THE NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

A Synopsis of Proceedings in Both Branches of the Twenty-Eighth General Assembly.

SENATE.

Sheldon of Cass introduced in the senate on the 4th two bills to abolish the board of visitors to the Soldiers' homes at Grand Island and Milford. The law at present provides that the governor appoint a board of five, who shall make rules and regulations regarding the homes and have general supervision over the commandants. The bills introduced grant this power to the governor, and he shall have power to name the amount of compensation to be paid the employes and commandants of the homes; and to provide rules by which they shall be conducted. The governor is also required to visit the homes once every three months. The office of quartermaster is abolished, and the duties of the office devolve upon the adjutant. S. F. 3, providing for the nomination of county commissioners by districts and election by county vote, occasioned much debate. The bill was ordered engrossed. Hall of Douglas introduced a bill providing that the standard of time through out the state shall be that of the 90th meridian of longitude west from Greenwich, the central standard of time, by which all legal business shall be regulated. Mr. Hall introduced the bill because in different parts of the state different standards of time are used. The county officers' bill by Sloan of Fillmore, to increase the tenure of office to four years, was killed in rotation like clock-work. There were five or six of them, and after three had been indefinitely postponed O'Neill of Lancaster moved, in order to save time, to indefinitely postpone every bill introduced by Sloan. This, however, was not put, and the bills died the regulation death. S. F. 8, providing that county commissioners be elected by vote of the county instead of by vote of districts, ordered engrossed. S. F. 54, that hereafter no claim for subscription for newspaper, magazine or other periodical shall be valid for more than the time actually subscribed for; indefinitely postponed. S. F. 99, to provide for the supersedeas of cases appealed to the supreme court; ordered engrossed.

The last day but one on which bills could be introduced was taken advantage of and there was a deluge in the senate on the 5th. Hall of Douglas introduced an even dozen to amend the state constitution. H. R. 18, allowing county treasurers a seal, was recommended for passage by the committee of the whole. The bill has been before many legislatures and is now in a fair way to become a law. S. F. 87, the exemption law, took up most of the afternoon and was amended so frequently that its maker could not recognize it. The bill provides that $25 per month of a wage earner is exempt from garnishment. With the exception of that change the bill is the same as upon the statutes at present. S. F. 85, the bulk sale law, had rough sailing, but was finally recommended for passage. Marshall of Otoe sprung a sensation at the end of the last round of the day's proceedings by moving it take a recess until 7 o'clock at night. Anderson of Saline seconded the motion. The motion was lost in a deluge of noes. Standing committees reported the following bills for general file: S. F. 175, defining where it shall be lawful for mutual insurance company to insure property. S. F. 174, providing when railroad companies may sell goods not called for. S. F. 124, an act for the relief of Daniel L. Johnson. S. F. 57, compelling railroad companies to provide suitable waiting rooms and accommodations for the public. H. R. 136, relating to deposits of county treasurers. S. F. 38, providing for payment of costs in misdemeanor cases.

At the morning session of the senate on the 6th the following bills were passed: S. F. 118, limiting the time in which to revive a dormant judgment. S. F. 9, providing for a time when injunctions may be brought. S. F. 8, providing that in counties of 125,000 population commissioners shall be elected by vote of county. S. F. 152, providing for the destruction of weeds along the highways. S. F. 216, 218, 219, repealing law relating to salary of deputies for treasurer and secretary of state and secretary to governor. S. F. 85, brick sale law. H. R. 18, providing for a county treasurer's seal. S. F. 99, providing for the supersedeas in cases appealed to the supreme court. The senate went into committee of the whole to consider bills on general file. S. F. 155, taxing the costs in criminal cases upon the defendant if he is guilty, and if the prosecution be malicious, the prosecuting witness; ordered engrossed. S. F. ...—If there are remonstrances against granting of saloon licenses, appeal may be had to the courts, providing that remonstrator give bond for $500 for cost; indefinitely postponed. S. F. 148, providing for the annexing of territory to cities and villages situated in two or more counties; ordered engrossed. S. F. 165, providing for the appointment of a truant officer by school boards; ordered engrossed. H. R. 167, favoring the election of United States senators by popular vote; recommended for passage. A large number of bills were introduced.

In the senate on the 7th the following bills were reported back by committees, with the recommendation that they be placed on the general file. S. F. 235, amending the criminal code to strike out the death penalty; H. R. 132, to appropriate to the use and benefit of the University of Nebraska the moneys known as the agricultural experiment station fund, also the Morrill fund and the university cash fund; H. R. 202, to appropriate money belonging to the state normal school fund for the purchase of books for the library of the state normal schools and to provide for their maintenance; S. F. 62, relating to appeals in equity; S. F. 100, repealing the section in the criminal code relating to grand juries; S. F. 101, relating to the selection of juries; S. F. 94, authorizing judges of district courts in vacation to parole and discharge persons convicted of felonies and misdemeanors. The following bills were read the third time and passed: S. F. 70, providing that it shall not be necessary to serve notice on minor child in case of adoption, unless the child is 14 years of age; S. F. 148, providing for the annexation of territory by cities and towns located in two or more counties; S. F. 9, authorizing the governor to appoint a board of pardons consisting of three members; S. F. 125, providing how amendments may be made to articles of incorporation. The following bill was introduced by Senator Howell: S. F. 290—An act to declare all telephone companies in this state to be comon carriers; to prohibit the making of unreasonable charges and providing a remedy in case thereof; to declare certain charges to be reasonable charges and provide a penalty for the violation of the provisions of this act.

Governor Mickey on the 9th vetoed his first bill. The measure was S. F. 29, providing for the payment of fees to the commissioner of public lands and buildings. Governor Mickey stated his objections to the bill to be that the measure was unconstitutional in that it provided for the payment of fees to the commissioner, while the constitution provides for payment of all fees to the state treasurer. Warner of Dakota moved that S. F. 304, recommended by the governor, be read a first time. This was done. Mrs. Louise Bowser will not get the $2,000 asked of the state for the erection of a sod house at the Louisiana Purchase exposition. The senate indefinitely postponed the bill. H. R. 119, providing for the reports of teachers and county superintendents, was passed. H. R. 167, a joint resolution memorializing congress to pass a bill for the election of United States senators by popular vote, was passed. Committees reported as follows: S. F's. 100-101, providing for a grand jury system, was recommended for indefinite postponement. The report was concurred in and the bill was placed on general file. S. F. 146, providing for the erection of grain elevators and warehouses, was placed on general file. S. F. 240, defining cultivated lands, placed on general file. S. F. 147, an act for opening and maintaining roads to bridges across streams separating two counties, amended and ordered engrossed. S. F. 115, providing for appeal bonds, amended and ordered engrossed. H. R. 64, providing penalty for carrying concealed weapons, ordered engrossed.

HOUSE.

Shortly after convening on the 3d the house took up consideration of H. R. 330 through the reports of the committee on cities and towns. The majority of that committee, McClay of Lancaster, Cropsey of Jefferson, Ferrar of Hall, Cassell of Otoe and Roberts of Dodge, recommended the bill for indefinite postponement, and the minority, consisting of Gilbert and Nelson of Douglas, Sweezy of Adams and Beecher of Platte, recommended it for passage. A good deal of discussion took place. Loomis of Dodge vigorously pleaded for the bill. The principle involved in it he declared to be of the most vital concern to every taxpayer of Nebraska and added that it was of more importance than anything that would come before this legislature. For that reason he thought the house would seriously err if it summarily killed the bill. He said the opponents of the bill were not lacking in ability to discuss the measure in committee of the whole nor were its friends unable to hold up their end of the argument. No harm, therefore, could be done by placing the bill on general file. The vote to concur in the majority report was 53; against 38; thus the bill was killed. H. R. 26, by Gilbert of Douglas, the South Omaha charter bill, came back from the committee on cities and towns, by majority and minority reports. It was amended in a number of ways, the point of difference being the amendment providing for direct taxation of railroad terminals. The majority was against the clause and the minority, Gilbert, Nelson of Douglas and Sweezy of Adams, were for it. The majority report, that the bill, as amended, knocking out the taxation clause, was sustained. Among other amendments to the bill is one providing that the railroads keep up repairs on the viaducts, which clause was left out of the original bill. The Shelly bill, providing for a governor-appointed board of fire and police commissioners, was incorporated in the bill, as a compromise for the extension of the time of city election in South Omaha to the spring of 1904, instead of having it come off this year. A petition was read from the citizens of Franklin county, praying for an amendment to the revenue bill so as to elect county assessors for four years and employ subordinate assessors.

In the house on the 4th the judiciary committe reported for passage H. R. 4, by Nelson of Douglas, the measure providing a negotiable instrument law uniform with that of twenty-one other states. The bill was held up by the committee to hear from lawyers, the majority of whom are said to be in favor of it, while some bankers are said to be opposed to it, as it imposes more stringent regulations on the bankers in making out their protest papers. A resolution by Knox of Buffalo was adopted providing for the printing of 1,000 more copies of the general revenue bill, 1,000 copies already having been printed. These bills were passed: H. R. 112, by Deles Dernier of Cass, the famous "bridge bill," that has occasioned more debate in the house than any single measure, without the emergency clause. H. R. 134, by Gregg of Wayne, increasing salaries of county superintendents in thirty-seven counties of the state. H. R. 187, by Robbins of Sage, providing for appointment of election officers by county commissioners. H. R. 127, by Meredith of York, prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors within two miles of an army post, excluding it from operation in Douglas county. S. F. 29, by Warner of Dakota, providing for payment of fees to the commissioner of public lands and buildings. Bills on first reading included the following: To amend section 6 of the Code of Civil Procedure so as to allow action of recovery against trespasser after expiration of ten-year limit. To provide for the government, regulation, examination, reporting and winding up of the business of tontine investment associations. To declare the place of delivery of intoxicating liquor to be the place of sale. To require persons sentenced to the penitentiary to be taken thereto within five days. Appropriating $2,000 for the relief of the people suffering from famine in northern Sweden, Norway and Finland. Emergency clause. To erect and equip at the institute for the Blind at Nebraska City a plant for furnishing water, light and refrigeration. Appropriates $6,000.

The first debate on the revenue bill occurred in the house on the 5th. It was reported by the revenue committee fifty amendments. Sweezy moved that the bill be placed at the head of general file, to be considered in committee of the whole and that the amendments be printed. Disagreed to. A motion by Gregg that the house work through the days of next week on other matters and on the revenue bill at night prevailed. The house passed H. R. 128, by Jouvenat of Boone, providing for gathering, compiling and publishing agricultural and industrial statistics; H. R. 113, by Warner of Lancaster, providing for indictment, information, complaint and summons against and service upon corporations in criminal cases. A report from the judiciary committee was read and adopted, recommending the resolution by Knox of Buffalo, providing for the appointment of a committee of five to investigate the so-called Bartley cigar box and the official conduct of ex-State Treasurer Meserve, insofar as it is said to have been involved in the matter. The house in committee of the whole recommended for passage H. R. 323, by Hathorn of Red Willow, granting to Russel F. Loomis a certain quarter section of land in Red Willow county. The bill has been the subject of a series of fierce debates and Dr. Hathorn, in gaining its recommendation, has scored a signal victory as the result of a most persistent fight. Loomis filed on the land as a homestead in 1872. He was given his first and second papers by the governorment. But after obtaining his second papers the government notified him that the land had been turned over to the state of Nebraska as school land. Loomis began suit against the government and after years was advised that he would have to look to the state for relief. He has been striving ever since to get his claim. The bill as recommended for passage is amended so as to reimburse the school fund for the price of the unimproved land which is to go to Mr. Loomis.

Instead of taking up bills on first reading on the 6th, the house, on the fortieth day of the session, immediately went into committee of the whole and launched into the ocean of bills on general file. The first two measures on general file were H. R. 1 and H. R. 2, both of which were, at the author's requests, passed for the day. A spirited debate ensued on a bill by Nelson of Douglas between Nelson and Loomis of Dodge. The bill compels a mortgagee appealing from a decree of foreclosure by a lower court to furnish bond for the rent of the land pending the continuance of the action in the appellate court. Loomis attacked the bill as a measure calculated to work serious hardship upon property owners and should not be allowed to pass. The discussion resolved itself into a heated controversy between the two debaters. Loomis secured the adoption of amendments destroying the effect of the bill. Sixty-five bills were introduced during the day, but very few were read. It was the last day on which bills could be regularly introduced.

By previous agreement the representatives did not expect any business on the 7th and only a bare quorum attended. As soon as roll call was completed nearly a dozen members left the hall and departed for their homes. The bills introduced on Friday were read for the first time and after receiving the special comunication of Governor Mickey on insurance of state buildings, the house adjourned till Monday at 2. p. m.

The house convened at 2 o'clock on the 9th and entered at once on bills on second reading. Sixty-four measures, completing the list, were thus disposed of. The house took a recess at 4 o'clock until 7:30, when the revenue bill was taken up. At the first night session of the house to consider the revenue bill held friends of the measure proved sufficiently numerous to prevent the adoption of any material amendments to the first twenty sections. Sections 19 and 20, providing for the election of a county assessor and for the appointment of deputies by the county assessor with the consent of the board, occasioned the greatest debate. At the conclusion, however, the committee voted not to amend either section. Section 13, enumerating property exempt from taxation, was amended to include "fruit" in the list. On motion of Sears of Burt section 14, relating to tax liens, was amended that taxes should be a "first" lien. Junkins of Gopher moved to amend section 12 by inserting that property should be assessed at 25 per cent instead of 20 per cent of its value. This the committee promptly killed.

PETITION FOR REVENUE BILL.

The following petition was presented from Richardson county:

"To the Honorable Charles L. Norris, H. S. Belden, W. H. Hogrefe and Cass Jones, senator and representatives, State house, Lincoln, Neb.:

"Whereas, The stock of one of our merchants is taxed for city purposes $47,88; his store building, $51.00, and one of our banks $144.50, and all other property on the same basis, except the railroads; and,

"Whereas, The Atchison & Nebraska railroad pays only $59.43, and the Missouri Pacific railroad $76.50, for the same purposes upon all of their property, consisting of right of way from 100 feet to 350 feet wide, together with three-fourths of a mile each of main line, side water tanks, semaphore, besides our proportion of the rolling stock and intangible property, aggregating in our estimation a sum much greater than the value returned by the state board of equalization; and which by law we are entitled to assess within our limits, making the taxes greatly disproportionate to our property; and,

"Whereas, S. F. 248 would give our city, in common with all others of the state, the right to assess railroad property for municipal purposes on the same basis as all other property in the city without reducing of affecting taxes paid by railroads for other purposes;

"Therefore, We, the citizens of Falls City, here respectfully request you to use al honorable means to have said measure enacted into law."

AGREE ON CLAIMS BILL.

The wolf bounty claim of $40,000 and the beet sugar claim of $48,000 are to be recommended by the house claims committee for payment. The committee has completed its work and it will submit its bill. The largest item, by many times, is the wolf bounty claim. The sugar bounty claim was embodied in a separate bill.

The finance ways and means committee will introduce its expense appropriation bill at once, although it is not yet complete. The total amount of the bill will materially exceed that of 1901. This is due to general increased demands of various state institutions. The university receives $704,000, a larger sum than last session. The Hastings asylum's fund is raised 40 per cent and 240 new cells are provided for at the penitentiary. On the other hand some retrenchment was done. The $25,000 appropriation to the state militia for encampment was lopped off. The demand of the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb at Omaha for connections with the water works was rejected.

The house committee on public lands and buildings yielded to a demand from a soldiers' home delegation and decided to recommend $45,000 for a hospital at Milford.

With the disappearance of his airship a French aeronaut is said to have gone on a mysterious voyage. It may be that mysterious voyage from which no one ever returns.

"But all things which that shineth as the gold Ne is not gold as I have herd it told."—Chaucer ("The Canterbury Tales").

THE MINERS WIN

COAL STRIKE COMMISSION FINDINGS ARE FORETOLD.

A TEN PER CENT WAGE RAISE

Payment by Weight When Practicable Will Also Increase Pay—The Per Diem Men Are to Receive Same Salary for Less Work.

NEW YORK.—The Herald prints the following as a summary of the findings of the coal strike commission appointed by President Roosevelt, which, it is expected, will be handed to the president within a week.

There will undoubtedly be at least a 10 per cent advance in the pay for mining, to take effect from the time the miners returned to work last October. The per diem employes will not have their wages increased, but will be recommended for the same pay of a day of nine hours.

The system of pay will be regulated. Wherever practicable the operators will be required to pay by weight, instead of by the car, and elsewhere by the lienal yard. The miners will have checking representatives at their own expense. This will practically amount to a second increase in wages.

There will be indirect recognition of the union, which will come when the findings are submitted by President Roosevelt to John Mitchell, as president of the miners' union.

The causes of the strike as found by the commission will not be comforting to the coal mining companies.

The boycott will be condemned and the principle will be laid down that a miner has a right to work without molestation, even though he does not belong to the union.

The terms of the verdict are to hold good for three years, and recommendations are to be made for settlements of other questions at the end of that period.

In local disputes the operators will be advised to treat with committees of the miners and there may be a suggestion of a local board of arbitration.

MORGAN DOES NOT BUY CUBA.

Denies Reports of Hotel and Railroad Purchases.

TAMPA, Fla.—J. P. Morgan arrived at Port Tampa Sunday afternoon from Havana. Immediately after disembarking his party boarded a special train for New York.

A rumor that the Flagler system of hotels in Florida and the Florida East Coast railroad had been turned over to Morgan, presumably for the Southern railway, and that the Atlantic Coast Line and Southern were to own the property jointly and that he intended to build a large tourist tourist business in Florida and establish a modern line of steamers between this state and Cuba, was mentioned to him.

"I know nothing whatever of such a deal," he said, making the statement with considerable emphasis.

HE DESCRIBES LA SOUFFREIRE.

American Geologist Examines the Volcano.

KINGSTON, St. Vincent.—Ernest Howe of the United States geological survey, after a personal inspection of La Soufreire, gives this description of the slight eruptions now frequently occurring:

"Without warning big puffs of steam rise constantly and countless rockets of black mud and stones are shot up from the crater and spread outward. Then the mud and stones fall back into the lake with a loud roar. Other clouds of steam, charged with dust, rise and drift over the country. Another interesting feature of the region is the deposit of ashes. The Wallibou river is still hot enough to cause the water in the stream to evaporate in huge columns, laden with dust."

Mexicans Pray in Streets.

COLIMA, Mex.—At 10 o'clock Friday forenoon the volcano was again in action, the eruption being the most violent yet. The people of Tuxpam are in consternation. According to advices from that point the eruption was accompanied by showers of ashes and dense clouds, darkening the sky. Some of the people have fled to neighboring hills and the people have in their fright knelt in the streets to pray. Many houses and stores have been closed.

Investment in the Philippines.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The largest single investment of American capital in the Philippines yet made is recorded in a cablegram received at the war department from Governor Taft. This relates to the allotment to an American of a contract of ownership and maintenance of thirty-five miles of electric light, heat and power works. This allotment was made in conformity with an act of the Philippines commission in October last.

Veteran Publisher Dies.

CEDAR RAPIDS, Ia.—Thomas C. Newman died of old age in San Francisco Tuesday afternoon, aged 70 years. He was editor of the Millenial Harbinger of Seneca Falls, N. Y., from 1854 to 1858; he founded the first daily newspaper of Cedar Rapids in 1870; was publisher of the American Bee Journal of Chicago, 1873-96, and was editor of the Philosophical Journal, San Francisco, from 1896 to the present time.

MURDER MINERS.

Marshalls Fire on Defenseless Citizens.

INDIANAPOLIS.—The official report of Chris Evans, who was sent to the West Viriginia coal fields to investigate the killing of colored miners at Atkinsville on February 25, has been received at the headquarters of the United Mine Workers.

The report says General St. Clair, who is the attorney for the coal companies, created an agitation to have the men arrested and taken to Charleston and that immediately afterward arrangements were made with the United States marshal by the Mine Workers' officials to give bond for all who were arrested, but that later, on account of the agitation created by Deputy Marshal Cunningham, the agreement entered into with the marshal was broken and Cunningham was sent to arrest the men.

According to the report there was great feeling against Cunningham and the men decided not to allow him to arrest them and he was driven away. Mr. Evans says he sent a telegram to the men to submit quietly, but the coal companies, who own all the telegraph and telephone lines connected with the town, refused to deliver it and before he could get any message to the men Cunningham and his deputies, who, he says, were the worst characters he could collect, went to the town a second time and killed the miners in the night-time in their beds.

Mr. Evans says he went to the scene of the trouble the next morning, when forty-eight men had been arested for conspiracy to kill Cunningham, and found, in a house occupied by a colored man called "Stonewall" Jackson, the dead bodies of William Dodson, William Clark and Richard Clayton, all colored. The report continues:

On inquiry we find that the wife of Jackson, with four children, together with eight colored men, were in the house, and that about daybreak all were awakened by shots being fired into the house from the outside. This shooting took place without anything being said, and the three colored men I have mentioned were found dead on the floor. Two were in their nightclothes and the other one partly dressed, with one shoe on, partly laced, and the other foot bare. We visited another house where Joseph Hizer lay mortally wounded, having been shot through the window as he was stooping to put his trousers on after getting out of bed. Hizer lived with his sister and she made the statement at the inquest that she pleaded with those shooting not to kill her children and in reply Cunningham said:

"Women and children must take care of themselves."

In no instance do we find where the persons were asked to surrender until after the deputies had commenced to shoot at the occupants of the houses named.

ELKINS LAW IN COURT.

First Opinion in an Interstate Commerce Case.

WASHINGTON.—The United States supreme court on Monday rendered its first opinion in an interstate commerce case in which the Elkins act, passed at the last session of congress, was involved. The case was that of the Missouri Pacific Railroad company versus the United States, involving a question of discrimination on the part of the railroad as between places. It was brought at the instance of the Interstate Commerce commission.

The railroad filed a demurrer challenging the regularity of the proceedings, but the circuit court and court of appeals decided the case in favor of the government. These decisions were reversed by Monday's opinion, which was delivered by justice White. He said that by the terms of the old law, under which the case was tried, the proceedings would not have been regular, but that under the Elkins law it would be. The court, therefore, reversed and sent the case back for a new trial under the Elkins act.

Riot Ends College Debate.

ATCHISON, Kan.—The regular oratorical contest of the Kansas Intercollegiate association ended in a disgraceful riot Friday night. The trouble arose over the eligibility of Malcolm Garrard of Kansas university to compete as one of the orators. He attempted to speak, but was hissed down by the audience. The police were finally called in to expel the unruly Kansas university students.

CUBAN RECIPROCITY TREATY.

Is Not Smooth Sailing at Havana—Denounced as a Scheme.

HAVANA—The reciprocity treaty was up in the senate again Friday and the debate was adjourned until Saturday.

In the course of the debate Senor Sanguilly denounced the treaty as a scheme on the part of the United States designed to keep European commerce out of Cuba in order that the former country might secure the entire commercial as well as the control of the island.

Senor Silva in a lengthy speech quoted figures to prove that even if the allegations made that the sugar trust and other interests would benefit under the reciprocity treaty were true, the result could not be otherwise than beneficial to Cuba.

It has been asserted that the sugar and tobacco industries will make an additional profit under the treaty of $6,000,000 annually.

NEBRASKA IN BRIEF.

A new bank has begun business at Barneston.

There is unusual demand for farm lands in York county.

The contract for the new depot at Fremont has been let

The Y. M. C. A. of Beatrice are planning a $20,000 building.

John Crone, a prominent citizen of Ainsworth died last week.

A lodge of Ancient Order of United Workmen has been organized at Burwell.

Schools at Papillion have been temporarily closed on account of scarlet fever.

Farm lands in Lincoln county have of late been changing hands quite rapidly.

Richardson county will hold its fair this year September 29 and 30 and October 1 and 2.

Almond McHenry of Dodge county, aged eighty-two years, was killed by a fall from a load of hay, his neck being broken.

The executive committee of the Nebraska Corn Improvers' association met in Lincoln on February 25 and adopted a premium list for the winter corn show to be held in January, 1904.

Charles W. Barkley, cashier of the State bank of Seward, fell in the yard at his residence and broke one of his legs in the same place it was broken a few years ago by a fall from his bicycle.

C. G. Ellwanger, who was superintendent of the schools of Otoe county for eight years, and one of the best known educators of that section, died at his home in Nebraska City after a brief illness.

As the result of a school children's quarrel near Harbine, Mrs. Mary Schroeder was arrested, charged with assault on the child of a neighbor. The case was tried before a jury, which, after being out all night, returned a verdict of not guilty.

Jim Davis, the Winnebago Indian who in December last killed Little Jim, another Winnebago Indian, in a drunken brawl, will serve four years in the penitentiary for his act, this sentence being passed upon him by District Judge Guy T. Graves at Dakota City.

Frank Ford, a farm hand, in the employ of his brother, Jared P. Ford, who resides in the south edge of Valley county, shot himself with suicidal intent, the bullet ranging from the chest through his body near his heart and lodging just under the neck in his back. There is a possibility of his recovery.

The grand jury at Tecumseh sent a recommendation to the district court that the commissioners of Johnson county offer $1,500 reward for Charles M. Chamberlain, the defaulting Tecumseh banker. It is believed that the board will act in the matter and offer not less than $1,000. The officers are of the opinion that the reward will get the man.

Frank Howarth, a young farmer who lives near Cook, suffered an accident that will in all probability cost him his life. He was at work on the power of a buzz saw, when the machinery got out of shape in some way and the tumbling rod, a steel bar about an inch in thickness and some eight feet long, was hurled around with terrible force, cracking his skull.

Doleful tales are coming into Long Pine regarding stock losses from the recent snow storm. At Colonel Torrey's ranch in Rock county it is said that 150 cattle were found in a pocket in the sand hills, all dead. At Hutton & Lamb's ranch twenty-five head were buried and at Buell's ranch seventy-five head were buried under the sheds, which collapsed with the weight of the damp snow.

A $5,000 damage suit was filed in the district court at Beatrice by F. J. Sypherd against Alonzo Adams. Recently Sypherd's wife secured a divorce from him and soon after the divorce was granted, Alonzo Adams, Mrs. Sypherd's father, came to Beatrice from Iowa to take his daughter home. In his petition the plaintiff alleges that Adams alienated his wife's affections by inducing her to return home with him.

John Palmes, a general prisoner, serving sentence for desertion, escaped from the guard house at Fort Crook. Palmes and the sentry over him were in the basement attending to the heater, when Palmes suddenly leaped through a coal window and disappeared in the darkness. Palmes was also charged with assisting in stealing and rifling registered mail from the post mail carrier, for which he would have been tried by the federal authorities upon the expiration of his sentence.

A telephone exchange has been organized at Silver Creek.

Jennie Thomas, who shot and killed Fred Broderson at Lincoln and then shot herself, died from her wounds. For a while it was thought Miss Thomas would recover.

Several head of horses belonging to Ambrose Jacob, a prominent farmer residing near Wymore, died suddenly. At first it was supposed they had been poisoned, but the supposition now is that they were fed hay which was mixed with a poisonous weed.

Mrs. John Chumans of Auburn procured an order from the county court transferring her four children, aged respectively 5, 7, 9 and 11 years, to the Child Saving Institute at Omaha. The father of the children is an inmate of the insane asylum at Lincoln.

The old soldiers of Silver Creek are interesting themselves in getting General O. O. Howard to deliver a lecture at that place under the auspices of the Grand Army of the Republic. A letter has been received from the general signifying his willingness to come.

Only Open in Summer.

A sense of humor is not a very strong characteristic of the English clergy, but occasionally some of them possess its saving grace, says the London Tatler.

Canon Knox Little tells a story of being asked once to preach in the country, and being in the neighborhood went to inspect the church in question beforehand.

He arrived at a side door, over which was carved in stone, "This is the Gate of Heaven," but underneath was written, "This door is only open in summer."

Amusing Editorial Squibs.

This amusing excuse was given by the editor of an Indian vernacular paper, which was printed with two columns left blank on the most important page, says the London Express:

"We had reserved this space for an exceptionally powerful article on a subject of universal interest to our readers, but at the last moment we find the article cannot be compressed into the two columns reserved for it. The article will make its appearance next week."

Another Hindu editor, who wanted a holiday, published this editorial:

"As we are beginning to feel the physical and metal effects of a year's unremitting devotion to the interests of our readers, we feel it due to them that we should take a rest, which our labors in their behalf demand and deserve, and as a natural consequence beg to notify that this paper will cease to appear for the space of four weeks."

Would Sell Offices at Auction.

Colonel J. D. Shires, of Marion county, Ky., seems to be rather radical in his ideas. "I am in favor," he says, "of putting up all county offices for sale to the highest bidder. Let the auctioneer run each office to the highest notch, then knock it off. The money thus obtained should be used for building and bettering roads. As it is worked now, candidates with money behind them buy the offices from floaters, who spend the money in riotous living before they get home, and leave their families breadless."

Mother Couldn't Object.

Little Chronicle: "Does your mother allow you to have two pieces of pie when you are at home, Willie?" asked the hostess.

"No, ma'am."

"Well, do you think she would like you to have two pieces here?"

"Oh, she wouldn't care," said Willie confidentially, "this isn't her pie."

Changes on the Northwestern.

President Marvin Hughitt of the Chicago and Northwestern recently announced that his company has purchased and entered into possession of the Fremont, Elkhorn and Missouri valley railroad in Nebraska, Wyoming and South Dakota, and that it will be operated hereafter as the Nebraska and Wyoming division of the Northwestern system.

Following this notice announcement was made by General Manager Gardner of the appointment of C. A. Cairns as general passenger agent of the Chicago and Northwestern, with headquarters at Chicago. Mr. Cairns has been assistant general passenger agent of the Northwestern since 1892, and for several years prior to that was assistant general passenger agent of the Chicago Great Western. He has been in railway service since 1878, commencing as a messenger in the president and treasurer's office of the Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati and Indianapolis railroad.

G. F. Bidwell, who has been the general manager of the Fremont, Elkhorn and Missouri Valley, is appointed manager of the Nebraska and Wyoming division, including the line from California Junction to Fremont, with offices at Omaha. J. A. Kuhn, formerly general freight agent of the Elkhorn, is made assistant general freight and passenger agent of the Northwestern at Omaha. W. H. Jones is made division freight agent, and J. W. Munn division passenger agent at Omaha.

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Germany's latest addition to her navy is the Chinese torpedo boat Hilung, which was captured by the Germans at Taku.

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