these men regard the "straining at the gnat and swallowing the camel" policy as very detrimental to their cause. They go further and charge that this is but the manifestation of the general scheme of the railroads to seek to divert attention of the legislators and their constituents from the main issue and fix it on some subject of less magnitude and importance, even though it may be the bridge matters, which of course are recognized as deserving of serious consideration.

Those members who really want to fulfill their pledges to the people and enact salutary railroad laws are provoked at the delay of certain bills contemplating this purpose. They have not yet heard any outcry from Lancaster county against the artful system of procrastination.

Engineers Bill Vetoed.

After having run the gauntlet of both houses, been defeated once and resurrected, S. F. 8, the county engineer bill, has finally been declared invalid and Governor Mickey has refused to sign it. The bill did not contain a repealing clause and for that reason it was vetoed by the governor. Tomorrow, however, he will make a personal request of the legislature to permit the introduction of a similar measure. The bill makes the county surveyors of Douglas and Lancaster counties ex-officio engineers to these two counties.

Railroad Commission Bill Passes.

The senate this afternoon passed the Cady bill providing for a constitutional amendment for the election of a railroad commission of three members, to be paid $3,000 a year each. Thirty members voted for the bill and none against.

The Cady bill, providing that state officers shall constitute a railroad commission to be in force until the adoption of the constitutional amendment, came up for discussion, but was laid over to be discussed with the Sheldon bill. These measures differ slightly in detail.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS OF SENATE

Senator Cady's Decedents Bills Recommended for Passage.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

LINCOLN, March 8.—(Special.)—Senator Giffin of Dawson county scored a great victory today in the senate over the persistent work of a powerful lobby in getting his bill, S. F. 98, giving to irrigation districts the right of eminent domain recommended for third reading, and Senator Cady of Howard county, after one of the hardest fights of the entire session, had the pleasure of seeing his decedents bills, four of them, recommended for passage. In these bills, however, it is feared by the introducer the senate was too liberal in that at the last minute Jones of Otoe moved an amendment, which was carried, that the widow be given one-half of the real estate of her husband when the latter shall have died without having made a will. Whether the house will agree to this distribution of man's estate is a question, while it is not improbable the house would have concurred on a distribution on the one-third plan.

In his fight for S. F. 98, which has been pending for many weeks and which had been threshed out time and again before committees, Giffin made the only speech in favor of the bill, while Fries and Mockett each opposed it.

The senate overruled the recommendation of the committee, which was to indefinitely postpone S. F. 224, by Sheldon, a proposed constitutional amendment to allow the legislature to designate more securities in which the permanent school fund could be invested. Sheldon made an able argument to have the bill placed on general file and he carried the day.

The committee on rules, which was authorized to confer with the house committee regarding the discussion of bills by either body, reported that the two committees had agreed that the house rolls should be given preference in the house and the senate files in the senate until March 17. The report was adopted.

At the afternoon session the decedent bills were amended so that the widow should receive one-half instead of one-third of the real estate of her husband. Cady, Meserve, Wilsey and Williams each made strong talks at the afternoon session, the last three opposing it.

The senate passed these bills:

S. F. 226, limiting the number of proxies voted by members of building associations to the number of shares actually owned by the party voting.

S. F. 196, an amendment to the constitution providing for the creation of a state railroad commission.

S. F. 17, providing for the care of delinquent children, was indefinitely postponed.

The bill by Gibson to prohibit the sale of liquor within 500 feet of any house of ill-fame was indefinitely postponed.

S. F. 157, the Tucker drainage bill, was passed.

H. R. 172, transferring $20,000 from the Norfolk to the Hastings asylum fund was passed.

S. F. 33, the prosecution attorney bill, was killed in the committee of the whole.

HOUSE HAS A LIGHT DAY'S WORK

Effort to Get Bill Up Out of Its Order Fails.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

LINCOLN, March 8.—(Special Telegram.)—Convening at 10 a. m. the house passed these bills:

H. R. 188, by Douglas of Rock—Cutting out the assessor and county clerk as members of the county board of equalization.

H. R. 214, by Andersen of Douglas—To protect labels, trademarks and forms of advertising of union labor organizations.

H. R. 229, by Parker of Otoe—Prohibiting the retail sale of liquor within 400 feet of any public school or country school house.

At 10:30 the house went into committee of the whole with Jackson of Antelope in the chair.

At the afternoon session Dodge of Douglas moved that the house go into committee of the whole and first take up H. R. 297, by himself, a proposed constitutional amendment for a railroad commission.

Foster of Douglas expressed the view that it was unfair to himself and the introducers of other bills to place Dodge's bill ahead on general file.

Peabody of Nemaha moved to table Dodge's motion and then changed it to amend Dodge's motion to strike out the part taking up the Dodge bill. Peabody's motion was carried.

The house then went into committee of the whole with Dodge in the chair. Several measures were dealt with and the house adjourned at 3:30 to give time for the extensive committee work.

DOINGS OF THE LEGISLATORS

Committee Files Reports on State Institutions.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

LINCOLN, March 8.—(Special.)—The committee on state prisons made the following report to the senate of the conditions of the state penitentiary:

Almost the last relic of the disastrous fire of four years ago has disappeared and the penitentiary as it stands will, we believe, compare favorably with the most modern and up-to-date institutions of its kind in the country. Certainly no penal institution in the United States from which we have received reports has a better equipped cell house than occupies the west wing of the Nebraska penitentiary, and the entire prison has a decided air of comfort and sanitary excellence which is most commendable.

Every effort seems to be made for the physical welfare of the unfortunates and their moral training is not by any means neglected. The food furnished inmates is of the best quality and is abundant, without extravagance; the men are assigned work that is not too irksome and yet is sufficiently exacting to keep them comfortably busy; the discipline is the best, firmness instead of force being the ruling power. Barbarous methods of punishment are not employed and are declared not to be even apparently required.

The warden of the penitentiary, Mr. A. D. Beemer, has brought the penitentiary to a high plane of general excellence, and your committee believes that he is entitled to the greatest confidence and that he deserves the cordial support of the legislature in his efforts to still further improve the institution which is under his control. He has surrounded himself with an efficient corps of assistants who are well drilled in their duties.

In accordance with suggestions by the warden your committee would earnestly recommend some improvements in the institution that are considered imperative to the best interests of the state. The warden showed your committee through the entire prison, and we are convinced that there should be a new roof on the east cell house; that a new water works system should be installed; that new boilers should be purchased and additions made to the power plant, and that farm lands near the prison be purchased. A bill looking to the filing of the last named want is now pending in the senate.

Warden Beemer is very anxious that an amendatory law be enacted permitting the governor to parole life prisoners after they have served ten full years, and he shows statistics from states where such a law is in force, said statistics and the arguments in favor of the proposed change in the parole law being convincing to a degree.

We would recommend that the proceeds of labor by convicts at the penitentiary be used for the improvements suggested herein and for any other additional improvements suggested by the warden. We believe that the appropriations heretofore made for the penitentiary have been used by Warden Beemer with economy and with the best results possible, and we recommend that the warden be unhampered by lack of funds with which to carry on the good work that is so manifestly being done by him.

The report was received and placed on file.

The following report and resolution were adopted in the house:

Mr. Speaker: Your committee on public lands and buildings having visited the Girls' Industrial school at Geneva beg to report as follows:

We recommend the following appropriations:

For repairs and improvements	$2,400
Furniture, etc.	750
One new boiler and boiler pump	1,100
Total	$4,250

The superintendent of this institution has been changed since the estimate of the requirements for the coming biennium was sent in, the retiring superintendent making the estimate, and evidently there are a number of things he did not take into consideration. We figure up the repair account for this year as follows:

New hose	$ 200
Heavy screens, first, second and third floors	125
General repairs, including kitchen, laundry, laundry stove, etc.	1,200
Plumbing	200
Total	$1,725

This may not be enough and we have allowed $750 for the second year, which amount can be available for any additions or repairs not covered by the above estimate for this year's requirements.

The affairs of the institution under the present management seem to be well and economically conducted, but they are badly handicapped by the failure of the state to make necessary repairs. There are fifty-four inmates there now and as far as conditions will admit everything is being done for their comfort and education along practical lines. The two teachers or family managers are evidently very capable and painstaking in their work. They have a good system of instruction and supervision, have an excellent discipline, which is accomplished through kindness rather than force, and they seem to have the confidence and esteem of the inmates, which greatly assists them in accomplishing the purpose for which the institution was established.

Your committee has visited each of the state institutions except Milford, which we understand is under quarantine, and having made a report to the house as to the condition and needs of said institutions we beg to include and make a part of this report and request that the same be made a part of the records, the expense accounts of the members of the committee, for cash actually paid out for hotel bills and transportation, which are as follows:

Caldwell ($4.45 railway fare)	$10.28
McElhinney	6.80
Line	4.50
Pospisil	8.25
Perkins	4.65
Luce	7.50
McLeod	7.28
Whitham	7.10
Peabody	7.20
Hogrefe	4.00
Scilley	8.85
Fitle	8.60
Total	$85.08

Since W. H. Harrison, president pro tem. of the senate two years ago, turned back into the state treasury $219, representing the amount he drew for the $3 a day extra pay, pursuant to the decision of Lieutenant Governor McGilton that the president pro tem. and therefore the speaker of the house were not entitled to this money, the entire state capital is wrought to a pitch of great excitement lest all the former presidents pro tem. and speakers come pouring the extra emoluments of their office into Mr. Mortensen's strong box.

On an average the extra sum for each man would come to about $300. Going back ten years into the history of the state this would bring forward twelve men, six presidents pro tem. and six speakers, and if they all followed Senator Harrison's precedent it would, therefore, net to the state $2,400—not enough, of course, to obliterate the state debt, but it would help some.

Adna Dobson, secretary to the State Board of Irrigation, is just now trying to figure out how he will be able to devote any time and attention to irrigation matters should all the bills now pending which affect his office be passed by the legislature. Besides the irrigation bills others are now up for consideration, making the secretary of the Board of Irrigation county engineer for every county in the state, superintendent of highways and a few other things. In the meantime the office has not had a single dollar increase in appropriation since it was established. To carry out the provisions of H. R. 255, should it become a law, $5,000 will be appropriated. This bill makes the secretary draw plans for the bridges to be erected in the various counties of the state and to make out the specifications. To do the work, of course, Mr. Dobson must have assistants, and this $5,000 is supposed to pay the salary of the assistants and at the same time pay for the blue prints. Mr. Dobson asked the committee for $5,000 appropriation, but the sum was cut to $3,000.

Lieutenant Governor McGilton left for Chicago, where he was called on important legal business which he had to attend to personally. He will be gone the remainder of the week and during his absence President Pro Tem. Jennings will preside over the destinies of the senate.

Captain Allen G. Fisher appeared before the claims committee tonight in an executive meeting at the Lindell hotel and gave some explanation of his claim of $11,500 in the escheated land case. The committee, however, did not obtain what it considered a final or adequate explanation and will hold further conferences with Mr. Fisher.

The land of Albert Goedde, Fisher's client, was, so certain records show, appraised at $1,500 and Fisher asks the legislature to appropriate $11,500 to cover the appraisal, which he certifies came to that amount. For two sessions previous he submitted claims of $8,000 and tonight he told the committee that was "the amount agreed on between me and certain parties" as the appraised valuation of the land. The land is in Sioux county and was left by Goedde, his only heirs being in Germany, hence the necessity under Nebraska laws of taking the matter through the channels of appraisement and legislative appropriation. Fisher as attorney was to get all over $1,000 of the appraised value.

Captain Fisher stated tonight he wrote to the claims committee asking for the opportunity of being heard in his own behalf and is anxious for a full and complete hearing. In his letter addressed to the committee, dated Sidney, March 5, he says, among other things:

I have seen the article in The Bee concerning the claim made by me as attorney for the heirs of Albert Goedde for land escheated to the state. This land has been regularly taken by regular proceedings in court for more than four years. It is my duty as attorney for these people to urge their claim without apprehension. Their property is taken and the state ought to pay what it is worth. If you do not care to do this then it will be but fair for the house to pass a resolution giving them authority to sue the state, and then any evidence given for or against the state will be in a court which can punish for false testimony.

Captain Fisher disclaims any irregular conduct with reference to this claim. He does not in his letter nor did he to the committee in his statement tonight, set forth exactly how this discrepancy between the reputed valuation of the land, $1,500, and that contained in his claim, $11,500, or between his first claim, $8,000 and the last one come about.

WINTER MEAT EATING

The Poor Stomach's Tale of Woe. Just Now Mi-o-na Is Needed.

At this season of the year thousands of people are already showing the ill symptoms that are sure to result from the usual winter diet. Indoor life, meat-eating, hearty food, lack of exercise, overwork, and poor ventilation spell "sickness," and poor health.

If the stomach cannot do its work properly, ill health is sure to follow. Mi-o-na is the one medicine that assures a natural digestion, that strengthens the stomach, that soothes and heals all irritation, congestion and inflammation in the stomach or bowels. It is this that makes it a certain and guaranteed cure for all stomach troubles.

If the digestion is impaired, the blood is impoverished and becomes filled with poisonous impurities, deranging the whole system and causing sickness and suffering. Mi-o-na, acting upon the stomach and digestive organs cures sleeplessness, nervous troubles, headaches, backaches, and general weakness and debility.

If you are weak and ailing the chances are that it is due to a diseased stomach, but you can be cured by using Mi-o-na. Ask Sherman & McConnell, the reliable drug firm, to show you the strong guarantee under which Mi-o-na is sold. Mi-o-na costs but 50c a box. If it does not help you, the price is absolutely nothing.

AMATEUR NIGHT AT THE BOYD

School of Acting Pupils Put on Four Short Plays to Please Friends.

Pupils of the Boyd School of Acting, under the direction of Miss Lillian Fitch, gave four one-act plays last night before an audience of friends that filled the theater and encouraged the actors by kindly applause. The plays and the players were:

"My College Chum."

Ned Burleigh ..... Graydon Fox
Steve Hudson ..... Max Rehfeldt
Jack Randolph ..... George Liggett
Prof. Shreedy (unattached to the university) ..... Clifford Hine
Mrs. Hudson ..... Miss Anderson
Miss Hudson ..... Kathleen Gerke

"The Sword of Remembrance," by Alice Yates Grant.

Scene—Drawing room of the Drayton home, New York.

Colonel Washington Fitzhugh ..... George B. Phelps
Stuyvesant Tompkins ..... Clifford Hine
Nancy Drayton ..... Mary Wallace
Amy Drayton ..... Helen Empten

"A Bachelor's Wives."

Sofia Lee (Architect) ..... Hazel Livingston
Helen Curtis (Artist) ..... Kathleen Gerke
Margaret Armstrong (Writer) ..... Enid Valentine
Archibald Vernon (The Bachelor) ..... George Liggett

A Scene from "Mercedes," by Thomas Bailey Aldrich:

Luvoir (A Captain in French Army) ..... Clifford Hine
Laboissiere (A Lieutenant) ..... George B. Phelps
A Soldier ..... Graydon Fox
Mercedes (A Spanish Girl) ..... Fanny Dietrich

DOFFLEMEYER DID NOT DIE

Man Who Sought to Commit Suicide Didn't Drink Enough of Carbolic Acid.

J. G. Dofflemeyer made an unsuccessful attempt to commit suicide Wednesday afternoon by taking carbolic acid in his room at 1124 Jackson street. He did not swallow much of the poison, and prompt action by Police Surgeons Kennedy and Wigton saved his life.

Dofflemeyer came to Omaha about three months ago with his wife and aged father. He had been out of work for some time and is said to have become despondent. His wife is a cook at the Union hotel. Wednesday afternoon he went into his room to lie down and about fifteen minutes afterwards was discovered by his father, lying on the bed with a partly filled bottle of acid by his side. On a chair was a note which read:

"Cora and Pa:—I have longed to live for what I believed might be something to me. I paid interest on all the goods and am not worthy of you and Pa, so let my old body go to the medics. I have about three ounces of carbolic acid. I will take some; so farewell; and if in heaven I can see you, all is well. Lovingly your husband, Joe."

Lower down was a line, evidently written after he had swallowed the acid.

"I am so sick. Just wait, Cora."

Rink Notes.

F. E. Goodwin, an expert roller skater and polo player, has been appointed floor manager at the Auditorium roller rink, to succeed J. P. Pitt, resigned.

C. V. Higby of the Auditorium roller rink will go to Lincoln today to race this evening at the Lincoln rink.

SLIGHT HOPES FOR BAEHR

Nebraskans Told the State Has Too Many Consular Positions Now.

OTHERS ARE AFTER SIMILAR PLACES

Sioux Indians Come to See President, but Are Told to Call on Commissioner Leupp—Baxter Confers with Moody.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, March 8.—(Special Telegram.)—Senators Millard and Burkett made every effort today to induce the State department to appoint Max Baehr to serve at some consulate other than Cienfuegos, Cuba, if it could not consistently withdraw the nomination of Mr. Thompson of Illinois for that place. The senators called on the president and stated they were greatly surprised at the action taken by the State department in removing Mr. Baehr without even so much as permitting him to resign.

The president said that Nebraska had more than its quota of consular officers, if the ambassadorship which will come to Nebraska in September by the nomination of D. E. Thompson to succeed Mr. Conger, is taken into consideration and which he insisted it should be.

The senators said at that rate Nebraska would lose all its consular officers, but the president would not go that far. After their talk with Roosevelt the senators called on Assistant Secretary Loomis, who stated that in the event Mr. Thompson refused to accept the Cienfuegos consulate Mr. Baehr would be permitted to remain, but Mr. Thompsons' nomination was confirmed today, from which it would appear that he intends to accept the place. The senators asked about Church Howe, and were told that he was one of the finest officers in the diplomatic service.

"If you can give him even something better than he now has, we want it done," said Millard and Burkett in unison. While the senators showed they resented the manner in which Max Baehr was removed, they did not feel like quarreling with the president, in view of his statement that Nebraska had more than its share of consular officers, although they frankly stated they could not see it in that light.

Both senators are in receipt of letters and telegrams from the Nebraska legislature, from Governor Mickey and state officers, from ex-Chairman Lindsey and other well known people urging that George Anthus, deputy auditor, be given a consular position somewhere. As Nebraska has just lost two places, there is small chance for Mr. Anthes, unless John Jenkins should resign from the consul generalship at San Salvador, which has been rumored for some time past.

A member of the delegation from Douglas county is also a candidate for a diplomatic place, and as he voted for Burkett the latter is inclined to do what he can to bring his appointment about.

Indians Are Disappointed.

There was a steady stream of callers at the White House all day long and some of the president's callers were compelled to go away without seeing him. Among these was a delegation of Sioux Indians, who came to Washington to attend the inauguration, but who were refused permission to parade by Commissioner Leupp, on the ground that the inauguration was not a wild west show. Throwing a few guttural chunks of conversation at the biggest chief in the party the interpreter received from the big brave a much-soiled letter, which was solemnly handed to the president's doorkeeper. Finally the answer came back that they must first see Commissioner Leupp before they would be allowed to enter the presidential presence, and back the noble red men started for the Indian office. The leading chiefs in the delegation were Shooting Hawk Eagle, Track Yellow Thunder, Hollow Horn and Charging Bear.

New Barracks at Niobrara.

Representative Kinkaid called on General Humphrey today relative to the new barracks at Fort Niobrara and to ascertain if the old foundations could be utilized for the new buildings. General Humphrey stated that plans for the barracks had been sent to the quartermaster at the fort and that the question of the use of the old foundations would also have to be determined by him. Judge Kinkaid left tonight for the west.

Cowboys at White House.

Captain Seth Bullock and his company of cowboys, whose picturesque appearance was a feature of the inauguration day parade, were given a reception tonight by President Roosevelt. They walked to the White House in the rain, having sold their ponies which they brought with them from the west. Captain Bullock and his men remained at the White House for an hour, having an informal chat and a smoke with the president, who gave them a cordial greeting. They leave for home tomorrow. The reception was the outcome of the presentation today by the cowboys to young Theodore Roosevelt of one of the ponies they brought with them, a strong, gray animal, fourteen or fifteen hands high, which the young man admired very much. With the pony also went a complete outfit, including a bridle, saddle, "chaps" and a slicker or raincoat.

Cattlemen in Washington.

A delegation of cattlemen, including W. G. Comstock of Nebraska, will have a conference with Secretary Wilson tomorrow, as well as with D. Salmon of the Bureau of Animal Industry, regading modifications of existing orders for dipping feeders. These cattlemen say that if the orders are carried out it will mean a great loss to them in addition to needless expense.

Baxter Sees Moody.

Judge Baxter had a further talk today with Attorney General Moody regarding forthcoming actions against cattlemen for illegal fencing of the public domain, and more than ever is it Judge Baxter's intention to begin suits the moment he gets back to Omaha. He will go to New York tomorrow and then home.

Senator and Miss Millard left tonight for New York, on their way to Nebraska.

Senator Millard will return to Washington to attend a hearing of the interstate commerce committee, of which he is a member.

GRACE SPENCER IS NOW FREE

Relative of Woman Comes to Front and Pays $25 to Secure Her Release.

Mrs. Grace Spencer walks the streets of Omaha today a free woman after having faced for almost a week in jail the prospects of a prison term for forgery. A relative whom she has not seen for a long time was attracted to her aid by means of newspaper articles and has advanced to Sunderland Bros. $25, the amount which she secured from the firm by signing the name of Helen D. Wormersley. The case was dismissed by Judge Berka Wednesday for want of prosecution.

Mrs. Spencer has been offered a position by a drug firm of the city and this she says she will accept.

Police Matron Anderson is much pleased with the disposition of the case. She has become very interested in Mrs. Spencer and has worked hard in her behalf.

According to the woman's own statement, she will have nothing further to do with Ed Bryan, the South Omaha man to whom she was engaged, and who did nothing to save her from the consequences of her rash act.

"If he is a friend at all, he ought most of all, to be one when I am in trouble," she said. "I shall never marry him now."

KNOCKED DOWN BY RUNAWAY

Wyoming Man Badly Bruised as Result of an Accident on the Street.

J. L. Becker, a stockman from Kearney, was knocked down by a runaway horse at the corner of Twelfth and Farnam streets at 5:45 last evening. Becker received bruises about the head and right side, but was not seriously injured.

The horse belonged to Dr. Walker and was being taken to the doctor's office by Willie Gerhard, a 12-year-old lad, from the stable where the horse is kept. On the way to the doctor's office the horse became scared at something and got beyond the boy's control. Becker went to cross Farnam street at Twelfth, not seeing the fast coming horse, and just after stepping off the curb was struck by the horse and thrown to the pavement. At the same time the boy was thrown from the buggy and the horse broke loose from the buggy and continued on its way down Farnam street and was stopped by a policeman a few blocks farther on.

Gerhard was not injured at all. The buggy was badly scratched and the harness torn.

SINGHAUS SUCCEEDS SLOAN

Judge Munger Names New United States Commissioner for Pender.

John A. Singhaus of Tekamah, Burt county, Nebraska, has been appointed United States commissioner by Judge Munger, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Thomas L. Sloan of Pender.

Shepherd Guilty of Manslaughter.

FAIRFIELD, Ia., March 8.—Daniel Shepherd, charged with murder, was today found guilty of manslaughter after a trial of three weeks. Shepherd was accused of having murdered an aged German by the name of Chris Womeldorf, who was found dead on December 14, 1904. He was killed by a blow from an axe.

Beer Bottle Settles Argument.

Peter Anderson and Joe Smith, residents of North Omaha, were arrested last evening in the saloon of Mrs. Cummins at Sixteenth and Manderson streets on a charge of fighting and disturbing the peace. Anderson got into an argument which ended in a fight over the merits of a barber who had cut Anderson's hair. Smith was getting the worst of the fight and in order to even matters up picked up an empty beer bottle which was handy and struck Anderson over the head with it, ending the fight. Both men were brought to the station, where Anderson's wounds were dressed by Police Surgeon Kennedy. He had a large, jagged cut upon the top of his head where the bottle had broken when it struck his head.

Nebraska Girls Accept Challenge.

MINNEAPOLIS, March 9.—The girls' basket ball team of the University of Nebraska has accepted the challenge of the Minnesota university girls to play for the championship of the west here on March 17.