u>C. S. Supp.</u> 1939	.....	Compiled Statutes of Nebraska Cumulative Supplement, 1939
dist.	.....	district
dist. ct. clk.	.....	clerk of the district court
est.	.....	estimated
f. (ff.)	.....	and following page(s)
f.b.	.....	file box(es)
f.d.	.....	file drawer(s)
fm.	.....	form
ft.	.....	foot, feet
<u>G. S.</u> 1873	.....	General Statutes of Nebraska, 1873
hdw.	.....	handwritten
<u>ibid.</u>	.....	ibidem (same as preceding ref- erence)
in.	.....	inch(es)
int.	.....	interest
incl.	.....	inclusive
L.	.....	Session Laws of Nebraska
Let.	.....	letter(s), lettered
loc. cit.	.....	locere citato (place cited)
<u>9 N 99</u>	.....	Nebraska Supreme Court Reports, volume 9, page 99
N.E.R.A.	.....	Nebraska Emergency Relief Administration
no(s).	.....	number(s), numbered
numer.	.....	numerical(ly)
N.Y.A.	.....	National Youth Administration
off.	.....	office
<u>op. cit.</u>	.....	opere citato (work cited before)

Abbreviations, Symbols, and
Explanatory Notes

(First entry, p. 48)

p., pp.	.....	page(s)
pct(s)	.....	precinct(s)
pr.	.....	printed
R.	.....	range
recap.	.....	recapitulation
reg.	.....	registration
rm.	.....	room
<u>R. S.</u> 1866	.....	Revised Statutes of Nebraska Territory, 1866
<u>R. S.</u> 1913	.....	Revised Statutes of Nebraska 1913
sec.	.....	section(s)
strg.	.....	storage
supt.	.....	county superintendent of Public instruction
surv.	.....	surveyor
treas.	.....	county treasurer
Twp.	.....	Township
v.	.....	volume(s)
vlt.	.....	vault
W.P.A.	.....	Work Projects Administration
yr(s).	.....	year(s)

Symbols

-	.....	hyphenated numbers or letters are both inclusive
--	.....	to date; a current record
x	.....	by, in dimensions

Explanatory Notes

Citations to the Session Laws of the Nebraska Legislature, to the Revised Statutes of 1866, and to the General Statutes of 1873, indicate the year of the session or the compilation and the page (L. 1890, p. 50). Citations to the Compiled Statutes of 1929 and the Cumulative Supplement of 1937 indicate the chapter and the section; for example, C. S. 1929, 20-220, is section 220 of chapter 20. The Revised Statutes of 1913 and the Compiled Statutes of 1922 are cited by section number. This system of reference, while not wholly consistent, is adopted because the various compilers of the several compilations used these different methods and so arranged their indices.

Citations to the laws of 1867, followed by the word "State," indicate reference to the laws passed in the session of the State Legislature rather than those passed in the session of the Territorial Legislature of that year. The word "Special" after the citation L. 1935, refers to laws passed in the special session of that year.

Entries are grouped according to the relative importance of the function of the office which resulted in the creation of the records. Within the groups those records covering the longer period of the county's history and consisting of the greater bulk have been listed first. As a rule, items of information in a record are set down in the order in which they actually appear in the record.

Titles of records, both as to spelling and punctuation, are given as they appear on the volumes and the file boxes. The title of the current or most recent record is used as the title of the entry, while title variations, with the dates covered, are described in the entry. In the absence of titles, descriptive titles have been assigned. These are written in solid caps and enclosed in parentheses. If a record title is not descriptive of the contents of the record, an assigned, explanatory title, written in initial caps and enclosed in parentheses, has been added.

Where no reason for the creation or the discontinuance of records is given and where no cross reference appears, the reason for such operation or discontinuance could not be ascertained. Where entries show missing dates, records for such dates could not be found.

Figures or letters in parentheses, following the number of volumes or file boxes, indicate the labeling of a record.

Cross referencing in the title line of entries is used to complete series of records kept separately for a period of time, or in other records for different periods of time, as in entry 31. It is also used in all artificial entries; entries for records which (in this inventory) must be shown under their proper office even though they are kept in files and records whose titles, dates, labels, locations and so on have been described elsewhere in the inventory, as in entry 177.

In a number of title line cross references the impression might be obtained that duplication of recording exists in several records. For instance, in entry 9 it is shown that in some of the years covered by the entry dates certain claims were not filed in the container described in the entry. The claims filed elsewhere are not duplicates of those filed in entry 9; they are merely scattered claims found in other than the principal record.

Third paragraph cross referencing is used to guide a user to prior, subsequent, or related records.

On map and plat records, the names of the author, engineer, and publisher have been omitted only when these data were not obtainable.

This inventory divides the tools, or aids, to the use of records into three types. Indexes, which almost always cover bound records, direct a user to the volume and to the page upon which an item of the record may be found. The tools herein designated as "guides", and which usually serve files of court papers, are themselves essential and independent parts of

the records system and they only provide a user with the number of a case in which he may be interested, not with the file box title location, or other information. Tables of Contents, which serve volumes containing several legally distinct records, perform the same function as does a Table of Contents which guides one to the beginning pages of the chapter of a book.

Dimensions for volumes and bundles are given in this order: height, width, thickness. File drawers, boxes, and other containers, are given in the sequence of height, width, and depth. All measurements are noted in the entries in inches; hence, the symbol has been omitted.

Unless otherwise indicated, records may be assumed to be in good condition.

In the subject index, references to entries are to entry numbers; while reference to pages are to page numbers. The latter are underscored. The chronological index guides one to the entries which cover a particular decade. The entry number is listed under each decade which the record covers in full or in part. Underscoring indicates the first appearance of a record. The last listing of an entry number indicates the decade in which a record ends.

I. BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The county board, composed of three commissioners, came into being in Gosper County when the county was organized in 1873. Ex officio, the county board members serve on the county board of equalization,¹ to which the county clerk and the county assessor were added as ex officio members in 1903.² In 1935, the members of the county board together with the county treasurer (who, however, was removed in 1939)³ became ex officio the county assistance committee, which in turn was made ex officio the relief, the child welfare, the blind, and the old age assistance boards.⁴

Any resident elector of Gosper County is eligible for office on the county board.⁵ One member is elected from each of the three districts (which are drawn by the county board) by the electors of the whole county.⁶

Before entering upon his duties, each member of the board must take an oath of office, which is endorsed on his indemnity bond.⁷

Each member of the county board posted a \$5,000 bond in 1872,⁸ but the amount was reduced to \$1,000 in 1901,⁹ which is the present figure.¹⁰ The bonds of the county board are approved by and filed with the county judge.¹¹

The term of each member of the county board was originally three years,¹² but since 1913, it has been four years.¹³

The compensation of each member of the board was originally \$3.00 per day for time actually devoted to his official duties.¹⁴ In 1911, his pay was increased to \$4.00 per day,¹⁵ and in 1919, to \$5.00 per day,¹⁶ which is his present rate of compensation, but the annual amount may not exceed \$950.¹⁷

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1. G. S. 1873, p. 907.
 2. L. 1903, p. 428; C. S. 1929, 77-1701.
 3. L. 1939, p. 493.
 4. L. 1935, Special pp. 134, 140, 154, 168, 180.
 5. 23 N 385.
 6. G. S. 1873, p. 233; C. S. 1929, 26-133.
 7. L. 1856, p. 53; G. S. 1873, p. 99; C. S. 1929, 12-101.
 8. G. S. 1873, p. 234.
 9. L. 1901, p. 64.
 10. C. S. 1929, 12-119.
 11. G. S. 1873, p. 234; C. S. 1929, 12-107.
 12. G. S. 1873, p. 233.
 13. L. 1913, p. 387; C. S. 1929, 26-134.
 14. G. S. 1873, p. 383.
 15. L. 1911, p. 236.
 16. L. 1919, p. 181.
 17. C. S. 1929, 33-128.

Members of the county board may resign the office by tendering their resignation to the county clerk.¹⁸ They may be removed from office, on the other hand, for any of the following causes: habitual or wilful neglect of duty, gross partiality, oppression, extortion, corruption, wilful maladministration in office, conviction of a felony, or habitual drunkenness. The district court has had original jurisdiction in such cases since 1905,¹⁹ the county board possessing jurisdiction previously.²⁰ Since 1937, members of the county board have been subject also to removal by recall, that is, removal by means of a special election.²¹

Should a vacancy occur on the county board, a successor is appointed by a committee composed of the county clerk, the county attorney, and the county treasurer,²² but if the vacancy occurs thirty days prior to a general election, it is filled at such election.²³

The county board is the general administrative body of the county. In this capacity, it has custody of the real and personal property of the county and manages all county funds.²⁴ It exercises powers of general supervision over other county officers; it approves their indemnity bonds, except the county judge's and the county and precinct assessor's;²⁵ it receives their resignations;²⁶ it fills by appointment vacancies occurring in other county offices less than thirty days prior to a general election;²⁷ it furnishes all county officers with offices, books, and stationery.²⁸

The county board is also active in the financial business of the county. Its members prepare the county budget,²⁹ levy and authorize the collection of county taxes,³⁰ and approve the banks in which county money is to be deposited.³¹ Since 1913, the county board has licensed pool halls, road houses, and amusement parks outside incorporated towns.³² Prior to 1917, it issued licenses also to liquor dealers outside incorporated towns.³³ It resumed this function between 1933 and 1935,³⁴ but now only recommends

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18. L. 1879, p. 269; C. S. 1929, 32-1702.
 19. L. 1905, p. 297; C. S. 1929, 26-1701, 26-1702.
 20. G. S. 1873, p. 250.
 21. L. 1937, p. 221.
 22. G. S. 1873, p. 357; C. S. 1929, 32-1703.
 23. L. 1879, p. 271; C. S. 1929, 32-1704.
 24. G. S. 1873, p. 234; C. S. 1929, 26-105.
 25. L. 1855-56, p. 43; L. 1921, p. 551; C. S. 1929, 77-401.
 26. L. 1879, p. 269; C. S. 1929, 32-1702.
 27. L. 1879, p. 269; C. S. 1929, 32-1703, 32-1704.
 28. G. S. 1873, p. 269; C. S. 1929, 26-108.
 29. L. 1879, p. 362; C. S. 1929, 26-108.
 30. G. S. 1873, p. 234; C. S. 1929, 26-105.
 31. L. 1891, p. 351; C. S. 1929, 77-2506.
 32. L. 1913, p. 163; C. S. 1929, 26-743.
 33. R. S. 1866, p. 671; Const. Rev. 1920, Art. 15, sec. 10.
 34. L. 1933, p. 370.

approval of applications for licenses to the State Liquor Commission.³⁵ The board issues all warrants on which county money is paid out.³⁶ It audits the treasurer's records at least twice each year,³⁷ and also issues county bonds upon approval of the electorate.³⁸

The county board is likewise active in county public welfare work. It has appointed the soldier's relief commissioners since the creation of the commission in 1890.³⁹ Between 1915 and 1935, the members of the board were overseers of the poor in the county.⁴⁰ As a result of the re-organization of public welfare in 1935, the board has, in its ex officio capacity of the four different public welfare boards formerly mentioned, played an increasingly important role in county public welfare work.⁴¹

Public works also occupies much of the attention of the county board. It is required to provide a courthouse, a jail, and other necessary county buildings, and may finance the construction or purchase thereof by a bond issue approved by the electorate.⁴² It is charged with the division of the county into road districts, except the portion occupied by incorporated towns.⁴³ It has general supervision of the public roads of the county⁴⁴ and is empowered to repair or erect all bridges and culverts along such roads.⁴⁵ It receives and examines reports and suggestions from both the county surveyor and the county highway commissioner.⁴⁶

Some miscellaneous functions of the county board are: to change the names of unincorporated villages upon petition of the inhabitants; to provide for the care of neglected cemeteries, when petitioned to do so, up to a maximum outlay of \$100 per year;⁴⁷ and to select sixty qualified jurors for the district court jury panel.⁴⁸

The keeping of the records of the board of county commissioners is the duty of the county clerk, who is the board's ex officio clerk.⁴⁹ He is required to attend the board's meetings and to keep "the seal, records, and papers of the said board."⁵⁰ He is also required to record in a book

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35. L. 1935, p. 427.
 36. L. 1879, p. 374; C. S. Supp. 1937, 26-1002.
 37. G. S. 1873, p. 925; C. S. 1929, 77-1931.
 38. L. 1879, p. 387; C. S. 1929, 11-501.
 39. L. 1889, p. 528; C. S. 1929, 80-104.
 40. L. 1915, p. 80.
 41. See below, p. 138.
 42. G. S. 1873, p. 234; C. S. 1929, 26-105.
 43. L. 1879, p. 131; C. S. 1929, 39-601.
 44. L. 1879, p. 120; C. S. 1929, 59-101.
 45. L. 1905, p. 539; C. S. 1929, 39-801.
 46. L. 1879, p. 131; C. S. 1929, 26-1601.
 47. G. S. 1873, p. 254.
 48. R. S. 1866, p. 510; C. S. 1929, 20-1603.
 49. See below, p. 57.
 50. G. S. 1873, p. 239; C. S. 1929, 26-1002.

provided for that purpose all proceedings of the board. In particular, he is required to make regular entries of their resolutions and decisions in all questions concerning the raising of money and to preserve and file all accounts acted upon.⁵¹ Some of the board's records kept by the county clerk may be accounted for only by referring to these two general statutory requirements, which encompass, also, each of the more specifically indicated duties of the clerk as record keeper for the county board.

As clerk for the county board, the county clerk must record all warrants issued by the county board and the date of their cancelation.⁵² He must also register and file all county officers' bonds, except those of the county board and his own.⁵³ Concerning roads, he is required to keep records of all proceedings in regard to laying out and establishing, changing, or discontinuing roads in the county,⁵⁴ and he must keep a road plat book.⁵⁵ Also, he is required to keep a complete record of each bridge repaired or constructed in Gosper County, and he must file original statements for material and labor and all bids for the letting of contracts.⁵⁶

All records are in the county clerk's vault, except as otherwise stated.

Proceedings

1. COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RECORD, 1873--. 6 v. (1-3, 3-5).

Record of commissioners proceedings showing information as in entry 2. Also contains (Proceedings of Board of Equalization), 1874--; entry 177. 5 v. 1873--, arr. chron. by date of recording; 1 v. 1885, 1889, no obvious arr. No index. Hdw., 1873-1917; typed 1917--. Aver. 650 pp. 17 x 13 x 3.

2. COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS, 1884-1917, 1919--. Est. 6,800 documents in 15 f.b. (1, A; thirteen not labeled); est. 350 documents in 2 f.c. Title varies: Rejected Bids for County Supplies, 1904-14; Miscellaneous Commissioners Work, 1902-17; two f.b. (1, A) not titled, 1884-1907, 1922.

Original documents received by the county board in discharge of its duties, together with papers showing its action thereon, such as reports from

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51. G. S. 1873, p. 239; C. S. 1929, 26-1002.
 52. L. 1879, p. 374; C. S. 1929, 26-1003.
 53. L. 1881, p. 97; C. S. 1929, 12-107.
 54. L. 1879, p. 120; C. S. 1929, 26-1005.
 55. L. 1879, p. 129; C. S. 1929, 69-144.
 56. L. 1905, p. 539; C. S. 1929, 39-801.

county officers, supply bids, estimates of needed office supplies, county attorney's opinions, county superintendent's reports of institute funds, druggists' permits with accompanying bonds, and report of sales, rejected bids, appointments of county officials and deputies, duplicate warrants with accompanying bond, tax levies, school district receipt books, proofs of publication, resolutions and orders of the county board, correspondence in connection with some of the above matters; petitions asking the county board to exercise its discretionary powers in various subjects including petitions to incorporate villages and to grant liquor licenses. Also contains County Treasurer's Financial Report, 1919-23, entry 4; County Claims, 1902, 1904, 1909-10, 1915-17, 1919-29, entry 9; Official Bonds, 1895-1907, entry 15; Depository Bonds, 1906, entry 16; Overseer's Annual Settlements, 1895-1906, entry 25; Road and Bridge Petitions, 1885-89, 1919-22, entry 28; Road District Claims, 1910-15, entry 31; (Doctors Certificate), 1893, entry 51; Bonds (School District Treasurers), 1888-89, 1893-1906, entry 60; Equalization Matters, 1922-29, entry 178; Canceled Checks and Stubs, 1896-1907, 1922, 1924, entry 190; (Tax Sale Certificates), 1925-26, entry 205; (School Orders), 1924-25, entry 219; (Free High School Tuition Orders), 1922-25, entry 234. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. and typed. F.b. vary from 4 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 10 to 15 x 14 x 13; f.d. aver. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 4 x 10 $\frac{1}{2}$. General strg. vlt.

For records of county board's proceedings, see entry 1.

3. COURT HOUSE CONSTRUCTION, 1938--. 40 documents in 1 f.b. Original papers in regard to the construction of the new courthouse, consisting of agreement with the architect, indemnity bonds and accompanying certified checks posted by bidders on construction, proofs of publication of notices, commissioner's resolutions to issue bonds, and application to the Public Works Administration for additional funds. No obvious arr. No index. Typed on pr. fm. and typed. 5 x 4 x 10.

Financial

Reports

4. COUNTY TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT, 1892-95, 1911-22. 402 documents in 3 f.b. Title varies: County Treasurers Monthly Report, 1911-22. 1880-92, 1896-1915, 1925 in Footings of the Tax List, entry 43; 1919-23 in County Commissioners Proceedings, entry 2. Annual and special reports of county treasurer to county board, showing receipts and disbursements for special periods, source of income, amount received, receipt number, balance in different accounts, valuation of bonds, personal taxes not collected, with reason for not collecting tax; monthly bank balance with name of bank, daily receipts, whether active or depository accounts; treasurer's signature and notations of county board's approval. 1 f.b., 1892-95, no obvious arr.; 2 f.b., 1911-22, arr. chron. by dates of reports. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm., 1892-95; typed, 1911-22. 1 f.b. 9 x 2 x 11; 2 f.b. 4 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 10 $\frac{1}{2}$. General strg. vlt.

For record of county treasurer financial reports, see entry 6.

Board of County Commissioners. -
Financial

(5-9)

5. EXAMINER'S REPORTS FROM CO. TREASURER, 1925-26, 1928-29, 1933, 1936--. 6 documents in 1 f.b. 1904-28 also in County Treasurer's Settlements, entry 202.

Reports by State Examiners to county board of the accounts of the county treasurer, showing amount of collections and disbursements in all accounts, balance in each account, amount of delinquent taxes paid, date of report and signatures of State Examiner and of county treasurer. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 4 x 4 x 10 $\frac{1}{2}$.

6. COUNTY TREASURER'S SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTS, 1916--. 36 v.

Records of county treasurer's reports to county board of collections and disbursements, showing amounts of fees and taxes collected, warrants received, checks written, deposits made and bank balance, names of payer and payee, and date of report. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw., 1916-19; typed, 1920--. 20 pp. 14 x 9 x $\frac{1}{2}$.

For original treasurer's reports, see entry 4.

7. (TREASURER'S STATEMENT OF DELINQUENT TAXES), 1875, 1881, 1904-30. In County Treasurers Settlements, entry 202.

Statements submitted by the county treasurer to the county board concerning delinquent taxes, both real estate and personal, showing name of delinquent, amount of tax due, location of property, years of taxes, amount in each tax division, road and school district numbers, and amount of fee for advertising.

Claims

8. CLAIM FILES, 1876--. 146 v. (one hundred forty-two labeled by incl. claim nos., 2-4, one not labeled). Title varies: Register of Accounts and Claims, 1904-37.

Record of claims, showing information as in entry 9. Arr. chorn. by date of recording. Indexed alph. by names of claimants. Hdw. under pr. head. Aver. 195 pp. 17 x 10 x $\frac{1}{2}$.

9. COUNTY CLAIMS, 1876-99, 1902-17, 1922--. Est. 10,500 documents in 5 f.b. (1-4, one dated), 2 v. Title varies: Claims, 1876-99; Bills and Claims for County Supplies, 1922-30. 1902, 1904, 1909-10, 1915-17, 1919-29, also in County Commissioners Proceedings, entry 2.

Original claims filed against county, some with invoices and bills attached, showing name of claimant, itemization of services or material for which remuneration is claimed, amount of claim, date of claim, notation of county board's approval or rejection. Volumes consist of original claims pasted in old chattel mortgage file volumes. 1 f.b., 1876-99, no obvious arr.; 4 f.b., 1902-17, arr. alph. by names of claimants; 2 v., 1922-30, no obvious arr. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 4 f.b. 5 x 10 x 16, 1 f.b. 12 x 11 x 18, v. 9 x 16 x 1. 1 f.b., 1876-99, general strg. vlt.; 4 f.b., 1902-17, 9 v., 1938--.

Warrants

10. CLERKS WARRANT BOOK, 1876-1904, 1910--. 6 v. (2, 2-4; two not labeled). Current v., 1910--, not titled.
Record of warrants issued in payment of claims against county, showing date, number and amount of warrant, name and address of payee, for what issued, date of cancelation, and volume and page reference to County Commissioners Record, entry 1, where warrant was authorized. 1876-1904, arr. chron. by date of recording. 1910--, arr. by fund names without order. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 1 v., 1876-1904, condition poor, due to damage by fire. 275 pp. 18 x 14½ x 2.
11. (CANCELED WARRANTS), 1875-76, 1884--. 1875-76, 1884-1934, in County Treasurer Settlements, entry 201; 1898 in (Miscellaneous Papers), entry 87; 1935-- in Miscellaneous Receipts, entry 188. Canceled warrants, showing fund drawn on, date of issue, name of payee, reason for payment, warrant number, date of cancelation and signature of chairman of county board and of county clerk.
12. GENERAL FUND WARRANTS, 1875-1916. 10 v.
Stubs of warrants issued on general fund, showing warrant number, to whom issued, date of warrant, amount of warrant, for what issued, and balance of fund. Arr. numer. by warrant nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 pp. 19 x 13 x 1. General strg. vlt.
13. COUNTY FUND BALANCE BOOK, Jan. 7 to June 18, 1917. 1 v.
Monthly balance book of county funds, showing fund name, levies and valuations of districts, amount of poll tax, amounts of receipts and of disbursements, with balance available in each fund. Arr. by name of fund without order. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 160 pp. 18 x 13 x 2. General strg. vlt.

Bonds

Official

14. OFFICIAL BOND RECORD, 1875--. 5 v. (1-5).
Record of official bonds showing information as in entry 15. Arr. chron. by date of recording. Indexed alph. by names of principals. Hdw. under pr. head, 1875-1927; typed under pr. head, 1927--. 600 pp. 18 x 13 x 3. V. 1 and 2, damaged by fire.
For record of official bonds approved by county judges, see entry 158.
15. OFFICIAL BONDS, 1878-84, 1886-1904, 1907--. Est. 300 documents in 2 f.d. (not labeled); est. 1,100 documents in 4 f.b. (F, three not labeled). 1895-1907 in County Commissioners Proceedings, entry 2.
Original official bonds of county, precinct, and road district officers, showing name of principal, office for which bonded, date, amount and term of bond, name or names of sureties, expiration date of bond and approval

Board of County Commissioners -
Relief; Jurors

(16-20)

by county board. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. 1878-85; hdw. pr. fm. 1886-1926; typed pr. fm. 1929. F.b. 6 x 10 x 16; f.d. 4 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 10 $\frac{1}{2}$. 4 f.b., 1878-84, 1886-1904, 1907-28, general strg. vlt.; 2 f.d., 1929--, co. clk.'s vlt.

For official bonds approved by the county judge, see entry 159.

Indemnity

16. DEPOSITORY BONDS, 1908-22, 1929--. 50 documents in 1 f.b., 1896 in (Miscellaneous Papers), entry 87; 1906 in County Commissioners Proceedings, entry 2.

Original indemnity bonds posted by county depository banks, showing name of bank and of surety, amount of bond, date of bond and of filing, term of contract, and date of approval by county board. Also contains: (Notarial Bonds), 1929--, entry 59. No obvious arr. No index. Typed and hdw. on pr. fm. 1908-22; typed on pr. fm. 1931--. 4 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 11.

Relief

17. RELIEF RECORD, 1894. 1 v.

Record of relief granted by county board in severe drouth period, showing name of person receiving relief, itemized amounts of commodities, and date of issuance. Arr. alph. by name of recipient. Indexed alph. by name of recipient. Hdw. 190 pp. 12 x 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. General strg. vlt.

18. OLD RELIEF PAPERS, 1890-94. 400 documents in 1 f.b.

Original papers concerning relief of this period, such as letters concerning supplies, receipts for money and supplies, county board's orders; report of overseers of the poor, showing name of relief client, amount of commodities received, date and detail of report; report of commodities collected for relief in Russia with letter of thanks and greeting (in Russian); also two county newspapers containing accounts of the conditions of this period. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. and hdw. on pr. fm. 5 x 10 x 19. General strg. vlt.

19. OLD AGE PENSION WARRANTS, 1934--. 1 v.

Stubs of warrants issued to dependent aged and dependent children, showing warrant number, amount and date of warrant, to whom issued, and balance in fund. Arr. numer. by warrant nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 pp. 19 x 13 x 1.

Jurors

20. JURY WARRANTS, 1911-34. 2 v.

Stubs of warrants issued to persons serving as jurors, showing warrant number, name of juror, date of issuance, amount of warrant, and term of court. Arr. numer. by warrant nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 pp. 19 x 13 x 1.

Roads and Bridges

Record

21. ROAD RECORD, 1874--. 2 v. (1, 2).

Record of roads in county, showing copies of petitions concerning roads, with petitioners names, names of road commissioners, road number, legal land description, and small plat showing location and direction of roads with field notes of surveyor; information regarding the building and altering of bridges, culverts, and expenditures involved. Arr. numer. by twp. and R. nos. Indexed numer. by road nos. Hdw. under pr. head. 303 pp. 19 x 13 x 3.

22. BRIDGE LUMBER RECORD, 1916-20. 1 v.

Daily record of supplies purchased for bridge building, showing date of purchase, amount paid, from whom purchased, and name of bridge; in some cases it shows name of company transporting materials. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. 300 pp. 15 x 7 x 1. General strg. vlt.

Reports

23. STATE REPORTS OF FEDERAL ROADS, 1919-25. 1 v.

Reports to county board from State Highway Department on State Roads where county shared expenses, showing lists of claims and expenditures allowed by county commissioners for repairs and labor on State Roads within county, amount of claim, to whom and why paid, road and patrol numbers, summaries with balance left in allotted fund, and signatures of State Highway commissioner and division engineer. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. and hdw. on pr. fm. 100 pp. 17 x 9 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. General strg. vlt.

24. DATA ON STATE AID ROADS, 1920-22. 72 documents in 2 f.b.

Miscellaneous papers in regard to State aid roads, such as copies of requests for roads, letters from State Department granting projects, notice of acceptance of projects by county commissioners, copies of reports by county commissioners to State Department of machinery used on State aid roads, reports of inspection by State Department, road district numbers or names, locations of roads, and names of county commissioners and of all State Officers concerned. No obvious arr. No index. Typed under pr. head. 4 x 4 x 10 $\frac{1}{2}$.

25. OVERSEER'S ANNUAL SETTLEMENT, 1878-97, 1903--. Est. 1,525 documents in 2 f.b. (B, C); 280 documents in 6 f.d.; 76 v. (74 labeled by road dist. nos., two not labeled). Title varies: Road Supervisors Annual Settlements, 1878-97, 1915; Overseers' Time Books, 1910-29; Road Work Report Books, 1918. 1895-1906 in County Commissioners Proceedings, entry 2.

Annual settlements of road overseers with the county board includes reports, time books, and stubs of receipts, showing road district number, precinct name, amounts of receipts and disbursements, amount of money on hand and of indebtedness, amount of poll tax due, names of laborers working out poll tax, place to which to report for labor, kind of labor performed, machinery

Board of County Commissioners -
Roads and Bridges

(26-29)

and material used in some cases, dates of auditing and of filing by county board, and signature of road overseer. Also contains: Road and Bridge Petitions, 1878-95, entry 28. 2 v., 1918, arr. chron. by date of recording; 74 v., f.b., f.d., 1878-97, 1903--, no obvious arr. No index. 2 v., 1918, hdw. under pr. head; 74 v., f.b., f.d., 1878-97, 1903--, hdw. on pr. fm. F.b., aver. 7 x 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 15; f.d. 5 x 10 x 12; v., 50 pp. size varies from 8 x 4 x $\frac{1}{2}$ to 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 7 x $\frac{1}{2}$. General strg. vlt.

26. ROAD DRAG CARDS AND REPORTS, 1918-33. Est. 4,250 cards in 10 f.d.

Card record of road dragging, showing name of person performing work, number of miles worked, whether work was done by tractor or with horses, type of work, rate of pay per mile, total amount of work done, road and road district numbers; approved and countersigned by road commissioner. Arr. numer. by road dist. nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 4 x 10. General strg. vlt.

Equipment

27. RECORD OF TOOLS AND MACHINERY, 1920. 1 v.

Record of county tools and machinery, showing itemized list of all tools and machinery owned by the county, date of purchase, and cost and value of each. Arr. numer. by road dist. nos. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 300 pp. 14 x 10 x 1.

Petitions

28. ROAD AND BRIDGE PETITIONS, 1878--. 839 documents in 5 f.b. (dated), 2 f.d. (dated). 1878-95 in Overseer's Annual Settlements, entry 25; 1885-89, 1919-22 in County Commissioners Proceedings, entry 2.

Original petitions to county board for establishing roads and for construction of bridges, showing reasons for request, date of petition, road description, location of bridge, names and addresses of signers, appointment and oath of appraisers and notations, reports of appraisers and of surveyors, proofs of publication in regard to road or bridge location, and protests against opening of roads or building of bridges. Other documents included:

- i. Waivers of claims, 1906-33, for damages originating from construction of roads and building of bridges, showing land description, owner's name and address, agreement to waiver claim, and notarization.

Also contains: Road District Claims, 1906-33, entry 31. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. 1886-1906; hdw. on pr. fm. 1907-12; typed on pr. fm. 1913--. F.b. 9 x 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 15 $\frac{1}{2}$; f.d. 4 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 10 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Bids and Contracts

29. BIDS AND CONTRACTS FOR STATE HI-WAYS, 1921--. 1904 documents in 10 envelopes (labeled by patrol or Federal aid project nos.). Original bids and contracts for building and maintaining State project

Board of County Commissioners -
Roads and Bridges

(30-33)

highways, showing dates of filing and approval, specifications and prices as to material and labor, types of machinery to be used in maintenance, names of contractors, and dates and terms of contracts. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 14 x 10.

30. BRIDGES, 1910-17. 107 documents in 1 f.b. 1924 in (Highway Maps), entry 36.

Original bids and contracts for the construction of bridges; bids show date of bid, name and address of bidder, amount of bid, signature of bidder, and date of filing; contracts show date of contract, name and address of contractor, description and specification of construction, amount of contract, terms of agreement, signatures of contractor and members of county board, and date of filing. Also includes catalogues and correspondence, showing price quotations on bridge materials. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. and typed, on pr. fm. 9 x 4 x 10.

Claims

31. ROAD DISTRICT CLAIMS, 1917-23, 1925--. Est. 6,100 documents in 3 f.b. (6, 7, one not labeled), 7 v. (v. not labeled). Title varies: Road Claims, 1919-23. 1906-33 in Road and Bridge Petitions, entry 28, 1910-15 in County Commissioners Proceedings, entry 2.

Original claims for road work and claims for damages due to the building of roads and bridges, and claims incident to road building upon which suits at law have been filed, showing names of claimants, number of days worked, rate of pay per hour, rate for teams, total amounts and dates of claims, description of property, legal actions taken, agreements and notarization of waivers, names of road commissioners, signatures of road supervisors, and allowance or rejection by the county board. 3 f.b., 1917-18, 1925--, arr. numer. by road dist. nos.; 7 v., 1919-23, no obvious arr. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. F.b. 5 x 10 x 5; v., 100 pp. 10 x 9 x 1. General strg. vlt.

32. STATE HIGHWAY CLAIMS, 1921-26. 5 v. (labeled by incl. claim nos.).

Record of claims for material and labor on State Highways where county shared maintenance expense, showing name and address of claimant, date of claim, itemized amount of claim, countersigned by county clerk, date of filing, and claim number. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 pp. 17 x 9 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Warrants

33. BRIDGE FUND WARRANT (Stubs), 1888-98, 1906-16. 6 v. Title varies; Road District Warrants, 1906-15.

Stubs of road and bridge fund warrants, showing road district number, date of issue, to whom and for what issued, amount of warrant, number of warrant, and amount of balance in fund for each district. Arr. numer. by warrant nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 pp. 4 v. 19 x 13 x 1; 2 v. 19 x 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1. General strg. vlt.

Insurance

34. FIRE INSURANCE POLICIES, 1914--. 39 documents in 1 f.d. Original fire insurance policies on county property, showing name of insurance company, description of property insured, date of issue, terms, amount of policy, and date of expiration. Arr. chron. by dates of filing. No index. Typed on pr. fm. $4\frac{1}{2}$ x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 10.

Maps

35. MAP OF ORIGINAL SURVEY OF EAST MUDDY CEMETERY, 1888. 1 map. Map of cemetery in East Muddy precinct, showing section line, size of lots and lot numbers, and driveways; also legal description of location. Drawn by E. F. Pllard, surveyor. Hand-drawn. 1 in. to 16 ft. Condition poor. 22 x 14. General strg. vlt.

36. (HIGHWAY MAPS), 1921--. 172 maps in 26 sets. Communication, political, and physical maps showing the location, plans, and specifications for the construction, maintenance and repair of highways in Gosper County, highway and project numbers, section, township and range lines and numbers, towns, railroads, streams, bridges, culverts, telephone and telegraph lines, marsh lands, trees, retaining walls, base survey lines; cross section of survey station showing elevation, slopes, and widths of highway; kinds and amounts of materials, types of machinery to be used, location of repairs, and instructions for making same. Also contains: Bridges, 1924, entry 30. Drawn and published by Department of Roads and Irrigation, Lincoln, Nebraska. Blueprint. Profile 1 in. to 100 ft., vertical 1 in. to 10 ft.; 1 in. to 1 mile. 36 x 24. General strg. vlt.

37. MAP OF RELOCATION OF PORTION OF A STATE HIGHWAY, 1921. 1 map. Communication, political, and physical map of the proposed change in the highway between Elwood and Holdrege, Nebraska, to avoid a railroad crossing; showing the proposed change, railroad, bridges, canyons to cross, cattle passes, approaches to other State roads, general direction of all roads concerned in the change, adjoining farms, and estimated costs of making the change. Drawn by R. O. Green, division engineer. Published by Department of Roads and Irrigation, Lincoln, Nebraska. Blueprint. Scale unknown. Condition fair. 11 x $8\frac{1}{2}$. General strg. vlt.

38. (CERTIFICATES OF SURVEY), 1886, 1897-98, 1902. In (Miscellaneous Papers), entry 87. Certificates of surveys by surveyors as authorized by the county board, of irregular parcels of land with small drawings, showing land in question, range, township and section numbers, acreage, date of survey, details of chains used, names of helpers, and dates of filing.

Correspondence

39. CORRESPONDENCE FILES, 1939. Est. 100 documents in 1 f.b. Correspondence of the county board, including letters received and copies of letters written, showing date of letter, nature of correspondence and writers signature. Arr. alph. by initial letter of correspondents' surnames. Hdw. and typed. F.b. 9 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 14.

II. COUNTY CLERK

The county clerk's office is and has always been the chief office of record in Gosper County. Ex officio, the county clerk is register of deeds,¹ clerk of the district court,² county assessor,³ and a member of the county board of equalization.⁴ He has been a member of the board of equalization since 1903 and county assessor since 1911.

Any resident elector of Gosper County is eligible for the office,⁵ which is elective.⁶ Before entering upon his duties, the county clerk must take an oath of office, which is endorsed on his indemnity bond.⁷

In 1873 the county clerk was required to post a bond of not less than \$3,000 nor more than \$10,000.⁸ In 1881, the minimum figure was raised to \$5,000⁹, in 1901 reduced to the present figure of \$1,000.¹⁰ The amount of the bond is determined, within the limits of the law, by the county board. The amount posted by the Gosper County clerk at present is \$5,000.¹¹ The bond is filed with the county judge.¹²

From 1873 to 1917, the county clerk's term was two years,¹³ but since 1917 it has been four years.¹⁴

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1. G. S. 1873, p. 552; C. S. 1929, 32-209.
 2. G. S. 1873, p. 261; C. S. 1929, 32-206.
 3. L. 1911, p. 370; C. S. 1929, 32-211.
 4. L. 1903, p. 428; C. S. 1929, 77-1701.
 5. 23 H 385.
 6. G. S. 1873, p. 552; C. S. 1929, 32-209.
 7. L. 1856, p. 53; G. S. 1873, p. 99; C. S. 1929, 12-101.
 8. L. 1865, p. 12; G. S. 1873, p. 238.
 9. L. 1881, p. 99.
 10. L. 1901, p. 63; C. S. 1929, 12-119.
 11. Interview with county clerk, Elwood, Mo., Febr. 15, 1939.
 12. L. 1865, p. 12; C. S. 1929, 12-119.
 13. L. 1869, p. 95; G. S. 1873, p. 352.
 14. L. 1917, p. 97; C. S. 1929, 32-209.

The county clerk's compensation in 1873 was as follows: for performing the duties of clerk to the county board and attending to the business of the county, a sum in quarterly payments not to exceed \$200 per annum, as determined by the county board; for issuing each certificate of election, twenty-five cents; for issuing each certificate and seal outside his duties as clerk to the county board, twenty-five cents; and for recording each certificate of marriage, twenty-five cents.¹⁵ In 1877, however, a law provided that if his fees in the aggregate should exceed the sum of \$1,500, he was to pay such excess into the county treasury.¹⁶ Since 1919, the county clerk's compensation has been fixed by statute at an annual salary of \$1,800.¹⁷

The county clerk may resign his office by tendering his resignation to the county board.¹⁸ He may be removed from office, on the other hand, for any of the following causes: habitual or wilful neglect of duty, gross partiality, oppression, extortion, corruption, wilful maladministration in office, conviction of a felony, habitual drunkenness. The district court has had original jurisdiction in such a case since 1905,¹⁹ the county board having had such jurisdiction previously.²⁰ Since 1937, the county clerk has been subject to removal by petition and recall also, that is, removal by means of a special election.²¹

Should a vacancy occur in the office of county clerk, a successor is appointed by the county board.²² But two modifications to this law were made in 1879. If the vacancy occurs thirty days prior to a general election, it is filled at such election.²³ Secondly, until the appointment or election of a successor, the duties of the office are performed by the county clerk's deputy, if there is one, or, if not, by the county judge.²⁴

Though the county clerk's office is primarily an office of record, his functions are not wholly confined to recordation. He exercises, for instance, several functions in financial matters, relative to taxation, licensing, and the issuance of warrants and bonds. Thus he makes out the tax list and delivers it to the county treasurer, with an order to the latter to proceed to collect the taxes.²⁵ The county clerk's duties

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15. G. S. 1873, p. 380.
 16. L. 1877, p. 215.
 17. L. 1919, p. 896; C. S. 1929, 33-131.
 18. L. 1879, p. 269; C. S. 1929, 32-1702.
 19. L. 1905, p. 297; C. S. 1929, 26-1701, 26-1702.
 20. G. S. 1873, p. 250.
 21. L. 1937, p. 221.
 22. G. S. 1873, p. 357; C. S. 1929, 32-1703.
 23. L. 1879, p. 271; C. S. 1929, 32-1704.
 24. L. 1879, p. 270; C. S. 1929, 32-1707.
 25. G. S. 1873, p. 910; C. S. 1929, 77-1806.

as to licenses consist in issuing tobacco, hunting, and fishing licenses. He has issued tobacco licenses since 1919,²⁶ hunting and fishing licenses since 1901.²⁷ He remits hunting and fishing fees to the State Game, Forestation, and Parks Commission.²⁸ In regard to warrants and bonds, the county clerk issues and countersigns all warrants ordered by the county board,²⁹ and he reports the cancelation of bonds to the State Auditor, who is authorized to register a similar amount of refunding bonds.³⁰

Furthermore, the clerk plays an important part in elections. He issues notices of election,³¹ receives applications for nominations and issues certificates thereof.³² Along with two disinterested electors, he takes from the poll books an abstract of the vote cast,³³ unless he himself is a candidate, in which case the county judge performs the function. County officials receive their certificates of election from the clerk, while an abstract of votes cast for State and National Officers is forwarded to the Secretary of State and Speaker of the Legislature.³⁴ He has custody of ballots and tally lists before and after election and destroys both in due course.³⁵ He receives candidates' statements of campaign expenses.³⁶ Since 1933, he has appointed election officials for all precincts in the county.³⁷

The county clerk exercises also many miscellaneous functions. Some of these are; to administer oaths and affirmations;³⁸ to receive affidavits attesting the destruction of predatory animals and to issue bounty certificates.³⁹

The county clerk is required to keep various records. He is required to record all chattel mortgages and chattel mortgage releases.⁴⁰ Articles of incorporation must be filed with him,⁴¹ and physicians⁴² and dentists⁴³

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26. L. 1919, p. 401; C. S. 1929, 28-1024.
 27. L. 1901, p. 380.
 28. Ibid.; L. 1929, p. 410.
 29. G. S. 1873, p. 374; C. S. Supp. 1937, 26-1002.
 30. L. 1885, p. 96; C. S. 1929, 11-123.
 31. L. 1879, p. 243; C. S. 1929, 32-302.
 32. L. 1879, p. 255; C. S. 1929, 32-1129.
 33. L. 1867, Territorial, p. 19; C. S. 1929, 32-918, 32-919.
 34. L. 1879, pp. 256-57; C. S. 1929, 32-922, 32-923.
 35. L. 1879, p. 150; C. S. 1929, 32-920.
 36. L. 1899, p. 150; C. S. 1929, 32-2026.
 37. L. 1933, p. 286.
 38. L. 1883, p. 181; C. S. 1929, 26-1007.
 39. L. 1877, p. 213; C. S. 1929, 26-1801.
 40. L. 1879, p. 108; C. S. 1929, 36-302.
 41. L. 1875, p. 178; C. S. 1929, 24-204.
 42. L. 1881, p. 282.
 43. L. 1887, p. 505; C. S. 1929, 71-1205.

County Clerk - Chattel
Mortgages and Releases

must register at his office. For a small fee persons may have the names of their farms, ranches, or homes registered by the county clerk.⁴⁴ The county clerk must keep an ostray book.⁴⁵ Precinct and school district boards are required to register with the county clerk all precinct or school district bonds issued.⁴⁶ All poll books, ballots, and election returns⁴⁷ must be filed at the clerk's office.

The county clerk must keep a copy of all discharges from military or naval service issued to male or female residents of Gosper County.⁴⁸ During the years 1917-19, he was required to file birth and death certificates and to register them in a book kept for the purpose.⁴⁹ He must retain duplicate copies of remittances of hunting and fishing license fees.⁵⁰ He is required to keep a fee book.⁵¹ Druggists from 1917 until 1935 were required to file with the county clerk reports on medical liquor sales.⁵² The county clerk must record applications for State Hail Insurance on growing grain.⁵³ Following the sale of land for taxes, the county treasurer is required to file returns thereon with the county clerk.⁵⁴ Finally, the county clerk is required to keep a map of Gosper County hung in his office.⁵⁵

The records are found in the county clerk's vault, except as otherwise stated.

Chattel Mortgages and Releases

- 40. INDEX TO CHATTEL MORTGAGES FILED, 1875--. 8 v. (1, 1-7). Title varies: Chattel Record, 1875-81; Record of Chattel Mortgages Filed, 1880-90.

Record of chattel mortgages filed, showing name of mortgagor and of mortgagee, description of property, title of document, mortgage number, amount of mortgage, date of mortgage and of filing, and date and number of release. Also contains: Chattel Mortgage Releases, 1875-1906, entry 42. Serves as guide by mortgage no. to Chattel Mortgage Files, entry 41, and

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- 44. L. 1911, p. 338; C. S. 1929, 46-118.
 - 45. L. 1861, p. 134; C. S. 1929, 54-411.
 - 46. G. S. 1873, p. 804; C. S. 1929, 11-124.
 - 47. L. 1879, p. 253; C. S. 1929, 32-916.
 - 48. L. 1921, p. 533; C. S. 1929, 26-1012.
 - 49. L. 1917, p. 158; L. 1919, p. 1067.
 - 50. L. 1929, p. 410.
 - 51. L. 1877, p. 216; C. S. 1929, 33-136.
 - 52. L. 1917, p. 432; C. S. 1929, 53-117; L. 1935, p. 430.
 - 53. L. 1921, p. 991; C. S. 1929, 44-1403.
 - 54. L. 1903, p. 463; C. S. 1929, 77-2013.
 - 55. L. 1879, p. 390; C. S. 1929, 26-702.

by mortgage release no. to Chattel Mortgage Releases, entry 42. Arr. alph. by names of mortgagors. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. One v., (1), damaged by fire. 700 pp. 13 x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3.

41. CHATTEL MORTGAGE FILES, 1890--. 332 v. (labeling varies). Original chattel mortgages filed in gummed-stub file binders, showing names of mortgagor and mortgagee, amount of mortgage, details of transaction, interest rate, date of maturity, description of property involved, and date of release, and volume and page reference to recording in Index to Chattel Mortgages Filed, entry 40. Arr. numer. by mortgage nos. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 327 v. 100 pp. 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 9 x 1; 5 v. aver. 500 loose-leaf pp. 9 x 14 x 6. 327 v., 1890-1935, general strg. vlt.; 5 v. 1935--.

42. CHATTEL MORTGAGE RELEASES, 1907--. Est. 8,600 documents in 19 f.b. (labeled by incl. release nos.). 1875-1906 in Index to Chattel Mortgages Filed, entry 40. Original releases of chattel mortgages, showing name of mortgagor and of mortgagee, description of property, date of filing of mortgage, number of mortgage and of release, date of filing, and signature of person ordering release, and volume and page reference to recording in Index to Chattel Mortgages Filed, entry 40. Arr. numer. by release nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 5 x 4 x 10. General strg. vlt.

Taxation

Tax List

43. FOOTINGS OF THE TAX LIST, 1880-92, 1895-1915, 1925. 271 documents in 1 f.b. 1897-99 also in County Treasurers Settlements, entry 202. Summary of the tax list, showing the amount of assessed valuation of the taxable property in the county by precincts, and the amounts credited to the various funds. Also contains: County Treasurer's Financial Report, 1880-92, 1896-1915, 1926, entry 4; Certificate of State Levy, 1895-97, entry 45. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. 1880-92, 1896-1915, 1925; hdw. on pr. fm. 1890-97. 5 x 10 x 19.

44. CLERK'S COPY OF MOTOR REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES, 1936--. 500 documents in 1 f.b., 2 v. Duplicate copies of motor vehicle registration certificates issued by the treasurer to the assessor, and used in lieu of the list of motor vehicles furnished by the assessor to the clerk to be used in compiling of tax list, showing certificate number, name and address of vehicle owner, make, model and description of vehicle, motor number, amount of fee paid, and date of registration. Arr. by pct. names without order and alph. by name of owner of vehicle thereunder. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. F.b. 7 x 9 x 7; 500 pp. 7 x 5 x 3.

For county treasurer's copies of motor registration certificates, see entry 237.

County Clerk -
Corporation

(45-49)

Levies

45. CERTIFICATE OF STATE LEVY, 1876-1901, 1903-9, 1912, 1931--.
477 documents in 1 f.b. 1895-97 also in Footings of the Tax
List, entry 43.

Certificate from the State Auditor to county clerk showing the findings of the State Board of Equalization as to amounts due the State for various funds from county; signature of State Auditor or his Deputy. Also contains: (Certificates of School Levies), 1894, 1896-99, 1904-9, entry 47; Transfers of School Taxes, 1906-7, entry 48. Arr. chron. by dates of filing. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm., 1876-95, 1898-1901, 1903, typed, 1931--. 5 x 10 x 19.

46. RECORD OF SCHOOL DISTRICT VALUATIONS AND LEVIES, 1909--. 1 v.
Record of school district valuations and levies, showing district numbers, kind of property in each district with assessed valuation, total amount, estimate of expenses by district, with names of funds, levy for each, and amount of tax. Arr. numer. by school dist. nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 325 pp. 18 x 13 x 2.

47. (CERTIFICATES OF SCHOOL LEVIES), 1894, 1896-99, 1904-18, 1931--.
1908-18, 1931-- in Transfers of School Taxes, entry 48; 1894,
1896-99, 1904-9 in Certificate of State Levy, entry 45.

Certificates of school tax levies from district school boards to county clerk, showing date of school meeting, amount estimated for ensuing year, amount of levy, number of pupils eligible for free high school with amount needed for tuition, signature of school board members and date of certificate.

For certificates of school tax voted, see entry 286.

48. TRANSFERS OF SCHOOL TAXES, 1908-18, 1931--. 590 documents in
7 f.b. 1897-1900 in (Miscellaneous Papers), entry 87; 1906-7
in Certificate of State Levy, entry 45.

Certificates of transfers of taxes from one school district to another, issued by the superintendent of public instruction, showing patrons names, school district numbers, legal residence of patrons, and signature of county superintendent. Also contains: (Certificates of School Levies), 1908-18, 1931--, entry 45. Arr. chron. by incl. yrs. and numer. by school nos. thereunder. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 4 x 9 x 12. General strg. vlt.

Corporation

49. ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION RECORD, 1898-99. 1 v.
Original articles of incorporation filed by corporations organized in the county, pasted in a volume, showing name of corporation, place of business, amount of capital stock and condition on which it is to be paid in, term for which it is to exist, highest amount of indebtedness to be incurred, names of officers and directors, proof of publication

County Clerk -
Registration; Bonds

(50-55)

of notice of incorporation, dates of incorporation, and of filing.
No obvious arr. No index. Hdw., 1898; typed, 1899. 30 pp. 15 x 9 x 1.

Registration

50. PHYSICIAN'S RECORD, 1882-99. 1 v. 1900-- in Miscellaneous Record, entry 106.

Registration of physicians practicing in county, showing name, address, age and birthplace of registrant, length and place of practice, date and place of graduation, notarial affidavits, and license by board of health. Arr. chron. by date of recording. Indexed alph. by initial letter of surname of physicians and chron. thereunder. Hdw. under pr. head. 285 pp. 14 x 9 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. General strg. vlt.

51. (DOCTORS CERTIFICATE), July 6th, 1893. In County Commissioners Proceedings, entry 2.

Copy of certificate issued by the State Board of Health to a physician, authorizing him to practice medicine, showing name of physician, signature of the Secretary of State Board of Health, certificate number and date of issuance, and signature of county clerk.

52. DENTAL REGISTER, 1889--. 2 v. 1889, 1907-32.

Record of dentists practicing in county, showing dentist's name, age, and birthplace, office address, number of license, date of issue, and signature of county clerk. Arr. chron. by date of recording. Indexed alph. by initial letter of surname of dentist and chron. thereunder. Hdw. under pr. head. 320 pp. 18 x 13 x 2. 1 v. 1889 general strg. vlt. 1 v. 1907--, co. clk.'s vlt.

53. REGISTER OF FARM, RANCH, OR HOME NAMES, 1911--. 1 v. last entry 1922.

Register of farm, ranch, and home names, showing owner's name, legal description and name of farm, ranch or home, date of registration, number and date of certificate, amount of fee paid, and, if ownership transferred, the new owner's name with date of transfer. Arr. alph. by name of farm, ranch, or home. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 100 pp. 18 x 13 x $1\frac{1}{2}$.

54. ESTRAY BOOK, 1878--. 1 v. last entry 1916.

Record of lost, strayed, or stolen animals, showing general description, species, name of person posting notice, names of those appraising worth of animals, and name of person by whom found, value of animals, and date of filing. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 200 pp. 18 x 13 x $1\frac{1}{2}$.

Bonds

Bond Issues

55. BOND REGISTER, 1884--. 1 v.

Record of school district, village, and county bond issues, showing purpose

County Clerk -
Bonds

(56-60)

of bond, notice of and result of election, bond number, date of issue and of maturity, to whom issued, when and where payable, amount of bond, coupon numbers and amounts, interest rate and when coupons payable, date of cancelation and redemption, and name of bondholder. Arr. chron. by date of recording. Indexed alph. by names of bondholders. Hdw. on pr. fm. 225 pp. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3.

For canceled bonds and coupons, see entry 58.

56. CLERK'S CERTIFICATES OF BOND REDEMPTIONS, 1926--. 1 v.

County clerk's record of bond redemptions, showing name, kind, number, and date of issue of bond, date and amount of redemption, number of certificate, and attest by county clerk. Arr. numer. by incl. cert. nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 pp. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1.

For treasurer's record of bond redemptions, see entry 211.

57. CERTIFICATES AND REPORTS OF COUNTY TREASURER, 1931--. 700 documents in 1 f.b.

Certificates of payments of bonds and coupons, issued by the treasurer, showing number of certificate, kind of bond, amount of bond and of coupon, date of issue and of payment, date of certificate and signature of county treasurer. Also contains; (Receipts), 1931--, entry 79. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 4 x 4 x 10 $\frac{1}{2}$.

58. (BONDS AND COUPONS), 1892--. 1892-1934 in County Treasurer's Settlements, entry 202; 1935-- in Miscellaneous Receipts, entry 188.

Canceled county and school district bonds and coupons, showing date of issue and of maturity, denomination of bonds, amount of bond, number and amount of coupon, purpose of issue, type of bond and where payable, and date of cancelation.

For record of bond issues, see entry 55.

Notary

59. (NOTARIAL BONDS), 1883-1901, 1929--. 1883-1901 in (Miscellaneous Papers), entry 87. 1929-- in Depository Bonds, entry 16. Original bonds filed by notaries public to obtain notarial commission, showing notary's name, date and amount of bond, names of sureties and of witnesses, date of commission and of expiration, and volume and page reference to recording in Miscellaneous Record, entry 106.

School Treasurer

60. BONDS, (School District Treasurer), 1906--. 200 documents in 2 f.b., 225 documents in 2 letter boxes, 2 v. 1888-89, 1893-1906 in County Commissioners Proceedings, entry 2.

Original indemnity bonds given by school district treasurers, and filed with the county clerk by the school director, showing district number, date and amount of bond, name of principal and of sureties, date of issue and of expiration, date of approval and of filing, names of both director and moderator of district. Bonds in volume form are bonds pasted on the

County Clerk -
Elections

(61-65)

pages of volume. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. F.b. 4 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 10; letter box 12 x 3 x 12; 100 pp. 17 x 9 x 1.

Druggist

61. DRUGGISTS BONDS, 1917-20. 1 v.

Record of bonds given by druggists for liquor permits, showing name and business address of principal, names of witnesses and sureties, amount of bond, date of issue and of expiration, and notarization. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 4 pp. 16 x 9 x 1.

Elections

62. ELECTION BOOK, 1875-1912, 1918--. 5 v. (2, 3; three not labeled):

Record of votes cast at elections, showing whether general or primary election, date of election, name of office and of candidate, political affiliation, number of votes cast for each candidate in each precinct, and total number of votes in each precinct, and affidavit of canvassing board. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 227 pp. 16 x 12 x 2.

63. OFFICIAL SUMMARY OF VOTES CAST, 1930--. 84 v.

Record of votes received by each candidate in primary and general elections, showing precinct name, date of election, name of candidate, political affiliation, number of votes received, statement of number of ballots cast, number cast by each political party, and certification by judges and clerks of election. Arr. under names of political parties. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 10 pp. 14 x 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$. General strg. vlt.

64. LIST OF ABSENT OR DISABLED VOTERS, 1922--. 6 v. Title varies: Absent voters Poll Book, 1922-36.

Record of votes received from absent and disabled voters as recorded by county clerk, showing name and address of voter, precinct name, political affiliation in case of primary election, date of election, oath of voter, and signature of county clerk. 3 v., 1922-36, arr. chron. by date of recording. 3 v., 1932, 1936--, no obvious arr. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 3 v., 200 pp. 18 x 12 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$; 3 v., 20 pp. 14 x 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$. 5 v., 1922-36, co. clk.'s vlt. 1 v., 1938, co. clk.'s off.

65. POLL BOOK, 1914, 1926, 1930--. 144 v. Title varies: Initiative and Referendum, 1914; List of Voters #1, 1930, 1932, and 1938.

Original poll books used in primary and general elections, showing date of election, precinct name, names of election officials and of counting board, oaths of election officials, and name of each voter. The poll books for primary election also show political affiliations of voters. Arr. numer. by no. assigned to each voter. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 8 pp. 14 x 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{4}$.

County Clerk -
Elections

(66)

66. ABSTRACT OF ELECTIONS, 1879-1918, 1930--. 2,520 documents in 14 f.b.; 7 documents in 1 roll (3, D; twelve not labeled; roll not labeled).

Abstracts of ballots cast in primary and general elections, showing precinct name, name of candidate, office sought, number of votes cast for each candidate in each precinct, total number of votes, names of judges and clerks of election, and date of election. Other documents include:

- i. Application of candidates for public office, 1894-1918, 1930--, requesting the county clerk to place the name of applicant on ballot as a candidate for a named office, showing name of candidate, place of legal residence, political affiliation, precinct name, name of office sought, date of application, and date of filing.
- ii. Appointments of election officers to fill vacancies on election boards, 1894-96, showing name of appointee, office to which appointed, name of precinct, dates of election and of appointment.
- iii. Appointments of judges and clerks to serve on election boards, made by the county clerk, 1933--, showing name of appointee, office to which appointed, name of precinct, dates of election and of appointment, and signature of county clerk.
For appointment of election officers by the clerk of the district court, see entry 133; by the county judge, see entry 157.
- iv. Certified statements of election expenses, 1894-1918, 1930--, made by candidates for public office, showing name of candidate, office sought, date of election, itemized list of expenditures, to whom paid, amount of expenditure, reason for payment, date of statement, and notarial acknowledgment.
- v. Notices of acceptance of nomination for public office, 1894-1918, 1930--, showing name of nominee, office to which nominated, political affiliation, precinct name, dates of notice and of filing.
- vi. Oaths of election officers, 1892-95, showing whether judge or clerk, place and date of election, and signatures of officer and county clerk, and date of filing.
- vii. Original certificates of nomination, 1891-1918, 1930--, certifying that the person named has been nominated as a candidate for a certain office, showing name of nominee, office for which nominated, method of nomination, political affiliation, signature of secretary of caucus or convention, date of certificate, and notarial acknowledgment.
- viii. Petitions nominating candidates for public office, 1894-1918, 1930--, showing name of candidate, political affiliation, office sought, date of election, signatures and addresses of petitioners, and date of filing.
- ix. Requests for appointment of election officers, 1894-1896, 1933--, requesting that certain persons be appointed as judges and clerks to serve on election boards, showing name of appointee, office sought, precinct name, dates of election and of request.

County Clerk -
Military; Vital Statistics

(67-70)

Also contains: (Judge's Appointments of Election Officers), 1897-1903, entry 157; (Appointments of Election Officers by Clerk of District Court), 1904-18, entry 133. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. and hdw. on pr. fm. F.b. vary from 4 x 4 x 10 to 6 x 10 x 16. General strg. vlt.

Military

67. WORLD WAR SOLDIERS DISCHARGE, 1921--. 1 v.
Record of ex-service men serving in the World War, showing name of soldier, branch of service, date of enlistment and of discharge, age at enlistment, personal description, enlistment record, names of officers in charge at enlistment and at discharge, and date of recording. Arr. chron. by date of recording. Indexed alph. by names of ex-service men. Typed on pr. fm. 50 pp. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1.

68. APPEALS TO PRESIDENT, August 7 to December 17, 1919. 78 documents in 1 bdl.
Original papers filed in appeals or applications for exemption from military service, showing name and address of person making appeal, reason for appeal, details of business or of occupation, findings and rulings of board of exemption and signed by Provost Marshal General by direction of the President of United States. No obvious arr. No index. Typed on pr. fm. 12 x 9 x $\frac{1}{2}$. General strg. vlt.

Vital Statistics

69. VITAL STATISTICS RECORD, 1917-19. 1 v. Discontinued as a county record; now kept by State Bureau of Vital Statistics.
Register of births and deaths; that for births, showing names and addresses of parents and of grandparents, name of infant, sex, color and weight of infant, number of other children in family, name of attending physician and certificate of child's condition at birth; that for deaths, showing, name, address, occupation, age, sex, color and birthplace of decedent, date and cause of death, place of burial, and medical certificate of attending physician. Arr. chron. by date of recording. Indexed alph. by names of parents or decedents. Hdw. on pr. fm. 16 x 12 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$.

70. BIRTH AND DEATH CERTIFICATES, 1917-19. 3 v. (labeled by incl. cert. nos.). Discontinued as a county record; now kept by the State Bureau of Vital Statistics.
Original certificates of births and deaths pasted in volumes; birth certificates, showing, registry number, date and place of birth, name and sex of child, name and address of parents, number of living children, and certificate of attending physician; death certificates, showing, registry number, name of decedent, date and place of death, personal and statistical particulars of decedent, signature of informant and of registrar; and medical certificate, showing date and cause of death, place of burial, name of undertaker, and signature of physician. Arr. numer. by cert. nos. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 100 pp. 9 x 10 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$.

County Clerk - Licensing;
Bounties; Financial

Licensing

71. HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSE, 1908-16, 1932--. 10 v.
Stubs of hunting and fishing licenses, showing licensee's name and address, age, color of eyes and hair, weight, height, and occupation, license number, amount of fee, and date of issue. Arr. numer. by license nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 75 pp. 11 x 5 x 4.

72. RESIDENT PERMIT TO TRAP, 1931--. 38 documents in 7 envelopes. Duplicates of permits to trap, showing name and address of licensee, age, personal description, and occupation of licensee, date of issue, license number, and amount of fee. Arr. numer. by license nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 12 x 5 x $\frac{1}{2}$. Co. clk.'s off.

Bounties

73. BOUNTY RECORD, 1925-28, 1931. 1 v.
Record of bounties paid for the destruction of predatory animals and birds, showing name and address of payee, number of scalps and heads of birds, kinds of scalps and heads, and amount paid. Also contains: (Jury Record) 1931, entry 125. 1925-28, arr. chron. by date of recording; 1931, no obvious arr. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 300 pp. 14 x 10 x 2.

74. (BOUNTY AFFIDAVITS), 1929--. 2 v. 1895-1934 in County Treasurer's Settlements, entry 202; 1919-20 in Certificates of Bounty on Scalps, entry 75.
Affidavits filed with applications for bounty payments attesting to the destruction of predatory animals and birds, showing name of claimant, specie and number killed, amount claimed for each, and date of filing. Some of the affidavits show that the amount due was applied toward payment of taxes. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 145 pp. 11 x 8 x 1. 1 v., 1929-33. 1 v., 1933--.

75. CERTIFICATES OF BOUNTY ON SCALPS, 1890-1918, 1925-28. Est. 1,450 documents in 2 f.b. (10, one dated).
Certificates issued by the county clerk certifying the receipt of scalps of predatory animals and heads of birds, showing amount of bounty, name of person receiving same, number and kind of scalps and heads, date of issuance. Also shows amounts of bounty that was applied in payment of taxes, with date of such application. Also contains: (Bounty Affidavits), 1919-20, entry 74. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 1 f.b. 5 x 10 x 19; 1 f.b. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 11.

Financial

76. RECORD OF FEES, 1875--. 7 v. Title varies: Recorders' Fee Book, 1875-1916.
Record of money received by the county clerk in the discharge of official

County Clerk -
School

(77-81)

business showing name of payer, amount received, title of document filed, and date of document and of filing; the early volume also shows, names of contracting parties, and to whom document was delivered. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. Also contains: (Register of Deeds Record of Fees), 1875--, entry 108. 225 pp. 16 x 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. First v. badly damaged by fire, others fair condition.

Accounts

77. CLERK'S ACCOUNT WITH TREASURER, 1880-1900. 2 v. (1; one not labeled).

Record of clerk's reports to treasurer, showing itemization of collections and disbursements with dates of same, date of report, and signature of the county clerk. Arr. chron. by date of reports. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 235 pp. 16 x 11 x 2.

78. CANCELED CHECKS AND BANK STATEMENTS, 1931--. 1,130 documents in 3 f.b.

Canceled checks issued by the county clerk, showing name of bank drawn on, name of payee, date and amount of check, check number and reason for issuance, signature of county clerk, endorsement, and date of payment. Statements show name of bank, amounts of deposits and withdrawals, date of statement and balance on deposit. Arr. chron. by dates of statements. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. Aver. 4 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 10.

79. (RECEIPTS), 1898-1908, 1931--. 1898-1908 in (Miscellaneous Papers), entry 87; 1931--, in Certificates and Reports of County Treasurer, entry 57.

Carbon copies of miscellaneous receipts issued by county treasurer to the county clerk, showing date of receipt, from whom money received, amount involved, reason for payment, receipt number, to what fund applied and signature of county treasurer.

School

80. SCHOOL LANDS UNDER CONTRACT, 1920-28. 35 documents in 1 f.b. Carbon copies of lists of school lands under contract sent from the office of the State Tax Commissioner, showing names of contracting parties, description of land and number of acres, date of contract, amount due on contract, and signature of the State Tax Commissioner. No obvious arr. No index. Typed. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 10.

81. SCHOOL DISTRICT PLAT BOOK, 1925. 1 v.

Plat book compiled by superintendent of public instruction for the use of county clerk, showing precincts, school districts, and range, township, and section numbers of county, and signature of superintendent. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 25 pp. 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 15 x 1. General strg. vlt.

County Clerk - Liquor; Hail Insurance;
Miscellaneous

(82-87)

Liquor

82. DRUGGIST'S LIQUOR STATEMENTS, 1917-26. 1 v.

Duplicates of statements of amounts of liquor on hand, made by druggists and filed with the county clerk, showing kinds of liquors, and amount of each, date and from whom purchased, name of carrier, and value of liquor. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Typed on pr. fm., 1917; hdw. on pr. fm., 1918-26. 100 pp. 16 x 9 x 1. General Strg. vlt.

83. CARRIERS' LIQUOR STATEMENTS, 1917-18. 1 v.

Statements of liquor shipments received and delivered by railroads and express companies, and filed with the county clerk, showing amount and kind of liquor carried, name and address of consignor and of consignee, date of delivery, and to whom delivered. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Typed on pr. fm. 3 pp. 16 x 9 x 1. General strg. vlt.

84. CONSIGNERS AFFIDAVITS, 1917. 1 v.

Original affidavits given by consignee of liquor shipment to the carrier and filed with county clerk, showing name and address of consignee, name of carrier, amount and kind of liquor, purpose for which liquor is to be used, signature of consignee, notarial acknowledgment, and date of receipt of liquor. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. and typed. 100 pp. 16 x 9 x 1. General strg. vlt.

Hail Insurance

85. APPLICATION AND POLICY REGISTER (State Hail Insurance), 1918-26.
1 v.

Record of applications for state hail insurance, showing name and address of applicant, number of policy, amount of policy, location and description of crops insured, date of policy, terms of contract, and amount of premium paid. Arr. numer. by policy nos. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 200 pp. 20 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1. General strg. vlt.

86. APPLICATIONS FOR STATE HAIL INSURANCE, April 10 to July 3, 1919.
362 documents in 1 f.b.

Original applications for state hail insurance, showing applicant's name and address, date of application, amount of insurance applied for, acreage and kind of crop, diagram showing location of crop insured, and signature of applicant. Arr. chron. by dates of applications. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 15 $\frac{1}{2}$. General strg. vlt.

Miscellaneous

87. (MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS), 1876-1919. 2,600 documents in 1 f.b.
(2).

Miscellaneous documents, including:

- i. Bills of sale, 1884-93, transferring ownership of property, showing

County Clerk -
Miscellaneous; Maps

- names of vendor and vendee, description of property, date of sale, names of witnesses, attest by county clerk, volume and page reference to recording in Miscellaneous Record, entry 108.
- ii. Certificates of school lands deeded, 1900-1903, issued by the Commissioner of Public Lands and Buildings to the county clerk, showing name of purchaser, legal land description, date of final payment, date of certificate, and signature of Commissioner of Public Lands and Buildings.

Also contains: (Canceled Warrants), 1896, entry 11; Depository Bonds, 1896, entry 16; (Certificates of Survey), 1886, 1897-98, 1902, entry 38; Transfer of School Taxes, 1897-1900, entry 48; (Notarial Bonds), 1883-1901, entry 59; (Receipts), 1898-1908, entry 79; Releases of Real Estate Mortgages, 1889-1900, entry 101; (Decrees of confirmation of Sales and Journal Entries), 1887-97, entry 124; (Jury Lists), 1886-1919, entry 123; (Witness Lists), 1886-1919, entry 127; Declaration of Intentions, 1876-90, entry 129; (Affidavit of Application of Naturalization), 1876-1906, entry 130; (County Abstracts of Assessments), 1890-1905, 1909-11, entry 165; Corporation Assessment Reports, 1887-1903, entry 171; (Certificates of Fines), 1903, entry 189; (School Orders), 1896, entry 219; Insanity Files, 1885-86, 1896-1900, entry 270. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm., 1887-93; typed on pr. fm. 1894-97. 5 x 10 x 19. General strg. vlt.

88. RECORD OF REAL ESTATE SALES, 1912-14. 2 v. Record kept for this period only.

Record of real estate sales compiled for reference by county clerk, showing land description and acreage, sale value, assessed value, date of sale, grantor's and grantee's names. Includes table of contents, showing beginning page number of each township. Arr. by names of twps. without order, chron. by date of recording thereunder. No index. Hdw. 100 pp. 12 x 9 x $\frac{1}{4}$. General strg. vlt.

Maps

89. MAP OF GOSPER COUNTY (Oil Well Areas), 1930. 1 map. Political, geological, communication, and land tenure map of Gosper County, showing oil and gas wells being drilled, and dry and abandoned wells; also section, township, and range numbers, county and State roads, railroads, rivers, churches, schools, and farm ownership. Drawn by Ida C. Miles; published by Kansas Blue Print Company, Wichita, Kansas. Framed Blue-print. 1 in. to 1 mile. 27 x 27.

90. MAP OF GOSPER COUNTY, 1936. 1 map. Political, communication, and land tenure map of Gosper County, showing section, township, range lines, precincts, schools, county and state roads, railroads, rivers, and farm ownership. Drawn by John M. Canada. Blue-print. 1 in. to 1 mile. 28 x 30. Co. clk.'s off.

91. MAP OF ELWOOD, date unknown. 1 map. Political map of Elwood, Nebraska, with additions showing block and lot

numbers, streets, alleys, location of public buildings, and acreage of adjacent unplatted lands. Framed blueprint. 1 in. to 250 ft. Condition fair. 25 x 21.

Correspondence

92. LETTER FILES, 1939--. Est. 100 documents in 1 f.b. General correspondence consisting of original letters received and copies of letters written by the county clerk. Also contains: (Register of Deeds Correspondence), 1939--, entry 109; (Clerk of the District Court Correspondence), 1939--, entry 156. Arr. alph. by correspondents' names. No index. Hdw. and typed. 12 x 3 x 12. Co. clk.'s off.

93. ORDERS TO FILE OR RELEASE INSTRUMENTS, 1910-12. 120 documents in 1 f.b. Letters and cards ordering the county clerk to file or release documents, showing correspondent's name, nature of document to be filed or released, date and detail of order. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. and typed. 4 x 5 x 11.

III. REGISTER OF DEEDS

When Gosper County was organized in 1873, the county clerk performed the duties of the register of deeds.¹ Later legislation, creating an independent office in counties of more than 18,003,² and still later in counties of more than 16,000,³ did not affect the Gosper County office. The county clerk, therefore, is still ex officio register of deeds in Gosper County. His term, prior to 1917, was two years,⁴ but has been four years since that date.⁵ He receives no additional compensation and needs to provide no bond other than that required as county clerk.

The register of deeds is concerned chiefly with recording instruments pertaining to real estate. He is required to record deeds in the Deed Record Book,⁶ to index them in the Grantor and Grantee Index,⁷ and to enter

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1. L. 1860-61, p. 153.
 2. L. 1887, p. 362.
 3. L. 1911, p. 200; C. S. 1929, 32-209.
 4. G. S. 1873, p. 352; L. 1917, p. 97.
 5. C. S. 1929, 32-209.
 6. L. 1879, p. 375; C. S. 1929, 26-1211.
 7. L. 1879, p. 375; C. S. 1929, 26-1208.

all instruments affecting realty in the Numerical Index.⁸ He must record mortgages (and those conveyances not mortgages in form but intended as mortgages or as securities in the nature of mortgages) in the Mortgage Record,⁹ in the Mortgagor and Mortgagee Index,¹⁰ and in the Numerical Index.¹¹ He is required to record releases and assignments of mortgages in the margin of the Mortgage Record,¹² or in a separate record of releases.¹³ The register of deeds is also required to keep a Mortgage Indebtedness Record, showing the aggregate number and amount of mortgages, including chattel mortgages as taken from the county clerk's records, but not railroad and public utility mortgages, also, the aggregate number and amount of all mortgages released and all sheriff's and other deeds which have the effect of mortgage releases.¹⁴ For taxation purposes the register of deeds must also keep a tax register of mortgages on real estate.¹⁵

The register of deeds must also record and file liens. The mechanic's lien affecting real estate must be recorded in the Mechanic's Lien Record,¹⁶ and its index.¹⁷ Notices of liens for internal revenue taxes payable to the federal government and the discharges of such liens must both be indexed in the Federal Tax Lien Index and filed away.¹⁸ The register of deeds is also required to keep the Miscellaneous Record and a separate index therewith in which to record all instruments not properly filed in other record books.¹⁹ He must also keep a record of all instruments filed.²⁰

The Torrens system of land registration, which was adopted by the Legislature in a permissive statute in 1915,²¹ and whose supervision was assigned to the register of deeds, has never been introduced in Gosper County.

All records are found in the county clerk's vault.

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8. L. 1885, p. 223; C. S. 1929, 26-1213.
 9. L. 1879, p. 376; C. S. 1929, 26-1211.
 10. L. 1885, p. 224; C. S. 1929, 26-1217.
 11. L. 1885, p. 223; C. S. 1929, 26-1213.
 12. L. 1887, p. 371; C. S. 1929, 76-229.
 13. L. 1887, p. 371; C. S. 1929, 76-231.
 14. L. 1891, p. 230; C. S. 1929, 26-1219.
 15. L. 1887, p. 366; C. S. 1929, 26-1212.
 16. L. 1885, p. 222; C. S. 1929, 26-1212.
 17. L. 1885, p. 224; C. S. 1929, 26-1217.
 18. L. 1923, p. 427; C. S. 1929, 26-1223.
 19. C. S. 1873, pp. 240-41; C. S. 1929, 26-1216.
 20. L. 1887, p. 365; C. S. 1929, 26-1203.
 21. L. 1915, p. 494.

Register of Deeds - Numerical
Indexes; Deeds; Real Estate Mortgages

(94-98)

Numerical Indexes

94. NUMERICAL INDEX (Lands), 1875--. 5 v. (labeled by R. nos., 5-8, 8).

Numerical index to documents filed pertaining to rural real estate, showing names of grantor and grantee, nature of document, description of property, by section, township, and range numbers, receipt of party to whom document is delivered, dates of document and filing, and volume and page reference to recording in Deed Records, entry 96. Arr. numer. by twp. nos., and by sec. nos. thereunder. Hdw. under pr. head. 600 pp. 18 x 13 x 3.

95. NUMERICAL INDEX (Lots), 1880--. 2 v. (1, 2).

Numerical index to documents filed pertaining to village real estate and cemetery lots, showing names of grantor and grantee, nature of document, description of properties by block and lot numbers, receipt of party to whom document is delivered, dates of document and filing, and volume and page references to recording in Deed Records, entry 96. Arr. under names of villages and cemeteries, without order, and by block and lot nos. thereunder. Hdw. under pr. head. 600 pp. 18 x 13 x 3.

Deeds

96. DEED RECORDS, 1875--. 21 v. (1-21).

Copies of original deeds or other documents conveying title to real estate property, showing type of deed, names of grantor and grantee, legal description of property, amount involved, conditions of conveyance of title, signature of grantor, notarial acknowledgment, and dates of document and filing. Arr. chron. by date of recording. For alphabetical index, see entry 97, for numerical index, see entries 94 and 95. Hdw., 1875-1911; hdw. on pr. fm., 1911-16; typed on pr. fm., 1916-37; typed, 1937--. 675 pp. 18 x 13 x 3.

97. GENERAL INDEX TO DEEDS, 1875--. 4 v. (1-4).

Alphabetical index to Deed Records, entry 96, showing names of grantor and grantee, dates of document and of filing, nature of document, description of property, and volume and page reference to recordings. Arr. alph., direct and inverted, by initial letter of surname of grantor and grantee and chron. by date of recording thereunder. Hdw. under pr. head. 600 pp. 18 x 13 x 3.

Real Estate Mortgages

98. MORTGAGE RECORDS, 1881--. 30 v. (1-30).

Copies of mortgages given on real estate, showing names of mortgagor and mortgagee, description of property, rate of interest, amount of mortgage and date payment is due, term of contract, dates of mortgage, maturity, filing, signature, and notarial acknowledgment and seal. Also contains: Release of Mortgage Record (marginal), 1881-1904, entry 100; and assignment

Register of Deeds -
Real Estate Mortgages

(99-100)

of Mortgages, 1881-1904, entry 102. Arr. chron. by date of recording. For index see entry 99. Hdw., 1881-1904; hdw. on pr. fm., 1905-27; typed on pr. fm., 1928--. 700 pp. 18 x 13 x 3 $\frac{1}{2}$.

99. GENERAL INDEX TO MORTGAGES, 1881--. 4 v. (1-4).

Alphabetical index to Mortgage Record, entry 98, index to Release of Mortgage Record, 1905--, entry 100, index to Assignment of Mortgages, 1922--, entry 102, both direct and inverted, showing mortgagor's and mortgagee's names, date of filing, date of mortgage, legal description of property, amount of property involved, and book and page reference to recordings. Arr. alph., direct and inverted, by initial letter of mortgagor's and mortgagee's surnames and chron. by date of recording thereunder. Hdw. under pr. head. 600 pp. 18 x 13 x 3.

100. RELEASE OF MORTGAGE RECORD, 1905--. 3 v. (1-3). 1881-1904 in Mortgage Record, entry 98.

Record of real estate mortgage releases, showing names of mortgagor and mortgagee, description of property, dates of mortgage and of release, names of witnesses, notarial acknowledgment, and volume and page reference to recording Mortgage Records, entry 98. Also contains: Assignment of Mortgages, 1905-21, entry 102. Arr. chron. by date of recording. For index see entry 99. Hdw. under pr. head. 500 pp. 18 x 13 x 3.

101. RELEASES OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGES, 1882-1902, 1905--. 450 documents in 1 f.b., 54 documents in 1 f.d. (11, f.d. not labeled). Last document filed 1919. Title varies: Certificates of Satisfaction of Mortgages, 1882-1902. 1889-1900 in (Miscellaneous Papers), entry 87.

Releases of mortgages on real estate, as issued by individuals, firms, and those granted by district court, showing names of mortgagor and mortgagee, description of property, amount of mortgage, condition of satisfaction, dates of mortgage and release, date of filing, volume and page reference to recording in Release of Mortgage Record, entry 100. Other documents included:

- i. Original homestead grants, 1883, 1886, 1889, 1892, 1897, issued to persons who have made final proof through the homestead act, showing name of grantee, legal land description, date of grant, date of filing, signature of President of United States and his secretary and of recorder of the land office, and volume and page reference to recording in Deed Records, entry 103. Included with these are a few receipts, 1885-90, for payments of final proof on homesteads.
- ii. Original mortgages on real estate, 1882-96, showing names of mortgagor and mortgagee, description of property, term of contract, amount of mortgage, numbers of mortgage and release, dates of mortgage and release, volume and page reference to recording in Mortgage Records, entry 98.
- iii. Original warranty and quit claim deeds, 1883-94, 1906, 1909, 1916-19, left in register of deeds office, showing names of grantor and grantee, description of property, condition of

Register of Deeds - Liens;
Miscellaneous Record

(102-106)

conveyance of title, amount involved in transaction, acknowledgment, signature of grantor; date of deed, date of filing, volume and page reference to recording in Deed Records, entry 96.

- iv. Original farm leases, 1885-97, 1900, 1905-15, showing names of contracting parties, description of property, terms of contract, amount of lease, and dates of lease and termination of contract.

No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. F.b. 5 x 10 x 16; f.d. $4\frac{1}{2}$ x $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 10.

102. ASSIGNMENT OF MORTGAGES, 1922--. 1 v. 1881-1904, in Mortgage Records, entry 98; 1905-21, in Release of Mortgage Record, entry 100.

Record of assignments of mortgages, showing names of mortgagor and mortgagee, and assignee, description of property, consideration involved, names of witnesses, notarial acknowledgment and commission date, dates of assignments and of recordings, and page and book reference to recording in Mortgage Records, entry 98. Arr. chron. by date of recording. For index, see entry 99. Hdw. on pr. fm. 500 pp. 18 x 12 x $2\frac{1}{2}$.

103. MORTGAGE INDEBTEDNESS RECORD, 1891--. 6 v. (1-6).

Summarization of mortgages filed, recapitulating the type of mortgage and of liens and releases, showing amount of mortgage, date of release, amount of fee, and date of recording, aggregate number of entries, and daily and monthly totals. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 460 pp. 18 x 13 x $2\frac{1}{2}$.

104. REGISTER OF MORTGAGES FOR TAXATION, 1888-1922. 3 v. (1, 1, one not labeled). Title varies: Tax register of Real Estate Mortgages, 1888-1917; Assessor's Mortgage Record, 1905-11.

Record of real estate mortgages subject to taxation, showing names of mortgagor and mortgagee, amount of mortgage, interest rate, date due, date of release, names of assignees, if any, and volume and page reference to Mortgage Records, entry 98. 1905-11, arr. alph. by mortgagee's names; 1888-1922 arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 305 pp. 18 x 13 x $2\frac{1}{4}$.

Liens

105. MECHANICS LIEN RECORD, 1880--. 2 v. (1, 2).

Copies of mechanics' liens filed, showing names of lienor and lienee, description of property on which lien imposed, amount due, terms of agreement, date of lien, and date and time of filing. Arr. chron. by date of recording. Indexed alph. by names of lienors. Hdw. under pr. head. 400 pp. 18 x 13 x 2.

Miscellaneous Record

106. MISCELLANEOUS RECORD, 1875--. 6 v. (1-6).

Record of all miscellaneous documents filed in the offices of register

of deeds and county clerk, showing nature of document, names of parties concerned, terms of contract or agreement, amount involved, description of property, signature, acknowledgment, and dates of document and filing. Also contains: Physicians Record, 1900--, entry 50. Arr. chron. by date of recording. For index, See entry 107. Hdw., 1875-1911; typed 1911--. 700 pp. 18 x 13 x 3.

107. GENERAL INDEX TO MISCELLANEOUS RECORD, 1875--. 2 v. (1, 2). Alphabetical index to Miscellaneous Record, entry 106, direct and inverted, showing names of parties to document, nature of document, description of property, dates of document and filing, and volume and page reference to recordings. Arr. alph., direct and inverted, by names of principals and parties to documents. Hdw. under pr. head. 600 pp. 17 x 15 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$.

108. (REGISTER OF DEEDS RECORD OF FEES), 1875--. In Record of Fees, entry 76. Record of fees received by register of deeds in the discharge of official business, showing name of payer, amount received, title of document filed, and date of document and of filing; the early volume also shows, names of contracting parties, and to whom document was delivered.

109. (REGISTER OF DEEDS CORRESPONDENCE), 1939--. In Letter Files, entry 92. General correspondence consisting of original letters received and copies of letters written by the register of deeds.

IV. CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT

The office of the clerk of the district court in Gosper County has always been filled by the county clerk.¹ The clerk of the district court, in turn, is ex officio a member of the commission of insanity, and serves as its secretary.²

In his capacity as clerk of the district court, the county clerk furnishes no extra bond,³ and receives no additional compensation.⁴

Between 1901 and 1933, the clerk of the district court, in addition to his other duties, was also required to appoint the election boards in the various precincts.⁵

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1. G. S. 1873, p. 261; C. S. 1929, 32-206.
 2. G. S. 1873, p. 413; C. S. 1929, 83-705.
 3. I2 N 252.
 4. C. S. 1929, 33-108.
 5. L. 1901, p. 337; L. 1933, p. 286.

In 1873, when Gospor County was organized, the State as a whole was divided into three judicial districts, in each of which the district court was presided over by one of the State Supreme Court Judges. In 1875, however, the number of judicial districts was increased to six and a district judge elected by the electors of each district.⁶

The term of the district judge was now set at four years, which it has remained ever since.⁷ At the same time it was provided that if a vacancy occurs in the office of the district court, it must be filled by the Governor until a successor is elected for the unexpired term, provided a general election takes place more than thirty days after the vacancy happens.⁸ The number of judges of the district courts may be changed or the boundaries of judicial districts altered only by a vote of two thirds of the members of the legislature.⁹

No bond has ever been required of the district judge.¹⁰ His salary, which was set at \$2,500 in 1875,¹¹ was increased by constitutional amendment in 1907 to \$3,000¹² and by the constitution of 1920 set at \$5,000, at which figure it still remains.¹³

The chief duty of the clerk of the district court is to keep "the records, books, and papers pertaining to the court and its proceedings".¹⁴ Specifically, the clerk is required to keep ten books of record: the General Index, the Trial Docket, the Appearance Docket, the District Court Journal, the Judgment Record, the Execution Docket, the Complete Record, and the Fee Book Record,¹⁵ the Bar Docket, and the Incumbrance Docket; the last two have been required since 1887 and 1895, respectively,¹⁶ though the former need not be preserved. In addition to the volumes which record the court's action, original instruments in civil cases pending or completed must be preserved.¹⁷

The courthouse fire of 1895 destroyed many records; this in a large measure accounts for the fact that the records do not date from the organization of the county in 1873.

The records are located in the county clerk's vault, except as otherwise stated.

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6. Const. 1875, Art. VI, sec. 10.
 7. Const. 1875, Art. VI, sec. 10; L. 1879, p. 241; C. S. 1929, 32-205.
 8. Const. 1875, Art. VI, sec. 21.
 9. Const. 1875, Art. VI, sec. 11; Const. Rev. 1920, Art. V, sec. 11.
 10. C. S. 1929, 12-119.
 11. Const. 1875, Art. VI, sec. 13.
 12. L. 1907, p. 583.
 13. Const. Rev. 1920, Art. XVII, sec. 3.
 14. R. S. 1866, p. 548; C. S. 1929, 20-2208.
 15. R. S. 1866, p. 448; C. S. 1929, 20-2209.
 16. L. 1887, p. 649; L. 1895, p. 313; C. S. 1929, 20-2212, 20-2213.
 17. R. S. 1866, p. 547; C. S. 1929, 20-2205.

Civil and Criminal

Index

110. GENERAL INDEX TO DISTRICT COURT, 1880--. 2 v. (1, 2).
Alphabetical index to recordings in Appearance Docket, entry 111, Trial Docket, entry 113, Judgment Docket, entry 114, Execution Docket, entry 115, District Court Journal, entry 116, Complete Record, entry 117, and Fee Book in District Court, 1880-1917, entry 135, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, case number, nature of document, dates of document and filing, and volume and page reference to recordings. Also serves as a guide by case number to entry 119. Arr. alph., direct and inverted by names of plaintiffs and defendants. Hdw. under pr. head. 700 pp. 18 x 13 x 3.

Dockets

111. APPEARANCE DOCKET, 1880--. 6 v. (1-6).
Record of filing of documents in civil and criminal cases in the district court, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, attorneys, witnesses and jurors, nature of document, officers' return of writs and orders, date of document and filing, case number, and amount of court costs. Arr. chron. by date of recording. For index, see entry 110. Hdw. under pr. head. 600 pp. 18 x 13 x 3.

For tax foreclosure cases kept separately, see entry 112.

112. APPEARANCE DOCKET (Tax Foreclosure), June 30 to October 24, 1920. 1 v.
Record of final notices of tax foreclosure suits, showing date of petition, date of publication of notice, proofs and decrees, tract number, and amount of fees. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 500 pp. 18 x 13 x 2.

For prior and subsequent records of tax foreclosure cases, see entry 111.

113. TRIAL DOCKET, 1885--. 5 v. (1-5).
Calendar of civil and criminal cases filed in district court, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, case number, nature of case, order of appearance, date and nature of document, court orders, date of hearings, judge's notations and memoranda, officer's returns, and volume and page reference to recording in Appearance Docket, entry 111; and District Court Journal, entry 116. Arr. chron. by date of court term, and chron. by date of recording thereunder. For index, see entry 110, 1 v., 1900-16, also indexed chron. by dates of terms of court. Hdw. on pr. fm., 1885-1916; typed under pr. head, 1917--. 650 pp. 16 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$.

114. JUDGMENT DOCKET, 1885--. 1 v.
Record of judgments awarded by district court, showing names of judgment debtor and creditor, amounts of award and court costs, date of filing transcript, volume and page reference to recording in District Court Journal

Clerk of the District Court -
Civil and Criminal

(115-119)

entry 116, releases, receipts, and remarks. Arr. alph. by names of judgment debtors. For index, see entry 110. Hdw. under pr. head. 500 pp. 18 x 13 x 3.

115. EXECUTION DOCKET, 1885--. 2 v. (1, 2).

Record of executions ordered by court on judgments awarded, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, case number, amounts of judgment and costs, rate of interest, dates of execution and attachment, nature of document filed, orders of the court, and sheriff's return of processes. 1 v., 1885-1927, arr. chron. by date of recording. 1 v., 1927--. arr. alph. by names of defendants. For index, see entry 110. Hdw. under pr. head, 1885-1927; typed under pr. head, 1927--. 600 pp. 18 x 13 x 3.

116. DISTRICT COURT JOURNAL, 1885--. 4 v. (1-4).

Copies of orders and decrees issued by judges in cases heard in district court, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, nature of document, date of issuance, amount involved, case number, and volume and page reference to recording in Judgment Docket, entry 114. Arr. chron. by date of recording. For index, see entry 110. Hdw., 1885-1913; typed, 1914--. 700 pp. 18 x 13 x 3.

117. COMPLETE RECORD, 1885--. 8 v. (2-8; one not labeled).

Complete record of cases heard in district court on which final actions have been taken and all fees have been paid, showing case number, names of plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, nature of document, proceedings of court, amount involved, amount of court costs, officer's returns, and date of filing. Arr. chron. by date of recording. Indexed alph., direct and inverted, by names of plaintiff and of defendant; also in entry 110. Hdw., 1885-1913; typed, 1913--. 700 pp. 18 x 13 x 3.

118. INCUMBRANCE RECORD, 1895--. 1 v. Last entry, 1933.

Record of writs of attachment issued in cases heard in district court, showing names of plaintiff, defendant and attorneys, case number, nature of case, dates of writ and levy on property, description of property, amounts of attachment and court costs, sheriff's returns, and remarks. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 320 pp. 18 x 13 x 2. General strg. vlt.

Court Files

119. DISTRICT COURT FILES, 1880--. Est. 1,100 documents in 38 f.b. (37 f.b. labeled by incl. case nos.; one f.b. G).

Original documents filed in civil and criminal cases in district court, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, attorneys, witnesses and jurors, case number, dates of document and filing, nature of document, decree and orders of the court, amount involved, amount of court costs, and officers' returns. Arr. numer. by case nos. No index. For guide by case number, see entry 110. Hdw. on pr. fm., 1880-92; typed on pr. fm., 1893--. 37 f.b. 10 x 5 x 13; 1 f.b. 4 1/2 x 10 x 16. 37 f.b. 1880--, co. clk.'s vlt.; 1 f.b., 1885-97, 1899, 1900, 1903-7, general strg. vlt.

Clerk of the District Court -
Civil and Criminal

(120-125)

120. TRANSCRIPTS IN DISTRICT COURT, 1886--. 75 documents in 1 bdl.,
41 v.

Transcripts of cases appealed from other courts to the district court, showing court from which transcribed, names of plaintiff and defendant, case number, date of hearing, proceedings of court, court orders and judgments, officers returns, and date of filing. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw., 1886-1902; typed, 1903--. Bdl. 10 x 4 x 1; v. aver. 150 pp. 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. General strg. vlt.

Exhibits

121. EXECUTIONS, 1886--. Est. 1,060 documents in 27 f.b. (labeled by incl. let. of alph.).

Copies of judgments and decrees issued by the district court, showing names of parties concerned, case number, date of court term, findings of court with details, and amounts of judgment and court costs, date of execution and attachment, legal description of land when land is involved, and sheriff's returns of process. Arr. alph. by names of plaintiffs. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 3 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 10.

122. RECEIPT FOR DISTRICT COURT PAPERS, 1891-1908. 1 v.

Receipts from attorneys and others for removal of papers pertaining to cases in district court, showing signature of party borrowing papers, nature of document, names of plaintiff and defendant involved, and dates of removal and return. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 250 pp. 12 x 9 x 1.

123. PROOFS (Exhibits in Cases), 1885--. Est. 1,150 documents in 23 f.b. (A-W).

Documents used as evidence in district court cases, such as deeds, mortgages and promissory notes, showing title of document, title of case and case number, identification markings, and date of filing. Arr. alph. by names of plaintiffs. No index. Hdw., and hdw. on pr. fm. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 10.

Decrees

124. (DECREEES OF CONFIRMATION OF SALES AND JOURNAL ENTRIES), 1887-97.
In (Miscellaneous Papers), entry 87.

Decrees of confirmation of tax sales and journal entries issued by the district court in tax foreclosure cases, showing case names and number, legal description of property involved, term of court, date of order to confirm sale, and volume and page reference to recording in District Court Journal entry 116; copies of appraisers reports are attached to some decrees.

Jurers and Witnesses

125. (JURY RECORD), October 1931. In Bounty Record, entry 73.

Record of persons serving on jury for one term of court, showing date of service, names and addresses of jurors, mileage allowed, number of days served and amount of fees earned.

Clerk of the District Court -
Naturalization

(126-131)

126. (JURY LISTS), 1886-1919. In (Miscellaneous Papers), entry 87. List of names of persons drawn for jury service in cases heard in district court, showing name of juror, time served, amount due for service, duration of service, date of term of court.

127. (WITNESS LISTS), 1886-1919. In (Miscellaneous Papers), entry 87.

List of names of persons called as witnesses in cases heard in district court, showing name of witness, time served, amount due each, date of term of court, title of case in which witness to be called, or was called, to testify.

Naturalization

128. NATURALIZATION RECORD FIRST PAPERS, 1875--. 2 v. (2; one not labeled). Last recording 1906, Naturalization now effected through U. S. Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Record of declaration by aliens of their intentions to acquire citizenship, showing name, address, age, occupation, and place of birth of alien, nationality, date of arrival in the United States, vessel on which immigrated, oaths, and date of declaration. Arr. chron. by date of recording. Indexed alph. by name of alien. Hdw. under pr. head. 450 pp. 18 x 13 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$.

129. DECLARATION OF INTENTION, 1872--. 50 documents in 1 f.b. Last document filed 1905. 1876-90 also in (Miscellaneous Papers), entry 87.

Original declarations by aliens of their intention to acquire citizenship, showing name, address, age, occupation and place of birth of alien, name of country of which he is a subject, date of arrival in the United States, name of vessel on which immigrated, oath of alien, names of witnesses, date of declaration, volume and page reference in recording in Naturalization Record First Papers, entry 133. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 4 x 3 x 10.

130. (AFFIDAVIT OF APPLICATION OF NATURALIZATION), 1876-1906. In (Miscellaneous Papers), entry 87.

Original petitions of aliens applying for citizenship, showing name, address, date and birthplace of applicant; date and place of emigration, port of entry, name of vessel and date of arrival, date of filing declaration of intentions; if married, the name, nativity, and residence of mate and of children; statements disavowing anarchism, foreign allegiance and polygamy; and affidavits of witnesses.

131. NATURALIZATION RECORD FINAL PAPERS, 1885--. 2 v. (2, one not labeled). Last recording 1906.

Record of final papers filed by aliens applying for citizenship, showing name, address, date and place of birth of applicant, date and place of emigration, port of entry into the United States, name of vessel and date of arrival, date of filing of declaration of intentions; if married, the name, nativity, and residence of mate and of children; statements disavowing

anarchism, foreign allegiance, and polygamy, and affidavits of witness. Arr. chron. by date of recording. Indexed alph. by names of applicants. Hdw. under pr. head. 450 pp. 18 x 13 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Elections

132. ELECTION BOARD RECORD, 1918-32. 1 v.

Record of election officials as appointed by the clerk of the district court, showing name of appointee, political affiliation, name of precinct, position to which appointed, date of election, date of appointment and removal, and signature of clerk of the court. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 320 pp. 18 x 13 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$.

For appointment of election officers by the clerk of the district court, see entry 135.

133. (APPOINTMENTS OF ELECTION OFFICERS BY CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT), 1904-18. In abstract of Elections, entry 66.

Appointments of clerks and judges to serve on election boards, made by the clerk of district court, with accompanying requests for appointments; appointments showing name of appointee, office to which appointed, name of precinct, dates of election and of appointment, and signature of clerk of district court; requests that certain parties be appointed to serve as judges and clerks on election boards, showing name of appointee, name of office, name of precinct, dates of election and of request.

For record of appointment of election officers by the clerk of the district court, see entry 132. For appointment of election officers by the county clerk, see entry 66-iii; by the county judge, see entry 157.

Coroner's Inquest

134. RECORDS OF CORONER'S INQUESTS, 1907-10, 1915--. 26 documents in 1 f.b. Last document filed 1915.

Original papers involved in coroner's inquests, showing names of decedent, witnesses, and jurors, circumstances and cause of death, autopsy performed, date of death and of inquest, investigation made and verdict rendered.

No obvious arr. No index. Typed. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 10.

Fees

135. FEE BOOK IN DISTRICT COURT, 1880--. 3 v. (1, 1, 2).

Record of fees received by clerk of district court, showing title of case and case number, names of attorneys, date and term of court, nature of document, amount of fees and total costs. One volume, 1926--, also shows from whom received, reason for payment, and dates of payment. Arr. chron. by date of recording. For index, 1880-1917, see entry 110; 1918--, no index. Hdw. under pr. head. 550 pp. 16 x 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$.

136. (CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT CORRESPONDENCE), 1939--. In Letter Files, entry 92.
General correspondence consisting of original letters received and copies of letters written by the clerk of the district court.

V. COUNTY JUDGE

The first constitution of Nebraska designated the probate judge a constitutional officer, and the county judge mentioned in the 1875 constitution and its 1920 revision has been held to be the successor of the probate judge.¹

Any resident elector of Gosper County is eligible for the office of county judge; the incumbent need not be an attorney.² It is an elective office.³ Before entering upon his duties, the county judge must take an oath of office.⁴

The bond of the county judge of Gosper County was \$5,000 in 1873.⁵ Since 1933, however, it has been \$3,000.⁶ The county judge's bond is approved by the county board and filed with the county clerk.⁷

The county judge's term in 1873 was two years;⁸ in 1920, however, a constitutional amendment lengthened it to four years,⁹ and it has remained at four years ever since.¹⁰

Originally, the county judge did not receive a definite salary, but derived his compensation from a fixed fee for each act specified by law, with no limitation placed upon the total amount of his fees for the year.¹¹ But between 1877¹² and 1911 he was required to turn over to the county treasurer all fees in excess of \$1,500; between 1911¹³ and 1919, all fees

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1. Const. 1866, Art. V, sec. 4-5; Const. 1875, Art. VI, sec. 15-17; Const. Rev. 1920, Art. V, sec. 15-16; 9 N 265.
 2. 25 N 385.
 3. G. S. 1873, p. 353; C. S. Supp. 1937, 32-209.
 4. Const. Rev. 1920, Art. V, sec. 1.
 5. G. S. 1873, p. 271.
 6. L. 1933, p. 461; C. S. 1937 Supp. 12-119.
 7. G. S. 1873, 99; C. S. 1929, 12-107.
 8. G. S. 1873, sec. 2, p. 353.
 9. Const. Rev., 1920, Art. V, sec. 15.
 10. C. S. Supp. 1937, 32-209.
 11. G. S. 1873, p. 377.
 12. L. 1877, p. 215.
 13. L. 1911, p. 238.

in excess of \$1,650; and during 1920 and 1921, all fees in excess of \$1,800.¹⁴ Since 1921, the county judge has been paying all money derived from fees into the county treasury and receives as his compensation a fixed annual salary of \$1,500.¹⁵

The county judge may resign his office by handing his resignation to the county board.¹⁶ As a constitutional officer, he is not subject to removal from office except after impeachment by the legislature.¹⁷

Vacancies occurring in the office of county judge are filled by election,¹⁸ except that when the unexpired term does not exceed two years, the vacancy is filled by appointment by the county board.¹⁹ Pending such event, the office is filled by the county clerk.²⁰

The clerk of the county court, which exists in a few Nebraska counties, has not been established by the legislature in counties of Gosper's size.²¹

The county court has the jurisdiction of a justice court, as well as original jurisdiction concurrent with the district court, except in criminal cases in which punishment exceeds a five hundred dollar fine or imprisonment of more than six months, and in civil cases involving more than \$1,000 or title to real estate mortgages or contracts for the conveyance of real estate.²² Nor has the court jurisdiction of actions of malicious prosecution, of slander and libel, or over officers for misconduct in office.²³

The most important part of the court's activities has generally been in probate matters. The court probates wills; it hears and decides cases in estate matters; issues letters of administration and guardianship; it receives and files inventories of estates; it requires executors, administrators, and guardians to exhibit and settle estate accounts and be responsible for properties under their control; it authorizes the sale and mortgage of the personal property of minors; and it causes guardians to provide for the support and education of their wards.²⁴

14. L. 1919, p. 898.

15. L. 1921, p. 362; C. S. 1929, 33-133.

16. L. 1879, p. 269; C. S. 1929, 32-1702.

17. 94 N 794.

18. G. S. 1873, p. 357; C. S. 1929, 32-1703.

19. L. 1879, p. 271; C. S. 1929, 32-1704.

20. L. 1879, p. 270; C. S. 1929, 32-1707.

21. L. 1887, p. 465; C. S. 1929, 27-541.

22. Const. Rev. 1920, Art. V, sec. 16.

23. L. 1870, p. 8.

24. L. 1857, p. 118; R. S. 1866, pp. 181, 186; C. S. 1929, 27-503.

In 1905, when the juvenile court was established, jurisdiction was conferred upon the county judge in the district judge's absence.²⁵ A mother's pension system was set up in 1915 in an effort to check delinquency among dependent children.²⁶ Until 1919 the county court had sole jurisdiction over applications for mothers' pensions and exclusive power to order their payment by the county board. Since 1919 operation of the mother's pension system has been under the exclusive jurisdiction of the juvenile court.²⁷

Besides acting in his judicial capacity, the county judge approves and files official bonds of the county board, county assessor, and precinct assessors, and files the bond of the county clerk.²⁸ He also approves and files abstractors' bonds.²⁹ He issues marriage licenses,³⁰ and, in cases of separation of husband and wife upon the application of the mother, determines the custody of the child.³¹ He may, upon the approval of the county board, appoint a clerk who holds office at the judge's pleasure.³² He may also appoint a constable.³³ At one time (1897-1901), he appointed the election boards for the precincts of the county.³⁴

The county judge's office, by statute, is the depository of a great number of original documents such as wills, testaments, bonds of administrators and guardians,³⁵ and the official indemnity bonds of the county board, of the county clerk, and of the county and precinct assessors.³⁶ He is also required to keep records in probate matters. A statute of 1873 provided that probate matters must be kept in a record book, an estate book, an entry book, and a fee book, each of which contained its own index.³⁷ The record book was to contain records of wills and their probate, letters of administration and guardianship and bonds of administrators; the estate book was to contain matters pertaining to estates and their settlement and disposition; and the entry book all litigious matter relative to estates.³⁸ In 1895 these three books were combined by statute into the Probate Record,³⁹ so that from then on probate matters were kept

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25. L. 1905, p. 306; L. 1919, p. 281.
 26. L. 1915, p. 381.
 27. L. 1919, p. 946.
 28. L. 1881, p. 96; C. S. 1929, 77-401.
 29. L. 1887, p. 565; C. S. 1929, 76-601.
 30. R. S. 1866, p. 254.
 31. L. 1867, p. 18; C. S. 1929, 38-119.
 32. L. 1919-21, p. 363.
 33. L. 1915, p. 565.
 34. L. 1897, p. 209; L. 1901, p. 337.
 35. G. S. 1873, p. 270; C. S. 1929, 27-535.
 36. L. 1881, p. 96; C. S. 1929, 12-107, 77-401.
 37. G. S. 1873, p. 270.
 38. Ibid.
 39. L. 1895, p. 156; C. S. 1929, 27-535.

County Judge -
Probate Court

(137-138)

in only two records: the Probate Record and the Fee Book. In 1909, however, the county judge was required to add the General Index to Probate Records and the Index to Wills Deposited.⁴⁰ Another record closely related to the above is the Adoption Record, in which the county judge is required to keep items pertaining to the adoption of children.⁴¹ The county judge is required to make a Trial Calendar at the beginning of each term,⁴² and keep a Court Docket in both civil⁴³ and criminal cases.⁴⁴ He must also keep a record of court orders for mother's pensions and their renewals,⁴⁵ marriage licenses,⁴⁶ and certificates of marriage.⁴⁷ The county judge, like other county officers, is also required to enter into the Fee Book all financial matters pertaining to the official business of his office.⁴⁸ This book must not be confused with the Probate Fee Book.

All records are located in the judge's vault, except as otherwise stated.

Probate Court

Record

137. PROBATE RECORD, 1881--. 7 v. (1-7).

Copies of original documents involved in probate of estates, showing information as in entry 139. Also contains: Estate Book, 1892--, entry 140; Settlement Record, 1896--, entry 141; Adoption Record, 1881-1925, 144; Guardianship Record, 1894-1930, entry 145; Register of Claims, 1902--, entry 147; (Juvenile Court Docket), 1905-24, entry 153. Arr. chron. by date of recording. For index see entry 138. Hdw. on pr. fm. 1881--; typed 1924--. 460 pp. 18 x 13 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$.

138. GENERAL INDEX TO PROBATE RECORD, 1881--. 2 v. (1; one not labeled). Title varies: General Index to Probate Court, 1881-86.

Alphabetical index to recordings in Probate Record, entry 137, showing name of decedent, ward or adoptee, case number, nature of document, with

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40. L. 1909, p. 229; C. S. 1929, 27-535.
 41. L. 1897, p. 378; C. S. 1929, 43-111.
 42. G. S. p. 266; C. S. 1929, 27-538.
 43. G. S. 1873, p. 269; C. S. 1929, 27-534.
 44. R. S. 1866, p. 534.
 45. L. 1919, p. 946; C. S. 1929, 43-401.
 46. R. S. 1866, 254; C. S. 1929, 42-106.
 47. R. S. 1866, p. 255; C. S. 1929, 42-108.
 48. L. 1877, p. 216; C. S. 1929, 33-136.

County Judge -
Probate Court

(139-143)

volume and page reference. Arr. alph. by initial letter of surname of decedents or wards, and chron. by date of recording thereunder. Hdw. under pr. head. 325 pp. 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 16 x 3.

Case Files

139. PROBATE COUNTY COURT, 1894--. 1,050 documents in 35 f.b., 7,200 documents in 4 f.d. (29 f.b. labeled by incl. let. of alph.; 6 f.b., 4 f.d., labeled by incl. case nos.).

Original documents filed in cases in probate court, showing case number, names of decedent, heirs, administrator or executor, and attorneys, nature of document, amounts of estate and claims, notarial acknowledgment and signatures, dates of document and filing, and volume and page reference to recording in Probate Record, entry 137. 29 f.b., 1894-1929, no obvious arr.; 6 f.b., 4 f.d., 1930--, arr. numer. by case nos. Hdw. on pr. fm., 1894-1929; typed, 1930--. F.b., 11 x 5 x 13; f.d., 17 x 12 x 24.

Estates

140. ESTATE BOOK, 1880-91. 1 v. 1892-- in Probate Record, entry 137.

Record of proceedings in the settlement of estates in probate court, showing name of decedent, date and nature of document involved, inventory and amount of estate, and court orders. Arr. chron. by date of recording. Indexed alph. by names of decedents. Hdw. on pr. fm. 320 pp. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2.

141. SETTLEMENT RECORD, 1885-95. 1 v. 1896-- in Probate Record, entry 137.

Record of reports and final settlements of estates of deceased and incompetent persons submitted by administrator or guardian, showing date of report, names of decedent or incompetent, and administrator or guardian, amounts involved, and notation of acceptance by county or probate judge. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 320 pp. 18 x 12 x 2.

Wills

142. WILLS DEPOSITED, 1899--. 49 documents in 1 f.d.

Original wills and testaments, filed with the probate court, some sealed and some opened, showing name of testator, date of document, indication of probate and disposition of property. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. 10 x 5 x 13.

143. INDEX TO WILLS DEPOSITED, 1899--. 1 v.

Memoranda of deposit of wills filed with judge, showing name of testator, name of person filing will, date of deposit, and final disposition of will. Arr. alph. by names of testators. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 400 pp. 18 x 13 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Adoptions

144. ADOPTION RECORD, 1926--. 1 v. 1881-1925 in Probate Record, entry 137.

Record of adoption proceedings in probate court, showing name, age and parentage of child to be adopted, name and address of adopter, nature of document involved, and date of document. Arr. chron. by date of recording. Indexed alph. by names of minors. Typed. 700 pp. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13 x 3.

Guardianship

145. GUARDIANSHIP RECORD, 1888-94, 1931--. 2 v. (1, 1). 1894-1930 in Probate Record, entry 137. Title varies: Guardians, 1888-94.

Record of appointment of guardians for minors, incompetents, and spendthrifts, by county court, showing petition filed, bond posted, hearing held, appointment made, appraisal and guardians' reports, date of report, amounts of disbursement and receipts, and final action by court. Arr. chron. by date of recording. Indexed alph. by names of minors or incompetents. Hdw. 1888-94, 1932--, typed. 400 pp. 18 x 13 x 4.

Financial

146. PROBATE FEE BOOK, 1884--. 4 v. (1, 1; two not labeled). Record of all fees paid at various steps in the probate of estates, guardianships and adoptions, showing name of payor, amount and date of payment, and nature of document upon which fee paid. Arr. chron. by date of recording. Indexed alph. by initial letter of surname of decedents, wards, or adoptees. Hdw. on pr. fm., 1884-1914, 1925--; hdw. under pr. head, 1915-24. 340 pp. 16 x 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$.

147. REGISTER OF CLAIMS, 1883-1901. 1 v. 1902-- in Probate Record, entry 137.

Record of miscellaneous claims against estates of deceased and incompetent persons while in probate, showing name of claimant, date of claim, nature and amount of claim, amount allowed, expenses involved, and name of guardian or administrator. Arr. chron. by date of recording. Indexed alph. by initial letter of surname of decedents and incompetent persons. Hdw. under pr. head. 320 pp. 18 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2.

Civil Cases

148. COUNTY COURT CALENDAR, 1930--. 10 v. (dated).

Memoranda of all cases heard in county court, showing title of case, and the date and time of hearing of each case. Arr. chron. by date of court terms. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 30 pp. 14 x 9 x $\frac{1}{2}$. 9 v., 1930-38, judge's vlt.; 1 v. 1939--, judge's off.

149. CIVIL DOCKET, 1880--. 6 v. (1, 2, 2, 3, 4; one not labeled). Title varies: County Court Docket, 1880-87; Justice Docket, 1888-1924.

Record of civil cases in county court, showing case number, names of

County Judge - Criminal
Cases; Juvenile Court

(150-153)

plaintiff, defendant, and attorneys, nature of case, nature of document filed, amounts of awards and costs, amount of fees, court orders, and date of action. Serves as a guide by case number to Civil County Court, entry 150. Also contains: Criminal Docket, 1880-1924, entry 151. Arr. chron. by date of recording. Indexed alph. by initial letter of surname of defendants. Typed under pr. head. 850 pp. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13 x 3.

150. CIVIL COUNTY COURT, 1896--. Est. 550 packets in 9 bdls., 150 packets in 4 f.b. (labeled by incl. case nos.). Original documents filed in civil cases in county court, showing names of plaintiff, defendant, attorneys, witnesses and jurors, case number, nature of case, nature of document, date of action, dates of document and filing, amounts of award and fees, officer's returns, and volume and page reference to recording in Civil Docket, entry 149. No obvious arr. No index, but entries 153 and 155 serve as guides. Hdw. on pr. fm. Bdls. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 4; f.b. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 10 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Criminal Cases

151. CRIMINAL DOCKET, 1925--. 1 v. 1880-1924 in Civil Docket, entry 148. Record of criminal cases in county court, showing case number, name of defendant, nature of case, nature of document involved, amount of court costs, sentence imposed, or dismissal, and date of action. Serves as a guide by case number to Criminal County Court, entry 152. Also contains: (Juvenile Court Docket), 1932--, entry 153. Arr. chron. by date of recording. Indexed alph. by names of defendants. Typed under pr. head. 550 pp. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13 x 3.

152. CRIMINAL COUNTY COURT, 1903--. 150 packets in 3 bdls., 105 packets in 3 f.d. (bdls. not labeled; f.d. labeled by incl. case nos.). Original documents filed in criminal cases in county court, showing case number, names of defendant, attorneys, witnesses and jurors, nature of case, nature of document, date of action, court orders, dismissals, amount of court costs, and volume and page reference to recording in Criminal Docket, entry 151. Arr. numer. by case nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. Bdls. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 9 x 4; f.d. 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13.

Juvenile Court

153. (JUVENILE COURT DOCKET), 1905--. 1905-24 in Probate Record entry 137; 1924-31 in Juvenile Court Docket-Mothers Pension Record, entry 154; 1932-- in Criminal Docket, entry 151. Record of juvenile cases in county court, for misdemeanors by minors under eighteen years of age, showing name of defendant, nature of complaint, verdict rendered, court orders, sheriff's returns and commitment, date of action, amount of fees, and names of attorneys.

County Judge - Marriage
Records; Elections; Bonds

(154-158)

154. JUVENILE COURT DOCKET MOTHERS PENSION RECORD, 1924--. 1 v. Record of court orders for and renewals of mother's pensions, 1925--, showing name of pensioner, date of application, affidavit of applicant for pension, petition and ages of dependent children, amount of grant, date of award or of renewal, and certificate number. Also contains; (Juvenile Court Docket), 1924-31, entry 153. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Typed. 700 pp. $18\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$.

Marriage Records

155. MARRIAGE RECORD, 1891--. 3 v. (2-4). Copies of original marriage licenses, affidavits, and certificates, showing information as in entry 156. Arr. chron. by date of recording. Alph. indexed, direct and inverted, by names of bride and groom. Hdw. on pr. fm., 1891-1925; typed on pr. fm., 1926--. 700 pp. 18 x 14 x 3.

156. MARRIAGE RETURNS, 1912--. 411 documents in 3 bdl., 39 documents in 1 f.b. Title varies: Marriage License, 1912-24. Original licenses, affidavits and certificates of marriage, showing names, age, color, places of birth and addresses of bride and groom, names and addresses of parents, name of officiator at ceremony, date of marriage, affidavits, names and addresses of witnesses, date of issuance and of return; if minors, the consent of parents or guardian is shown; 1923-25, affidavit of health and ten day notice of marriage was required; since 1925, an affidavit of health only is required. 1 bdl., 1912-24, arr. chron. by dates of filings; 2 bdl., 1 f.b., 1925--, no obvious arr. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 1 bdl. 14 x 9 x 1; 3 bdl. 9 x 6 x 4; 1 f.b. 10 x 4 x 13. 1 bdl., 1912-24, general strg. vlt.; 2 bdl., 1 f.b., 1925--, co. clk.'s vlt.

Elections

157. (JUDGES APPOINTMENT OF ELECTION OFFICERS), 1897-1903. In Abstract of Elections, entry 66. Appointments of clerks and judges to serve on election boards, made by county judge, with accompanying requests for appointments; appointments showing name of appointee, office to which appointed, name of precinct, dates of election and of appointment, and signature of county judge; requests that certain persons be appointed as judges and clerks to serve on election boards, showing name of appointee, office to which to be appointed, name of precinct, dates of election and of request.

For appointment of election officers by the county clerk, see entry 66-iii; by the clerk of the district court, see entry 133.

Bonds

158. OFFICIAL BOND RECORD, 1874--. 2 v. (1, 2). Record of official bonds of county board, county clerk, and precinct assessors, showing information as in entry 159. Arr. chron. by date of

recording. No index, 1874-1925; 1926--., indexed alph. by names of principals. Hdw. on pr. fm. 300 pp. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2.

For county board's record of official bonds, see entry 14.

159. OFFICIAL BOND, 1918--. 120 documents in 1 f.b.

Original official bonds of members of county board, county clerk, and precinct assessor, showing names and addresses of principal and sureties, office for which bonded, amount of bond, dates of filing and termination, terms of contract, and oath. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 9.

For official bonds filed with the county board, see entry 15.

Financial

160. FEE BOOK, 1902-5, 1908--. Title varies: Journal, 1933-35, Current Value 1935--.

Record of income and expenditures by county judge in discharge of official business of his office, showing names of payer or payee, amount paid or received, explanation of payment, bank balance, date of payment, to what account posted. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. under pr. head; 1902-5, 1908-36; hdw. on pr. fm., 1925--. 130 pp. 15 x 11 x 1. 3 v., 1902-5, 1908-36, condition fair.

161. CANCELLED CHECKS AND BANK STATEMENTS, 1934--. 400 documents in 2 f.b.

Canceled checks, with accompanying bank statements, showing name of bank, to whom issued, check number, date and amount of check, reason for issue, and signature of person issuing check; statements show name of bank, amounts of deposits, withdrawals and balances, and date of each. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 4 x 4 x 12.

162. (CHECK STUBS), 1932--. 4 v.

Stubs of checks issued by the county judge, showing check number, date issued, amount of check, deposits and balance. Arr. numer. by check nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 200 pp. 6 x 3 x 1.

VI. COUNTY SHERIFF

The sheriff is the chief law enforcement officer in the county. The office was established in Gosper County in 1873. Ex officio, the sheriff has served on the county board of health since 1919.¹

1. L. 1919, p. 159; C. S. 1929, 71-2301.

Any resident elector of Gosper County is eligible for the office of sheriff.² The office is elective.³ Before entering upon his duties, the sheriff must take an oath of office, which is endorsed on his indemnity bond.⁴

The sheriff's bond in 1872, though fixed by the county board, was in no event to be less than \$1,000, and since 1881 his bond has been \$5,000.⁵

The sheriff's term of office in 1872 was two years.⁶ Since 1917 his term has been four years.⁷

Originally the sheriff's compensation consisted of the total amount of fees collected, as allowed by law, for given services.⁸ In 1877, however, a law provided that if his fees in the aggregate exceeded the sum of \$2,000 per annum, he was to pay such excess into the treasury of the county.⁹ In 1907 his compensation was limited to \$800 per annum,¹⁰ and in 1913 to \$1,200 per annum,¹¹ which is the present amount.¹²

The county sheriff may resign his office by tendering his resignation to the county board.¹³ He may be removed from office, on the other hand, in the same manner as the county clerk.

Should a vacancy occur in the office, the vacancy is filled in the same manner as in the office of the county clerk. Secondly, until the appointment or election of a successor, the duties of the office are performed by the sheriff's deputy, if there is one, or, if not, by the county judge.¹⁴

One major function of county government, in which the sheriff is active, is the administration of justice. He is required to attend upon the district court at its session in his county; and when requested, to be present at the sessions of the county court also.¹⁵ It is his duty

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2. 23 N 385.
 3. G. S. 1873, p. 352; C. S. 1929, 32-209.
 4. L. 1856, p. 53; G. S. 1873, p. 99; C. S. 1929, 12-101.
 5. L. 1881, p. 99; C. S. 1929, 12-119.
 6. G. S. 1873, p. 353.
 7. L. 1917, p. 97; C. S. Supp. 1937, 32-209.
 8. G. S. 1873, p. 375.
 9. L. 1877, p. 215.
 10. L. 1907, p. 227.
 11. R. S. 1913, 24-2.
 12. C. S. Supp. 1937, 33-121.
 13. L. 1879, p. 269; C. S. 1929, 32-1703.
 14. L. 1879, p. 270; C. S. 1929, 32-1707.
 15. L. 1879, p. 385; C. S. 1929, 26-1405.

to serve and return writs or other legal processes issued by lawful authority.¹⁶ He executes court orders of attachment;¹⁷ executes and delivers voluntary assignments, and takes possession of assigned estates, administering them according to law.¹⁸ He makes sales of mortgaged premises under a decree.¹⁹

Another major function of county government, in which the sheriff plays an important rôle, is law enforcement. He is in charge of the county jail, including the prisoners there.²⁰ He is required to preserve the peace; to ferret out crime; to apprehend and arrest criminals; to file information against all persons who, to his knowledge, have violated the laws of the state.²¹

Furthermore, the county sheriff exercises a number of miscellaneous functions. He serves distress warrants issued for the collection of delinquent taxes and makes returns to the county treasurer.²² He transports convicted and insane persons to proper institutions.²³ He makes special investigations at the request of the county attorney.²⁴ When assigned by the county attorney, he must assume the coroner's duties of viewing dead bodies and serving papers.²⁵

Like other county officers, the sheriff must make a report to the county board four times a year of the fees received.²⁶ He must also report annually on the conditions of the jail to the clerk of the district court, to the county clerk, and to the Secretary of State, the latter of whom transmits his copy to the State Legislative Assembly.²⁷

Records which the sheriff must keep by specific enactment include the Jail Register²⁸ and the Fee Book,²⁹ which, along with "all books and papers pertaining to the office," must be turned over to his successor.³⁰ There is no jail record in Gosper County, however, since the county has until very recently sent its prisoners to the jails of the neighboring counties.

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16. L. 1879, p. 384; C. S. 1929, 26-1401.
 17. G. S. 1873, p. 607; C. S. 1929, 22-503.
 18. L. 1883, pp. 68-69; C. S. 1929, 6-107.
 19. R. S. 1866, p. 543; C. S. 1929, 20-2146.
 20. G. S. 1873, p. 245; C. S. 1929, 26-1403.
 21. G. S. 1873, p. 245; C. S. 1929, 26-1401.
 22. L. 1903, p. 444; C. S. 1929, 77-1916.
 23. G. S. 1873, p. 416; C. S. 1929, 29-2509.
 24. L. 1917, p. 568; C. S. 1929, 26-1411.
 25. L. 1915, p. 493; C. S. 1929, 26-910.
 26. R. S. 1866, p. 176; C. S. 1929, 33-135.
 27. R. S. 1866, p. 243; C. S. 1929, 47-107.
 28. L. 1858, p. 227; C. S. 1929, 47-106.
 29. G. S. 1873, p. 365; C. S. 1929, 33-136.
 30. R. S. 1866, p. 176; C. S. 1929, 26-1409.

In addition to the aforementioned records, the sheriff must sign entries of real estate attachment and execution in the Incumbrance Record in the office of the clerk of the district court.³¹

The records are located in the sheriff's private office.

163. SHERIFF'S POCKET DOCKET, 1911--. 14 v.

Record of all documents served by the sheriff, showing date of service, fee earned, mileage and cost, names of plaintiff, defendant and attorneys, date when received, nature of document, name of court, and to whom served. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 160 pp. 7 x 5 x 1.

164. FEE BOOK, 1898--. 1 v.

Record of fees received for services, showing date received, from whom received, amount of fee and for what services collected. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 150 pp. 14 x 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$.

VII. CORONER

Since 1917 the county attorney has been ex officio coroner of Gosper County.¹ But from 1873, the date of the organization of the county, till 1917, a separate office of coroner existed.²

Any resident elector is eligible for the office of coroner.³ Following election, the coroner has to take an oath of office, which is endorsed on his indemnity bond.⁴

The coroner's bond, as fixed by the county board, was \$1,000 from 1875 till 1881.⁵ In 1881 it was raised to \$5,000,⁶ and in 1901 it was

31. L. 1895, p. 314; C.S. 1929, 20-533.

1. L. 1915, p. 493; C. S. 1929, 26-910.

2. L. 1859-60, p. 93.

3. 23 N 385.

4. L. 1856, p. 53; G. S. 1873, p. 99; C. S. 1929, 12-101.

5. G. S. 1873, p. 246.

6. L. 1881, p. 100.

reduced to \$1,000 again,⁷ where it stood when the separate office of coroner was abolished in 1915.⁸ No additional bond is required of the ex officio coroner in addition to his bond as county attorney.

The coroner's term between 1873 and 1917 was two years.⁹ The ex officio coroner's term coincides with the term of the county attorney.

The coroner's compensation for 1873 to 1917 consisted of specified fees for given services; thus he was allowed \$10 for viewing a dead body.¹⁰ The ex officio coroner receives no compensation for performing the duties of coroner.¹¹

The coroner could resign his office by tendering his resignation to the county board.¹² He could be removed from office for cause.¹³ But the ex officio coroner in this county may resign or be removed only through the resignation or removal of the county attorney.

If a vacancy occurred in the office of coroner before 1917, a successor was appointed by the county board.¹⁴ But if the vacancy occurred thirty days prior to the general election, according to a statute of 1879, it was filled at such election.¹⁵ A vacancy in the ex officio office of coroner, of course, is filled by the county attorney elect or designate.¹⁶

The principal duty of the coroner is to hold an inquest upon the dead bodies of such persons only as are supposed to have died by unlawful means.¹⁷ If an inquest is necessary, he must summon a jury, subpoena witnesses, administer oaths, take depositions, and issue warrants for the arrest of persons implicated.¹⁸

When an inquest is held, the coroner takes charge of personal property found on the deceased for the benefit of those entitled to possessions, and, if no one claims the body, the coroner is responsible for burial at the county's expense.¹⁹

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7. L. 1901, p. 64.
 8. L. 1915, p. 493.
 9. G. S. 1873, p. 353; R. S. 1913, sec. 1954.
 10. L. 1869, p. 166; R. S. 1913, sec. 2448.
 11. L. 1915, p. 493; C. S. 1929, 26-910.
 12. L. 1879, p. 269; R. S. 1913, sec. 2276.
 13. G. S. 1873, p. 250; R. S. 1913, sec. 5698-5706.
 14. G. S. 1873, p. 357; R. S. 1913, sec. 2277.
 15. L. 1879, p. 271; R. S. 1913, sec. 2278.
 16. See County Attorney, p. 146.
 17. L. 1879, p. 360; C. S. 1929, 26-1502.
 18. L. 1879, sec. 97, p. 380; C. S. 1929, 26-1502 to 26-1515.
 19. L. 1879, p. 304; C. S. 1929, 26-1516, 26-1517.

Records of "inquisitions, papers connected with the same, and the names of witnesses who testified on the matters" are returned to the district court.²⁰ For this record, see entry 134.

VIII. COUNTY ATTORNEY

The office of county attorney was not in existence in this State when Gosper County was organized. The powers and duties which later belonged to the office of county attorney were at that time exercised, in the main, by the district attorney, whose territory was co-extensive with that of the district court and whose office was considered a State office.¹

The office of county attorney was established by legislative enactment in 1885.² Although the office of county attorney was created to supplant a State office, it is itself a county office,³ with its scope limited to the county.

Since 1917 the county attorney has been ex officio county coroner,⁴ but in this capacity he does not receive any additional compensation.

Just as his predecessors, so the county attorney need not possess any special qualifications, except that he be an "attorney and counselor at law, duly licensed to practice" in this state.⁵

As the district attorney before him was elected by the judicial district, so the county attorney was elected by the electors of the county, originally for a term of two years.⁶ This term of office continued without change until 1918 when it was changed to four years,⁷ which it has since remained.⁸

The salary of the county attorney of Gosper County, based by statute

20. L. 1866, p. 32; C. S. 1929, 26-1515.

1. L. 1867, p. 48.

2. L. 1885, p. 215.

3. 26 N 249.

4. L. 1915, p. 493; C. S. 1929, 26-910.

5. R. S. 1866, chap. 3, sec. 21; L. 1885, p. 219.

6. G. S. 1873, p. 352; L. 1885, p. 215.

7. L. 1917, p. 97.

8. C. S. 1929, 32-209; C. S. Supp. 1937, 32-209.

on population, was set at \$500 in 1885;⁹ increased to \$700 in 1903;¹⁰ and was increased to \$900 in 1919 at which it still remains.¹¹

The bond required of the county attorney was fixed in 1885 at \$1,000 by the county board and has never been changed.¹² The sureties on the bond must be approved by the county board and the bond filed in the office of the county clerk.¹³

If the county attorney decides to resign, he must submit his resignation to the county board.¹⁴ He may be removed from office in the same manner as other county officers are removed.¹⁵

When a vacancy occurs from any of the above or other causes, it is filled by the county board,¹⁶ except when it happens thirty days prior to a general election, in which case it is filled at such election.¹⁷

The county attorney is empowered under direction of the court, to procure the assistance of one or more deputies in the trial of any person for felony.¹⁸ He has the authority to inspect at any time a physician's record relative to narcotics administered to drug addicts,¹⁹ and he may, on his own initiative or at the request of the attorney general, file a petition with the board of examiners to revoke the license of any licensee in the healing arts.²⁰ He may also maintain an action for an injunction against houses of ill-fame and other nuisances.²¹

The county attorney, together with the county clerk and the county treasurer, fills any vacancy in the membership of the county board.²²

The duties of the county attorney are numerous and varied. In the performance of these, he cooperates with the sundry State Departments, specifically, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Public Welfare, the Department of Trade and Commerce, and the Railway Commission. In general, it is his duty to prosecute and defend in the several courts of the county, and before any magistrate having jurisdiction, all suits,

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9. L. 1885, p. 217.
 10. L. 1903, p. 58.
 11. L. 1919, p. 173; C. S. Supp., 33-111.
 12. L. 1885, p. 216; C. S. 1929, 12-119.
 13. L. 1881, p. 96; C. S. 1929, 12-107.
 14. L. 1879, p. 269; C. S. 1929, 32-1702.
 15. L. 1905, p. 297; C. S. 1929, 26-1701.
 16. L. 1879, p. 270; C. S. 1929, 32-1703.
 17. L. 1879, p. 271; C. S. 1929, 32-1704.
 18. L. 1885, p. 218; C. S. 1929, 26-904.
 19. L. 1915, p. 407; C. S. 1929, 28-430.
 20. L. 1927, p. 467; C. S. 1929, 71-603.
 21. L. 1911, p. 277; C. S. 1929, 28-911.
 22. L. 1879, p. 269; C. S. 1929, 32-1703.

civil and criminal, in which the State or the county is a party or is interested,²³ even if by change of venue such suits have been transferred to some other county.²⁴ He must also, without fee or reward, give legal opinions and advice, whenever requested, to the county board or other county officers on all matters in which the State or county is interested or which relate to the duty of such county officers.²⁵ But he must not act as attorney for either party, except the State or county, in a civil action which rests upon the same state of facts on which a criminal prosecution depended or depends.²⁶

When the county attorney is required by a grand jury or any court sitting in Gosper County, it is his duty to attend for the purpose of examining witnesses, of giving legal advice, of issuing subpoenas, and drawing bills of indictment, but he must not be present when an indictment is being considered or found by the grand jury.²⁷ Similarly, when requested by the Board of Pardons, it is his duty to give all information in his possession with reference to the career of a convict serving an indeterminate sentence and make a definite recommendation as to whether the application for pardon should be granted.²⁸

The county attorney must also be present and represent the county in juvenile court at all hearings for mothers' pensions.²⁹ He must investigate and prosecute the unlawful employment of children,³⁰ and take action against a husband or father who breaks his bond conditioned on supporting his wife or child.³¹

It is also his duty to take action whenever he is in possession of sufficient evidence to warrant the belief that a person is guilty and can be convicted of a felony or misdemeanor,³² and if circumstances point to violent death in any case, it is his duty to investigate and state the cause of death.³³

It is further incumbent upon the county attorney to prosecute, on behalf of the State, the State tax suit³⁴ and generally all infractions

23. L. 1885, p. 216; C. S. 1929, 26-901, 26-902.

24. L. 1899, p. 56; C. S. 1929, 26-901.

25. L. 1885, p. 217; C. S. 1929, 26-903.

26. L. 1885, p. 218; C. S. 1929, 26-906.

27. L. 1885, p. 219; C. S. 1929, 26-908.

28. L. 1921, p. 689; C. S. 1929, 29-2621.

29. L. 1919, p. 947; C. S. 1929, 43-404.

30. L. 1919, p. 557; C. S. 1929, 48-312.

31. L. 1903, p. 642; C. S. 1929, 28-460.

32. L. 1885, p. 216; C. S. 1929, 26-901.

33. L. 1921, p. 863; C. S. 1929, 71-2405.

34. L. 1903, p. 488; C. S. 1929, 77-2109.

of law relating to taxation matters,³⁵ as well as offenses against election laws.³⁶

Under the direction of the Department of Trade and Commerce, the county attorney causes applications to be made to the district court to take charge of the assets of banks which refused to turn them over to the State Banking Board,³⁷ enforces provisions against unfair business practices,³⁸ against violations relating to commercial feeding stuff,³⁹ and against infractions of the insurance laws.⁴⁰

The county attorney is directed by statute to prosecute public service companies for improper stringing of wires across or beneath railway tracks;⁴¹ and it is his duty to investigate any complaint of shippers or the State Railway Commission about the violation of regulations concerning the operation of railway trains within the county.⁴²

He also prosecutes offenses against laws intended to protect the health of livestock;⁴³ proceeds against persons guilty of injury to animals;⁴⁴ takes action against individuals charged with breaking the game laws;⁴⁵ and brings suits against violators of statutes pertaining to travel, bridges, or public highways.⁴⁶ It is likewise his duty to take note of violations with reference to shipment, labeling, or treatment of nursery stock,⁴⁷ and to enforce rules of the Department of Agriculture with respect to sanitation in bakeries.⁴⁸

No office records, as such, are required of the county attorney, and none are found in Gosper County.

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35. L. 1903, p. 403; C. S. 1929, 77-1430.
 36. L. 1899, p. 152; C. S. 1929, 32-2005.
 37. L. 1909, p. 94; C. S. 1929, 8-185.
 38. L. 1907, p. 491; C. S. 1929, 29-504.
 39. L. 1927, p. 75; C. S. 1929, 54-1010.
 40. L. 1913, p. 469; C. S. 1929, 44-1110.
 41. L. 1915, p. 433; C. S. 1929, 86-311.
 42. L. 1917, p. 544; C. S. 1929, 74-512.
 43. L. 1927, p. 82; C. S. 1929, 54-905.
 44. L. 1903, p. 640; C. S. 1929, 28-570, 28-571.
 45. L. 1929, p. 433.
 46. L. 1917, p. 412; C. S. 1929, 39-1031.
 47. L. 1927, p. 143; C. S. 1929, 2-1026.
 48. L. 1909, p. 314; C. S. 1929, 81-1509.

IX. COUNTY ASSESSOR

When Gosper County was organized in 1873, assessments of property were made by precinct assessors, who were elected annually,¹ one to each precinct, and were paid three dollars per day for time actually given to the execution of their duties.² The county board which then constituted the board of equalization and assessment,³ furnished precinct assessors with blank forms for their work, as well as instructions needful for full and uniform assessments and returns.⁴ In addition to assessing property, each assessor took a census of his precinct; he listed the births and deaths of the preceding year from 1873 to 1885,⁵ corrected the list of war veterans from 1887 to 1937,⁶ and from 1881 to 1937 took the enrollment of the reserve militia in his territory.⁷

Thirty years after the organization of the county, at the general election of 1903, a county assessor was elected, as required by law, to a four year term.⁸ Deputy assessors, appointed by the county assessor, with the consent of the county board, supplanted the elective office of precinct assessors.⁹ The number of deputy assessors needed to assess the property of the county was fixed by the county board and the county assessor, the latter assigning to each his district or territory.¹⁰

The county assessor's salary, fixed by law according to the population of the county, was at first \$450 per annum.¹¹ But from 1905 till the abolition of the office in 1911, the county assessor was paid five dollars per day of work, the total amount not to exceed \$450 per annum. His bond, to be approved by the county judge, was to equal two and one-half per cent of the total taxes collected in the preceding year, the amount of the bond in no case to be less than two thousand dollars nor more than ten thousand.¹²

The county assessor could be removed from office for the same reasons as other county officers. Any person could make a charge against him, and the district court would have exclusive original jurisdiction thereof by summons.¹³

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1. G. S. 1873, sec. 2, p. 353.
 2. Ibid., sec. 21, p. 383.
 3. Ibid., sec. 27, p. 907.
 4. Ibid., sec. 5, p. 898.
 5. Ibid., sec. 1, p. 101; L. 1885, p. 108.
 6. L. 1887, pp. 620-21; L. 1937, p. 454.
 7. L. 1881, p. 289; L. 1937, p. 454.
 8. L. 1903, p. 391.
 9. Ibid., p. 391, sec. 20.
 10. Ibid., p. 392.
 11. Ibid., sec. 22, p. 392.
 12. L. 1903, p. 392.
 13. R. S. 1913, 5698.

In 1911, however, the office of county assessor was made optional; and in that year the electors of Gosper County voted to discontinue it.¹⁴ Hence, as provided by law, the duties of the county assessor devolved upon the county clerk at no increase in the latter's salary.¹⁵ By the same act of 1911, precinct assessors were to be thereafter elected, not appointed.¹⁶

The general duties of the county assessor are to advise and instruct the precinct assessors, requiring of them that the assessment of property be uniform throughout the county and in conformity to law; to correct and verify the assessment rolls, lists, and returns, and file them with the county clerk; to examine the records of other county officers, who are required by law to assist him in such work,¹⁷ with a view to correcting and completing the assessment of all taxable property.¹⁸ The county assessor also performs duties required of the county board of equalization and assessment, of which he is a member.¹⁹

Several records are required of the county assessor. Real estate tax schedules and tax schedules of personal property must be filed with him; from these he must make the books of assessment.²⁰ Until 1929, there were no separate returns required for tangible and intangible personal property for taxation purposes. In that year, however, a law was enacted which required both individuals and corporations to list intangible property separately.²¹ This law of 1929 required tax payers to file returns for intangible property with the county assessor, blank forms to be supplied by the State Tax Commissioner.²² But since 1931, these schedules have been taken by the precinct assessors, and are filed with the county clerk.²³ The assessment of railroad property, required of precinct assessors in 1873,²⁴ in 1921 became one of the duties of the State Board of Equalization and Assessment.²⁵ Also, since 1933 corporations organized under the laws of another State or county must file a statement with the State Tax Commissioner who certifies the same to the county assessor. The State Tax Commissioner determines the value for assessment and taxation purposes of any such individual shares of stock in the hands of resident owners.²⁶

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14. Election Book, v. II, p. 53, see entry 64.
 15. L. 1911, sec. 19, p. 370.
 16. Ibid., p. 371.
 17. L. 1903, p. 425-26.
 18. Ibid., sec. 113, p. 425-26.
 19. Ibid., sec. 120, p. 428.
 20. L. 1903, p. 425; C. S. 1929, 77-1607.
 21. L. 1929, p. 580.
 22. L. 1929, pp. 580-81.
 23. L. 1931, p. 375.
 24. G. S. 1873, p. 901.
 25. L. 1921, p. 554.
 26. L. 1933, pp. 593-594.

The passing of an old age pension bill in 1933 provided for a tax on persons between the ages of 21 and 50.²⁷ Precinct assessors made lists of such persons and filed them with the county clerk. The mortgage interest and value of the real estate in excess thereof must be assessed separately.²⁸

Assessment

Abstracts

165. (COUNTY ABSTRACT OF ASSESSMENT), 1935--. 4 sheets. 1890-1905, 1909-11 in (Miscellaneous Papers), entry 87.

Copy of original abstract of assessment of all real estate and personal property compiled for the State Tax Commission, showing kind of property valuation, type of tax, grand total, expense of assessment, date of compilation and signature of county assessor. Arr. chron. by dates of abstracts. Hdw. on pr. fm. 18 x 12. Co. clk.'s vlt.

Real Estate

166. REAL ESTATE SCHEDULES, 1908, 1911-13, 1916-17, 1920-22, 1924--. 143 v. (96 dated; 47 not labeled). 46 sub-titled by pct. names. 1877-1907 in Personal Schedules, entry 167.

Assessment schedules of real property, showing names of taxpayers, description of lots and lands, acreage, number of school district and of road district, amount of assessed valuation and of improvements, and dates of appraisals. Arr. numer. by twp. and R. nos. and by tract nos. thereunder. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 75 to 800 pp. 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 11 x 1 to 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 11 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. 45 v., 1908, 1920-21, 1924-25, 95 v., 1911-13, 1916-17, 1922, 1926-36, general strg. vlt. 3 v., 1937--, co. clk.'s vlt.

For recapitulation of real estate assessments, see entry 168.

Personal

167. PERSONAL SCHEDULES, 1877--. 901 v., 1,250 documents in 1 f.b., 4,800 documents in 4 f.d. (73 v. dated, 828 not labeled; f.b. 9; f.d., dated). Title varies; Old Personal Schedules, 1892; Assessment Record, 1917-18; Personal Assessment Record, 1923-24. 809 v. sub-titled by pct. and village names.

Assessment schedules of tangible and intangible property, showing name and address of taxpayer, precinct name, itemization and valuation of

27. L. 1933, p. 476.

28. L. 1911, p. 384; C. S. 1929, 77-1503.

properties by tax categories, dates of appraisals, signature of taxpayer and of precinct assessor. Intangible schedules were kept as a separate record for years 1929-32. Also contains: (Real Estate Schedules), 1877-1907 entry 166; (Recapitulation of Personal Schedules), 1910, 1917-18, 1923, entry 170; Corporation Assessment Reports, 1930--, entry 171. V. and f.d. arr. by names of pcts. and villages without order and alph. by name of taxpayer thereunder; f.b. no obvious arr. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. V. 50 to 1,000 pp. 17 x 14 x $\frac{1}{2}$ to 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$; f.b., 5 x 10 x 19; f.d., 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 16 x 24. 901 v. 1877-1936, general strg. vlt.; 4 f.d., 1937--, co. clk.'s off.

For other intangible schedules, see entry 168. For recapitulation of personal assessments, see entry 170.

Intangible

168. INTANGIBLE TAX SCHEDULES, 1929-33. 20 v. (dated). Sub-titled by pct. names.

Intangible property by divisions, and affidavit of taxpayer. Arr. under names of pct. without order and alph. by names of taxpayers thereunder. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 750 pp. 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 9 x 3. General strg. vlt.

For prior and subsequent records, see entry 166.

Recapitulation

169. REAL ESTATE RECAPITULATION, 1908, 1911-13, 1916-17, 1920-22, 1924--. 9 v. (dated).

Summarization of data from real estate schedules, showing lot or land description, acreage, assessed valuation, valuation of improvements, total for each precinct, and grand total for the county. Arr. under names of pcts., without order and numer. by tract nos. thereunder. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 100 pp. 14 x 11 x 1. General strg. vlt.

For original real estate assessment schedules, see entry 166.

170. RECAP(itulation) OF PERSONAL SCHEDULES, 1899, 1910-16, 1919-22, 1932--. 8 v. (dated). Title varies: Personal Assessment Recapitulation, 1899; Personal and Intangible Recap. Record, 1938--. 1910, 1917-18, 1923 in Personal Schedules, entry 167.

Summarization of data from personal assessment schedules, showing total assessment, valuation by categories in each precinct, and grand total for entire county. One volume, 1899, contains copies of personal schedules with totals for each precinct, and grand total. Arr. under names of pcts. without order. No index. Hdw. under pr. head, 1910-16, 1919-22; hdw. on pr. fm., 1932--. 75 pp. 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 9 x 1. Co. clk.'s vlt.

For original personal assessment schedules, see entry 166.

Corporation

171. CORPORATION ASSESSMENT REPORTS, 1909-19, 1929. 455 documents in 10 f.b. 1887-1903 in (Miscellaneous Papers), entry 87, 1930-- in Personal Schedules, entry 167.

Reports filed by corporations, firms, and utility companies owning property

in the county, showing itemized list and valuations of all property of the corporation or firm, date of return, signature of official of corporation or firm, and notarization. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 3 x 9 x 15. General strg. vlt.

Field Notes

172. REAL ESTATE FIELD NOTE BOOKS, 1910--. 300 v. Sub-titled by pct. names.

Assessor's field note books of real estate, showing name of landowner, land description, school district number, actual and assessed valuations, amount of improvements or deductions, date of schedule, corrections or approvals by commissioners; some volumes contain small plats of acreages. Arr. numer. by twp. nos., and by tract nos. thereunder. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 25 pp. $8\frac{1}{4}$ x 5 x $\frac{1}{2}$. 26 v., 1924-- , co. clk.'s vlt.; 274 v., 1910-24, general strg. vlt.

Military

173. SOLDIERS AND SAILORS, CENSUS, 1905, 1915, 1921, 1927, 1929, 1935. 47 v. (dated).

Census of men who have been in military service, showing name, address, and age of veteran, State from which enlisted, type of service and rank, war of service, and number of months of service. Arr. by names of pct. without order and alph. by names of veterans thereunder. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. Avor. 15 pp. $14 \times 8\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{4}$. 34 v. 1905, 1915, 1921, 1925, 1927, 1929, co. clk.'s vlt.; 13 v., 1935, general strg. vlt.

174. ENROLLMENT OF MILITIA, 1921, 1930. 50 documents in 1 bdl.

List of names of men in each precinct between the ages of eighteen and forty-five, as enrolled by the precinct assessor, showing date, name and address, age and occupation of man enrolled, previous or existing military or naval experience, and exemption, if any, and for what reasons. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. $14 \times 8\frac{1}{2} \times 1$. General strg. vlt.

Pensions

175. OLD AGE PENSION (Census), 1934-35. 13 v. Sub-titled by pct. names.

Record of all persons in county required to pay assessments for old age assistance, showing name, address, and age of person, school district number, and precinct name. Arr. alph. by initial letter of taxpayers' surname. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 50 pp. $8 \times 5 \times \frac{1}{4}$. General strg. vlt.

Agriculture

176. AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS, 1899, 1902-14, 1916, 1920, 1925-26. 132 v. Discontinued 1926; record now kept by State Board of Agriculture. 115 v. sub-titled by pct. names.

Record of county agricultural statistics, showing name and address of

landowner, legal description of farm, acreage and kinds of crops, amount and kind of farm produce marketed, and number and ages of each kind of livestock. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. Varies 10 to 85 pp. $8\frac{1}{2}$ x $6\frac{1}{2}$ x 14 to $8\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$. General strg. vlt.

X. BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

When Gosper County was organized in 1873, the county board of equalization was composed of the members of the county board.¹ The county clerk was required to attend the meetings of the board of equalization in the capacity of clerk.² In 1903 both the county clerk and the county assessor were added as members of the board of equalization, the former continuing to serve in the capacity of clerk.³ The terms of the members of the board of equalization coincide with the terms of the offices to which they are elected; and the members neither receive additional fees nor post additional bonds.

It is the duty of the board of equalization to hold a session of from three to twenty days each year for the purpose of equalizing and correcting the assessment roll in Gosper County. In 1873 the board was empowered to raise or lower the valuations of any or all property, except property values by the State Board, as might be deemed just and proper, and to make such changes in the description of property, real or personal, as might have been omitted, and to strike out property assessed more than once; to consider applications for the correction of any supposed error in the listing or valuation of property, whether real or personal; and to remit the penalty of anyone returned as refusing to render a list, or to be sworn thereto, or to list the property of another if he can show good cause for such failure or refusal.⁴

In 1901 the board was given the power to ascertain whether the valuation of one precinct or district bears a just relation to all precincts and districts in the county and to increase or diminish the aggregate between all the valuations of the property in the county.⁵ A revenue act of 1903 empowered the board to call before it for questioning concerning taxable property, any person or corporation, and to require the production of pertinent records.⁶

1. G. S. 1873, p. 907.

2. Ibid.

3. L. 1903, p. 428; C. S. 1929, 77-1701.

4. G. S. 1873, p. 907; C. S. 1929, 77-1702.

5. L. 1903, p. 429; C. S. 1929, 77-1702.

6. L. 1903, p. 430; C. S. 1929, 77-1703.

Although the board of equalization continued to meet annually, revision of real property assessments, according to a law passed in 1903, was to occur only once every four years.⁷ A law passed in 1909 reduced the interval between property assessments to two years. There was added, however, a provision to permit real property assessment changes at the annual sessions of the board in cases of evident error of assessment or of apparent gross injustice in overvaluation or undervaluation of such real property.⁸

Appeal from the action of the county board of equalization may be addressed to the district court, and thence to the State Supreme Court.⁹ The State Board of Equalization, composed ex officio of the Governor, the Secretary of State, the State Auditor, the State Treasurer, and the State Tax Commissioner, possesses the final power over tax rates, being empowered to lower or raise the assessed valuation of any type or class of property in the various counties.¹⁰

The only record requirement in connection with the county board of equalization consists in the general provision that the clerk must keep a "complete record of all changes and corrections made by the said board."¹¹ A brief statement of the board's proceedings must also be published in a newspaper in the county following each session.¹²

177. (PROCEEDINGS OF BOARD OF EQUALIZATION), 1874---. In County Commissioners Record, entry 1.

Record of hearings on protests against alleged unjust and excessive valuations, showing name of protesting taxpayer, description of property, amount of valuation and estimated over-assessment, claim for remittance of excess taxes paid, action of the board, and date of filing.

178. EQUALIZATION MATTERS, 1904-13. 64 documents in 2 f.b. Title varies; Board of Equalization Papers, 1911-13. 1906-16 also in County Treasurer's Settlements, entry 202. 1922-29 in County Commissioners Proceedings, entry 2.

Miscellaneous papers such as protests, letters, affidavits, estimates of levies, itemized lists of levies, showing name and address of person concerned, description of property, assessed valuation, actual valuation, date

7. L. 1903, p. 428.
8. L. 1909, p. 444; C. S. 1929, 77-1702.
9. L. 1903, p. 430; C. S. 1929, 77-1705.
10. L. 1921, p. 591; C. S. 1929, 77-1004.
11. C. S. 1873, p. 907; C. S. 1929, 77-1701.
12. L. 1879, p. 361; C. S. 1929, 26-108.

of hearings, rulings of board, and date of action taken by board. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 4 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 10. Co. clk.'s vlt.

XI. COUNTY TREASURER

The county treasurer is the chief fiscal officer of the county. The office was established in 1873. From 1935 to 1939 the treasurer was also ~~ex~~ officio a member of the county assistance committee.¹

Any resident elector of Gosper County is eligible for the office of county treasurer.² The office is elective.³ Before entering upon his duties, the county treasurer must take an oath of office, which is endorsed on his indemnity bond.⁴

The county treasurer's bond is \$10,000.⁵ It is approved by the county board and filed with the county clerk.⁶

The county treasurer's compensation in 1873 consisted of all the fees which he collected for particular acts and services;⁷ but after 1877 the total amount to be kept from fee collections was not to exceed \$1,500 per annum, the balance going into the county treasury.⁸ Since 1921, the county treasurer has received a salary fixed at \$1,800 per annum.⁹

The county treasurer may resign his office by tendering his resignation to the county board.¹⁰ He may be removed from office, on the other hand, for any of the following causes: habitual or wilful neglect of duty, gross partiality, oppression, extortion, corruption, wilful maladministration in office, conviction of a felony, habitual drunkenness. Any person may make such a charge against him. The district court has original jurisdiction thereof by summons.¹¹ Prior to 1905 the county board could remove the county treasurer from office and fill the vacancy

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1. L. 1935, Special, p. 135; L. 1939, p. 493.
 2. 23 N 585.
 3. G. S. 1873, p. 352; C. S. 1929, 32-209.
 4. L. 1856, p. 53; G. S. 1873, p. 99; C. S. 1929, 12-101.
 5. G. S. 1873, p. 241; C. S. 1929, 12-119.
 6. G. S. 1873, p. 241; C. S. 1929, 12-107.
 7. C. S. 1873, p. 382.
 8. L. 1877, p. 215.
 9. L. 1921, p. 362; C. S. 1929, 33-131.
 10. L. 1879, p. 269; C. S. 1929, 32-1702.
 11. L. 1905, p. 297; C. S. 1929, 26-1702.

by its own appointment.¹² Since 1937, the county treasurer may be removed by a third method, that of recall, that is, by means of a petition and a special election called for the purpose of putting the question to the voters.¹³

Should a vacancy occur in the office of county treasurer, a successor is appointed by the county board.¹⁴ But two modifications to this law were made in 1879. If the vacancy occurs thirty days or less prior to general election, it is filled at such election.¹⁵ Secondly, until the appointment or election of a successor, the duties of the office are performed by the county sheriff.¹⁶

The chief function of the county treasurer is to collect the taxes of the county. He is required to attend at Elwood, the county seat, at all times for the purpose of collecting the taxes.¹⁷ Annually, and at such other times as the State Treasurer may require, he pays into the State treasury all State funds, settling with the State Auditor on or before each date of payment;¹⁸ while biannually, and at such other times as the county board may require, he settles with the county board.¹⁹ Since 1883 he has been required to publish, in a Gosper County weekly, a semi-annual tabulated statement of the affairs of his office, with special reference to the receipts and disbursements of county funds.²⁰

Among the taxes collected by the county treasurer, those in connection with automobile registration are of recent origin. In 1911 a law defined motor vehicles and required their registration. Fees received from such registration go into the road fund.²¹ A law of 1919 provided that the county treasurer, as agent of the State Department of Public Works, must issue licenses to automobile dealers.²² A law of 1929 provided for the issuance, suspension, and revocation of such licenses, and made the county treasurer the chief examining and approving officer in each county.²³ The same act provided for the licensing of operators of motor vehicles. A law of 1931 provided that the county treasurer may issue also limited permits to minors between the ages of fourteen and sixteen.²⁴

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12. G. S. 1873, p. 250; L. 1905, p. 297.
 13. L. 1937, p. 221.
 14. G. S. 1873, p. 357; C. S. 1929, 32-1703.
 15. L. 1879, p. 271; C. S. 1929, 32-1704.
 16. L. 1879, p. 270; C. S. 1929, 32-1707.
 17. G. S. 1873, p. 912; C. S. 1929, 77-1901.
 18. G. S. 1873, pp. 924, 1013.
 19. G. S. 1873, p. 925; C. S. 1929, 77-1931.
 20. L. 1883, p. 182; C. S. 1929, 26-1306.
 21. L. 1911, p. 398.
 22. L. 1919, p. 825.
 23. L. 1929, p. 512.
 24. L. 1931, p. 276.

The county treasurer must follow special procedures in collecting delinquent taxes on personal and real property. When taxes on personal property become delinquent, he first notifies each delinquent tax payer. Then a month later he prepares a list of still delinquent taxes on personal property, together with all interest and penalties added, and places this list along with distress warrants in the hands of the sheriff.²⁵ When taxes on real property become delinquent, the county treasurer offers the real estate at public sale, first publishing once each week for three weeks a list of lands to be sold.²⁶

It is the county treasurer's duty, however, not only to collect, but also to deposit and pay out money. He is required to keep all money collected by him, except a small portion retained as till money, in banks approved by the county board.²⁷ The county treasurer pays out county money on warrants issued by the county board,²⁸ school district money on orders issued by district and village school boards,²⁹ and village money on orders issued by village boards.³⁰

Most of the records of the county treasurer result from the normal functioning of his office. Only a comparatively small number of his records are required by statute. Two of these required records are the Cash Book³¹ and the Fee Book.³² In Gosper County, however, the latter record appears in the county treasurer's records of miscellaneous receipts. Though drawn up by the county clerk, the Tax List must be deposited in the office of the county treasurer,³³ and may therefore be regarded as another of the latter's required records. A fourth required record is called the Sale Book.³⁴ In addition to these, the county treasurer is required to register all distress warrants issued and to file them upon their return.³⁵ He must also keep a record of all bonds issued in Gosper County and by whom presented for redemption.³⁶ The warrant Book is a required record also.³⁷ Other records required of the treasurer are; a record of school land transactions;³⁸ maps and field notes of irregular

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25. G. S. 1873, p. 949; C. S. 1929, 77-1915.
 26. G. S. 1873, p. 941; C. S. 1929, 77-2017.
 27. L. 1891, pp. 351-52; C. S. 1929, 77-2506.
 28. G. S. 1873, p. 241; C. S. 1929, 26-1301.
 29. L. 1903, p. 456; C. S. 1929, 77-1944.
 30. L. 1879, p. 380; C. S. 1929, 17-1944.
 31. L. 1903, p. 443; C. S. 1929, 77-1908.
 32. L. 1877, p. 216; C. S. 1929, 33-136.
 33. L. 1903, p. 438; C. S. 1929, 77-1806.
 34. L. 1903, p. 463; C. S. 1929, 77-2012.
 35. L. 1903, p. 446; C. S. 1929, 77-1918.
 36. L. 1879, p. 389; C. S. 1929, 11-506.
 37. L. 1903, p. 450; C. S. 1929, 77-1928.
 38. L. 1899, p. 302; C. S. 1929, 72-205.

County Treasurer - Receipts
and Disbursements

(179-183)

tracts of land, which must be filed in his office by the county board; a record of owners of motor vehicles in Gosper County;³⁹ and reports of fines collected by justices of the peace.⁴⁰

All records are found in the treasurer's vault unless otherwise stated.

Receipts and Disbursements

179. GENERAL LEDGER, 1877--. 5 v. (1-4; one not labeled). Title varies; Treasurer's Cash Ledger, 1877-91.

A record of collections and disbursements by various funds, showing date of transaction, source of collections, reason for disbursement, name of fund, amount collected or disbursed, totals and balance in each fund, and numbers of road district and school district. Arr. by names of funds without order, and chron. by date of recording thereunder. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 538 pp. 16 x 13 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$.

180. CASH BOOK, 1879--. 45 v. (dated, twenty-five not labeled). Title varies; Treasurers Daily Cash Book, 1862-1902; Daily Cash Book, 1900-1923.

Daily financial record, showing collections and disbursements and amount of each, name and address of payer, or payee, amount in each tax division, total amounts of receipts and disbursements, and balance at end of each day. Arr. Chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. under pr. head, 1875--; hdw. 1900-1923. 150 to 600 pp. 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 x $\frac{1}{2}$ to 13 x 13 x 3. 25 v., 1375--; treas.'s vlt.; 20 v., 1882-1902, 1900-1925, general strg. vlt.

181. CASH RECORD, 1931--. 2,300 documents in 12 bdl., 1 v.

Record of cash received each day, showing name of bank having deposits of funds, amounts of checks, currency, silver and other coins, and daily totals. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. Bdl. 11 x 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$; v. 200 pp. 11 x 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1. 10 bdl., 1931-37, general strg. vlt.; 2 bdl., 1 v., 1937--; treas.'s vlt.

182. DAILY TRIAL BALANCE, 1925--. 2 v.

Record of daily collections and disbursements of treasurer's office, showing date of entry, name of fund, amount of collection or disbursement, total amounts, and balance in each fund. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 200 pp. 17 x 12 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$.

183. BALANCE BOOK, 1904-35. 1 v.

A summary of collections and expenditures of county funds, showing date of entry, name of fund, amount of entry, and balance in each fund, covering

39. L. 1919, p. 824; C. S. 1929, 60-318.

40. G. S. p. 842; C. S. 1929, 29-2703.

County Treasurer - Receipts
and Disbursements

(184-189)

six month periods. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 240 pp. 18 x 14 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$.

184. CASH JOURNAL, 1931--. 2,300 documents in 13 bds., 1 v. Chronological record of income and expenditures of office, showing names of payer and payee, amount paid, date of transaction, explanation of payment, to what account posted, sequence of transactions and periodical total amounts. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. Bds., 15 x 11 1. 200 loose-leaf pp. 15 x 11 x 1. 10 bds., 1931-37, general strg. vlt.; 3 bds., 1 v., 1927--, treas.'s vlt.

185. SUMMARY RECORD OF COLLECTIONS AND DISBURSEMENTS, Jan. 1, 1935-June 30, 1936. 1 v. Summary of all collections and disbursements, showing amount in each fund, division and district, with six month balance and date of balance. Arr. chron. by dates of summaries. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 300 pp. 26 x 14 x 1.

Receipts

186. (STATE TREASURER'S RECEIPTS), 1895--. 1895-34 in County Treasurer's Settlements, entry 202. 1935-- in Miscellaneous Receipts, entry 188. Receipts from State Treasurer for money remitted to him by county treasurer, showing amount remitted, explanations of remittance, total amount remitted, and dates of remittance and receipt.

187. CO. TREAS. MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS, 1917--. 52 v. Triplicates of receipts issued by treasurer for money received from various sources, showing name of payee, amount of receipt, reason for payment, fund to which credited, date of payment, receipt number, and signature of treasurer. Arr. numer. by receipt nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 200 pp. 9 x 7 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$.

188. MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS, 1935--. Est. 8,500 documents in 15 envelopes (dated). 1895-1934 in County Treasurer's Settlements, entry 202. Miscellaneous receipts for money paid out of county funds, showing to whom money was paid, reason for payment, date and amount of payment, receipt number, and signature of person receiving money. Also contains: (Canceled Warrants), 1935--, entry 11; (Bonds and Coupons), 1935--, entry 58; (State Treasurer's Receipts), 1935--, entry 186; (Tax Sale Certificates), 1935--, entry 205; (School Orders), 1935--, entry 219; (Free High School Tuition Orders), 1935--, entry 234. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 4 x 4 x 10. General strg. vlt.

Fines

189. (CERTIFICATES OF FINES), 1903. In (Miscellaneous Papers), entry 87. Report of fines collected in justice of peace court, by justice of peace

County Treasurer - Receipts
and Disbursements

(190-193)

to treasurer, showing nature of complaint, defendant's name, amount of fine and date of payment.

Cancelled Checks

190. CANCELLED CHECKS AND STUBS, 1907--. 29 v.; 6,300 documents in 2 f.b.; 15,150 documents in 22 expanding envelopes. Title varies: Check Stubs, 1922, 1929, Cancelled Checks and Bank Statements, 1923-38. 1892-94, 1905, 1913-19, 1923-24 in County Treasurer's Settlements, entry 202; 1896-1907, 1922, 1924 also in County Commissioner's Proceedings, entry 2.

Cancelled checks issued by the treasurer in transaction of county business, showing number and date of check, name of bank, name of payee, amount of check, reason for payment, name of fund drawn upon, treasurer's signature, date of cancellation, and endorsement; check stubs show number, date and amount of check, name of payee, reason for payment, name of fund drawn upon, and balance in fund; statements show name of bank, dates and amounts of checks drawn and deposits made, total amounts, and balance on deposit. Arr. numer. by check nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 to 334 pp. 9 x 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1 to 12 x 9 x $\frac{1}{2}$; f.b., 2 x 4 x 10; expanding envelopes 4 x 4 x 10. 29 v., 2 f.b., 17 expanding envelopes, 1907-33, general strg. vlt.; 5 expanding envelopes 1934--, treas.'s vlt.

191. COUNTY TREASURER'S BANK BALANCE BOOK, 1896-97, 1904, 1915, 1917, 1920, 1922. 13 booklets in 1 f.b.

Record of funds in county depositories, showing name of bank, amounts of deposits, withdrawals, and balance, and date of balance. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 10 x 10 x 16. General strg. vlt.

192. JOURNAL, 1930-34. 1 v.

A comparison of balances between the treasurer's office and depository banks, showing amount of deposit and of disbursement, outstanding checks, interest on deposits, and trial balance. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. 500 pp. 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 9 x 2. General strg. vlt.

193. TREAS. CHECK & DEPOSIT REGISTER, 1896--. 12 v. (1, 2; ten not labeled). Title varies: Bond Register (Check and Deposit Register), 1896-1904; Bank Ledger, 1904-14; 1927; (not titled, 1930--, 7 v.).

Record of checks drawn on and deposits made in county funds in depository banks, showing name of bank, name of payee, number of check, date and amount of check, date and amount of deposit, and monthly balance. 1 v., 1896-1904, arr. chron. by date of recording; 11 v., 1904--, arr. under names of banks without order and chron. by dates of checks and deposits thereunder. No index. Hdw., 1896-1914, 1927; hdw. under pr. head, 1915--. Aver. 300 pp. 16 x 11 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. 8 v., 1904-14, 1927, 1930-37, general strg. vlt.; 4 v., 1896-1904, 1915-29, 1938--, treas.'s vlt.

County Treasurer -
Taxation

(194-199)

Taxation

Tax Lists

194. TAX LISTS, 1874--. 66 v. (labeling varies).
Tax lists, showing taxpayer's name and address, amount of tax in each tax division and total of tax, tax receipt number, date of payments, and name of payer. Arr. numer. by twp. and R. nos., and under names of towns and villages, and alph. by names of taxpayers thereunder. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 400 pp. 17 x 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2.

195. SPECIAL TAX LIST, 1930--. 1 v.
A list of special taxes for curb, gutter, and gravel, showing purpose for which tax is levied, name of property owner, description of property, assessed valuation, amounts and dates of levies, amounts and dates of payments, receipt number, and by whom paid. Arr. under names of special tax, and numer. by tract nos. thereunder. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 300 pp. 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 14 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Tax Receipts

196. TAX RECEIPTS, 1875--. 618 v. (labeled by incl. receipt nos.).
1904 also in County Treasurers Settlements, entry 202.
Duplicates of tax receipts, showing name and address of taxpayer, number of receipt, amount paid into specified funds, and total amount paid, and date of receipt, year of taxes, interest due, description of land (if real estate), and county treasurer's signature. Arr. numer. by receipt nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 pp. 13 x 7 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$.

197. SPECIAL TAX RECEIPTS (Curb and Gutter), 1951--. 4 v. (labeled by incl. receipt nos.).
Duplicates of receipts given for payment of special taxes, showing number and date of receipt, amount of payment and of interest, name and address of taxpayer, number of lots and blocks concerned, indication of which installment paid, and signature of county treasurer. Arr. numer. by receipt nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 pp. 11 x 7 x $\frac{1}{2}$.

198. COPY OF TAX RECEIPTS, 1895-1911. 1 v.
Duplicates of tax receipts which have been issued to replace original receipts which have been lost, or for other reason, each marked "copy", showing name of taxpayer, amount of each tax item, date of payment, tax years, land description, amount of tax, interest and totals, tax receipt number, and treasurer's signature. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 pp. 8 x 6 x 1. General strg. vlt.

Tax Collections

199. (TAX COLLECTION RECORD), 1883-98. 11 v. Sub-titled by pct. names.
Record of taxes paid, taken from cash books, showing name of taxpayer,

County Treasurer -
Taxation

(200-202)

date of payment, amount of tax, and amount of poll tax and whether paid by cash or labor. Arr. chron. by years of collections, and alph. by names of taxpayers thereunder. No index. Hdw. 150 pp. 12 x 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1. General strg. vlt.

200. TAXES COLLECTED BY BANKS, 1930-33. 1 v.

Record of taxes paid at banks where county funds are deposited, showing name of bank, name and address of taxpayer, whether personal or real estate tax, description of land, amount of tax, year of tax, date of payment, and request for mailing of receipt. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 pp. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1.

Tax Distribution

201. DISTRIBUTION RECORD, 1935--. 1 v.

Semi-annual summary of tax collections and distribution to the various funds, showing total amount of tax received, and amount allowed for each fund, balance of each fund, and date of compilation. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 150 pp. 34 x 14 x 1. Treas.'s vlt.

Tax Settlements

202. COUNTY TREASURER'S SETTLEMENTS, 1875--. Est. 27,500 documents in 7 f.b. (E, E; five not labeled).

Annual statements of tax money collected by county treasurer and remitted to State Treasurer, showing amounts remitted by categories, total amount remitted and date of remittance. Other documents include:

- i. Certificates of registered bonds, 1887-95, 1897-1901, 1904, from State Auditor's office, on registry of interest bearing bonds, showing certificate number, name and amount of bond (if school bond shows district number), rate of interest, where payable, date of registration, and signature of State Auditor.
- ii. Copies of reports to county clerk from treasurer on tax sales for periods of one year, 1906-25, showing name of purchaser and of delinquent, legal description of land, amount of tax and of sale, and signature of county treasurer.
- iii. Copies of semi-annual report to county board of collections and disbursements of county treasurer's office, 1923, showing total amount, balance in different funds and date of report.
- iv. Deposit slips, 1922-25, issued by banks for deposits of funds by the treasurer, showing name of bank, date of deposit, amount deposited, numbers and names of payees of checks, and total amount of deposit.
- v. Duplicates of county treasurer's report to the State Treasurer, 1881-90, of amounts of State taxes collected, showing date of report, amount collected in each division, and affidavit by county treasurer.

County Treasurer -
Taxation

(203-204)

- vi. Memoranda of delinquent taxes, 1895, made for reference purposes, showing name of delinquent, amount of taxes and of interest due in various funds and districts.
- vii. Orders from county commissioners to county treasurer to transfer money from one fund to another, 1895-1912, 1914-17, showing names of funds, date of order, amounts to be transferred, and signatures of county commissioners.
- viii. Receipts given to county treasurer by road overseers for money received for road districts, 1892-1934, showing receipt and road district numbers, date of receipt, amount received, and road overseer's signature.
- ix. Receipts given by road overseers to taxpayers working out poll tax on roads, and deposited by taxpayer with county treasurer for payment of taxes, 1892-96, showing labor performed, amount of credit given, name of taxpayer, date labor performed, receipt number, and signature of road overseer.
- x. Record of land sold to collect delinquent taxes, 1890-1904, showing name of purchaser and of delinquent, location of land, amount of taxes and of sales, and date of sale.

Also contains: Examiners Reports from Co. Treasurer, 1904-28, entry 5; (Treasurer's Statements of Delinquent Taxes), 1875, 1891, 1904-30, entry 7; (Canceled Warrants), 1875-76, 1884-1934, entry 11; Footings of the Tax List, 1897-99, entry 43; (Bonds and Coupons), 1892-1934, entry 58; (Bounty Affidavits), 1895-1934, entry 74; Equalization Matters, 1906-16, entry 178; (State Treasurer's Receipts), 1895-1934, entry 186; Miscellaneous Receipts, 1895-1934, entry 188; Canceled Checks and Stubs, 1892-94, 1905, 1913-19, 1923-24, entry 190; Tax Receipts, 1904, entry 196; (Tax Sale Certificates), 1895-1934, entry 205; Distress Warrants, 1896-99, 1912, entry 209; (School Orders), 1895-1934, entry 219; (Free High School Tuition Orders), 1910-34, entry 234. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. and hdw. on pr. fm. 10 x 10 x 16. General strg. vlt.

Tax Sales

203. TREAS. TAX SALE BOOK, 1882--. 5 v. (2, 3; three not labeled).
Title varies: Tax Sale Record, 1884-1922.

Record of properties sold to collect delinquent taxes, showing names of purchaser and delinquent, legal description of property, amount of tax and of sale, notation of sheriff's returns, certificate number, and whether public or private sale; if redeemed, the name of redeemer, amounts of tax, interest, and total, and date and number of redemption certificate. 4 v., 1882-87, 1915--, arr. chron. by date of recording; 1 v., 1884-1922, arr. numer. by tract nos. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 1 v., 1882-94, condition bad, damaged by fire. 4 v. aver. 300 pp. 17 x 15 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$; 1 v. 320 pp. 33 x 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. 4 v., 1882--, treas.'s vlt.; 1 v., 1884-1922, general strg. vlt.

204. TAX SALE BOOK, 1882-96. 2 v. Title varies: School District Ledger (Tax Sale Book), 1895-96.

Transcripts of tax sale records, showing information as in entry 203. Arr.

County Treasurer - Distress
Warrants

(205-210)

chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. under pr. head, 1882-94; hdw., 1895-96. Aver. 250 pp. 17 x 15 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. 1 v., 1882-94, treas.'s vlt.; 1 v., 1895-96, general strg. vlt.

205. (TAX SALE CERTIFICATES), 1895--. 1895-1934 in County Treasurer's Settlements, entry 202; 1925-26 also in County Commissioner's Proceedings, entry 2; 1935-- in Miscellaneous Receipts, entry 188.

Original tax sale certificates issued by the county treasurer to purchaser of real property sold for delinquent taxes, and surrendered by purchaser upon redemption of property or issuance of tax deed, showing certificate number, whether public or private sale, name of county treasurer, name of county, legal description of property, date of sale, tax year, amounts of sale and fees, name of purchaser, date of final redemption, date of certificate, seal and signature of county treasurer.

206. CERTIFICATES OF TAX SALES, 1912--. 13 v.

Duplicates of certificates of tax sale issued by the county treasurer to purchaser of real property sold for delinquent taxes, showing information as in entry 204. Arr. numer. by cert. nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 pp. 12 x 7 x 1. 2 v., 1912-20, general strg. vlt.; 11 v., 1920--, treas.'s vlt.

207. REDEMPTION CERTIFICATES, 1895--. 32 v.

Duplicates of redemption certificates issued by treasurer to person redeeming property sold at tax sale, showing name of person redeeming land, descriptions of land, years of taxes involved, amount of tax, tax sale certificate number, date of certificate, date of sale, certificate number, and signature of treasurer. Arr. numer. by cert. nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 pp. $5\frac{1}{2}$ x $5\frac{1}{2}$ x 1.

208. DAILY CASH BOOK OF INT(crest) COLLECTED ON TAX CERT(ificates), 1900-7. 1 v.

A daily record of interest collected on tax sale certificates, showing date of collection, amount of interest due and amount collected, certificate number, and daily totals. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. 150 pp. 13 x $7\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{4}$. General strg. vlt.

Distress Warrants

209. DISTRESS WARRANTS, 1893, 1935--. 1,090 documents in 4 f.b.

1 bdl. 1896-99, 1912 in County Treasurer's Settlements, entry 202. Original distress warrants returned, showing delinquent's name and address, tax years, township and precinct name, description of property, amount of original tax, interest and total, date of issue, returns by sheriff. Arr. numer. by distress warrant nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. F.b. 9 x $2\frac{1}{2}$ x 11 bdl. 1 x 4 x 10.

210. DISTRESS WARRANTS (Duplicate), 1929--. 13 v.

Duplicates of distress warrants, showing delinquent's name and address,

County Treasurer -
Bonds; Warrants and Vouchers

(211-216)

tax years, description of property, amount due, interest due, total amount township or precinct name, and date of issuance. Arr. numer. by warrant nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 pp. $9\frac{1}{2}$ x $7\frac{1}{2}$ x 1.

Bonds

211. BOND AND COUPON REDEMPTION CERT(ificates), 1926--. 1 v.
Duplicates of certificates of bond and coupon redemptions, showing number and dates of certificates and amount of redemption, date of issue, term of bonds and amount of bond, number and amount of coupon, and volume and page reference to recording in Bond Register, entry 55. Arr. numer. by cert. nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 pp. $10\frac{1}{2}$ x $7\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$.
For record of bond redemptions, see entry 56.

212. SCHOOL DISTRICT BOND LEDGER, 1898-1917. 1 v.
Record of school district bond issues, showing bond number, date of issuance, maturity and interest coupon payment, amount of principal and record of transfer to other district fund, if any. Arr. numer. by school dist. nos. and chron. by date of recording thereunder. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 650 pp. 18 x 13 x 3.

213. SCHOOL BOND JOURNAL, 1875-1917. 1 v.
Record of school bond taxes collected, showing school district number, amount collected, total of collection, year of tax levy, receipt number, and volume and page reference to recording in Cash Book, entry 180. Arr. numer. by dist. nos. and chron. by date of recording thereunder. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 320 pp. 18 x 14 x 2.

214. REPORTS OF COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT, 1885-91. 23 documents in 2 bñls.
Copies of reports of the county superintendent to county treasurer, showing estimated amounts each district should receive from State apportionment funds, school district number, amount for each and date of report. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. 10 x 4 x $1\frac{1}{2}$.

Warrants and Vouchers

215. VOUCHER RECORD, 1895--. 5 v. (1, 2; three not labeled).
Record of warrants issued by county board, showing date, to whom issued, receipt for warrant and payment, amount of warrant, amount of interest, if any, and warrant number. Arr. by names of funds without order and chron. by date of recording thereunder. No index. 1895-1916, includes table of contents, showing beginning page number of each fund. Hdw. under pr. head. 650 pp. 18 x 14 x 3.

216. WARRANT REGISTER, 1881--. 4 v. (1; three not labeled).
A record of warrants issued by clerk to treasurer, authorizing expenditure from county funds and registered for lack of sufficient funds for payment showing name of payee, amount of warrant, date of issuance, reason for payment, name of fund upon which ordered, name and address of person in whose name the warrant is registered, the date of the notice being sent to the registrant, and amount of interest on warrant. Arr. under names of funds without order and chron. by date of recording thereunder. No

County Treasurer -
Road Districts

(217-222)

index. Includes table of contents, showing beginning page number of each fund. Hdw. under pr. head. 300 pp. 18 x 12 x 2. 3 v., 1881-1930, general strg. vlt., 1 v., 1931--, treas.'s vlt.

217. CURRENT WARRANTS, CHECKS, ETC., 1938--. 390 documents in 1 expanding envelope.

Current warrants, checks, and other papers filed until called for, or to be placed in proper files, showing name of party concerned, amount involved, date of document, name of fund concerned, and document number. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. $5\frac{1}{2}$ x 10.

218. REGISTERED SCHOOL ORDERS, 1899-1903. 1 v.

Record of orders issued by school district boards which have been registered with county treasurer and bought by the county, showing name of person who has registered the order, number of registry, fund debited, date and amount of order, interest earned, total, and signature of school treasurer. Arr. numer. by school dist. nos. and chron. by date of recording thereunder. No index. Hdw. 200 pp. 17 x 14 x $\frac{1}{2}$.

219. (SCHOOL ORDERS), 1895--. 1895-1934 in County Treasurer's Settlements, entry 202; 1896 in (Miscellaneous Papers), entry 87; 1924-25 in County Commissioners Proceedings, entry 2; 1935-- in Miscellaneous Receipts, entry 188.

Original orders by school district officials on county treasurer for school funds, showing school district number, date of order, amount of order, to whom paid, and signatures of director and moderator.

Road Districts

220. ROAD DIST. LEDGER, 1892--. 4 v. (1, 1, 2; one not labeled).

Record of collections and expenditures of the county road district fund, showing road district number, amount of collection or expense, balance, and date of balance. Subsequent to 1929, the name of parties to whom warrants were issued is shown. Arr. numer. by road dist. nos. and chron. by date of recording thereunder. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 230 pp. $18\frac{1}{2}$ x $12\frac{1}{2}$ x $1\frac{1}{2}$.

221. JOURNAL (Disbursements Only), 1913-21. 1 v.

Itemized record of disbursements of road funds, showing date of payment, to whom and why paid, amount of payment, warrant number, and balance in each fund. Arr. numer. by road dist. nos., and chron. by date of recording thereunder. No index. Hdw. 300 pp. 16 x $11\frac{1}{2}$ x $1\frac{1}{2}$.

222. ROAD DIST. JOURNAL, 1910--. 2 v. (1, 2).

Record of the distribution of road taxes, showing amount collected by taxation for road purposes, amount distributed to each road district, road district number, and date of entry. Arr. numer. by road dist. nos. and chron. by date of recording thereunder. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 400 pp. 18 x $12\frac{1}{2}$ x 2.

County Treasurer - School
Lands; School Districts

(223-228)

School Lands

223. SCHOOL LAND LEDGER, 1883--. 1 v.
Record of leases and sales of school lands, showing date of transaction, appraisal value of land, interest earned, date and amount of payment, receipt number, name of lessee, legal land description, and transfer or additional assignment. Arr. numer. by tract nos., and chron. by date of recording thereunder. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 700 pp. 19 x 16 x 1 v. 1883--.

224. SCHOOL LAND ABSTRACT RECORD, 1885-86. 2 v.
Record of abstracts of all school lands in the county, showing legal description of land, acreage, valuation per acre, whether timber or prairie, date of sale or of lease, to whom sold or leased, amount of sale or lease, and interest. Arr. numer. by twp. nos. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 200 pp. 23 x 18 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. General strg. vlt.

225. SCHOOL LAND RECEIPTS, 1895--. 21 v.
Duplicates of receipts for money received from sales or leases of school lands, showing name of payee, description of land, dates and amount of payment, amount of sale contract or of lease, and balance unpaid, contract or lease number, receipt number, and signature of treasurer, with volume and page reference to recording in School Land Ledger, entry 223, and School Land Abstract Record, entry 224. Arr. numer. by contract and lease nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 pp. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$. 15 v., 1895-1924, general strg. vlt.; 6 v., 1925--, treas.'s vlt.

226. NOTICE OF ASSIGNMENTS OF LEASES, 1888-94. 59 documents in 2 f.b.
Original notices from State Commissioner of Public Lands and Buildings to county treasurer of assignments of school land leases, showing name of lessee, description and acreage of land, date of assignment, signature of commissioners, and date of filing. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 1 x 4 x 9.

School Districts

227. SCHOOL DISTRICT LEDGER, 1896--. 3 v. (2-4).
Record of collections and expenditures of each school district in the county, showing district number, name of precinct, amount of collection or of expenditure, amount of State apportionment, balance covering periods of six months, and date of balance. Arr. numer. by dist. nos. and chron. by date of recording thereunder. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 650 pp. 17 x 15 x 3.

228. SCHOOL DISTRICT JOURNAL, 1896--. 5 v. (2-4, 4; one not labeled).
Record of school district taxes collected, showing district number, year of tax, amount of collection, receipt number, and monthly balance. Arr. numer. by school dist. nos., and chron. by dates of recording thereunder. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 310 pp. 19 x 15 x 2.

County Treasurer -
School Districts

(229-234)

229. SCHOOL DIST. JOURNAL (Intangible Tax Only), 1927--. 2 v.
(4, 5).

Record of intangible taxes collected for school districts, showing district number, tax year, amount of tax, receipt number, and monthly balance. Arr. numer. by school dist. nos. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 300 pp. 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 16 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$.

230. SCHOOL DISTRICT TREASURER RECEIPTS, 1896-1915. 3 v. (1-3).

Record of receipts for money issued to school districts by county treasurer, showing date of receipt, amount issued, reason for issue, school district number, and school district treasurer's name. Arr. numer. by school dist. nos. and chron. by dates of receipts thereunder. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 475 pp. 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 x 2.

231. NOTICES TO COUNTY TREASURER OF CHANGE OF BOUNDARY, 1885-94.
45 documents in 2 f.b.

Notices from county superintendent to county treasurer of changes of boundaries of various school districts, showing district number, description of land taken from one district and added to another, date of change and filing date. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. 1 x 4 x 10.

232. CERTIFICATES OF FINANCIAL AND CENSUS REPORT, Jan. to Aug.,
1899. 32 documents in 1 manilla folder.

Affidavits filed with treasurer by county superintendent of schools, showing that school districts have made financial and census reports, giving district number, dates of school year, signature of county superintendents, and date of filing. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 1 x 4 x 9.

233. REPORTS OF COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT, 1885-91. 23 documents in 2
bdls.

Copies of reports of the county superintendent to county treasurer, showing estimated amounts each district should receive from State apportionment funds, school district number, amount for each, and date of report. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. 10 x 4 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$.

234. (FREE HIGH SCHOOL TUITION ORDERS), 1910--. 1910-34 in County
Treasurer's Settlements, entry 202; 1935-- in Miscellaneous Re-
ceipts, entry 188; 1922-25 also in County Commissioners Pro-
ceedings, entry 2.

Orders for free high school tuition issued by school boards to treasurer, showing to whom paid, amount of tuition, numbers of districts debited and credited, signatures of two members of school board, date of certificate, and dates of payment. Subsequent to 1925, the orders were issued by County superintendent to treasurer, showing school district number, date and amount of order, total amount in fund, name of school treasurer, number of qualified pupils, number of weeks of school attendance, and signature of county superintendent.

County Treasurer -
Motor Vehicle

(235-240)

Motor Vehicle

Tax List

235. MOTOR VEHICLE TAX LIST, 1935--. 2 v. (dated).
List of taxes on motor vehicles, showing name and address of owner, valuation and descriptions of vehicle, registration and receipt numbers, date of registration, and distribution of tax in various districts. Arr. alph. by names of precincts and villages, and by names of owners thereunder. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 300 pp. 18 x 15 x 2.

Registration

236. NUMERICAL REGISTER FOR MOTOR VEHICLES, 1916--. 7 v. (1, 2; five not labeled).
Record of motor vehicle registrations, showing car number, name and address of owner, year of registration, with notations in reference to transfers. Arr. by class of vehicle without order and numer. by registration nos. thereunder. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 250 pp. 12 x 9 x 1. 3 v., 1916-29, general strg. vlt.; 4 v., 1930--, treas.'s vlt.

237. MOTOR REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES (New and Renewal), 1915--.
Est. 27,000 cert. in 70 v.; est. 9,600 cert. in 12 bdls. (dated).
Duplicate registration certificates, showing whether new or renewal, date of certificate, description of vehicle, registration number, amount of fee, owner's name and address, and precinct name. Arr. numer. by cert. nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. V. varies from 100 to 1,000 cert. 9 x 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1 to 9 x 6 x 3; bdls. 8 x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$. 70 v., 1915-32, general strg. vlt.; 12 bdls., 1935--.

For county clerk's copies of motor registration certificate, see entry 44, for prior record, see entry 239.

238. KARDEX OF MOTOR REGISTRATION, Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 1938. 1,800 documents in 3 f.b.
Quadruplicate motor registration certificate, showing information as in entry 237. Arr. alph. by names of applicants. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 7 x 7 x 24.

239. MOTOR REGISTRATION APPLICATION AND RECEIPT, 1911, 1913. 2 v.
Applications for motor vehicle registration, showing owner's name and address, make and model of vehicle, motor number, receipt number, registration number, and date of application. Arr. numer. by receipt nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 pp. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 7 x 1. General strg. vlt.

For subsequent record see, Motor Registration Certificates, entry 237.

Transfer

240. MOTOR TRANSFERS, 1925--. 400 documents in 4 manilla envelopes; 4 v., 2,100 documents in 6 f.d.; 700 documents in 2 bdls.
Original transfer of title to motor vehicle, showing names and addresses

County Treasurer -
Motor Vehicle

(241-246)

of vendor and vendee, description of vehicle and registration number, and dealer's registration number if purchased from dealer, notarial acknowledgment, and date of transfer; some transfers accompanied by registration certificates. Arr. alph. by names of vendee. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. Manilla envelopes 4 x 4 x 10; v. 400 pp. 9 x 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1; f.d. 8 x 11 x 20; bds. 7 x 5 x 8. 4 manilla envelopes, 4 v., 4 f.d., and 2 bds., 1925-35, treas.'s vlt.; 2 f.d., 1935--, treas.'s off.

Refund

241. RECORD OF AUTO REFUND OR REG(istration) FEES, 1929--. 3 v. Duplicates of receipts for refunds issued to car owners, showing reason for refund, date of refund, amount of refund, owner's name, receipt number, registration number, signature of recipient and treasurer's signature. Arr. numer. by receipt nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 pp. 7 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1.

242. MOTOR REFUND CHECKS (Duplicate), 1933. 5 v. Duplicates of checks issued for the refund of motor vehicle registration fees, showing date and number of check, name of bank, name of payee, amount of check, motor registration number, reason for refund, and signature of treasurer. Arr. numer. by check nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 pp. 12 x 9 x $\frac{1}{2}$.

243. MOTOR REFUND CHECKS, 1953. 385 documents in 1 f.b. Canceled checks issued for the refund of motor vehicle license fees, showing date and number of check, name of bank, name of payee, amount of check, motor registration number, reason for refund, signature of treasurer, and endorsement. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 4 x 4 x 10.

Drivers License

244. DRIVERS' LICENSE RECORD, 1929-37. 1 v. A record of licenses issued to operators of motor vehicles, showing license number, date of issue, and name of licensee. Arr. alph. by names of licensees. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 500 pp. 12 x 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2.

For subsequent record of drivers' license, see entry 245.

245. DRIVERS' LICENSES, 1937--. 1,600 documents in 1 f.b. Duplicates of licenses issued to operators of motor vehicles, showing license number, name, address, age, sex, and personal description of licensee, and date of issue. Arr. alph. by name of licensee. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 11 x 17.

For prior record of drivers' license, see entry 244.

246. DRIVERS' LICENSE STUBS, 1929-37. 8 v. (labeled by incl. license nos.). Stubs of licenses issued to operators of motor vehicles, showing license number, name and address of licensee. Arr. numer. by license nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 300 stubs. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$. 7 v., 1929-33, general strg. vlt.; 1 v., 1934-37, treas.'s vlt.

Maps

247. MAP OF GOSPER COUNTY, 1936. 2 maps.

Political, communication, and land tenure maps of Gosper County, showing section, township, range lines, precincts, schools, county and State roads, railroads, rivers, and farm ownership. Drawn by John M. Canada. Framed. Blueprint. 1 in. to 1 mile. 28 x 30.

248. MAP OF ELWOOD AND ADDITIONS, 1930. 1 map.

Political and communication map of Elwood, Nebraska, showing the original townsite and all additions by lots, blocks, streets, alleys, railroad, highways, courthouse, and school. Drawn by H. A. Davis. Published at Crete, Nebraska. Blueprint. 1 in. to 200 ft. 30 x 24.

249. MAP OF ELWOOD, dates unknown. 1 map.

Political and communication map of Elwood, Nebraska, showing original townsite and part of north addition by lots, blocks, streets, and alleys, and railroad and county roads. A very old map. Framed blueprint. Condition fair. 13 x 13.

XII. ELECTION OFFICERS

At the time of Gosper County's organization in 1873, elections were presided over by three judges and two clerks of election in each precinct, elected annually by the voters of each precinct.¹

Since 1897, however, election officials have not been elected, but appointed. The power of such appointment belonged to the county judge between 1897 and 1901,² to the clerk of the district court between 1901 and 1933,³ and to the county clerk from 1933 to the present.⁴ Persons eligible for such appointment have been the following: from 1897 to 1901 those who had been nominated for such office in each precinct caucus of the major political parties,⁵ and since 1901 those named on lists furnished by the chairman of the county central committee of the various political parties.⁶ Furthermore, each appointee must be of good character, approved integrity, well informed, able to read, write, and speak the English language; and

1. G. S. 1873, p. 353.

2. L. 1897, p. 209; L. 1901, p. 337.

3. L. 1933, p. 287.

4. C. S. Supp. 1937, 32-401.

5. L. 1897, p. 209.

6. L. 1901, p. 338; C. S. Supp. 1939, 32-402.

he must have resided in the election precinct in which he is to serve for at least six months preceding his appointment.⁷ But no person is eligible to serve as an election official who is a candidate for any office at such election.⁸ The term of each appointed election official was one year until 1913, when it was lengthened to two years.⁹

But changes have been made, not only in the eligibility, term, and manner of selection of election officials, but also in their number. In 1917 the statutes provided for ten instead of five election officials (six judges and four clerks) in all precincts that polled more than 100 votes. Since 1929 nine officials have been appointed in precincts that poll 125 or more votes. If nine officials are appointed, three judges and two clerks compose the receiving board, and two judges and two clerks, the counting board. In precincts entitled to only five officials (three judges and two clerks) all five performed the functions of the receiving and the counting board.¹⁰

Compensation for each judge and clerk of election in 1873, when Gosper County was organized, was \$2 per day, messengers receiving an additional five cents per mile for traveling expenses. Compensation for judges and clerks in Gosper County at present is thirty cents per hour of service, the hours in the case of the receiving board not to number more than thirteen in precincts having both a receiving board and a counting board. One member of the receiving board is responsible for the delivery of the poll book, ballots, and other equipment to the polling places. One member of the counting board is responsible for their return. Each of these two messengers, in addition to thirty cents per hour of work, receives a fee of \$2, in addition to an allowance of five cents per mile for traveling expenses.¹¹

The actual conduct of the elections in the precincts has always been much the same. In 1879, however, a public counting was provided for with a view to insuring a fair canvass;¹² and in 1891 the Australian ballot law was passed, requiring secrecy in voting and the production of election materials at the expense of the county.¹³ After the votes are counted, the results are certified to by the election officials and reported to the county clerk. He, along with two disinterested voters, makes abstracts of all votes cast, including absent and disabled electors' votes, though this function is performed by the county judge when the county clerk

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7. L. 1897, p. 209; C. S. 1929, 52-401.
 8. G. S. 1873, p. 383; C. S. 1929, 32-401.
 9. L. 1897, p. 209; L. 1913, p. 382; L. 1933, p. 286.
 10. L. 1917, p. 98; L. 1929, p. 372.
 11. G. S. 1873, p. 383; C. S. 1929, 33-142.
 12. L. 1879, sec. 19, p. 244.
 13. L. 1891, p. 238; C. S. 1929, 32-501.

himself is a candidate for office. He thereupon forwards duplicate copies on State and National contests to the Secretary of State and Speaker of the Legislature.¹⁴ The county clerk makes out a certificate of election to each person having the highest number of votes for county and precinct offices.¹⁵

Since election boards function only during election periods, which occur but twice in two years, they have no office. Election records are to be found in the offices and vaults of county officers. In Gosper County these records may be found among the records of the county clerk, county judge, and clerk of the district court. One set of election returns is preserved for six months by one of the judges, who is chosen by the other judges; such returns are open to public inspection.¹⁶ The records of the appointment of the election board are in the following entries: Under the county clerk, entry 66-iii; under the county judge, entry 157; and under the clerk of the district court, entries 132 and 133.

XIII. COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

The county superintendent of public instruction was one of the original officers of Gosper County, the office being established in 1873. Ex officio, he has been a member of the board of health since 1919.¹

Originally, no specific educational qualification was attached to eligibility to office.² In 1905, however, a law provided that only those were eligible for the superintendency who held at least a first grade county certificate issued in Nebraska and in force at the time of election.³ In 1929 the educational requirement was raised to a Nebraska permanent elementary school certificate,⁴ and in 1937 to a Nebraska initial administrative and supervisory certificate.⁵

The office of county superintendent is elective.⁶ Originally the

14. G. S. 1873, sec. 18-19, p. 357; L. 1879, sec. 52, p. 256; L. 1921, p. 350; C. S. 1929, 32-919.

15. L. 1879, p. 255.

16. L. 1879, p. 253; C. S. 1929, 32-917.

1. L. 1919, p. 159; C. S. 1929, 71-2301.

2. G. S. 1873, p. 961.

3. L. 1905, p. 556.

4. L. 1929, p. 350.

5. L. 1937, p. 739.

6. G. S. 1873, p. 352; C. S. 1929, 32-209.

County Superintendent of
Public Instruction

(Next entry 250, p. 130)

superintendent was elected in the same manner as other county officers, but since 1917 he has been elected on a non-political ballot.⁷ Before entering upon his duties, he must take an oath of office, which is endorsed on his indemnity bond.⁸

His bond, set at \$5,000 in 1873,⁹ was fixed in 1881 at \$3,000;¹⁰ since 1905, however, it has been \$1,000.¹¹

The county superintendent was elected to a two year term until 1917, and to a four-year term since that time.¹²

His fees were from \$3 to \$5 per diem until 1903, when they were set at from \$4 to \$5 per diem, the total annual compensation not to exceed \$800. At present his salary is \$1,300 annually.¹³

The county superintendent of public instruction may resign his office by tendering his resignation to the county board.¹⁴ He may be removed from office for the same causes as other county officials. But unlike most county officers, the county superintendent of public instruction is not subject to removal by recall.¹⁵

Should a vacancy occur in the office, a successor is appointed by the county board.¹⁶ If, however, the vacancy occurs less than thirty days prior to general election, it is filled at such election.¹⁷

Originally, one of the most important functions of the county superintendent was to examine all persons offering themselves as teachers, granting and revoking teachers' certificates.¹⁸ But the power of issuing and revoking teachers' certificates has since 1925 belonged to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Furthermore, most teachers' certificates are now issued on the basis of academic training and not through examinations. The only exceptions to this rule are the third grade elementary school certificate and the second grade high school certificate; for each of these a State examination is required, which the county superintendent merely conducts.¹⁹

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7. L. 1917, p. 113; C. S. 1929, 32-1201.
 8. L. 1856, p. 53; G. S. 1873, p. 99; C. S. 1929, 12-101.
 9. G. S. 1873, p. 979.
 10. L. 1881, p. 100.
 11. L. 1905, p. 67; C. S. 1929, 12-119.
 12. G. S. 1873, p. 975; L. 1917, p. 97; C. S. 1929, 79-1501.
 13. G. S. 1873, p. 976; L. 1903, p. 537; C. S. 1929, 33-130.
 14. L. 1879, p. 269; C. S. 1929, 32-1702.
 15. L. 1937, p. 221.
 16. L. 1879, p. 269; C. S. 1929, 32-1703.
 17. L. 1879, p. 271; C. S. 1929, 32-1704.
 18. G. S. 1873, pp. 976-77.
 19. L. 1925, pp. 471-72; C. S. 1929, 79-1303; L. 1937, p. 726-755.

The county superintendent has always, however, been required to seek to improve the quality of education in the county. He is required to visit every rural school at least once each year to examine into the discipline and methods of instruction and into the progress and proficiency of the pupils.²⁰ He is also required to conduct annual teachers' institutes. The purpose of these institutes is to allow teachers an opportunity to improve themselves in the art of teaching and to promote uniform methods of instructions. Teachers institutes have been required since 1873.²¹ The county superintendent must make an annual report to the county board of all money received by him for the teachers' institute fund and disbursed by him from said fund.²² Prior to 1925, this fund was raised in part by charging each teacher one dollar for being examined for a certificate or for having a certificate renewed or indorsed²³ and, since 1925 also, by charging each teacher attending an institute one dollar.²⁴

Another function of the county superintendent is to examine required reports coming from teachers and the various district school boards. Each district director is required to send to the superintendent an annual report including: A census of persons in his district between five and twenty-one years of age; a statement of the amount of money received from the county treasurer and of the amount raised and expended by the district; and information concerning the length of the school year, the kind of books used, and teachers' salaries.²⁵ The county superintendent is required to examine these reports and, if necessary, to have them amended.²⁶ All teachers in Gosper County also must send annual reports to the county superintendent, listing the name, age, and address of pupils enrolled in their schools, together with the number of days each was present and absent and the cause of absence.²⁷ The county superintendent uses these reports in making his required annual report to the State Superintendent, a report concerning his official activities and the general condition and management of the schools under his charge.²⁸

In addition to these functions, the county superintendent possesses certain powers of appointment. He may appoint truant officers²⁹ and must appoint the board which grades free high school tuition examinations.³⁰

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20. G. S. 1873, p. 975; C. S. 1929, 79-2003.
 21. L. 1881, pp. 366-67; C. S. 1929, 79-1411; G. S. 1873, p. 978.
 22. L. 1883, p. 295; L. 1925, p. 476.
 23. G. S. 1873, p. 295.
 24. L. 1925, p. 476; C. S. 1929, 79-1413.
 25. G. S. 1873, p. 964; C. S. 1929, 79-417.
 26. L. 1881, p. 361; C. S. 1929, 79-1506.
 27. L. 1907, p. 432; C. S. 1929, 79-1904.
 28. G. S. 1873, p. 976; C. S. 1929, 79-1508.
 29. L. 1921, p. 232; C. S. 1929, 79-1914.
 30. L. 1919, p. 341; C. S. 1929, 79-901.

He appoints the school district officers also, should any school district in the county refuse or neglect to elect them at the proper time.³¹

Some miscellaneous functions in education exercised by the county superintendent are: to change the boundaries of any school district on a petition signed by a designated proportion of the legal voters in each district affected;³² to administer oaths;³³ to furnish each district in the county a copy of the course of study for public schools as prescribed by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction;³⁴ to grant free high school tuition to eighth grade graduates whose districts lack a high school;³⁵ to see that children transferred are enumerated in the proper district;³⁶ and to give seventh and eighth grade examinations to those living in districts without high schools who apply for free tuition to high schools of other districts,³⁷ the questions being furnished by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

The county superintendent is not in charge of the education of the blind, crippled, deaf, or feeble-minded children. He is required, however, to cooperate with institutions which offer special education to such children. He must submit an annual report to the superintendent of the asylum for the blind, giving the name, age, and address of persons unable to attend the common schools because of blindness;³⁸ a corresponding report on deaf and dumb children to the Nebraska Institute for the Deaf and Dumb,³⁹ and a report on crippled children to the State Child Welfare Bureau,⁴⁰ and later to the State Board of Control.⁴¹

Originally, one of the principal record requirements of the county superintendent of public instruction was the keeping of a record of the teachers' certificates granted and annulled by him, with the date, grade, and duration of each;⁴² but since 1925 he has not had the power to grant or annul certificates.⁴³ He has always been required to keep a record, in a book kept for the purpose, of the apportionment of the county school fund to various districts.⁴⁴ Also, the county superintendent must

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31. G. S. 1873, p. 964; C. S. 1929, 79-306.
 32. G. S. 1873, p. 961; C. S. 1929, 79-104.
 33. L. 1881, p. 351; C. S. 1929, 79-1507.
 34. L. 1881, p. 361; C. S. 1929, 79-1503.
 35. L. 1907, p. 402.
 36. L. 1915, p. 279; C. S. 1929, 79-2101.
 37. L. 1919, p. 340; C. S. 1929, 79-901.
 38. L. 1881, p. 362; C. S. 1929, 79-1511.
 39. L. 1881, p. 362; C. S. 1929, 79-1511.
 40. L. 1901, p. 457; C. S. 1929, 79-1916.
 41. L. 1937, p. 758.
 42. G. S. 1873, p. 978.
 43. L. 1925, p. 476.
 44. G. S. 1873, p. 975; C. S. 1929, 79-2006.

keep a record of all disbursements from the institute fund by filing all bills pertaining thereto in his office.⁴⁵ Since 1925 the statutes have required that certificates be registered without fee in the office of the county superintendent in the county in which the holder is to teach.⁴⁶ The county superintendent must also keep a map of Gosper County's school districts in the county clerk's office.⁴⁷

The records are located in the superintendent's vault, except as otherwise stated.

Proceedings

250. COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS RECORD, 1895-1916, 1931-35. 1 v.
Volume includes the following:

- i. Copies of petitions and original petitions, 1899-1912, pasted on pages, requesting the appraisal of school lands, changes in district boundaries and the appointment of officers to fill vacancies, showing names and addresses of petitioners, date, and purpose of petition.
- ii. Copies of semi-annual financial reports of county superintendent to the county board, 1904-27, showing amounts of receipts, disbursements, and balances, date of each, and signature of superintendent.
- iii. Record kept during the period, 1896-1907, when the superintendent was not a salaried officer but was paid for his services for actual time worked plus expenses, showing date working, kind of work performed, itemized account of mileage, expenses, number of days worked, and receipts.
- iv. Record of reports made by the superintendent to the county board of receipts and expenditures in the institute fund, showing names of payer and payee, and date, explanation, and amount of payment.
- v. Record of the formation and relocation of the school districts within the county, 1896-1911, showing locations by legal descriptions and dates of formation.
- vi. Record of teachers institutes, 1896-1905, showing places institutes were held, names of teachers in attendance, names of instructors, subjects taught, date of institute, and summary of work done.

45. L. 1901, p. 447; C. S. 1929, 79-1414.

46. L. 1929, p. 471; C. S. 1929, 79-1302.

47. L. 1881, p. 336; C. S. 1929, 79-117.

County Superintendent of
Public Instruction - Reports

(251-252)

Also contains: Annual Report of county superintendent to State Superintendent, 1895-1911, entry 253; Annual Report of Directors, 1895-96, 1904-10, under page heading, "Financial Reports of the Districts", entry 255; (Record of School District Officers Elected), 1900-5, entry 256; (Report of Teachers Work), 1901-4, entry 260; Teachers' Examination Grades, 1896-1904, under page heading, "Record of Teachers Examinations", entry 263; School Transfer Record, 1896-1909, under page heading, "Records of Transfers for School Purposes," entry 264; State Apportionment Record, 1896-1910, entry 267. Arr. under names of headings without order and chron. by date of recording thereunder. No index. Includes table of contents, showing beginning page number of each record. Hdw. 600 pp. 18 x 13 x 3.

251. (SUPERINTENDENT JOURNAL), 1927--. 1 v.
Volume includes the following:

- i. Record of free high school certificates issued to students, 1927--, showing name and address of students, school district number, grade completed and grade requested, certificate number, and date of certificate.
- ii. Record of graduates from eighth grade, 1927--, showing name and address of pupil, school district number, and date of graduation.
- iii. Record of miscellaneous expenses of the office of county superintendent, 1927--, showing to whom paid, amount paid, explanation of payment, voucher number, and date of payment.
- iv. Record of miscellaneous money received by the office of county superintendent, 1927--, showing from whom received, amount received, explanations of receipt, and date of receipt.
- v. Record of periodical reports, 1927 by the superintendent to the county board, of receipts and expenditures of the office, showing source of receipts, nature of expenditures, total of each, balance on hand, date of report, and signature of superintendent.
- vi. Record of school district officers, 1927--, showing name and address of director, treasurer, and moderator, and school district number.
For other records of school district officers, see entry 257.
- vii. Record of teachers in the county, 1927--, showing name and address of teacher, grade of certificate held, date of expiration, salary received, and school district number.
For other records of teachers, see entry 257.

Also contains: State Apportionment Record, 1927--, entry 267. Arr. under subject headings without order and chron. by date of recording thereunder. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 pp. 15 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Reports

State Superintendent

252. ANNUAL REPORT RECORD, 1911-12, 1930--. 1 v.
Copies of annual fiscal reports of high school districts to State

Superintendent, showing name and address of secretary or director, district number, itemization of receipts and expenditures by categories, amount of each and total, and date of report. Volume includes:

- i. Copies of reports made by county superintendent of public instruction to State Child Welfare Bureau 1930-37, to the State Board of Control, 1938--, concerning crippled children, showing name of child, date of birth, sex, nationality of child, cause of affliction, physical condition, names and addresses of parents, date of report, and signature of county superintendent.

Also contains: Annual Report of County Superintendent to State Superintendent, 1911-12, entry 253. Arr. under subject headings without order and chron. by date of reports thereunder. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 65 pp. $15\frac{1}{2}$ x 20 x $1\frac{1}{2}$.

253. ANNUAL REPORT OF COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT TO STATE SUPERINTENDENT, 1912, 1930--. 1 v. 1895-1911 in County Superintendent's Record, entry 250. 1911-12 in Annual Report Record, entry 252.

Copies of reports from the county superintendent to the State Superintendent, showing school district number, school census of each district, number of teachers and amount of salary, itemization of receipts, disbursements, building, equipment and valuations, name of school superintendent and director, date of report. Arr. chron. by date of report. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 100 pp. $21\frac{1}{2}$ x $15\frac{1}{2}$ x 1.

254. MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETINGS (School District), 1913--. 3 v. Original minutes of annual school district meetings, showing school district officers elected, number of votes received by each, appointment of officers to fill vacancy, election of teachers, length of term, estimated expenses of districts for the year and amount of tax voted for each district, and any other business transacted, and signatures of school district officers. Arr. numer. by dist. nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. Aver. 717 loose-leaf pp. aver. $15\frac{1}{2}$ x 9 x $3\frac{1}{2}$.

255. ANNUAL REPORT OF DIRECTORS, 1913--. 3 v. 1895-96, 1904-10 in County Superintendent's Record, under page heading "Financial Reports of the Districts," entry 250.

Original reports of school directors to county superintendent of annual meetings, showing income and expenditures of each district, total valuation and legal description of school property, amount of salary paid teacher, number of days taught, amount of levy, date of meeting, and signatures of school district officers. Arr. numer. by dist. nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 850 loose-leaf pp. $16\frac{1}{2}$ x 11 x $3\frac{1}{2}$.

School District

256. (RECORD OF SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICERS ELECTED), 1900-5, 1934--. 1900-5 in County Superintendent's Record, entry 250. 1934-- in Certificates of School Tax Voted, entry 266.

Record of school district officers elected, showing name and address of person elected, office to which elected and date of election.

County Superintendent of
Public Instruction - Census;
Elementary Schools

(257-261)

257. SCHOOL OFFICERS AND TEACHERS, 1936--. 1 v.

Record of the directors and teachers in each of the various school districts, showing district number, names and addresses of directors and teacher, term years, length of term, beginning and closing dates of term, certificate grade, examinations taken, school or college from which graduated and number of years of teaching. Arr. numer. by school dist. nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 300 pp. 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$.

For prior records, see entry 251-vi. and 251-vii.

Census

258. SCHOOL CENSUS, 1913--. 3 v.

Record of school census reports as sent in by directors, showing number of children of each sex of school age in each district, number of days attended by each, number of crippled or blind children, number of pupils transferred and where transferred to, and signatures of both director and moderator. Arr. numer. by dist. nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 200 to 1,000 pp. 9 x 16 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 9 x 16 x 5.

Elementary Schools

Teachers' Reports

259. TEACHERS' MONTHLY REPORT CARDS, 1915--. Est. 14,500 documents in 73 envelopes, 2 f.d. (dated).

Monthly reports made by teachers to county superintendent, showing name and age of pupil, grade in each subject, classification by grade, and number of boys and girls in each, number completing eighth grade work, number of days taught, number of days and months of school, number and kinds of buildings, their construction, condition and valuations, and summaries of other district equipment. Also contains: (Report of Teachers' Work), 1915--, entry 260. Arr. numer. by school dist. nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. Envelopes 6 x 9; f.d. 8 x 15 x 19.

260. (REPORT OF TEACHERS WORK), 1901-4, 1915--. 1901-4 in County Superintendent's Record, entry 250. 1915--, in Teachers Monthly Report Cards, entry 259.

Record of reports from teachers to county superintendent, showing district number, name of teacher, certificate grades, days and months taught, and monthly compensation.

Pupils Examination

261. SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADE EXAMINATIONS, 1913, 1919--. 16 v.

Record of examinations of seventh and eighth grade pupils, showing date of examination, name of pupil, registration number, subjects taken and grades received, district number, address of parents, and signature of county superintendent. Arr. numer. by reg. nos. Indexed alph. by names of pupils. Hdw. on pr. fm. 250 pp. 14 x 8 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$.

County Superintendent of
Public Instruction - High
Schools; Financial

(262-266)

Teachers Examination

262. (TEACHERS' EXAMINATION), 1905--. 9 v. (dated).

Record of examinations of teachers, showing name of teacher, date of examination, subjects in which examined, grades received and registration number; records prior to 1925, also show grade of certificate issued to teacher. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. and typed, on pr. fm. 50 pp. 12 x 10 x 1.

263. TEACHERS' EXAMINATION GRADES, 1905--. 350 documents in 1 f.b., 600 documents in 1 f.d. 1896-1904 in County Superintendent's Records, under page heading, "Record of Teachers Examination," entry 250.

Record of teachers' examinations, showing name and address of teacher, date and number of examination, kind of certificate, dates of issue and expiration, and grades in each subject. Arr. alph. by names of teachers. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 7 x 10 x 15.

Transfers

264. SCHOOL TRANSFER RECORD, 1896--. 1 v. 1896-1909 also in County Superintendent's Records, under page heading "Record of Transfers for School Purposes," entry 250.

Record of transfers of pupils from one district to another for school purposes, showing district number from where and to which transferred, date of petition, names of pupils, parents or guardians, place of residence and legal description of property, notice of transfer and of rejection, and names of district directors. Arr. alph. by names of parents or guardians. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 150 pp. 14 x 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$.

High Schools

265. HIGH SCHOOL ADMISSION CERTIFICATES, 1907--. 17 v., 500 cards in bdl., 500 cards in 1 f.d. Title varies; 1907-26, Free School Admission Certificates.

Duplicates of certificates and cards issued for free high school privileges, showing name and address of pupil, school district number, grade completed, and grade requested, names of parents or guardians, certificate number, date of certificate, and signature of superintendent. 17 v., 1907-26, arr. numer. by cert. nos.; 2 bdl.; 1927-33, no obvious arr.; 1 f.d. 1934-- , arr. chron. by dates of filings. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. V., 100 pp. 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 8 x 1; bdl., 3 x 5 x 5 $\frac{1}{2}$; f.d. 6 x 8 x 15.

Financial

266. CERTIFICATE OF SCHOOL TAX VOTED, 1931--. 50 documents in 5 bdl., 1 v.

Original certificates of school taxes, showing school district number, date of election, amount required for coming year for each district, amount of levy, date of certificate, and signatures of school board officials. Also

contains: (Record of School District Officers Elected), 1934--, entry 256. Arr. chron. by dates of elections. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. Bdls. $8\frac{1}{2} \times 3 \times \frac{1}{2}$; v. 100 pp. $12\frac{1}{2} \times 10 \times 1\frac{1}{2}$.

For certificates of school levies, see entry 47.

267. STATE APPORTIONMENT RECORD, 1911--. 1 v. 1896-1910 in County Superintendent's Record, entry 250; 1927-- also in Superintendent's Journal, entry 251.

Record of apportionment of State school funds in individual school districts, showing district number, number of children in each district, amount due and amount apportioned to each district, name of director and signature of county superintendent. Arr. chron. by date of recording. No index. Hdw. under pr. head. 325 pp. $18 \times 13 \times 2$.

Plats

268. PLAT BOOK, 1907-25. 1 v.

Plats of school districts in each precinct, showing section, township and range numbers, and size of districts. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 100 pp. $13 \times 10\frac{1}{2} \times 1$.

XIV. BOARD OF HEALTH

The Gosper county board of health is responsible for making and enforcing rules and regulations to prevent the spread of contagious diseases in areas outside incorporated villages.¹

The development of the health board to its present status was a rather lengthy process. In 1901 the first legislation on the subject was of a permissive character.² Two years later the establishment of a board of health was made mandatory upon the county board.³ In 1911 the county board was again required to set up a board of health, though the membership was not specified.⁴ Finally, in 1919, the health board's personnel was made up of the sheriff as a quarantine officer, the county superintendent of schools as secretary, and a physician appointed by the county board of supervisors, as medical adviser.⁵ The terms of the two ex officio members are of the same duration as the terms of the offices to which they

1. L. 1919, p. 159; C. S. 1929, 71-2301.

2. L. 1901, p. 403.

3. L. 1903, p. 358.

4. L. 1911, p. 328.

5. L. 1919, sec. 1, p. 159; C. S. 1929, 71-2301.

are elected. As to the term of the third, the physician, the statutes are indefinite. None of the members receives compensation.⁶ No records are kept other than copies of reports upon the prevalence of communicable diseases. These reports are made to the State Director of Health upon the appearance of such diseases.⁷

No records of the board of health were found in Gosper County.

XV. COUNTY PHYSICIAN

Since 1875 the county board has been permitted to employ a county physician (not to be confounded with the physician on the board of health) to furnish medical aid to the destitute.¹ Recently the provision limiting the physician's annual compensation to \$200² was repealed and permission given to the county board to employ more than one physician.³ The county physician is engaged by the year; though the statutes are silent as to his qualifications, he must of course, be a licensed practitioner.⁴

No records of the office were found in the county.

XVI. COMMISSIONERS OF INSANITY

The commissioners of insanity include the clerk of the district court, ex officio, one practicing attorney, and one practicing physician, the latter two appointed to two-year terms by the district judge.¹ They receive \$3 per day and expenses for time actually given to official duties, except that the clerk of the district court receives one-half as much more for keeping the insanity commissioners' records.² In 1905 the scope of activity

6. L. 1919, p. 159.

7. Ibid.

1. L. 1875, p. 89; C. S. 1929, 68-104.

2. L. 1875, p. 89; L. 1916, p. 80.

3. L. 1937, p. 574.

4. R. S. 1866, p. 275; C. S. 1929, 68-104.

1. G. S. 1873, p. 413; C. S. 1929, 83-705.

2. G. S. 1875, p. 423; C. S. 1929, 63-735.

of the commissioners of insanity was expanded to include dipsomaniacs, inebriates, and drug addicts as well as the insane,³ and in 1935 the feeble-minded were added to this list.⁴

The commissioners of insanity are empowered to receive, hear, and investigate complaints of insanity, dipsomania, drug addiction, and feeble-mindedness, and to appoint an examining physician, issue subpoenas, administer oaths, exercise quasi-judicial functions, confine persons during examination, and commit to state institutions such persons as are found to be subject to its action.⁵ The expenses of persons so committed are chargeable to their families if possible, otherwise to the county.⁶

The clerk of the district court is responsible for keeping the board's records of investigation, notices and reports, and a complete record of its proceedings.⁷ The records are in the county clerk's vault.

Proceedings

269. INSANITY RECORD, 1885--. Last entry 1937. 2 v. (1, 2). Copies of documents filed in insanity cases, showing information as in entry 270. Arr. chron. by date of recording. Indexed alph. by names of patients. Hdw. under pr. head, 1885-95; hdw., 1886-1937. Damaged by fire, but contents intact. 300 pp. 18 x 13 x 2.

270. INSANITY FILES, 1910--. 109 documents in 1 f.b. 1885-86, 1896-1900 in (Miscellaneous Papers), entry 87. Original documents filed in insanity cases, showing names of patient, witnesses, and physician, case number, nature and date of document, date of hearing and of commitment, amount of costs and of fees, and officer's returns. Arr. chron. by dates of filings. No index. Typed on pr. fm. 4 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 10.

For other insanity papers, see entry 271.

271. WARRANTS OF ADMISSION (Insanity Papers), 1908-18. 136 documents in 1 f.b. Sealed envelopes, showing case number, date of case, patient's name. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 4 x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 10 $\frac{1}{2}$.

For prior and subsequent records, see entry 269.

3. L. 1905, p. 387.

4. L. 1935, p. 535.

5. G. S. 1873, p. 413; C. S. 1929, 83-710.

6. G. S. 1873, p. 417; C. S. 1929, 83-718.

7. G. S. 1873, p. 414; C. S. 1929, 83-707.

XVII. COUNTY ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE

The widespread distress of the early 1930's, and the growing sense of governmental responsibility for the unfortunate, resulted in the Nebraska social assistance legislation of 1935 and 1937. The Legislature created a State assistance fund to be administered by a State Assistance Committee in providing public assistance for the purposes of relief, blind assistance, old age assistance, aid to dependent children, aid to crippled children, and child welfare.¹ The State Assistance Committee was composed ex officio of the Board of Educational Lands and Funds in 1935,² and ex officio of the State Board of Control in 1937.³ The county board, the county treasurer, and the county board of public welfare (which did not exist in Gosper County) were ex officio the county assistance committee;⁴ but in 1939 the county treasurer was removed from the county assistance committee.⁵

No bond is required and no extra pay received because of membership on this committee. It seeks to co-ordinate all public and private relief and welfare agencies in the county. At the same time, it is ex officio four other assistance boards--the county relief board,⁶ the old age assistance board,⁷ the child welfare board,⁸ and the blind assistance board.⁹ Applicants for assistance may appeal from the county assistance committee to the State Director of Assistance, who is the executive officer of the State Assistance Committee and who distributes State Relief Funds, except for child welfare grants among the counties.¹⁰ Child welfare funds reached the counties through the director of the State Child Welfare Bureau until 1937, and at present through the State Assistance Director.¹¹

Records of the county assistance committee, and of the four boards it composes ex officio, follow the same general pattern. Upon applications in triplicate on forms provided by the State Assistance Committee, there is an investigation along social welfare case system lines, followed by public hearing, if any taxpayer or the applicant so request; finally the local board's findings are recorded in triplicate, one copy going to the State Director, one to the applicant, and one to local files.¹² Appeal

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1. L. 1935, Special, p. 134.
 2. Ibid., p. 135.
 3. L. 1937, p. 756.
 4. L. 1935, Special, p. 134.
 5. 1939 Legislative Bill, No. 338.
 6. L. 1935, Special, p. 154.
 7. Ibid., p. 168.
 8. Ibid., p. 180.
 9. Ibid., p. 140.
 10. Ibid., pp. 136, 138.
 11. Ibid., pp. 138, 142, 157, 169, 185; L. 1937, p. 756.
 12. L. 1935, pp. 142, 157, 170, 185.

from this action may be taken to the State Director by the applicant or by taxpayer within ten days. If appealed, the State Director or his representative holds a hearing in the county in which the applicant resides; if not appealed, he may make further investigations, and his action in approving or rejecting the request is final.¹³

If favorable action is taken upon an application for assistance, certificates of aid are issued in triplicate, one copy going to the applicant, one to the county clerk, and one to the State Director's files.¹⁴ Subject to annual investigation, assistance grants are effective until death, the restoration of sight, the reaching of majority, or the attainment of economic independence, as the case may be.¹⁵

In addition to the records arising from this process, the county assistance committee attempts to furnish all information on all cases to other service, relief, and assistance agencies.¹⁶ The county assistance committee and the four boards it composes ex officio must report monthly to the State Assistance Committee.¹⁷

All records of the county assistance committee are in the county assistance office.

Reports

272. OFFICE REPORTS, 1936--. 2,000 documents in 1 f.d.
Duplicates of reports from county assistance director to state assistance office including:

- i. Duplicates of commodity reports for thirty day periods of commodities distributed to relief clients, showing client's name and case number, number in family, general types of commodities, specific kind of commodity, name of distributor and signature of recipient.
- ii. Duplicates of monthly statistical reports on public assistance of each thirty day activities, showing number and kind of application, kind of case, obligations in general relief, source of funds, number of persons handled, and administration expense.

13. L. 1935, pp. 136, 138.
14. Ibid., pp. 143, 158, 170, 186.
15. Ibid., pp. 143, 158, 170, 186.
16. Ibid., p. 133.
17. Ibid., p. 138.

- iii. Duplicates of reports of disbursements of different funds, showing date of report, names and addresses of clients, amount and number of warrant, and client's case number.

Arr. numer. by report nos. No index. Hdw. and typed on pr. fm. 12 x 13 x 2.

Farm Aid

273. FARM SECURITY ADMINISTRATION GRANTS, 1937-- , N.E.R.A., 1935, RURAL RESETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION 1936, 1935-- . Est. 3,500 documents in 1 f.d.

Duplicate papers in proceedings to obtain farm aid, including questionnaire, referral of case, and certification, showing name and address of client, legal description of land, list of improvements and equipment, whether owner or tenant, amount of rent paid, resources and indebtedness, names of members of household, relationship, age and education of each member, reason for relief, amount of relief already received, recommendations of certification agent, and signatures of client and relief workers and officials,

- i. Original work division occupational classification record of clients asking for relief, showing case number, date of record, name and address of client, employment record, education of client, vocational training, occupation of client, and alternate occupation, status of health, and signature of reporting officer.
- ii. Original case record cards of clients asking for relief, showing name and address of client, members of household, date and place of birth and nationality of client, general condition of health, previous employment, assets and liabilities, and signature of client.

Arr. alph. by clients' names. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 12 x 13 x 25.

Correspondence

274. (CORRESPONDENCE), 1936-- . 1,500 documents in 1 f.d. Correspondence of county assistance office, including incoming letters and copies of outgoing letters, all relative to business pertaining to the office. Arr. alph. by correspondents' names. No index. Typed under pr. head. 12 x 13 x 25.

XVIII. COUNTY RELIEF BOARD

The county relief board is composed ex officio of the members of the county assistance committee. It is responsible for the investigation of

all unemployment and destitution arising in the county. The purpose of the county relief board is to coordinate all private and public relief, work relief, and welfare agencies in the county to the end that relief funds be equitably distributed.¹ The board reports to the State Director of Assistance on the feasibility of work relief projects. It receives, investigates, and acts upon applications for "work relief, home-relief, or transient relief."² The board has the power to issue subpoenas and administer oaths in pursuing its investigation.³

The record system is described in the essay on the county assistance committee, p. 138. All records of the county relief board are in the county assistance office.

275. WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION, CRIPPLED CHILDREN, C.C.C., N.Y.A., GENERAL RELIEF, 1936--. 550 documents in 1 f.d.

File drawer includes:

- i. Applications for direct relief, W.P.A. cases, both active and closed, with case cards, showing applicant's name and address, financial status, number in family and their ages, condition of home, and case history of client.
- ii. Duplicates of applications for N.Y.A., 1937--, showing name and address of applicant and of parent or guardian, date of application, data relative to financial need and signature of interviewer.
- iii. Duplicates of applications to enter the civilian conservation corps as filled out and signed by local selecting agent, showing name, address, date and place of birth, age and general health of applicant; type of work for which applicant best adapted, average income of family, amount of family budget, and other salient information, with final disposition of case.
- iv. Original applications for general relief, both active and closed cases, showing applicant's name and address, date and place of birth, years of residence in State, names of relatives and their residences, financial status, past employment, certificate of relief, and amount to be received by applicant.

Also contains: (Crippled Children's Applications for Aid), 1936--, entry 278. Arr. alph. by initial letter of client's surname. No index. Edw. and typed on pr. fm. 12 x 13 x 25.

XIX. OLD AGE ASSISTANCE BOARD

The old age assistance board, which is composed ex officio of the

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1. L. 1935, Special p. 156.
 2. Ibid., p. 155.
 3. Ibid., pp. 156, 159.

county assistance committee, which in turn is composed ex officio of the members of the county board and county treasurer, is the heir of two earlier boards. A county old age pension commission, set up in the county in 1933,¹ was made up of five persons appointed to three-year, unpaid terms by the county board. It distributed the funds resulting from a fifty cent head tax on adults within the county. In 1935 this commission was replaced by the old age pension board, consisting ex officio of the county treasurer and the county board.² After a Supreme Court decision nullified the law creating the latter board,³ the special session of the same year gave the same officials a new title, the present one of old age assistance board.⁴ The county treasurer was removed from this board in 1939.⁵

Under the 1933 act, old age pensions were paid wholly out of funds derived from a county tax. The present old age assistance board receives applications for pensions, investigates them, and makes recommendations to the State Assistance Director.⁶ All of its actions are subject to review by or appeal to the State Assistance Director.

A copy of all old age assistance certifications must be filed with the county clerk, and copies must be placed in the hands of the state assistance director and the recipient. A more complete description of the records system may be found on p. 139.

The records of the old age assistance board are in the county assistance office.

276. OLD AGE ASSISTANCE, 1936-- , 2,600 documents in 1 f.d.
Duplicates of papers in old age assistance cases, such as applications for aid, county investigation reports, property data, physicians reports, and findings in and orders approving applications, showing applicant's name and address, date and place of birth, financial status of applicant, case history, and final disposition of case. Also contains: (Aid Dependent Children), 1936-- , entry 277; (Blind Assistance), 1937-- , entry 279. Arr. numer. by clients' nos. No index. Hdw. on pr. fm. 12 x 13 x 25.

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1. L. 1935, p. 470.
 2. L. 1935, p. 493.
 3. 129 N 651.
 4. L. 1935, Special, p. 138.
 5. 1939, Legislative Bill, No. 338.
 6. L. 1935, Special, p. 168.
 7. L. 1935, Special, p. 168.

XX. COUNTY CHILD WELFARE BOARD

The county assistance committee, in its ex officio capacity as county child welfare board, created in 1935,¹ cooperates with the juvenile judge² and with all public and private agencies for child welfare, particularly with the State Board of Control through its executive secretary, the director of assistance.³ The county assistance committee is concerned with the care, support, and general welfare of dependent, destitute, abandoned, delinquent, defective, and crippled children.⁴ Its duties include investigation of the circumstances of such children as come under the act's provisions, the furnishing of medical or hospital care, direct relief in kind, clothing and school books and approving or disapproving applications for assistance and determining the proper amount due to each dependent child within the statutory limits (\$18 maximum, \$3 minimum per month). Certificates of assistance are granted by the State Director of Assistance upon recommendation by the county child welfare board. A copy is filed in the county clerk's office, one in the State office, and one given to the recipient or his or her guardian.⁵

A fuller description of the record system is to be found on page 139. All records of the child welfare board of Gosper County are in the county assistance office.

277. (AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN), 1936--. In Old Age Assistance, 1936--., entry 276.

Duplicates of papers in aid to dependent children cases such as applications for aid, investigation reports, case histories, budget sheets, findings of welfare board; showing name and address of applicant, health report, financial status, case history, and actions taken by county director.

278. (CRIPPLED CHILDRENS' APPLICATIONS FOR AID), 1936--. In Works Progress Administration, Crippled Children, C.C.C., N.Y.A., General Relief, entry 275.

Duplicates of applications for aid as filled out by parents or guardians of crippled children, showing financial status, budget of monthly need, and certificate of recommendation signed by county assistance director.

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1. L. 1935, Special, p. 180.
 2. See essay on County Judge, p. 86.
 3. L. 1937, p. 756.
 4. L. 1935, Special, p. 180; L. 1937, p. 756.
 5. Ibid., p. 180; L. 1937, p. 756.

XXI. BLIND ASSISTANCE BOARD

The blind assistance board, created in Gosper County in 1935, is composed ex officio of the county assistance committee. The members of this board receive no compensation for their services.¹ The board is charged with investigating and rejecting or approving all applications for blind assistance.² Its decisions are subject to appeal to the State Assistance Committee; it keeps a record of its proceedings and must file one copy of each blind assistance certificate granted with the county clerk.³ In fulfilling its duties it has the power to issue subpoenas and administer oaths. All records of the blind assistance board are located in the county assistance office.

279. (BLIND ASSISTANCE), 1937--. In Old Age Assistance, entry 276. Duplicates of papers in blind assistance cases, such as applications for assistance, investigation reports, property data, physicians' reports, case histories and findings of blind assistance board, showing name and address of applicant, date and place of birth, age, length of residence in the State, names and addresses of relatives, amount of assistance and dates of all documents, and final actions taken by board.

XXII. SOLDIERS' RELIEF COMMISSION

By legislative enactment in 1889, the county board was required to set up a soldiers' relief commission to be composed of three residents of the county. At first, two of the three members had to hold honorable discharge from the union forces of the Civil War.¹ From 1915 till 1927 two of the members of the board were required to have been honorably discharged from war time service in the military, naval, or marine forces.² Since 1927 the soldiers' relief commission has to be composed exclusively of veterans of any war in which the United States has been engaged.³

The members of the soldiers' relief commission are appointed for a term of three years. They qualify by taking the usual oath of office and

1. L. 1935, Special, p. 140.

2. Ibid., p. 140.

3. Ibid., p. 143.

1. L. 1889, p. 528.

2. L. 1915, p. 289.

3. L. 1927, p. 556; C. S. 1929, 80-104.

must each give a bond of \$500. If a vacancy occurs in the commission from any cause, the county board fills the vacancy for the unexpired term.⁴

The statute which created the commission did not make any provision for the compensation of the commissioners. In 1905, however, it was provided that each commissioner receive as compensation an amount allowed by the county board, not exceeding five percent of the moneys distributed by him in his district.⁵

The soldiers' relief commission determines which among the honorably discharged soldiers and sailors and the widows and children of soldiers and sailors in the county are indigent and entitled to relief; makes a list of such persons; determines the probable amount necessary for relief during the year and certifies it to the county board, which is authorized to levy for this purpose, but not to exceed three tenths of a mill on the taxable property of the county.⁶

The commission also fixes the amount to be paid in each case of relief and certifies the list to the county clerk. Warrants are sent by the county clerk to the commission, which in turn transmits them to the indigent or their dependents.⁷ If the commission finds that any one entitled to relief is not capable of expending the money properly, it may appoint some one to expend it for him. The commission may also increase, decrease, or discontinue the amount it has previously allotted to any person.⁸

The soldiers' relief commission is not required to keep any records, but at the end of each year, it must make a detailed report to the county board of its activities, and such report must be accompanied by vouchers for all moneys disbursed during the year.⁹

XXIII. COUNTY SURVEYOR

Gosper County does not elect a county surveyor, but employs one as needed.¹ The statutes provided for the election of a surveyor to a two-year term until 1917,² and to a four-year term since that year.³ His

4. L. 1889, p. 528; C. S. 1929, 80-104.

5. L. 1905, p. 590; C. S. 1929, 80-104.

6. L. 1889, p. 529; C. S. 1929, 80-105.

7. Ibid.

8. Ibid.

9. Ibid.

1. Interview with county officials, Elwood, Nebr., Dec. 12, 1938.

2. L. 1879, p. 241; L. 1917, p. 97.

3. C. S. 1929, 32-209.

bond has always been \$500.⁴ Until 1919 his compensation consisted in the total amount of fees allowed him for specific acts of service,⁵ but since 1919 he must turn over to the county all money received for such work and is paid by the county board, his pay not to exceed \$1,800 per annum.⁶ He may be removed from office for the same causes as other county officials.

At the time of the organization of Gosper County in 1873, the surveyor's duties were as follows: to make all surveys within his county which he may be called upon to make and to establish suitable monuments at each corner or angle in all surveys made by him. He was empowered, also, to approve of all chainment employed by persons causing the survey to be made.⁷ These duties and powers are still among the surveyor's functions.⁸ Since 1879 it has been a duty of the surveyor to make estimates to the county board of the costs of laying out or altering roads;⁹ and since 1905, of estimating the work and material expense in improving all county, township, and road district roads.¹⁰

A law of 1913 considerably enhanced the duties and powers of the surveyor. In that year he was empowered to summon witnesses to testify upon lost corners, to administer oaths to such witnesses, to issue certificates possessing legal force to those whose land is under question, to trespass on private property for the purpose of making required surveys, to put up durable corner posts on property to mark his surveys. He was required to make surveys when petitioned to do so by land owners and to apportion the costs among them.¹¹ His functions are substantially the same today.¹²

The surveyor keeps several records. He is required to make a report in writing to the county board as to whether construction on bridges and improvements on public highways is done in accordance with the county board's specifications.¹³ He is required to reduce to writing and make a matter of record the testimony of witnesses respecting the location of any line or corner.¹⁴ He is required to keep a permanent record of all

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4. L. 1881, p. 100; C. S. 1929, 12-119.
 5. L. 1899, p. 167.
 6. L. 1919, p. 194; C. S. 1929, 33-119.
 7. G. S. 1873, pp. 246-47.
 8. C. S. 1929, 26-1602, 26-1603, 26-1607.
 9. L. 1879, p. 122, 129; C. S. 1929, 26-1601.
 10. L. 1905, p. 548; C. S. 1929, 26-1601.
 11. L. 1913, p. 145.
 12. C. S. 1929, 26-1601 to 26-1607.
 13. L. 1905, p. 296; C. S. 1929, 26-1601.
 14. L. 1913, p. 142; C. S. 1929, 26-1603.

County Surveyor - Record;
Field Notes

(280-282)

surveys made¹⁵ and field books in which he causes chainmen to subscribe their names to the oath proscribed by law and in which he enters the details of the progress of the work.¹⁶

All records of the surveyor are to be found in the county clerk's vault.

Record

280. SURVEYOR'S RECORD, 1879--. 1 v.

Record of surveys made by surveyors, showing names of chainmen and persons requesting survey, date of survey, legal land description, plat of each section, itemized report of work done with station number, field notes, remarks and date of entry and signature of surveyor. Also includes:

- i. Surveyor's field notes at bottom of each page transcribed from original notes, showing details of surveys, land condition, date of survey, names of helpers, number of chains and links used, how corners were marked, small plat drawings, and section, township and range numbers.

Arr. chron. by date of recording. Indexed alph. by names of persons requesting survey. Hdw. on pr. fm. 400 pp. 16 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Field Notes

281. ORIGINAL FIELD NOTES, 1865-70. 1 v.

Surveyor's original daily record, showing deposit of posts, stone, and pits as per instructions of surveyor, number of chains and links, lay of land, quality of soil, location of creeks, kinds of trees, trails or other lines, general direction of streams, town, range, and section numbers, and meridian from which work was done, date of plat of county and of each township. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. 300 pp. 14 x 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 2.

282. ORIGINAL FIELD NOTES (Government Survey), 1865. 1 v.

Certified field notes of Government survey, certified by U.S. Surveyor General District, Nebraska and Iowa 1865, showing township, range, and section numbers, how corners are marked, description of type of soil, contour of land, soil ratings, and diagrams of each township. Arr. numer. by R. nos., and by twp. nos. thereunder. No index. Hdw. 500 pp. 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 9 x 2.

15. L. 1913, p. 144; C. S. 1929, 26-1611.

16. L. 1913, p. 144; C. S. 1929, 26-1611.

County Surveyor
Record

(283-284)

283. POCKET FIELD NOTE BOOK, 1920-26. 1 v.

Pocket field note book used by surveyors during a series of surveys, showing details of various surveys, land condition, date of survey, names of helpers, number of chains and links used, how corners are marked, small plat drawings showing direction and details of each survey, section, township, and range numbers. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. 100 pp. 7 x 4 x 1.

Plats

284. ROAD DISTRICT PLAT BOOK, 1905-8. 2 v.

Plat books, showing section, township and range, location of roads and schools. Each page showing one road district with district number, road number, changes of roads, and dates of vacating roads. Arr. numer. by road dist. nos. No index. Hdw. Condition poor. 11 pp. 17 x 15 x $\frac{1}{2}$.

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CHRONOLOGICAL INDEX

All numbers refer to entries. A record entry number is listed under each decade which the record covers in full or in part. An entry number is underlined to call attention to the initial appearance of the record; the last listing of the entry number indicates the decade within which the record ends.

1861-70

281, 282

1871-80

1, 7-12, 14, 15, 21, 25, 28, 40, 43, 45, 54, 62, 66, 76, 77, 87,
94-97, 105-108, 110, 111, 119, 128-130, 135, 140, 149, 158, 167,
177, 179, 180, 194, 196, 202, 213, 280

1881-90

1, 2, 7-12, 14, 15, 21, 25, 28, 33, 35, 38, 40, 41, 43, 45, 50,
52, 54, 55, 59, 62, 66, 75, 76, 77, 87, 94-97, 98, 99, 101, 104,
105-108, 110, 111, 113-117, 119, 120, 121, 123, 124, 126, 127,
128-130, 131, 135, 137, 138, 140, 141, 145-147, 149, 150, 158,
167, 177, 179, 180, 194, 196, 199, 202, 203, 204, 213, 214, 216,
223, 224, 226, 231, 233, 269, 280

1891-1900

1, 2, 4, 8-12, 14, 15, 17, 18, 21, 25, 28, 33, 38, 40, 41, 43,
45, 47, 49, 50, 51, 52, 54, 55, 58, 59, 62, 66, 75-77, 79, 87,
94-99, 101, 103, 104-108, 110, 111, 113-117, 118, 119-121, 122,
123, 124, 126-131, 135, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143,
145-147, 149, 150, 155, 157, 158, 164, 167, 170, 176, 177, 179,
180, 186, 191, 193, 194, 196, 198, 199, 202-204, 205, 207-209, 212,
213, 214, 215, 216, 218-220, 223, 225, 226, 227, 228, 230, 231,
232, 233, 250, 256, 264, 269, 280

1901-10

1, 2, 7-12, 14, 15, 16, 21, 25, 28, 30, 33, 38, 40, 41, 42, 43,
45, 46, 47, 48, 52, 54, 55, 58, 59, 60, 62, 66, 71, 75, 76, 79,
87, 93, 94-99, 100, 101, 103-108, 110, 111, 113-123, 126-131,
133, 134, 135, 137-139, 142, 143, 146, 147, 149, 150, 152, 153,
155, 157, 158, 160, 164, 166, 167, 169, 170, 171-173, 176, 177,
178, 179, 180, 183, 186, 189, 190, 191, 193, 194, 196, 198,
202, 203, 205, 207, 208, 212, 213, 215, 216, 218-220, 222, 223,
225, 227, 228, 230, 234, 250, 256, 260, 262, 263, 264, 265,
268, 269, 270, 271, 280, 284

1911-20

1, 2, 4, 6, 7-12, 13, 14-16, 20, 21, 22-24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30,
31, 33, 34, 40-43, 45-48, 52, 53, 54, 55, 58, 60, 61, 62, 65,
66, 68-70, 71, 75, 76, 80, 82-86, 87, 88, 93-101, 103-108, 110,
111, 112, 113-121, 123, 126, 127, 132, 133-135, 137-139, 142,
143, 146, 149, 150, 152, 153, 155, 156, 158, 159, 160, 163, 164,
166, 167, 169-173, 176-180, 183, 186, 187, 190, 191, 193, 194,
196, 198, 202, 203, 205, 206, 207, 212, 213, 215, 216, 219, 220,
221, 222, 223, 225, 227, 228, 230, 234, 236, 237, 239, 250,
252-255, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262-265, 267, 268-271, 280, 283

Chronological Index

1921-30.

1, 2, 4, 5, 6-11, 14-16, 20, 21, 23-26, 28, 29, 31, 32, 34, 36, 37, 40-43, 46, 52, 53, 55, 56, 58-60, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 73, 74, 75, 76, 80, 81, 82, 85, 89, 94-100, 102, 103-108, 110, 111, 113-121, 123, 132, 135, 137-139, 142, 143, 144, 146, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 158-160, 163, 164, 166, 167, 168, 169-173, 174, 176, 177, 179, 180, 182, 183, 186, 187, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 200, 202, 203, 205-207, 210, 211, 215, 216, 219-223, 225, 227, 228, 229, 234, 236, 237, 240, 241, 244, 246, 248, 251, 252-255, 258-265, 267-270, 280, 283

1931-40

1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8-11, 14-16, 19, 20, 21, 25, 26, 28, 29, 31, 34, 36, 39, 40-42, 44, 45-48, 52, 55, 56, 57, 58-60, 62-67, 71, 72, 73, 74, 76, 78, 79, 90, 92, 94-100, 102, 103, 105-108, 109, 110, 111, 113-121, 123, 125, 132, 135, 136, 137-139, 142-146, 148-156, 158-160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166-170, 172, 173, 175, 177, 179, 180, 181, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 190, 192-196, 197, 200, 201, 202, 203, 205-207, 209-211, 215, 216, 217, 219, 220, 222, 223, 225, 227-229, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 250-256, 257, 258-265, 266, 267, 269, 270, 272-279, 280

Undated

91, 249

INDEX

Numbers not underlined indicate entry numbers. Numbers underlined indicate page numbers. Small roman numerals following entry numbers indicate subdivided portions of entries.

- Abbreviations, 41, 42
- Abolition of offices, see
 - name of office
- Absent or disabled voters, 23, 64
- Abstract
 - of assessments, 165
 - school lands, 224
 - votes cast, 25, 59, 125, 66
- Abstracters' bonds, 86
- Accessibility of records, 35-37
- Accounts, see Collections; Disbursements; Financial records
- Administration
 - county general, 17
 - court, see name of court
 - justice, 15, 18-20
 - property, see Property
 - sheriff's, 92-95
- Administrative and supervisory certificates, 126
- Adoption record, 144
- Advertisement
 - See also Proof of publication
 - bids, 33
 - fees, 7
- Affidavits
 - See also Certificates
 - bounty, 59, 74
 - canvassing board, 62
 - equalization matters, 178
 - liquor consigners', 84
 - marriage, 155, 156
 - naturalization case witnesses', 130, 131
 - superintendent of public instruction's, 232
 - taxpayers', 168
- Aged, see Old Age
- Agreements
 - See also Bids; Contracts
 - architects', 3
 - lien, 105
 - miscellaneous, 106
- Agent
 - county agricultural, 32
 - room, 36
 - State Department of Public Works, 109
- Agriculture
 - See also Farms
 - conservation association, 36
 - county agent, 32, 36
 - crops, 14
 - early, 12
 - extension work, 31, 32
 - State Department of, 98, 100
 - statistics, 176
- Aid, see Assistance; Blind assistance board; Child welfare; Dependent children; Farm, aid; Pensions; Relief; Welfare, public
- Alcohol, see Liquor
- Aliens, see Naturalization
- Amusement park licenses, 46
- Animals
 - bounty, see Bounty
 - domestic, see Livestock
 - early, 5
 - estrays record, 60, 54
- Appeals
 - equalization, 106, 107
 - for exemption from military service, 68
 - lines of, 18, 19, 21
 - to State Director of Assistance 29, 144
- Appearance
 - dockets, 78, 111, 112
 - index to, 110
 - orders, 113
- Applications
 - See also Petitions
 - for administration of estates of juveniles, idiots and spendthrifts, 19
 - for bounty payments, 74

Applications (continued)

- of candidates for office, 66-i
- for drivers' licenses, 244-246
- hail insurance, 60, 85, 86
- motor vehicle registration, 239
- naturalization, 130, 131
- relief, 138, 141, 142, 272-ii
- tax equalization, 106
- for FWA funds, 3

Appointment.

- of guardians, 145
- of canvassing board members, 25
- by clerk of district court, 24, 124, 132, 133
- by county board, 7, 28, 31, 96, 98, 108, 109, 127, 135, 136, 142, 144
- by county clerk, 24, 59, 124
- by county judge, 157
- of deputy, 1, 2
- by district court judge, 136
- of election officers, 24, 59, 77, 86, 124, 126, 66-ii, 66-iii, 66-ix, 132, 133, 157
- of highway commissioner, 31
- of old age pension commission, 28, 142
- of school district officers, 129, 251-vi, 256, 257
- of superintendent of public instruction, 127

Apportionment

- motor vehicle tax, 235
- state funds, 233

Appraiser's oath, 28

Arapahoe Indians, 4

Area, Gosper County, 3, 15

Arickarees Indians, 5

Army, see military

Arrest warrants, 19, 20

Articles of incorporation, 59, 49

Ashley, General William, 5

Assessment

- abstracts of, 165
- book, 102
- property, 101, 102, 107, 165-169
- railroad, 102
- rolls, 21, 102

Assessment (continued)

- schedules, 166-168
- valuation cases, 177

Assessor

- county, 16, 17, 28, 101-103
- field notes of, 172
- member equalization board, 102, 106
- records of, 102, 165-176
- precinct, 21, 101-103

Assignments, 18

- mortgage, 102
- school land leases, 226
- sheriff's, 94

Assistance

See also Relief; Welfare, public
blind, see Blind assistance board

child, see Child Welfare;
Dependent children

committee, 17, 28-30, 45, 47, 138-140, 144, 272-274

farm, 273

fund, state, 138, 272-iii

old age, see Old age

pensions, see Pensions

relief cases, 273-i, 273-ii

reports, see Reports

State Director of

appeals and applications to, 139, 142

duties, 138, 143

Attachments

- district court, 115
- sheriff's, 94
- writs of, 94, 118

Attorney

county, 16, 17, 19, 20, 35, 95-100

district, early duties, 97

general

duties, 98

member board of insanity, 136

Audit

- of county books, 9, 22, 32
- of road overseer's settlement, 25

Auditor, State, 9, 20, 22, 32, 59

bond register, 202-i

member equalization board, 107

record of, 109

Australian ballot, 125
Automobiles, see Motor vehicle
Balance book
 bank, 191
 county fund, 13
Ballots, see Elections, ballots
Bank
 balance book, 191
 county depository, see
 Depositories
 statements, 78, 161
Banking board, state, 100
Baptist Church, 17
 Free Will, 12
Bar docket, 78
Basement storage room, 37
Baugh, John, 10
Basins, drainage, 3
Beach, Fred H., 7
Bock, George H., 7
Bethel Methodist Church, 11
Bids
 See also Agreements; Contracts
 bonds for, 3
 books and stationery, 33
 courthouse, 8
 rejected, 1, 2
 road and bridge, 48, 29, 30
 for supplies, county, 2
Bills
 expense, see Claims; State-
 ments; Vouchers
 of sale, property, 87-i
Birth
 census, 101
 certificates, 60, 70
 register, 69
Blackwood school, 12
Blind assistance board, 17, 30,
 45, 47, 138, 144, 279
Blueprint
 See also Charts; Maps; Plats
 Elwood, 91, 248, 249
 Elwood-Holdrege highway, 37
 Gosper County, 36, 89, 90, 247
Board, see name of board
Bonds
 abstractors', 86
 accompanying
 bids, 3
 permits, 1, 2
 warrants, 1, 2

Bonds (continued)
 administrators', 86
 approval and filing, 86, 98
 cancelation of, 55, 58, 59
 certificates of payment of, 57
 depository, 16
 druggists', 61
 indebtedness, 23
 notarial, 59
 official, 14, 15, 158, 159
 record of, 110, 158, 212, 213
 redemption, 56, 211
 school district, 55, 212, 213
 canceled, 58
 treasurer's, 60
 village and county, 55
Boundaries
 Gosper County, 3, 15
 school district, changes, 129,
 250-i, 250-v
 surveyor's plat book of, 18
Bounty
 affidavits and certificates, 59,
 74, 75
 record, 73
 taxes, in payment of, 74, 75
Bridges, see Highway; Road
Budgets, 20
Buffalo, 4, 6
Buildings
 contracts, 29, 30
 county, upkeep of, 31
 courthouse, see Courthouse
 school, 10, 11, 27
Bureau, see name of bureau
Burlington railroad, 9
Calendars, civil and criminal
 cases, 113, 148
Campaign expenses, 59
Canada, John M., 90, 247
Canadians, 7
Cancelation
 bonds, 55, 58, 59
 checks, 161, 190, 193, 243
 warrants, 11, 190
Candidates
 applications of, 66-i
 certificates of nomination,
 66-vii
 lists of, 23
 petitions nominating, 66-viii

Index

Candidates (continued)
 qualifications of, 23, 24
 votes cast for, 25, 62, 63
 Canvassing board, 25, 62
 Car, see Motor vehicle
 Care of records, 35-37
 Case, see type of case
 Cash book, treasurer's, 110,
 180, 208
 Catholic Church, 11
 Cattle, see Livestock
 Cemetery maps, 35
 Census
 military, 173, 174
 discharge, 60, 67
 old age pension, 175
 population, county, 7, 12
 precinct, 101
 school district, 128, 232
 253, 258
 Certificates
See also Affidavits
 administrative and super-
 visory, 126
 assistance and relief, 139,
142, 143, 273
 birth and death, 70
 bond redemption, 211
 bounty, 59, 74, 75
 election, 25, 58
 elementary school, 126
 farm, ranch and home name, 53
 marriage, 58, 87, 155, 156
 motor vehicle registration,
109, 44, 237, 238
 naturalization, 130, 131
 nomination, 126, 66-vii
 of payment of bonds and
 coupons, 57
 physicians', 51, 69, 70
 school land purchase, 22, 87-ii
 school tax, 47, 48
 State Auditor's, 45
 survey, 38
 tax sale, 205-208
 teachers', 26, 127-130
 tuition, 234, 251-i, 265
 Cesner, E. W., 7
 Charity, see Assistance;
 Blind assistance board;
 Child welfare; Dependent
 children;

Charity (continued)
 Farm, aid; Pensions; Relief;
 Welfare, public
 Chart
See also Blueprint; Maps; Plats
 county governmental, 34
 Chattel
See also Property
 mortgages, see Mortgages
 record, 59, 40
 releases, 59, 40-42
 index to, 40
 Chocks
See also Warrants
 accompanying bonds, 3
 canceled, 78, 161, 190, 193
 refund, motor vehicle, 242, 243
 stubs, 162, 190
 treasurer's, 6
 Cheyenne Indians, 4
 Child welfare
See also Dependent children;
 Guardianship; Juvenile
 board, county, 143
 assistance, 138
 duties, 143
 established, 21, 30, 143
 members, 45, 47, 138, 143
 records, 277, 278
 Board, State, 129,
138, 252-i
 Bureau, State, 138, 252-i
 fund, 138
 Children, dependent, see De-
 pendent children
 Christian Church, 11
 Churches, Gosper County, 11-12
 Citizenship, see Naturalization
 Civil
 cases, 110-127
 administration of, 18
 attorney's duty in, 99
 calendar, 113, 148
 documents in, 111, 118, 150
 index to, 110, 149
 naturalization, 128-131
 records, district court, 117
 tax foreclosure, 124
 docket, 149
 Civilian Conservation Corps, 275-i
 Claims
See also Statements; Vouchers

Claims (continued)

- against county, 8, 9
- against estates, 147
- bounty, see Bounty
- road, 23, 31, 32
- waiver of, 28-i, 31
- warrants, 10

Clerk

- county, see County, clerk
- district court, 77, 78
- appointments by, 24, 124, 132, 133
- county clerk ex officio, 16, 77
- duties, 137
- establishment of office, 16
- fee books, 32, 78, 135
- index to, 110
- letters, 92, 136
- member insanity commission, 27, 77, 136
- records, 78, 126, 110-136
- reports, see Reports
- salary, 77

election, see Election, board

Clients, relief, 273-273*i*

Collections

See also Financial

- records; Receipts
- county clerk's, 77
- institute fund
- children's, 250-iv
- teachers', 128
- interest, 208
- motor vehicle, 235, 239
- refunds, 241
- published, 109
- receipt records, 186-188, 230
- record of fines, 189
- road district fund, 220, 222
- road overseor's, 25
- school district records of, 227, 252, 255
- school land sale, 225
- superintendent of public instruction, county, 251-iv, 251-v
- tax, 22, 58, 94, 109, 4, 5, 13, 77, 199, 201, 202, 213, 229
- treasurer's, 110, 79, 179-185

Commission, see name of commission

Commissioner-precinct system, 17

Commissioners, see name of commissioner

- county board of, 7, 8, 15-17, 20, 22, 28-31, 33, 36, 45-48, 57, 58, 96, 98, 99, 101, 106, 108-110, 127, 135, 136, 138, 141, 142, 144, 1-39, 215

Commitment of irresponsibles, 27, 137

Committee, see name of committee

Commodity record, 272-i

Communication maps, 36, 37, 89, 90, 247-249

Compensation, see Fees; name of officer

Complete record, 78, 117

index to, 110

Constable, 7, 19, 20, 24

Construction, see Buildings

Contracts

See also Agreements; Bids

with depositories, 16

farm lease, 101-iv

mortgago, 98

school land, 80

Control, State Board of, 129, 138, 252-i

Convicts, custody of, 94

Coroner, county, 7, 16, 19, 35, 94-97

county attorney ex officio,

19, 35, 95

sheriff's duty as, 94

Corporations, 102, 106

See also Incorporations

Correspondence, see Letters

Costs

See also Fees

district court, 111, 114, 115, 117-119, 121, 135

jury, 125-127

Counting board, 125

County

attorney, see Attorney, county

boundaries, 3, 15

clerk, 7, 16, 18, 21, 22, 24, 32, 33, 36, 45, 57-60, 77, 85, 98, 102, 103, 106-108, 110, 124-126, 145, 40-93, 216

85, 98, 102, 103, 106-108, 110, 124-126, 145, 40-93, 216

110, 124-126, 145, 40-93, 216

County (continued)

commissioners, board of,
 see Commissioners,
 county board of

court
 calendar, case and trial,
 87, 148
 docket, 87, 149
 jurisdiction
 civil, 149, 150
 criminal, 18, 19, 85,
 151, 152
 juvenile, 19, 29, 86,
 153
 mothers' pensions, 86
 room, 36
 definition of, 15
 fund, 109
 deposit record, 191-193
 receipt record, 188
 judge, 7, 15-17, 19, 20,
 29, 32, 33, 57, 58,
 84-87, 101, 137-162
 officers, see name of offi-
 cer
 seat, 8-10
 tools and machinery, 27

Coupons, bond, 55
 redemption certificates, 211

Court, see name of court

Courthouse
 construction, 3
 early, 8-10
 fire, 9, 33, 78
 floor plans, 38-40
 new, 10, 35, 3

Creation of county, 8, 15

Creek, see name of creek

Criminal cases, 18, 19,
 110-127
 arrests in, 94
 attorney's duty in, 99
 calendar, 113
 county court record of, 151
 district court record of,
 117
 docket, 151
 documents in, 111, 118, 152

Crippled children, 129

Crops, 14
 insurance on, 85, 86
 statistics, 176

Custody of prisoners, 94

Danes, 7

Davies, Rev. John, 11

Daviesville, 8, 11

Davis, H. A., 248

Davis, J. Y., 7

Davis, John, 10, 11

Dawson County, 3, 15

Deaf and dumb children, 129

Dealers' motor vehicle licenses,
 109

Death
 census, 101
 certificates, 60, 70
 register, 69

Debts, transfer of county, 16

Deceased appraisement of
 estates of, 20

Decrees, see Orders

Deeds
 See also Property
 as exhibits, 123
 index to, 72, 94, 95, 97
 record book, 72, 96
 register of, see Register, of
 deeds
 sheriff's, 73
 warranty and quit claim, 101-iii

Delinquent taxes, 21, 94, 110,
 4, 5, 7, 202-vi

Demonstrator, farm, 32

Denominations, religious, 11, 12

Dentists' registration, 59, 60, 52

Dependent children
 See also Child welfare; Guardian-
 ship; Juvenile
 assistance, 138, 143
 institutions, 129, 130
 jurisdiction over, 143
 records of, 277, 278
 relief warrants for, 19

Depositions, 19

Depositories
 accounts, 4, 6
 bonds and contracts, 16
 county fund, 22, 46, 191
 county judge's office as
 document, 86
 record of, 33, 35-37, 191-193,
 202-iv
 statements, 78

- Depositories (continued)
 - tax, 110, 200
- Deputy
 - appointment of, 1, 2
 - assessor's, 101
 - attorney's, 98
 - county clerk's, 58
- Destitute, see Poor
- Dipsomaniacs, jurisdiction over, 137
- Director, State Assistance, 138, 139, 141
- Disabled voters, 23, 64
- Disbursoment
 - See also Financial records
 - bounty payment, 125
 - election expense, 125
 - fund
 - county, 110, 13
 - district school, 110, 128
227, 252-254
 - institute, teachers', 128,
130, 250-iv
 - receipt record of, 186-188
 - record of, 179-185, 202-iii
 - refunds, motor vehicle, 242
 - reports of, 77, 78, 160,
251-iii, 251-v, 272-ii,
272-iii
 - road and bridge, 21-26
 - road district, 220-222
 - village, 110
school, 110
- Discharges, military or naval, 60, 67
- Diseases, regulation and report of, 27
- Distress warrants, 21, 29, 94,
110, 209, 210
- Distribution, see Apportionment
- District court
 - cases, 117
 - clerk, see Clerk, district
court
 - costs, 111, 114, 115, 117-119,
121, 135
 - fee book, 135
 - journal, 78, 116
index to, 110
 - judge
 - appointment of officers by, 136
- District court
 - judge (continued)
 - jurisdiction, 19, 20, 27,
29
 - salary, 78
 - term of office, 78
 - vacancies, how filled, 78
 - judgments, 114
 - jurisdiction, 100, 101, 107,
108
 - jurors, 47, 119
 - orders, 113, 115-117, 119-121,
124
 - records of, 78, 126, 110-136
 - room, 35-37
- Districts, school, see School,
district
- Docket
 - appearance, 78, 111, 112
index to, 110
 - bar, 78
 - civil, 149
 - criminal, 151
 - execution, 78, 115
index to, 110
 - incumbrance, 78
 - judgment, 114
index to, 110
 - juvenile court, 153
 - sheriff's pocket, 163
 - trial, 78, 113
index to, 110
- Doctor, see Physician
- Dodd, John, 7
- Drainage basins, 3
- Drivers' licenses, 109,
244-246
- Drought, 4
relief, 138, 17
- Drug addicts, control of,
98, 137
- Druggists
 - bonds of, 61
 - permits, 1, 2
 - report on liquor sales, 60,
82
- East Muddy Cemetery map, 35
- Education, see Schools
- Educational Lands and Funds,
State Board of, 138
- Elections, 15, 23-25, 62-66
abstract of, 66

- Elections (continued)
ballots, 32, 127
board, 7, 15, 16, 23, 24, 59,
77, 86, 124-126, 63, 65,
66-ii, 66-iii, 66-vi,
66-ix, 132, 133, 157
book, 62
campaign, 59
canvassing board, 25, 62
certificates of, 25, 58, 59,
126
county officers, see name of
office
expenses, 125, 66-iv
general, 23, 62, 63
messengers, 125
national, 126
notice of, 23, 59, 55
officers
 appointment of, 66-ii,
 166-ix, 157
 oaths of, 66-vi
 preservation of records of,
 126
 primary, 23, 62, 63
 road district overseer's
 30
 school district, 23, 26
 village, 23
 special, 8, 9, 46, 58
 bond issue, 55
 for recall, 109
 state, 126
 summary of, 24, 60, 62, 63
 votes cast at, 62-64, 66
Electors, see Voters
Elementary school certificates,
126
Elk Creek, 3, 6, 11
Elwood
 churches, 11
 county seat, 9, 10, 109
 maps, 91, 248, 249
 schools, 26
Employment, work-relief, 141
Encumbrance docket, 78, 95,
118
English population, 7
Enrollment
 district school, 128
 military, 101, 67, 173, 174
Entry book, county judge's, 86
Equalization
 county board of, 16, 21, 36,
 45, 101, 102, 106, 107
 records of, 107, 177, 178
 State Board of, 45, 106, 107
 tax, 106
Equipment, see Supplies
Erosion, 3, 4
Estate
 See also Property
 administration of, 94
 book, 33, 86, 140
 claims against, 147
 matters, jurisdiction in, 19,
 85
 record of, 86, 140
 settlement of, 141
Estimates of county office supplies,
33, 1, 2
Estray book, 60, 54
Evangelical Church, 11
Examinations
 pupils', 261
 of reports, 17
 state, 127
 teachers', 127, 257, 262, 263
Examiners, State Board of
 attorney's petitions to, 98
 licenses, 109
 report to county board, 5
Executions, 121
 dockets, 78, 115
 index to, 110
Exemption
 board of, 68
 military service, 68
 tax, 20
Exhibits in court cases, 123
Expedition, early, 5, 6
Expenditures, see Disbursements
Expenses
 See also Financial records
 campaign, 59
 election, 125, 66-iv
Explanatory notes, 42-44
Explorations, early, 5
Express station, pony, 6
Fanter Union Church, 12
Farms, 12
 See also Agriculture

Index

Farms (continued)

aid, bureau of, 273
 bureau budget, 20
 demonstrator, 32
 leases, 101-iv
 names, registration of,
 60, 53
 statistics, 176

Features, county physical,
3, 4

Federal tax lien index, 73

Feeble-minded

See also Health; Insane;
 Insanity, commission of
 institution for, 27
 jurisdiction of, 27, 137

Fee

See also Costs
 advertising, 7

book

county clerk's, 32, 60, 76
 county judge's, 32, 87, 160
 district court, 135
 district court clerk's, 32,
78, 135
 index to, 110
 probate, 86, 146
 register of deeds', 32,
 108
 sheriff's, 32, 94, 164
 treasurer's, 32, 110
 jurors', 125, 126
 license, 22, 59, 60, 71, 72
 motor vehicle registration,
 44, 237, 238
 refund of, 241-243
 registration of farm, ranch
 and home names, 60, 53
 tax, 109
 witnesses', 127

Folonies, 99

Field book, 147

Field notes, 110, 147, 21,
 280-283

Files

district court, 119
 insanity case, 137

Finance, county, 20-23

Financial records, 20, 32,
 4-13, 76-79, 160-162,
 179-246, 250-iv, 251-iii,
 251-v

Financial records (continued)

See also Collections; Disburse-
 ments; Expenses
 cost and value of county
 machinery, 27
 county funds, balancing of,
 13

Fines

improper record keeping, 32,
33
 record of, 189

Fire

courthouse, 9, 33, 78
 insurance, 34
 Fishing license, 59, 60, 71, 72
 Floor plans, courthouse, 38-40
 Foote, B. A., 7
 Foreclosure cases, tax, 112,
 124

Foreign born, 7

Fort Kearney, 6

Free high school tuition, 129,
 234, 251-i

certificates, 265

Free Will Baptist Church, 12

Freeman, Daniel, 6

Frenchman River, 4

Friend Church, 11

Frontier County, 3, 15

Fund

See also name of fund
 county, balance book, 13
 distribution, 129, 233
 of taxes to, 109, 43
 receipts, 79
 record of, 191
 transfer record, 202-vii
 warrants, 110

Furnas County, 3, 15

Furnas, Governor Robert, 7

Game laws, 100

General

administration, county, 17
 election, 23
 fund

balance book, 13

warrant stubs, 12

index to district court, 78, 110

Geological characteristics, Gospor
 County, 3, 4

map, 89

Germans, 7

Index

- Gordon, R. G., 7
Gosper
 county
 area, 3, 15
 creation of, 8, 101,
 106, 124
 courthouse, 3, 8-10,
 35, 38-40
 governmental organiza-
 tion, 7, 8, 15-33
 history, 3-14, 101, 106,
 124
 map, 13, 89, 90, 247
 officials, first, 7
 seat, 8-10
 John J., 7
Governmental organization
 Gosper County, 7, 8, 15-33
 chart, 34
Governor member state equaliza-
 tion board, 107
Grants, homestead, 101-i
Grantor and grantee index, 72,
 97
Green, R. O., 37
Gregory, E. T., 7
Guardianship
 See also Child welfare; De-
 pendent children; Juve-
 nile
 cases, jurisdiction of, 19,
 85
 records, 145
Hail insurance, 60, 85, 86
Hall, P. R., 7
Health
 See also Feeble-minded; In-
 sane; Insanity, commission
 of
 county board of, 16, 27, 28,
 135
 law offenses, 100
 mental, 27
 public, 27, 28
 State Director of, 136
Hearings, see type of hearing
High school, see School
Highland Union Church, 11
Highway
 See also Road
Highway (continued)
 commissioner
 appointment of, 31
 created, 16
 duties and powers, 31
 reports to, 31, 146
 fund, 22, 23
 Holdrege-Elwood, 37
 law violations, 100
 maps, 36, 37, 247, 284
Hindman, James S., 6
History, Gosper County, 3-14,
 101, 106, 124
Historical Society, State, 33
Holdrege-Elwood highway, 37
Holloway, J. S., 7
Homerville, 9
Home
 name registration, 60, 53
 relief applications, 141
Homestead, 6, 7
 grants, 101-i
Hope Lutheran Church, 12
Housing, care and accessibility
 of records, 35-37
Humphries family, 6
Hunting licenses, 59, 60, 71, 72
Immanuel Lutheran Evangelical
 Church, 11
Immigration, see Naturalization
Improper record keeping, 33
 fines for, 32, 33
Income, see Collections; Re-
 ceipts; name of officer
Incorporation
 See also Corporations
 articles of, 59, 49
Incumbrance docket, 78, 95, 118
Indebtedness
 bonds for, 23
 county, 21
 mortgage record, 73, 103
Indemnity bonds, see Bonds
Index
 chattel mortgage, 40
 deed, 97
 general, district court, 78, 110
 grantor and grantee, 72, 97
 lien record, mechanics', 73
 miscellaneous record, 107

Index (continued)

mortgagor and mortgagee, 73, 99
 numerical, 73
 lands, 94
 lots, 95
 motor vehicle, 236
 probate record, 87, 138
 releases, mortgage, 99
 wills deposited, 87
 Indians, 4-6
 Inebriates, jurisdiction of, 137
 Infant, see Birth
 Inheritance tax schedule, 20
 Inquests, 96, 97, 134
 Insane
See also Feeble-minded;
 Health; Insanity, commis-
 sion of
 case records, 269-271
 jurisdiction of, 137
 transportation of, 94
 Insanity, commission of, 136,
137
See also Feeble-minded;
 Health; Insane
 county clerk as member, 36,
77
 establishment, 16
 jurisdiction, 137
 members, 27, 136
 powers, 27, 136, 137
 records, 137, 269-271
 salary, 136
 Inspection
 election record, 126
 narcotic, 98
 records, county, 9, 22, 32, 25
 Institution
 deaf and dumb, 129, 130
 feeble-minded youth, 27
 teachers', 26, 128, 250-vi
 fund, 128, 250-iv
 Insurance
 courthouse, 9, 10
 crop, 85, 86
 fire, 34
 hail, 60, 85, 86
 laws, violations of, 100

Intangible property, tax collec-
 tions, 229
 Investigation by sheriff, 94
 Invoice, see Statements
 Irish, 7
 Jackson, Daniel E., 5
 Jail
 county, 20, 37, 94
 register, 94
 James, Edwin, 5
 Jones, G. H., 7
 Journal, district court, 78, 116
 index to, 110
 Judd, S. B., 7
 Judge, see name of judge
 Judgment
 district court, 114, 118, 120, 121
 docket, 114
 index to, 110
 record of, 78, 114
 Judicial districts, 18, 78
 Jury, 19, 47
 district court, 119, 125, 126
 fees, 125, 126
 grand, 99
 inquest, 96
 oath, 96
 room, 36
 warrants, 20
 Justice
 administration of, 17, 18, 93,
94
 of peace
 court, 18, 19
 duties, 18-20, 189
 Hall, P. R., 7
 Judd, S. B., 7
 office established, 7, 16, 17
 as overseer of poor, 16, 28
 Juvenile
See also Child welfare; Dependont
 children; Guardianship
 administration, 18, 19, 29,
99
 record, 153, 154
 court, establishment and duties,
29
 pensions for care of, 86, 99
 Kansas-Nebraska line, 3
 Kearney, Fort, 6

Index

Lands

See also Property
numerical index to, 94
school, see School, land
survey of, 146, 280, 281
tax, see Tax
tenure map, 110, 111, 38,
89, 90, 247

Law

enforcement, 17, 19, 20, 94
officers, see Constable;
Sheriff
regulating contagious diseases,
28
violations, 100

Leases

farm, 101-iv
school land, 223-226

Legalization of county organiza-
tion, 8

Legislature, speakers of, 126

Letters

assistance matters, 274
county board, 1, 2, 39
county clerk's, 92, 93
county court, 19, 1, 2
district court clerk's, 136
equalization of tax, 178
guardianship, 86
register of deeds', 109

Levies, see Tax, levies

Lewis and Clark route, 5

Licenses

See also Permits
amusement park, 46
dentists', 52
drivers', 109, 244-246
fees, 22, 59, 60, 71, 72
hunting and fishing, 59, 60,
71, 72
liquor, 46
marriage, 87, 155, 156
motor vehicle, 22, 109, 243
physicians', 50
pool hall, 46
revoking of, 98
road house, 46
tobacco, 22, 59

Liens

mechanics', 73, 105
index to, 73

Liens (continued)

recording of, 73

Liquor

carriers' statements, 83
Commission, State, 47
consigners' affidavits, 84
druggist's
bond for permit to handle,
61

report of, 60, 82

licenses, 46

List

candidates, 23, 62, 63, 66
tax, see Tax, list

Livestock, 14

health law violations, 100
statistics, 176

Location of Gosper County, 3

Long, Major, 5

Lots, see Property

Lutheran Church, 11

Machinery and tools, county, 27

Management, county general, 17,
18

Maps

See also Blueprint; Charts;
Plats

Cemetery, East Muddy, 35
communication, 36, 37, 89, 90,
247-249

courthouse, 13, 38-40

Elwood, 91, 248, 249

geological, 89

Gosper County, 13, 89, 90,
247

highway, 36, 37

physical, 110, 111, 36-38

political, 36, 37, 89, 90,
247-249

school district, 130

Marriage, 58, 87, 155, 156

Materials, see Supplies

Mechanics' lien record, 73,
105

index to, 73

Menonite Church, 11

Mental health, supervision of,
27

Messengers, election, 125

Methodist Church, 11

Migration, early, 5-7

Index

- Miles, Ida C., 89
- Military
 - census, 173, 174
 - discharges, 60, 67
 - enlistment records, 101, 67
 - exemption appeals, 68
 - relief, see Soldiers relief commission
- Minors' driving permits, 109
- Minutes
 - county board, 1, 2
 - of equalization, 177
 - school district, 254
- Miscellaneous record, 73, 106, 188
 - index to, 73, 107
- Misdemeanors, 99
- Misner, James W., 7
- Missouri River, 3, 5
- Mortgage
 - assignments, 102
 - chattel, 18, 41
 - index to, 40
 - release of, 41, 42
 - as exhibit, 123
 - indebtedness record, 73, 103
 - real estate, 18, 98, 101-ii
 - index to, 73, 40, 99
 - recording of, 59, 73
 - releases, 41, 42, 100, 101, 103, 104
 - index to, 99
 - summary, 103
 - taxation of, 104
- Mortgagor and Mortgagee index, 73, 99
- Mothers' pensions, 29, 86, 99, 154
- Motor vehicle
 - drivers' licenses, 109, 244-246
 - licenses, 22, 109, 243
 - numerical index to, 236
 - records of, 235-246
 - registration, 109, 44, 237, 238
 - refund, 241-243
- Motor vehicle (continued)
 - taxes, 109, 44, 235
- Muddy Creek, 3, 6, 8
- Names
 - county, 8
 - farm, ranch and home, 60, 53
- Narcotic inspection, 98
- National
 - election reports, 126
 - youth administration, 275-iii
- Naturalization
 - administration of, 19
 - declarations of intention, 128, 129
 - certificates, 131
 - foreign born, 7
 - petitions for, 130
- Navy, see Sailors
- Nebraska Institute for Deaf and Dumb, 129
- Nebraska-Kansas line, 3
- Newspaper, see Advertisement; Proof of Publication
- Nomination
 - acceptance notices, 66-v
 - certificates, 66-vii
 - petitions for, 66-viii
- Notary bond, 59
- Notes
 - explanatory, 41-44
 - surveyor's field, 110, 147, 21, 280-283
- Notice
 - of acceptance of nomination for public office, 66-v
 - boundary changes, school district, 231
 - incorporation, 49
 - school land assignments, 226
 - tax foreclosure, 112
- Numerical index, 73
 - lands, 94
 - lots, 95
 - motor vehicle, 236
- Oaths of officials, see name of officer
- O'Dell, A. N., 7
- Office
 - physical features of county, 35-37

Index

Office (continued)

supplies, estimates, 1, 2

Officers, county, see name of officer

Old age

assistance board, 17, 29, 45, 47, 138, 141, 142, 276

pension

board, 28, 45, 142
taxes, 175

case record, 276

commission, 28, 142

fund, 28, 103, 142

warrants, 19

Operators' licenses, motor

vehicle, 109, 244-246

Opinions, attorney's, 2

Orders

appearance, 113

confirming tax sales, 124

county board, 1, 2, 18, 202-vii

district court, 113, 115-117, 119-121

school district board, 218, 219, 234

Oregon Trail, 5, 6

Organization

county, 3, 7, 8, 78

governmental, 7, 8, 15-33

chart, 34

Outlaws, 6

Overseer

of poor

county board as, 46

established, 16

justice of peace as, 16, 28

report to county board, 28, 18

road, 25, 202-viii, 202-ix

reports, 25-27

Pardons, board of, 99

Parks, amusement, licenses, 46

Parkman, Francis, Jr., 5

Parochial schools, 11

Pawnee Indians, 4

Payments, see Disbursements

Pedagogy, see Teachers

Pensions

mothers' and guardians', 29

86, 99, 154

old age, see Old age, pension

Permits

See also Licenses

Permits (continued)

druggists', 1, 2, 61

minors' driving, 109

trapping, 72

Personal property, see Chattel;

Property

Petitions

See also Applications

to Board of Examiners, 98

for boundary changes, 129

for citizenship, 130

to county board, 1, 2

for election of county officers, 7

for location of county seat, 8

of nomination, 66-viii

recall, 109, 127

for removal of county clerk, 58

road and bridge, 21, 28

school matters, 250-i, 264

for survey, 146

Phelps County, 3, 15

Physical

features

county, 3, 4

courthouse, 35-37

maps, 110, 111, 36-38

Physician

certificates, 51, 69, 70

county, 16, 136

licenses, 50

medical advisor to board of health, 135

member board of insanity, 136

record inspection, 98

registration of, 59, 60, 50

Plains Indians, 5, 6

Plan, Gosper County courthouse, 38-40

Plat

See also Blueprint; Charts;

Maps

road, 48, 284

school district, 81, 268

surveyor's book, 18, 280, 284

Platte River, 3-6

Pleasant Grove Church, 11

Plum Creek, 3, 4, 6

express station, 6

Policy, insurance, see Insurance

Political maps, 36, 37, 89, 90, 247-249

Poll

books, 25, 32, 60, 125, 64, 65
specifications for, 24
tax, 13, 25
road overseer's receipts for,
202-ix

Pollard, E. F., 35

Pony express station, 6

Pool hall licenses, 46

Poor

fund, 28
overseers of, 16, 28, 46,
18

Population, Gosper County, 7,

12

Proclinet

assessor, 21, 101-103

bonds

issued, 60

official, 14, 15

consus, 101

elections, 125, 126

map, 247

valuation, 106

Precipitation, 4

Primary elections, see Elections,
primary

Prisoners, custody and trans-
portation of, 94

Probate

cases, 18, 19, 86, 137, 139,
144

index to, 138

claims against estate, 147

fee book, 86, 146

judge, 11

county judge successor to,
84

Davis, John, 7

of wills, 19, 85, 142

index to, 87, 143

Proceedings, see Minutes

Proclamation of election date, 7

Produce statistics, 176

Projects, work relief, 141

Promissory notes as exhibits, 123

Proofs of publication, 1-3

See also Advertisement

equalization board's proceedings,
107

notice of incorporation, 49

property sales, 110

road and bridge location, 28

Proofs of publication (continued)

tax foreclosure notice, 112

tax statements, 109

Property

See also Chattel; Doeds; Estate;
Lands; Real Estate

assessment, 101, 102, 166-169

abstract of, 165

bills of sale, 87-i

delinquent taxes, 21, 110, 7

equalization matters, 106, 107,
178

levy, 118

liens, see Liens

lots and lands, numerical index
to, 94, 95

mortgages, see Mortgages

motor vehicle, 109

registration of title to, 18, 73
for sale

list of, 110, 124

for taxes, 21, 22, 124

school, see School, lands

special tax, 195

survey, 146

tax schedules, 102

exempt from, 20

transaction record, 110

transfer of county, 16

Prosser, Fred, 7, 10

Protests

equalization matters, 178

road and bridge matters, 28

Public

health, 27, 28

inspection of election record,
126

Land and Building Commissioner,
State, 226

welfare, 28-30, 45, 47

State Board of, 98

works, 23, 31, 43, 47, 109,
141

Publication, proofs of, see

Proofs of publication

Pupils, school, 10, 11, 261
264

PWA application for funds, 3

Quakerville or Friend Church, 11

Quarantine officer, 135

Quit claim deeds, 101-iii

Railroad

assessment, 102

Burlington, 9

Railroad (continued)
 commission, 98
 complaints against, 100
 maps, 247
 Rainfall, 4
 Ranch name registration, 60, 53
 Range line map, 247, 284
 Real Estate
 See also Property
 assessment, 165, 166
 field note book of, 172
 index, 99
 jurisdiction of, 85
 mortgages, 18, 99, 101-ii
 releases, 100, 101
 sales, 110, 88
 tax, see Tax
 Recall of county officers, petitions for, 109, 127
 Receipts
 See also Collections
 county judge's, 160
 for district court papers, 122
 grantee's property, 94, 95
 homestead, 101-i
 school, 1, 2, 253
 State Treasurer's, 186
 tax, 196-198, 202-ix
 Receiving board, 125
 Recorder, county, see County, clerk
 Records, county
 destruction by fire of, 33
 housing, care and accessibility of, 35-37
 inspection of, 9, 22, 32, 98, 126, 25
 statutory requirements for, 32, 33
 Redemption
 bond, 55, 56, 58, 211
 certificates, 207
 of property sold for taxes, 22
 Refund, motor vehicle registration, 241-243
 Register
 See also Registration
 bond, 33, 202-i
 of deeds, 16, 18, 32, 72, 73, 94-109
 mortgage, 73
 for taxes, 104
 motor vehicle, 236
 warrant, 33, 110, 216

Registration
 See also Register
 birth and death, 60, 69, 70
 bond, 33, 14, 55
 dentist, 59, 60, 52
 estray record, 60, 54
 farm, ranch and home name, 60, 53
 land, Torrens system, 73
 motor vehicle, 22, 109, 44, 235, 237, 239
 operators', 244-246
 refunds, 241-243
 physicians', 59, 60, 50
 teachers' certificates, 130
 title to property, 18, 73
 voters', 23
 Rejected bids, 1, 2
 Releases
 See also Satisfactions
 mortgage, 40-42, 100, 101, 104
 index to, 99
 orders for, 93
 Relief
 See also Assistance; Welfare, public
 applications, 138, 141, 142, 272-ii
 blind, see Blind assistance board
 board, county, 28, 45, 138, 140, 141, 275-275-iv
 child, see Child welfare; dependent children
 clients' case records, 273-i, 273-ii, 275i-275iv
 commodity, record of, 272-i
 drought, 138, 17
 farm, 273
 fund, state, 138, 141
 home and transient, 141
 old age, see Old age
 pensions for, see Pensions work, 141
 Religion, 11, 12
 Removal of officers, see name of officer
 Ronzo, Otto, 6
 Reports
 by assistance committee, county, 139, 272-272iii
 to Assistance Committee, State, 139, 272-272iii
 to Assistance Director, State, 141

Reports (continued)

to Board of Control, State, 129, 252-i
to board of health, county, 136
to Child Welfare Bureau, State, 129, 252-i
by commissioners of public lands and buildings, 226
to county board, 28, 31, 94, 128, 145, 146, 1, 2, 4-7, 18, 23, 25-27, 202-iii, 250-ii, 250-iv, 251-v
by county board, 24
by county clerk, 126, 77
to county clerk, 21, 60, 125, 128, 82, 202-ii
by county judge, 126
to Director of Health, State, 136
to district court, 113, 115, 117-120
by district high school, 252
by druggist, 60, 82
by election officials, 125
by Examiner, State, 5
examination of, 17
by highway commission, county, 31
to highway commission, county, 31, 146, 24
by Highway Department, State, 23
to Highway Department, State, 24
by justice of peace, 189
by overseer of poor, 28, 18
by relief board, county, 141
road, 23, 24
by road overseer, 25-27
sales, 1, 2
by school director, 255, 258
by school district board, 21, 26, 128
to Secretary of State, 23, 25, 94, 126
by sheriff, 94, 115, 118
by soldiers' relief commission, 145
to Speaker of Legislature, 126
to superintendent of the asylum for blind, 129
by superintendent of public instruction, county, 128, 129,

Reports (continued)

1, 2, 214, 233, 250-ii, 250-iv, 251-v, 252-i, 253
to superintendent of public instruction, county, 21, 26, 128, 255, 258-260
to Superintendent of Public Instruction, State, 128, 252, 253
by surveyor, county, 31, 146, 28
by teachers, 26, 128, 259, 260
by treasurer, county, 4, 6, 7, 23, 47, 202-ii, 202-iii, 202-v
to treasurer, county, 77, 189, 214, 226, 233
to Treasurer, State, 202-v
by village board, 21
Republican River, 3, 5
Requests, see Applications; Petitions
Resignations, see name of officer
Resolutions, county board, 1, 2
Returns
district court, 113, 115, 117-120
election, 24, 60, 62, 63
marriage, 156
tax, 94, 102
Revenue, see Collections; Financial records; Tax act of 1903, 106
River, see name of river
map, 247
Road
See also Highway
bids and contracts, 29, 30
bridges, 21, 22
claims, 31, 32
clerk's record of, 48, 21
districts, 47, 7
dragging, 26
expense, 21-26
fund, 109, 23, 31
district, 220-222
warrants, 33
house licenses, 46
map, 36, 37, 247
oversoer
receipts, 202-viii, 202-ix
settlement, 25
petitions, 21, 28

Index

(Roa-See)

Road (continued)
 plat book, 48, 21, 284
 state, 23, 24
 supplies, 25, 27, 29, 36
 survey, 146
 work, 26
 Robbins, Charles, 10
 Rogers, Anson C., 7
 Rolles, 10
 Rooms, courthouse, 35-37
 Roxby, J. R., 7
 Rural School, 128
 fund, 27
 Russell, T. W., 7
 Russian relief, 18
 Sailors
 census, 101, 173, 174
 discharge, 60, 67
 relief, 145
 Salaries, see name of officer
 Sale
 bill of, 87-i
 book, 110, 203, 204
 county court authorization of,
 85
 land for taxes, 22, 60, 202-x,
 203, 208
 liquor, 60
 publication of, 100
 real estate, 110, 88
 reports of, 1, 2, 202-ii
 school land, 223
 tax, 124, 203-208
 Satisfactions, 18
 See also Releases
 School
 board
 district, 25-27, 60, 110
 election, 23
 Elwood, 25
 orders, 218, 219
 report of taxes, 21
 village, 22, 110
 census, 128, 232, 258
 district, 25-27, 7
 bonds, 60, 55, 58, 212, 213
 boundary changes, 231, 250-i,
 250-v
 county, 25-27
 directors, 255, 257
 financial records, 128
 227-230, 232-234
 fund, 110, 219

School (continued)
 officers, appointment of, 129
 record of, 251-vi, 256, 257
 orders, 218, 219, 234
 plat book, 81, 268
 receipt books, 1, 2
 rural, 27
 treasurer's bond, 60
 early, 10, 11
 fund
 county
 assistance from state,
26, 27
 record of, 129
 tax levy for, 27, 47
 tobacco license fees for,
22
 rural, 27
 state, 26, 27
 apportionment, 26, 27,
 267
 land
 certificates of deeds to,
 87-ii
 contracts for, 80
 transactions, 110, 223-226,
 250-i
 maps, 130
 parochial, 11
 pupils
 dependent, 129
 elementary, 259
 examinations, 261
 graduation, 251-ii
 transfer, 264
 rural, 128
 superintendent, see Super-
 intendent, public in-
 struction
 taxes, 25, 46-48
 teachers, see Teachers
 tuition, 129, 234
 certificates, 251-i, 265
 Scotch, 7
 Seat, county, see County, seat
 Secretary of State
 election records, 126
 ex officio member equalization
 board, 107
 Gosper, John J., 7
 reports to, 23, 25, 94
 Section map, 247, 284

- Settlement
 early county, 5-7
 estate matters, 141
 road overseer's, 25
 Share tenants, 12
 Sholving in county offices, 36, 37
 Sheriff, county, 92-95
 Beck, George H., 7
 deeds, 73
 distress warrants, 110, 209,
210
 duties and powers, 19-21,
93-95
 established, 7, 16, 92
 ex officio
 member board of health, 28
92, 135
 treasurer, 109
 fee book, 32, 94, 164
 records, 94, 163, 164
 reports, 94, 115, 118
 room, 37
 Sioux Indians, 4
 Smith, Jedodiah, 5
 Smithfield, 11, 12
 Soil, 3-5
 Soldiers
 consus, 101, 173, 174
 discharge, 60, 67
 relief commission, 16, 28, 47,
144, 145
 Speaker of the Legislature, 126
 Special
 election, 11-13
 session of county board, 7
 tax list, 195
 St. Matthews Church, 12
 State
 Assistance
 Committee, 138
 Director, 138, 139, 141
 Board
 of Control, 129, 138, 252-i
 of Educational Lands and
 Funds, 138
 of Public Welfare, 98
 Child Welfare Bureau, 129, 138,
252-i
 Commissioner of Public Lands and
 Buildings, 226
 Director of Health, 136
 election reports, 126
 fund, 109
 assistance, 138, 272-iii
 State
 fund (continued)
 school, 26, 27, 267
 Historical Society, 33
 Liquor Commission, 47
 officers, see name of officer
 Statements
 See also Claims; Vouchers
 aliens', 130
 delinquent tax, 7
 district school directors', 128
 druggists' liquor, 82
 liquor carriers', 83
 publication of, 107, 109
 tax, 202
 Stationery for county officers, 33
 Statistics
 birth and death, 69, 70
 livestock and produce, 176
 Storage of records, 37
 Students, school, see School, pupils
 Sublette, William, 5
 Suits, tax foreclosure, 112, 124
 Superintendent
 of asylum for blind, 129
 of public instruction,
 county, 7, 16, 26, 28, 33, 35,
126-130, 135, 232, 234
 reports, see Reports
 State
 duties, 127, 129
 Prosser, Fred, 7, 10
 reports to, 128, 252, 253
 Supervisor
 county, see Commissioners,
 county board of
 road, 7
 -township system, 17
 Supplies
 bills and claims, 8, 9
 bridge, 22, 30
 county office, 33
 bids and estimates, 1, 2
 road, 25, 27, 29, 36
 Supreme court
 Judge, 78
 decisions, 142
 tax appeal to, 107
 State, 15, 21
 Surveyor
 county, 18, 30, 31, 110, 145-147
 certificates of surveys, 38
 field notes, 110, 147, 21,
280-283

Surveyor (continued)

first, 7
 records, 146, 280-284
 reports, 31, 146, 28
 Rogers, Anson C., 7
 United States, 282
 Suspension, motor vehicle license,
109
 Swedes, 7
 Swiss, 7
 Symbols, 41, 42
 Tax
 assessment, see Assessment
 assistance, old age, 175
 bounty in payment of, 74, 75
 cases
 county, 177
 state, 99
 collections, 22, 58, 94, 109,
 4-6, 13, 77, 79, 199, 201,
 202, 213, 229
 Commissioner, State, 21, 102,
107, 80, 165
 corporation, 102, 106
 for county buildings, 31
 delinquent, 21, 94, 110, 4, 5,
 7, 202-vi
 equalization, 106, 107, 177, 178
 estimate, 178
 foreclosure, 112, 124
 fund
 distribution, 43, 201, 222
 old age pension, 28
 inheritance, 20
 levies, 1, 2
 school district, 46-48
 state, 45
 liens for, 73
 list, 22, 58, 110, 43, 171,
 178, 194
 delinquent, 21, 94, 110, 4,
 5, 7, 202-vi
 personal, 4
 motor vehicle, 109, 44, 235
 special, 195
 money depository, 110
 mortgages, 104
 notices, 110
 foreclosure, 112
 pension, old age, 103
 personal, 4
 poll, 13, 25, 202-ix
 proofs of publication, 109, 112

Tax (continued)

property, 20, 43
 assessments, 166-169
 exemptions, 20
 sales, 124
 receipts, 196-198, 202-ix
 register of mortgages for, 73
 regulation of, 21
 returns filed, 102
 sheriff's, 94
 revenue act, 106
 appeals, 107
 sales, 124, 203-208
 schedules, 102, 166
 school district, 25, 46-48
 bond, 213
 state, 21, 202-v
 statements, 202
 published, 109, 112
 Teachers
 certificates, 26, 27, 127, 129
 early, 10, 11
 examinations, 262, 263
 institute, 26, 128, 250-vi
 fund, 128
 qualifications, 26, 27, 127
 record of, 251-vii, 257
 reports, 26, 128, 259, 260
 rural high school, 27
 Temperature, county, 4
 Tenants, share, 12
 Term of office, see name of
 officer
 Testaments, see Witnesses
 Title
 conveyance of, 101-iii
 motor vehicle, certificates,
 236-239
 property, registration of,
 18
 transfer, 18, 87-i, 240
 Tobacco licenses, 22
 Tools and machinery, county, 27
 Topography, Gosper County, 3
 Torrens system of land registra-
 tion, 73
 Tornoy, George E., 7
 Townships, 3
 maps, 247, 284
 Townsite map, 248, 249
 Trade and Commerce, State De-
 partment of, 98, 100

Index

Transcripts in district court cases, 120

Transfer
 county seat, 9
 debts, county to county, 16
 farm, ranch and home names, 53
 land, county to county, 16
 motor vehicles, 236, 240
 pupils, 264
 title to property, 18, 87-i, 240

Transient relief, 141

Transportation of insane and prisoners, 94

Trapping permits, 72

Treasurer
 county, 7, 16, 21, 22, 45, 58, 98, 108-111
 accounts, 4, 5
 audit of books of, 9, 22, 32
 Baugh, John, 7
 collections, see Collections
 disbursements, see Disbursements
 fee book, 32, 110
 member
 county assistance board, 108, 138
 old age pension board, 142
 office and vault, 36
 records of, 110, 111, 179-249
 reports, see Reports
 school district, bond, 60
 State, 22, 109
 ex officio member State Board of Equalization, 107
 receipt record, 186
 reports to, 202-v
 tax remittance to, 202

Trial docket, 78, 113
 index to, 110

Trip, J. T., 7

Tuition, 129, 234, 251-i, 265

Truant officers, 128

Turkey Creek, 3, 6, 10

Unemployment relief, 141

Vacancy in offices, see name of officer

Valley Union Church, 11

Valuations, see Equalization

Vaugh, B. K., 7

Vaugh, E. G., 7

Vaults, county officers', 35-37

Vehicle, see Motor vehicle

Veterans
 census, 101, 173
 discharge, 60, 67

Villages
See also name of village
 board, 22, 110
 school, 22, 110
 bond issues, 55
 elections, 23
 fund, 110
 school, 110
 naming of, 47
 report of taxes, 21

Vital statistics, see Birth; Death; Marriage

Voters
 absent and disabled, 23, 64
 petitions
 boundary changes, 129
 for recall of officers, 109
 qualifications, 23
 registration of, 23

Votes, see Elections, ballots

Vouchers
See also Claims; Statements
 county board, 110, 215
 soldiers' relief commission, 145
 warrant, see Warrants

War
 census, veterans', 101, 173
 discharges, 60, 67
 militia enrollment, 174

Warrants
See also Checks
 admission, 271
 arrest, 19, 20
 book, 110
 canceled, 11, 190
 claims against county, 22
 payment of, 10
 county board, 110, 215
 current, 217
 distress, 21, 29, 94, 110, 209, 210
 duplicate, 1, 2

Warrants (continued)

- fund, 110
 - general, 12
 - jury, 20
 - relief, 19
 - road and bridge, 33
- issue, 47, 48, 59
- jury, 20
- old age pension, 19
- register, 33, 216
- relief, 144
- road and bridge fund, 33
- school board's, 22, 110
- treasurer's record of, 6
- village board's, 22, 110
- Warranty deeds, 101-iii
- Way, John, 10
- Weather, Gosper County, 4
- Welfare, public, 28-30, 45, 47
 - See also Assistance; Relief
 - blind, see Blind assistance board
 - child, see Child welfare; Dependent children
 - pensions for, see Pensions
 - State Board of, 28, 98
- Wells, map of gas and oil, 89
- Whisky, see Liquor
- Wildlife, early, 5
- Willard, H. A., 7
- Wills, probate of, 19, 85
 - index to, 87
- Witnesses
 - in cases in
 - district court, 111, 119, 127
 - naturalization, 130, 131
 - inquest, 96
 - oath, 96, 146
 - testaments, 146
- Wise, J. T., 7
- Wise, W. S., 7
- Work
 - Projects Administration,
 - applications to, 275-iv
 - public
 - agents, 109
 - establishment of, 23
 - projects, 141
 - supervision of, 31, 43, 47, 141
- World War enlistment, 67
- Writs of attachment, 94, 118

Wyeth, Nathaniel, 5

Youth, see Child welfare; Dependent children; Guardianship; Juvenile; National, youth administration; School, pupils