

THE NEWS FROM THE FRONT

STRUGGLE WITH RAILROADS

Resumes of the Fight that South Dakota Carries On.

TESTIMONY TO BE TAKEN THIS WEEK

History of the Celebrated Cases Makes Some Interesting Reading—Special Session of Legislature Narrowly Averted.

CHAMBERLAIN, S. D., Jan. 5.—(Special.)—The commencement of this week in Chicago of the taking of testimony in the South Dakota railroad rate cases will add another chapter to the prolonged struggle between the railroads having lines in this state and the railroad commission of South Dakota. The history of the fight against its present status is as follows: On February 3 last, the state legislature passed an act empowering, among other things, the railroad commission to prepare and put into effect a maximum freight and passenger tariff for the railroads doing business in the state. As a preliminary to this action the schedule as adopted by the commission was to be published as notice to the railroads. The new railroad law was originally drafted in an emergency clause, but this was stricken out prior to its passage and approval. As a substitute it was provided that in any event the original schedule should be in force until the bill passed by the legislature by almost a unanimous vote, the republicans, democrats and populists practically to a man voting for it.

Prior to July 1, last, the railroad commission, consisting of Messrs. Kirkpatrick, Tompkins and LaPalatte, who were elected by the voters in 1895, had under consideration Des Moines, Chicago and other eastern points in quest of information which would assist them in preparing what they considered an equitable and reasonable freight and passenger schedule. They were enabled to prepare a schedule of passenger and freight rates, and intended to put it into effect on July 1, but the railroad commission had issued public notice to the railroads, and to other corporations or persons engaged as common carriers in the state for the transportation of passengers or property by railroad, as well as interested shippers, that on June 21, and from that time until July 1, 1897, they would be in force and effect. On June 21, 1897, the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, the Chicago & Northwestern, the Great Northern, the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha, and the Promont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley railroads, all of which are resident in the United States, excepting the Missouri & North American, which is a foreign corporation, filed objections against the threatened and intended acts of the Board of Commissioners.

CARLAND'S ORDER.

Judge Carland of the federal court issued an order requiring the railroad commission to show cause why a temporary injunction should not be granted against its proposed rate for the hearing. A restraining clause was inserted in the order, preventing the commission from making, establishing or promulgating any schedule of freight or passenger rates, until after July 1, any schedule of freight or passenger rates which would deprive the state of the benefit of the equal protection of the law. It was contended that the board of commissioners intended reducing freight and passenger rates, and that such reduction would be 10 per cent less than at present, and that if this were done the railroads would receive an enormous profit back of them in their efforts.

Sells a Bank's Assets.

CHAMBERLAIN, S. D., Jan. 5.—(Special.)—Telegrams from H. Thompson, receiver of the Chamberlain National bank, which failed during the panic several years ago, today said that the bank's assets, including the one-story brick bank building, located on the corner of 11th and 12th streets, had been sold to the Chicago & Northwestern, and that the proceeds of the sale would be distributed to the stockholders. The receiver also said that he had received a check for \$100,000 from the Chicago & Northwestern, which was the amount of the bank's indebtedness to that corporation.

Prosperous Indians.

CHAMBERLAIN, S. D., Jan. 5.—(Special.)—Under the substantial encouragement of the government in distributing among them cows and other animals for the purpose of giving them a start, the Indians on Pigeon Ridge reservation have prospered. The raising of stock, with what success is shown by the payment to the Pigeon Ridge Indians the other day of about 1,000 pounds of silver coin to reimburse them for cattle purchased from them by the government.

Incorporated at Pierre.

CHAMBERLAIN, S. D., Jan. 5.—(Special.)—Articles of incorporation were filed today for the Great Bozozook Gold and Silver Mining company, consolidated, of Lawrence county, incorporated at Pierre, S. D., with a capital of \$2,000,000, divided into 200,000 shares—100,000 assessable and 100,000 nonassessable. Incorporators, John M. Roberts, Andrew Garrett, John Thomsen, Terry; William S. Garrett, Feeder, Neb.

Sells Home to an Indian.

CHAMBERLAIN, S. D., Jan. 5.—(Special.)—A hotel here, has been arrested by Deputy United States Marshal Somers on the charge of selling liquor to an Indian. The latter lay out of doors nearly all night. Had the weather been severe the fact would have attracted the attention of the police. Smith's examination takes place tomorrow before the federal commissioner.

South Dakota Press Comment.

Aberdeen News: South Dakota is being well advertised this year by her potato crop. It is said that a Dakota baked potato is good deal of a competitor to the potato of Regan case, which was appealed from Texas.

Verdun Republican.

Verdun Republican: There is a fair prospect that the proposed railroad bill will be passed at Hot Springs. It is not why? Hot Springs is a sanitary point and has no superior and it is almost the exact center of the country—two vital points in its favor.

Verdun Republican.

Verdun Republican: The Omaha Bee is in favor of one board of control for the eighteen state institutions of Iowa. Press opinions in Iowa, however, continue to vary. The Bee is in favor of two boards, one for the state it looks to us as though The Bee entertained a very clear and correct idea relative to the matter.

Omaha Herald: With Barlett's Trip on the one hand, drumming the old line telegrams into line and H. L. Locks on the other hand, sending a recall of the original populists, the next campaign promises to be a good deal of a competitor to the potato of Regan case, which was appealed from Texas.

Ogden Sugar Factory Contract. OGDEN, Utah, Jan. 5.—(Special.)—A firm of contractors from Cleveland, O., has been given the contract for the construction of a beet sugar factory at Ogden. The terms of the contract provide that the factory will have a daily capacity of 700 tons and shall be completed in time to handle the beet crop of 1898. When completed the plant will represent an expenditure of \$700,000.

Ishaka Mineral Output. BOISE, Idaho, Jan. 5.—The estimates of the mineral production of Idaho made by the United States assay office give the following figures. Gold, \$2,500,000; silver, \$7,100,000; lead, \$3,500,000; total, \$13,100,000; increase over 1897, \$1,552,100.

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Yet, in spite of a spirit of friendliness and mutual respect, the red man continued to dwindle and melt away before the advance of their white brothers. It was the inevitable progress of civilization, before which the old customs and habits of living of the aborigines faded to this end. Now there was that same Massasoit, who, though a great chief, yet lived in a wigwag, but and subsisted upon the scanty gleanings of the soil and sea.

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Foreign Companies Will Not Pay.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 5.—Insurance Commissioner Clunie has sent a letter to agents of all foreign insurance companies doing business in this state in regard to the act of 1887 requiring every life insurance company not domiciled in this state to pay annually to each county in which said company does business a sum equal to the tax paid upon the amount of its capital in the county. This is for the benefit of the firemen's relief fund.

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Deaths of a Day. MOSCOW, Jan. 5.—Dr. Zschornig, the famous physician of Carl Alexander II, is dead. Shortly before the death of Alexander II, November 1, 1894, he was accused of having made a mistaken diagnosis of the czar's malady, negligence and lack of professional skill being alleged. When the death of the czar became known, the populace of Moscow wrecked the doctor's house. Late in the afternoon a mob of 20,000 men surrounded the house and burned it to the ground.

Verdun Republican. VERDUN, Mo., Jan. 5.—(Special.)—The annual report of the superintendent of public instruction in New Mexico shows that during the last year the English language has been taught in 469 public schools containing 946 classes and 52,949 pupils. Adding those in attendance upon the sectarian schools, the normal and other territorial schools, the latter number is increased to 1,285. Among the sixty-one sectarian schools eighteen are conducted by Roman Catholics, with an attendance of 7,459 pupils, by the Methodists, with 328 pupils, and by the Presbyterians, with 1,105 pupils in attendance.

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