

THE PRIMARY LAWS

ELECTIONS COMMITTEE HEAR ARGUMENT PRO AND CON.

ONE BILL IS RECOMMENDED

A Measure From Reagan of Douglas for Setting Aside the Daylight Saloon Law.

The house committee on privileges and elections heard arguments on the open and closed primary system and one bill was recommended for passage. The bill to be reported for passage is a minor measure by Sikeen of Nemaha, providing that polls in country districts shall remain open to 9 o'clock to give farmers a chance to come in late and vote.

The speeches made to the committee were by the author of two of the bills and P. L. Hall and John M. Devine, interested democrats. Mr. Devine spoke of the wide-open primary, urging it as a fair and wise measure. Evans of Adams, who has the closed primary bill, spoke at length for his own measure.

"A party cannot maintain its party integrity if outsiders are allowed to come in and choose a candidate for it," said he.

"There have been frequent situations where the members of one party, having no need to vote in their own primaries, because there was no contest, could go into the other party's primary and vote to nominate the weakest man. They could not be accused of anything wrong from their standpoint because they believed that by ruining the chances of the other party and aiding their own man, they were helping the state. But such things are absolutely against the principle of party government."

Setting Aside Daylight Law.

For the purpose of setting aside the daylight saloon law in all cities over 5,000 inhabitants, Reagan, of Douglas county, introduced S. F. 287. The bill provides that in all cities having over 5,000 inhabitants the licensing authorities may extend the closing hour beyond 8 o'clock, not to exceed the hour of midnight, when petitioned by over 50 per cent of the voters of the city. The bill would apply to all the "third" cities in the state and to Lincoln, South Omaha, and Omaha, but would not apply to any other towns or villages. In many of the places it would apply to it is not believed a petition of over 50 per cent of the voters could be obtained. The bill does not call for an election nor does it go into details as to how the names of voters shall be obtained or presented to the licensing boards.

Stock Yards Bill.

The Ollis stock yards bill was reported to the house, the principal amendments made in committee following: The imprisonment penalty for violation of the act is omitted. For the first violation a fine up to \$500 may be imposed and up to \$1,000 for the second violation. Stock must be unloaded within an hour and a half after reaching the yards or the yardage will be forfeited. For every hour that stock is delayed beyond this time the stock yards company shall, within 24 hours pay the shipper a penalty of \$5 per car. If the claim is contested reasonable attorney's fees must be allowed the shipper.

Salaries of Superintendents.

After debate the senate recommended the Tibbets bill, increasing the salaries of county superintendents, for third reading. Two amendments were made.

Thanks of Bassett.

Representative S. C. Bassett tendered his thanks publicly to his fellow members for the vote of confidence, "for this public expression of your confidence," he said, "I am more grateful than words can express. All ways a man has need of the help of his friends, but occasionally there is pressing need and, such a crisis having come in my life, you came to my support with a zeal, a loyalty, a unanimity which I can never repay."

Statewide Prohibition.

Statewide prohibition is contemplated in a bill introduced by Representative Galt of Clay. The bill prohibits all dealing in intoxicating liquors of all kinds, exempting the home manufacture of wine and cider and the making of wine for sacramental purposes.

Clings to Capital Punishment.

Two bills abolishing capital punishment were killed in the house after a spirited debate.

For Governor's Signature.

The joint committee on engrossed and enrolled bills reported that house rolls No. 111, 70, 59, 3 and 26 had been presented to Governor Aldrich for his signature.

Attorneys Salary Bill.

In committee of the whole the house killed the county attorneys' salary increase bill and also the assessor pro schedule bill. The bill exempting wages of heads of families up to \$500 was recommended for passage.

The Omaha Investigation.

The joint committee appointed to look into registration frauds in Omaha concluded their labors and will make a report some time this week.

Insurance Reserve Funds.

Kotouc's bill, introduced at recommendation of State Auditor Barton, to require insurance companies to deposit with the state the securities for reserve funds, was put on general file. The measure has been much opposed by state insurance organizations.

PASSED IN THE SENATE.

Initiative and Referendum Gets Unanimous Vote.

Without a dissenting vote the initiative and referendum bill S. F. No. 1, introduced by Sikeen of Butler, was passed by the senate and has now gone to the house for the approval of that branch of the legislature. Every one of the twenty-six senators present voted for the measure. Six members of the senate, Albert of Platte, Hoagland of Lincoln, Kemp of Dawes and Tibbets of Adams were absent on committee work in Omaha. Placek of Saunders county was the seventh senator absent.

The bill as amended in the senate provides for a 10 per cent petition to initiate and a 5 per cent petition to refer. The same provisions in the bill as to the initiative and referendum apply to the constitution and laws. Straight party votes are not to be counted for or against propositions submitted under the terms of the bill. A majority of the votes cast at an election is all that is necessary to carry a proposition submitted under the bill, provided a proposition receives 35 per cent of the total vote cast at the election.

While no senator voted against the bill, Jansen of Gage and Varner of Johnson, said the measure did not meet their approval. Mr. Jansen said: "While this measure does not meet with my full approval, opening in my opinion, the floodgates for obnoxious and unnecessary law-making, still obeying the demand of my constituents and the platform of the grand old republican party, I vote aye."

Mr. Varner said that, while the bill has been much improved by the last amendment by its author, he was still opposed to some of the provisions of the bill and believed that its enactment as a part of the constitution, in its present form, will prove of greater burden than benefit to the great masses of the people of the state.

More Time for Homesteaders.

Hoagland of Lincoln secured the adoption of a resolution asking congress to pass the Kinkaid bill which seeks to extend the time in which homesteaders will have to pay for the lands they hold under the government reclamation act. The resolution recites that settlers on the land under the government irrigation project in western Nebraska have had poor crops, the government first failing to supply water for their needs and that the land will not be productive until alfalfa has been grown upon it for three years.

Senate Must Hurry.

Lieutenant Hopewell took occasion to remind the senate that longer and more frequent sessions would have to be held if the senate expected to get very much work done before the usual time for adjournment. Over forty bills are now on general file in the senate waiting consideration.

Relief for Insurance Agents.

Senator Reynolds has attracted attention by introducing a bill repealing the act that now requires insurance agents to get a license to do business in this state. He says that the companies are better qualified to pick and retain agents than the insurance department.

No Raise for Employes.

Senator Bartos was defeated in effort to raise the salaries of senate employes and his bill for the purpose was defeated and shelved. Senator Brown's bill prohibiting marriages between persons incapable of a legal contract was slated for passage.

Cobby Statutes Bill.

The senate passed the house roll 62, for the purchase of 400 sets of Cobby's statutes at \$9 the set, only amending the bill so that the secretary of state is directed specifically to whom the statutes shall be given.

New Reapportionment Bill.

A new reapportionment bill appeared in the senate. It divides the state into twenty-eight senatorial districts. Douglas county gets five senators and fourteen representatives. Lancaster county is left with two senators as now and gets one more representative, making six. All the other districts get one senator each and all one representative, excepting Saunders, Dodge, Gage, Hall, Adams and Custer, which have two each.

Good Roads Measure.

The joint committee, appointed sometime ago to draft a comprehensive system of good roads legislation, plunged into the problem. A joint meeting was held with members of the Nebraska Good Roads association, at which the views of that organization were presented. Senator Volpe is chairman of the joint committee.

For Farm Institutes.

McKelvie of Lancaster pushed through committee his measure calling for a \$50,000 appropriation for university extension work.

Senate is for Reciprocity.

The resolution of Jansen of Gage in favor of the Canadian reciprocity treaty was passed by the senate.

Favorably Recommended.

After a decided opposition from some of the farmer members of the house Representative McKelvie succeeded in securing favorable recommendation by the house for his bill appropriating \$50,000 for farmers' institutes and the so-called "movable school" of the state school for agriculture.

Legalizing Indian Marriages.

The house judiciary committee has found that the job of attempting to legalize Indian marriages isn't going to be an easy one. Before passing upon a bill which proposes to do that the committee will send a subcommittee to the Omaha and Winnebago reservations to investigate Indian marriages. Permission to do this was granted by the house. Indians on the reservation are possessors of considerable property, and the proper administration of it in the case of dead Indians is in something of a tangle.



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Tones Strained Through Gas-Filled Pipe Subdued—Particularly Adapted to Phonographs.

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Modern Balloon Gas Bags Made of Cotton Fabric Coated with India Rubber to Assure Perfect Impermeability. The gas bags of modern balloons are made of a cotton fabric coated with india rubber in the most careful manner, in order to assure perfect impermeability without sacrificing lightness. For all large balloons, and especially for dirigibles, two layers of cloth are superposed and cemented together. The outer skin is covered with india rubber on one side only, but the inner skin is covered on both sides. In German balloons the inner canvas is cut straight and the outer canvas is cut bias. In this construction, goes with angles of 45 degrees are used and the seams are covered which causes a slight increase in weight. French balloon makers prefer to cut both canvases straight. Experiments show that the tensile strength of the envelopes thus made is approximately equal in all directions. Each method of construction has its advantages and its defects. As india rubber, even when vulcanized, is altered by exposure to light, the canvas is colored yellow in order to arrest the violet and ultra violet rays, which are the most active. The pigment used in France is chromate of lead, which unfortunately must be applied to the canvas before it is coated with rubber, and which consequently prevents the vulcanization of the rubber, because the chromate of lead is blackened by heat. Picric acid is free from this objection, but its employment is too dangerous.

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