



Senator Jeff Davis of Arkansas delivered a speech in the senate advocating the passage of a bill introduced by him to penalize the use of the mails, the telegraph or the telephone for the purpose of conveying gambling propositions between buyer and seller.

Governor Deneen of Illinois commuted to life imprisonment the death sentence of Herman Billek now in the Chicago jail.

Senator Cummins of Iowa delivered his maiden speech in the senate January 26. He spoke in opposition to Senator Carter's postal savings bank bill.

The Nebraska legislature has invited Mr. Bryan to deliver a speech before the legislature in joint convention.

Robert Bacon has been confirmed as secretary of state. John Callan O'Laughlin will be assistant secretary of state.

The assembly in the Wisconsin legislature rejected the Blaine resolution for an investigation of the Stephenson primary.

There is a deadlock in the Wisconsin legislature where Senator Stephenson is trying for re-election.

There is a deadlock in the Illinois legislature where Senator Hopkins is trying for re-election.

Joseph L. Bristol was elected senator from the state of Kansas to succeed Chester I. Long. The democrats voted for H. P. Farrelly. Francis G. Newlands, democrat, was re-elected to the United States senate from Nevada. The republicans stood by their agreement to abide by the popular vote and placed no candidate in nomination. In the house all the members voted for Senator Newlands and in the senate all but two.

In the Wisconsin legislature Senator Blaine, LaFollette republican, filed charges alleging that United States Senator Isaac Stephenson, as a candidate for re-election, gave to Republican State Chairman E. A. Edmunds of Appleton a sum of money in excess of \$106,000 and approximating \$250,000 in relation to the primary election held on September 10 last, and by such acts violated a Wisconsin statute; that the money was given to Edmunds to pay to other electors prior to the primary in sums ranging from \$5 per day to \$1,000 in bulk as a consideration for some act to be done in relation to the primary by electors for Mr. Stephenson. Other charges allege that the money was paid to U. S. Kelly of Sauk county, one Hembrington of Racine; Roy Morse of Fond du Lac and divers other persons various sums as a consideration for acts to be done corruptly and unlawfully. The charges against United States Senator Stephenson number sixteen in all, the concluding charge stating that "the primary nomination or election was obtained by the use of large sums of money corruptly and illegally" and "illegal voting and corruption." On the first day of balloting fifteen members in the assembly refused to vote on the senatorship, fourteen of these were republicans. Roy L. Morse, of Fond du Lac, when told

of the charges made against him, said: "The charges by Senator Blaine relative to my having received \$1,000 from Senator Stephenson in the recent primary campaign for the purpose of illegally furthering the interests of Senator Stephenson's candidacy, are absolutely ridiculous." A Millersville, Wis., dispatch says: "Leslie Tilton, named in Senator Blaine's charges as one of the candidates of the assembly who entered into a deal with Isaac Stephenson whereby the senator was to finance Tilton's campaign for the assembly in return for his (Tilton's) vote for Stephenson should Tilton be elected, denied that he had received any money from Senator Stephenson."

A federal grand jury in session at Muskogee, Okla., is investigating some alleged frauds relating to the sale of town lots in 1900 and 1901 by the government. The Associated Press says that a large force of secret service agents are on hand, there being one secret service man for every grand juror. It is claimed that this investigation was put on foot by Theodore Roosevelt and William R. Hearst and has for its purpose the smirching of Governor Haskell.

A Harrisburg, Pa., dispatch carried by the Associated Press January 26 follows: "James M. Guffey the Pittsburg oil magnate was today unanimously chosen as the Pennsylvania member of the democratic national committee to succeed James Kerr, deceased. Mr. Guffey was defeated for the position at the Denver convention, William J. Bryan dictating the election of Mr. Kerr. The result was a sensational controversy between Mr. Guffey and Mr. Bryan."

A Milwaukee, Wis., dispatch carried by the Associated Press says: "There are 14,235,451 Roman Catholics in the United States, according to the advance sheets of the 1909 Wiltzius official Catholic directory, published in this city. The statistics are furnished by the archbishops and bishops of the United States after the taking of a census in all dioceses. Added to the 14,235,451 the number of Roman Catholics in the Philippines, Porto Rico and Hawaiian islands brings the grand total of Catholics under the United States flag to 22,474,440, as compared with 12,053,000 Catholic subjects under the British flag."

District Attorney Jerome of New York has issued a statement saying that if Douglas Robinson requests him to commence action for criminal libel against the New York World, he will do so in the state courts, provided the attorney general of the United States will say that the state action shall take precedence of any federal action.

The Lincoln, Neb., Journal is responsible for the following: "There are more than ten thousand unemployed actors and actresses now in New York, equally divided as to sex."

A Washington City dispatch says: "President Samuel Gompers, Vice President John Mitchell and Secretary Frank Morrison, of the American Federation of Labor, recently adjudged in contempt of court and sentenced to imprisonment in the

District of Columbia jail, were ordered by Justice Wright of the district supreme court to pay the costs incurred in the proceedings which resulted in the sentence for contempt. These aggregate about \$1,500."

The judiciary committee in the state senate for Texas by a vote of sixty-one killed the bill providing for statutory prohibition in Texas.

The senate committee on judiciary has reported that the senate has no right to call on President Roosevelt for information concerning the absorption by the steel trust of the Tennessee Coal and Iron company. The committee says that under the act creating the department of commerce and labor the commissioner of corporations is empowered to gather from corporations engaged in interstate commerce such data and information as will enable the president to make recommendations to congress for regulation. This provision of law concludes as follows: "And the information so obtained or so much thereof as the president may direct, shall be made public." The data supplied to the president by Judge E. H. Gary and H. C. Frick as to the necessity for the merger, according to Mr. Bonaparte, comes within this clause of the commerce and labor act. Without this information it is difficult for the committee to proceed. The committee seems to take this view of the case.

Jose Miguel Gomez was inaugurated president of the Cuban republic. Governor Magcon formally withdrew and the people of Cuba are again in charge of their government.

Four counties in Indiana held local option elections January 26 and the temperance element won out. Several weeks ago three other Indiana counties "went dry." The four counties to go dry last week were Decatur, Putnam, Tipton and Hamilton.

A Chicago dispatch says: "In full view of thousands at the electric show the electro-hen is now hatching broods of chickens. It is a couple of hours after each chicken fights its way into the world before it is entirely presentable, but it is then just as lively as if it was responding to the cluck of a feathered mother."

A Cleveland, Ohio, dispatch to the Philadelphia North American follows: "Mayor Tom L. Johnson, nothing daunted by the failure of his three-cent fare operation of the city's traction system, is to try for the mayoralty next fall. He began his campaign by taking out petition blanks for primary use. Belief that the negotiations looking to a settlement of the traction problem here will result in a fare no higher than three cents is said to have actuated Johnson's move."

Silas A. Holcomb has declined the appointment to the Nebraska supreme bench offered by Governor Shallenberger and the governor has appointed in his place Willis D. Oldham of Kearney.

The house of representatives in the Nebraska legislature passed, by a vote of 68 to 29, the bill providing for the selection of United States senators by the Oregon plan. The republicans voted against the measure; also one democrat, Skeen of Nemaha county.

President Roosevelt has appointed a commission to make an investigation and consider the needs of the navy. This commission is composed of Paul Morton, Justice of the Su-

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