

WORK OF THE LEGISLATURE

House and Senate Both Pushing Bills Along Toward Final Disposition.

LIVELY ROW OVER AN ANTI-USURY BILL

Dobson Goes for Farnsworth and Stirs Up Quite a Discussion—Routine in the Senate—Joint Ballot Shows Little Change.

LINCOLN, Neb., Jan. 25.—[Special Telegram to The Bee.]—The hall of the house of representatives was hardly draped in the morning when the members assembled this morning. Craps formed a deep fringe around the entire hall, and depended from every pillar, and the atmosphere was fragrant with the breath of flowers. Even the flag floating above the lower house of legislature was draped with the emblem of sorrow and hung at half-mast. It was the silent tribute of the members to the memory of their deceased fellow Representative, Farrell of North Bend.

The remaining ninety-nine were present, and after the usual preliminaries Suter moved the appointment of a committee of three to act with a like committee from the senate to draft a bill restricting the state for senatorial and judicial purposes. Referred to the committee on appointments.

To Investigate the Bank.

Johnston's resolution calling for the appointment of a committee of three, one from each political party, and one from the senate committee in examining into the condition of the Capital National bank with reference to state money deposited therein, was adopted, and the speaker appointed as such committee Johnston, Brockman and Sinclair.

The committee on finance, ways and means reported in favor of indefinitely postponing further consideration of the bill on agriculture on roll 12; by the committee on revenue and taxation on roll 90, and by the committee on constitutional amendments, that on motion of Mattox it be ordered as follows:—

Will Be Considered Later.

The committee on constitutional amendments also attempted to amend the bill providing for the election of presidential electors on a new and novel method, but the bill was placed on the general file. He stated that he considered it a discourtesy for the committee to introduce a bill and then to report against it without first presenting it to the house.

Bill on First Reading.

The following bills were introduced: By Soderman—To amend the statute regarding the granting of charters to the railroad companies and abolishing the fellow-servant doctrine and providing attorney fees in such cases. By Smith of Holt—Limiting the fees and salary of the clerk of the supreme court.

Recommended for Passage.

At the afternoon session the house went into committee on the bill for the special order of consideration of bills on the general file. The first bill read was No. 11, the anti-Pinker bill, which was taken up and full hour was devoted to it, but it was not changed except so as to make the meaning clearer, after which it was decided to recommend it for passage.

House Roll No. 41.

Lynch's bill, setting forth the liability of corporations for injuries received by their employees, was recommended for passage without amendment.

House roll No. 74.

Suter's bill regulating railroads and compelling the building of transfer switches, which was taken up and discussed at length, after which it went over for further consideration at the request of the mover of the bill.

House roll No. 30.

Dobson's usury bill, which was taken up and discussed at length, after which it was recommended for passage without amendment.

House roll No. 41.

Dobson jumped on the gentleman from Keya Paha rough shod, and denounced him as a recreant to the trust reposed in him. He declared that if the gentleman were not in his duty he would be doomed to eternal oblivion.

Rhodes called attention to the manner of

pounding the independents into line at the session two years ago, and deprecated a return to it at this session.

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Stevens, who was in the chair, at once

called the speaker down, asking him by what authority he presumed to take upon himself the recommendations of the report of the farmers alliance.

What the Farmers Want.

Stevens immediately discovered that he was thinking of the report of two and three years ago, and begged pardon for the interruption, but Rhodes denied him again on the last statement, saying that what he wanted was an alliance that demanded these things two and three years ago, but had found out that this law was not what it was intended to do, and had expressed a wish for something altogether different this year. He said that he would say no more on the subject at this time if the mover would allow the matter to go over for a day without prejudice in order to give the speaker an opportunity to make such amendments as are desired to make, but Dobson would not consent.

It was finally taken out of Dobson's hands,

however, by the adoption of a motion to rise and report progress to leave to be again on the bill. The committee rose and reported on the bills under consideration and adjourned until tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock.

Bills Rapidly Finding Their Way to the General File—Resolutions Introduced.

LINCOLN, Neb., Jan. 25.—[Special Telegram to The Bee.]—This morning's session of the senate was by far the most interesting in the history of the present session. After answering to the roll call and dispensing with the reading of the journal, the reports of the standing committees were listened to and a large number of bills placed on the general file.

Senate roll No. 14.

Moore, making it a capital offense for any person to cause the death of another while attempting to defraud a bank, was recommended that it pass.

Senator Gray from the committee on

judiciary reported Senate file No. 14, by Moore, making it a capital offense for any person to cause the death of another while attempting to defraud a bank, was recommended that it pass.

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banks and currency recommended the indefinite

postponement of Stewart's bill providing that the federal reserve currency be tender for all debts in this state. The senate declined to adopt the report, but ordered the bill to the general file.

Required a Division.

The banking committee also recommended the indefinite postponement of a bill, Senate file No. 18, making it unlawful for any bank to receive deposits until they have placed a reserve and sufficient money in the hands of the cashier. Darner moved that the bill be placed on the general file and the motion was carried by a yeas and nays vote. Senate file No. 29, by Comptroller, that all contracts given for debt incurred and requiring payment in money shall, notwithstanding any stipulation to the contrary, be lawfully payable in legal tender money of the United States, was placed on the general file.

Senate file No. 29, by Harris, providing for

the payment of the debt of 1900 and over, recommended for indefinite postponement, but on motion of Everett, was sent to the general file.

Committee on Judiciary recommended

the bill introduced by Senator Harris conferring municipal suffrage on women placed on the general file, and by Mattox to indefinitely postpone being voted down.

Senator Lebeck's bill requiring court

officers to appoint bailiffs to attend grand sessions and inferior courts, was recommended for passage.

The bill introduced by Halsey, by requesting the establishment of a court of special sessions in justice courts, was indefinitely postponed upon recommendation of the judiciary committee.

The proposition to call a state convention

to revise the constitution received a dash of cold water from the committee on constitutional amendments, but on motion of Mattox it be ordered as follows:—

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MALTEHRATMENT OF CONVICTS

Prisoner Now in the Penitentiary Snuggles a Letter to His Bee.

HE TELLS OF CRUELTY AND ROTTEN FOOD

How Convict Powell Died a Wretched Death—The Fate of Pat Sweeney—A Pitiful Tale of Prison Life at Lincoln.

Reports of maltreatment of prisoners in the penitentiary are frequently heard of late. It being next to impossible to get reliable information as to the exact condition of things in the pen, the public generally is not ready to positively credit the reports. At the same time enough has been said in a number of instances to indicate that the prisoners are poorly fed and cruelly treated by the keepers. The testimony of convicts on this point is not always to be relied upon, yet the letters published below have been examined and are believed to be true. The convict's letter reached The Bee in a roundabout way. It was written on the inside of a note directed to a near-by neighbor, and addressed to the editor of The Bee. The convict who penned it folded it carefully and tucked it in under a bureau of drawers, which was in a room where the harness shop of the pen. In due time the editor found it, and with a consent from the warder took it to the editor of The Bee. The convict who penned it folded it carefully and tucked it in under a bureau of drawers, which was in a room where the harness shop of the pen. In due time the editor found it, and with a consent from the warder took it to the editor of The Bee.

Following is the letter:

STATE PRISON, JAN. 10.—To The Editor of The Bee: I take this means of letting the public know what the life is like in the state's prison, as I know if you receive this it has fallen into good hands. There was a man in the name of Powell who was in old blood, but he was sick and unable to work, so the keeper said to him: "You'll 't put you where you don't have to work." He was chained to the wall with his hands cuffed behind his back. This morning he was found dead. He begged of the warder not to punish him, as he was sick, but he was taken to his cell and he was left there to die. This is the second man they have killed in the prison in the last month or two.

I want to mention about our grub.

I have a plate of rotten hash 300 times a year. It is made of water and some scraps of meat. The supper is composed of black strap and bread, which is nice food for men performing the hardest kind of labor. We have a chance of getting a two-wheeled and bed changed once a year.

As I have been a reader of The Bee for a

number of years, I have often noticed that the contractors are stomach robbers and wolves. CONVICTS OF THE PENITENTIARY.

ITS WORK IS IMPORTANT.

Objects That Have Been Sought by the Trans-Mississippi Congress.

Mr. O. W. Rowley, secretary of the Trans-Mississippi Commercial congress, was at the Paxton hotel yesterday, and talking a few minutes with The Bee.

The first meeting of the Trans-Mississippi

Commercial congress was held in Galveston, Tex., last night in Texas. At this meeting there was a presentation of the report of the delegates, from every state and territory in the west. The business men came to discuss the problems of the commerce and industry of the west.

The meeting following was held in this

city, and the enthusiasm exhibited by the delegates from the west in the discussion of the subject of the canal, Mississippi river improvement, deep water ports on the gulf, the place and uses of silver from a monetary standpoint, free trade, and other subjects.

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ture should meet in regular session and

choose its successor. As soon as that success is achieved, the committee will be elected. Mr. Perkins ceases to be a United States senator. Under the peculiar condition of the case in Kansas, the probable action of the senate becomes an important matter for consideration. The question is now being asked, with the senate recognize the action of the governor.

One Member's Opinion.

One prominent member of the committee on privileges declines to think the present action of the senate will be taken as a prima facie evidence of the legality of the action which upon this new member may be based. The member himself, not voting, the senate will pass upon the case on its merits.

The question of the constitutionality of

the act which provides for the election of a great deal of attention to these contested cases, says that both must of itself take cognizance of the existence of the dual legislature.

The conviction of Mr. Martin will be

entirely consistent with the senator from Kansas. He is believed to be in the majority of the committee on the subject of the election of Mr. Martin will be elected and elected to the senate.

Mr. Perkins is not, from all accounts,

disposed to forego his seat in the senate without a struggle, and will not cease his resistance until he has been driven from his seat. The republican members of the senate are satisfied that the credentials of the senator from Kansas are good and that he was elected by the people.

Cited the Ems Dispatch.

M. Millevoye closed with a reference to the editing of the Ems dispatch by Prince Bismarck as an instance of the possible consequence of differing false reports.

In reply to M. Millevoye, M. Ribot

replied in detail the steps taken by the government in the investigation of the scandalous affair of the Ems dispatch.

The Marquis de Rualin, ex-premier,

declared that an investigation of the scandalous affair of the Ems dispatch was being conducted by Parliament.

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ATTACK ON FOREIGNERS

M. Millevoye Makes a Bitter Speech Against Them in the French Chamber.

NEWSPAPER CORRESPONDENTS SCORED

Such Positions Held by Foreigners He Wants Filled by Frenchmen—Panama Canal Matters Create a Stormy Scene—Sustained the Government.

PARIS, Jan. 26.—The discussion of the budget was continued in the Chamber of Deputies today. When the subject of appropriations for the ministry of the interior was broached, Lucien Millevoye, Boulangist member for Somme, made a bitter attack upon foreigners in France in general, and foreign newspaper correspondents in particular.

The government had waited too long,

he said, before attempting to punish these vandals of the French people. Adventurers from peoples inimical to France had been allowed to make this country the scene of their dishonest schemes and their French industry and genius.

Some persons to be punished ought to be

certain, such as those who, while pretending merely to conduct the legitimate newspaper business, were, in fact, creatures of foreign capitalists and made a business of spreading slanders concerning