

PLAN FOOD INQUIRY

SENATE COMMITTEE PERFECTS RESOLUTION THEREFOR.

BEARS NAME OF MR. ELKINS

The inquiry to be conducted by a select committee of seven senators.

Washington.—Harmonizing the several resolutions introduced in the senate directing an investigation into the cost of living, the republican leaders in conference, perfected a resolution on that subject, which was later presented to the senate by Mr. McCumber of North Dakota. It was referred to the committee on contingent expenses, which will consider the question in conducting such an inquiry.

The resolution bears the name of Senator Elkins as author and embodies the principal features of the McCumber resolution, as well as some of those contained in the one introduced by Mr. Lodge.

The inquiry is to be conducted by a select committee of seven senators, and it is planned to assemble all of the matter bearing on the increased cost of articles of food since 1900, and report, if possible, at the present session of congress.

In making the investigation it is provided that special attention shall be given to the following subjects:

Wages, salaries and earnings and whether the increase in them has kept pace with the increase in the cost of living.

Increased prices of such articles as meat, grain, provisions, cotton, wool, clothing, rents, lumber, coal, iron, oil, brick and cement.

Price to the producer, the wholesaler or jobber, the retailer and the consumer at which articles included in the investigation were distributed and sold in the year 1900 and the price for their disposition at the present time.

Whether such articles have been increased in price by reason of the increased production of gold throughout the world and the expansion of currency in the United States or by tariff or other legislation of congress, or by any monopoly, combination or conspiracy to control and regulate or restrain interest or foreign commerce in the supply, distribution or sale of such articles.

The price of food products on the farm in various parts of the United States.

Wholesale prices of such food products at the wholesale trade centers of the United States.

Retail prices of such food products in the larger cities of the United States and also a comparative statement showing the cost of production on the farm.

The committee is ordered to report to the senate suggestions or recommendations as to the remedy to be applied to reduce the cost of living and accompany its report with drafts of bills for such legislation as will, in the opinion of the committee, correct and remedy the causes which have enhanced the prices of the necessities of life.

RECEPTION FOR ROOSEVELT.

New York Republican Club Will Have Charge.

Washington.—John A. Stewart, president of the New York League of Republican clubs, arrived here and will confer with President Taft regarding the home-coming celebration in honor of former President Roosevelt.

A cablegram was received in New York from Mr. Roosevelt accepting the republican club's proposition to form a reception committee with representatives from all over the country to meet Mr. Roosevelt on his arrival in New York harbor some time between June 15 and 21 next.

President Taft is giving his hearty support to the plan for a nation-wide reception.

Rostand's Play Proves Profitable.

Paris.—The receipts derived from the first regular performance of "Chanticleer," Edmond Rostand's new play, which was given in the Porte St. Martin theater, amounted to \$15,600. This sum has been donated to the fund for the Paris flood sufferers.

TESTIMONIAL TO PEARY.

Is Given \$10,000, but Turns It Over to Geographical Society.

New York.—Before an audience of more than 4,000 persons in the Metropolitan opera house, Commander Robert E. Peary, discoverer of the north pole, was presented with a \$10,000 check on behalf of the citizens of New York, but instead of retaining it for himself the commander announced immediately that he would contribute it towards the south pole expedition as planned by the National Geographical society.

Cook's Friends Preparing Appeal.

City of Mexico.—Whether or not James A. Cook, the American railway conductor whose guilt on a charge of criminal negligence in connection with the robbery of his train appears to have been established to the satisfaction of Judge Palafox of the Third criminal court of the state of Jalisco, will have to serve an additional term in the penitentiary depends now on the result of an appeal which is already being prepared. This is the information received on Tuesday from Guadalajara.

BOOST FARM TOPICS.

Secretary Mellor Suggests a New Curriculum.

W. R. Mellor, secretary of the state board of agriculture, has an idea that people are moving from the farms into the cities because of the lack of agricultural education taught in the schools.

Mr. Mellor got an opportunity to present his ideas to a number of school people and others, making up an audience of 600 at Hebron. Along these lines he said:

"One of the best incentives for improved agriculture in Nebraska would be to turn from dead poets, dead generals, dead kings and 'Beyond the Alps Lies Italy' subjects and impress upon the minds of the school teacher the advisability of having the pupils prepare essays on 'Weeds That Grow in Thayer County and the Best Method of Destroying Them,' 'Root Crops, Their Selection and Uses,' 'What Vegetables Should Be Grown and Why,' 'Description of Grain Grown on Our Farm,' 'How to Tell Different Kinds of Fruit Trees,' 'What Varieties of Apples We Grow, With Description,' 'Why the Kind of Poultry Raised on Our Farm is the Best,' 'Is the Dairy Cow or the Beef Bred Type the Best for This Section of Nebraska?' 'The Kind of a Farm Horse We Should Have.' To these subjects might be added a thousand others touching seeds, preparation of the seed-bed, planting, cultivation, conservation of moisture, soil fertility, gathering and storing the crops and numerous other farm subjects.

"Get a score card for live stock and teach the pupils how to judge the good qualities from animals exhibited before them at specific intervals. Learn to distinguish breeds of horses, how to tell Shorthorn cattle from Red Polled, Aberdeen-Angus from Galloway, a Poland-China hog from a Berkshire, a Southdown sheep from an Oxford, and so on through the numerous vital matters of importance with which the farmers of Thayer county should be thoroughly conversant.

"It is strange that a child grown in an agricultural community such as is found all through this part of Nebraska knows so little about the very things which are matters of every day contact."

Western Rate Question.

The state railway commission has been asked to join with the railroad board of Kansas in intervening in the case of the Colorado Coal Traffic association against the Colorado & Southern, Denver & Rio Grande, Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific and the Burlington. The complainant is going before the interstate commerce commission on the ground that the rates charged by the defendant lines from the Wahlesburg district in Colorado to Nebraska and Kansas points are too high.

Handling the Eye Disease.

Superintendent Stephens says that the eye disease situation is being handled successfully. Those families in which trachoma exists are being kept under close supervision by Health Officer Rohde, who regularly makes the rounds to see that proper medical treatment is given the afflicted children. Mr. Stephens said that he understands that the disease is infectious only during a certain stage. After that stage the disease continues and the harmful effects on the eyes continues, but there is then no danger of others catching the disease.

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Declines to Call Election.

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School for the Blind.

D. O. Dwyer of Plattsmouth has been appointed member of the board of trustees of the Nebraska School for the Blind at Nebraska City and the School for the Deaf and Dumb at Omaha. He takes the place of W. R. Patrick of Sarpy county, who resigned some time ago.

Penitentiary Report.

T. W. Smith's report for the Nebraska penitentiary during the month of January has been filed with the governor. There are now 436 inmates. Three hundred and thirty-four prisoners are white, ninety-seven are colored, four are coppercolored Indians and there is one lonesome Jap.

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LAND FOR LANDLESS

UNCLE SAM PROVIDES FOUR MILLION ACRES.

FOREST RESERVES RETURNED

Joint Efforts of Secretaries Wilson and Ballinger Approved by the President.

Washington.—More than 4,000,000 acres of land will be stripped from the forest reserves of the United States in the near future and restored to the public domain for homestead settlement through the government's policy in carrying out Gifford Pinchot's idea as to the classification of forest lands. This is the initial result of President Taft's approval of a plan, jointly submitted to him a few days ago, by the Secretaries Wilson and Ballinger, for the re-classification of these lands.

The lands involved in the restoration for settlement are those not suitable for forest purposes and represent more than 2 per cent of the total forest area. As three-tenths of the forest domain still is unclassified, it is difficult to estimate what will be the total elimination when the whole area has been mapped out.

It cannot be stated at this time what withdrawals will be made from the public lands for forest purposes in accordance with the policy of classification.

The subject is under consideration and lands which are best adapted to forest purposes will be added to the national forests, but the matter has not yet reached concrete form. The great area, it was announced, which will be eliminated from the forests, is scattered throughout the reserves. Tracts in the interior of the forests and much land along the edges will be lifted out of the confines of the reserves, establishing with greater exactness the boundaries of the forests.

Some land eliminated is suitable for dry farming, though the greater part is grazing land. These lands, more suitable for tilling and grazing than the growing of trees will now be placed to profitable use instead of lying in waste within the national forests.

In 1840, which has a large national forest area, about 470,000 acres will be eliminated, of which 34 per cent is tillable. Elimination in similar proportion will be made in a number of the other states.

The forest service has been at work since last May collecting the data to determine the proper classification of the lands within the national forest domain and the plan evolved by the Interior and Agricultural departments is expected to insure the amicable administration of the public lands by the general land office and the forestry bureau.

POULTRY STORED FOR MONTHS.

Goat's Flesh is Sold for Lamb in New York.

New York.—Provision dealers denied that turkeys are ever kept in storage for two years and put on the market when they were mostly from age, but admitted that poultry is some times held from six to nine months and that goat's flesh has been sold for lamb. This testimony was adduced at a hearing before the committee of the Board of Aldermen, which is considering an ordinance providing that all foods held in cold storage must be tagged with the date on which they go into storage and the date when they come out.

Nomination Confirmed.

Washington.—Seth Bullock of South Dakota, an intimate friend of former President Roosevelt, was confirmed by the senate for another term as United States marshal.

Hayward for Congress.

Lincoln, Neb.—The Journal published the formal announcement of William Hayward that he is a candidate for congress in the First Nebraska district. Mr. Hayward is secretary of the republican national committee.

The Death of Swobe.

Kansas City.—Colonel Thomas H. Swobe came to his death by reason of strychnine administered in a capsule by Dr. B. C. Hyde, husband of the millionaire's niece, according to the verdict of the coroner's jury in Independence. Hyde is under arrest.

American Employes to Leave.

Mexico City.—On the eve of the counting ballots cast by the American conductors and engineers of the National railway on the question of resigning because of the railroad's refusal to grant their recent requests, it is considered certain now that more than the necessary two-thirds majority in the affirmative will be the result. Of thirteen men who left here a week ago to poll the lines, ten are back and three are expected on Monday. The ballots will be counted at once.

Naval Dispute Compromised.

Washington.—The long drawn out dispute in the house committee on naval affairs over the subject of endorsing the plan of Secretary Meyer for the reorganization of the navy is practically settled, and the committee will take action which will be in effect a tentative approval of the secretary's ideas. The secretary will be given an opportunity to demonstrate the worth of his plans. Representative Dawson of Iowa furnished the suggestion by which an understanding was finally reached.

SENATE IN COURTS

UPPER HOUSE DISREGARDS THE SUPREME TRIBUNAL.

ACTION OF THE LOWER BRANCH

Case Arises Out of Joint Committee's Award of Contract for Paper for Government.

Washington.—After six hours' debate, which included a night session, the house voted to permit its members of the joint committee on printing to obey a summons of the supreme court of the District of Columbia. This action was exactly the reverse of that of the senate during the afternoon, and in consequence Representatives Cooper of Pennsylvania, Sturgis of West Virginia and Finley of South Carolina will be the only members of the joint committee of six to appear in court in mandamus proceedings instituted by the Valley Paper company of Holyoke, Mass.

The senate gave positive instructions to Senators Reed Smoot, Jonathan Bourne and Duncan Fletcher not to respond to the order issued by Justice Wright of the supreme court of the District of Columbia directing them to appear before him. The proceeding grew out of a suit instituted by the Valley Paper company of Holyoke, Mass., as the result of the committee's award of a contract for furnishing paper for the government printing office.

The refusal of the senate was based on the plea of the constitutional prerogatives of members of congress.

The senate took the position that as it was a co-ordinate branch of the government the court had no right to interfere with its business affairs. Incidentally, the question was raised as to whether Justice Wright was in contempt of the senate or the senate in contempt of Justice Wright.

Senator Nelson sought to have the resolution adopted by the senate as to permit the senators to appear only for the purpose of testing the court's jurisdiction and in doing so said that if the recommendation of the judiciary committee was correct Justice Wright might be called before the senate for contempt. Mr. Nelson did not defend the court's jurisdiction, but said that as the printing committee had acted under a statute and not as the ordinary instrument of congress there was ground for doubt. Senator Root took the position that the court's action was an intrenchment on the independence of the senate.

Sustaining the action of the court on the ground that the printing award was an administrative rather than a legislative act, Mr. Sutherland advised the committee members to appear in court and plead their privilege.

Senator Bacon declared that the exercise by the court of such power as it claimed would result in the overthrow of the powers of the legislative department.

The Nelson amendment was voted down, 14 to 45, the original committee resolution being adopted without dissent, as was another resolution directing the secretary of the senate to communicate the views of the senate to the court.

Gaynor for President.

New York.—Mayor Gaynor is likely presidential timber in the eyes of some Missouri democrats. He received a letter inviting him to attend a dinner in Springfield, Mo., April 15, the 167th anniversary of the birth of Thomas Jefferson, and the invitation intimates that he is looked on in Missouri as the national leader of democracy for 1912. The mayor has not yet signified his assent, but it is understood arrangements are under way to launch his boom whether he attends or not.

Bills for Congo Reform.

Brussels.—The government has elaborated a series of measures for reforms in the administration of the affairs of the Belgian Congo. The question of labor and the system of land taxation has received special attention.

PRESIDENT TO CONFER.

Series of Meetings to Consider the General Situation.

Washington.—A conference held at the White House between President Taft and Senator Aldrich was only the forerunner of others in the future, the outcome of which probably will be the early issue of a statement dealing with a situation which is discussed here wherever two or three are gathered together; yet which apparently thus far nobody has deemed it prudent to make the subject of public utterance. That situation relates to the possible consequences, financial, industrial and political, hanging on the decisions of the supreme court of the United States in the pending cases of the American Tobacco company and the Standard Oil company.

Captain Sharp Dead.

Washington.—Captain Alexander Sharp, president of the navy inspection board, and recently captain of the battleship Virginia, died at the navy hospital in this city.

Paper Plants Merger.

Portsmouth, N. H.—The \$10,000,000 plant of the Publishers' Paper company on the Piscataqua river, which had been idle since the panic of 1907, passed into the hands of the Colonial Paper company of Cincinnati and will be operated within a short time.

BOOST FARM TOPICS

SECRETARY MELLOR SUGGESTS A NEW CURRICULUM.

TEACH SOMETHING PRACTICAL

Farm Subjects in the Country Schools—Miscellaneous Matters at the State Capital.

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NEBRASKA NEWS AND NOTES.

Items of Interest Taken From Here and There Over the State.

The new bank at Morrill has commenced business.

The new passenger depot at Blair is nearly ready for occupancy.

Mrs. A. E. Church of University place, Lancaster county, hanged herself in the cellar.

Parties have been looking over the situation in Beatrice with a view of putting in a street railway system.

Farmers in various sections of the state are now busy gathering corn that cold and snow interfered with in securing earlier.

Snow being about off the ground, farmers are getting busy with unhusked corn, of which there is a great deal throughout the state.

Dr. Person of Stanton found an egg of unusual size, laid by a black Langshan hen, which contained one yolk and another yolk in a separate shell.

The house on the farm of Wilber Isley in Island Grove township, Gage county, was destroyed by fire. Mr. Kuhn had considerable difficulty in rescuing his family from the burning building.

Edward S. Miller, whose corn mills were destroyed by fire in Beatrice about two months ago, has purchased the corn mill at Firth, Lancaster county, and will locate in Lincoln with his family.

The largest deposits known in the history of Minden were shown in the reports of the two national banks, they having together nearly \$500,000. Seven other banks in the county are equally well situated.

Petrus Olson, aged 25 years, son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Olson, was buried at Stromsburg. His body arrived from California, where he was accidentally killed by coming in contact with the electric wires.

A. P. Libby, former deputy county treasurer of Johnson county, but recently in the general merchandise business at Powell, Wyo., has suffered a fire in which he lost his store building and stock of goods.

A shooting affray occurred at E. Torrey's, about ten miles north of Oxford. Ira Torrey, a son of E. Torrey, about 20 years old, shot and seriously wounded his brother, Ernest. It was the outcome of a quarrel.

Preston Bryan lost his life by suffocation in a fire in a rooming house at North Platte. He had been sick for a few days and a lamp was left burning in his room. Evidently he overturned the lamp, for it was found on the floor.

At a meeting of the city council of Nebraska City the city attorney recommended that the permits of the druggists be revoked and they put out of the liquor business because they were selling too much and were selling it on Sunday.

The large frame building of J. D. Kuhn in Island Grove township, Gage county, was burned to the ground. The fire was started by the explosion of a lamp in the sitting room. The fire spread so rapidly that the entire contents were burned.

Henry Hoxie, a pioneer of Holt county, died at his home two miles east of O'Neill. Two weeks ago he injured his leg and foot by crushing them in a hay baler. The limb was amputated and complications arose which resulted in his death.

While en route to Columbus D. C. Westfall of York died on the Norfolk passenger while the train was between Tarnov and Platte Center. At the latter place a physician was called, but he was beyond relief, death being caused by apoplexy.

Mr. and Mrs. Fletch Whitcomb of York have been very much worried over their daughter, Miss Bryd Whitcomb, on account of the great floods in Paris, where Miss Whitcomb is studying music, but they received a letter from her saying she was safe.

One of the most successful farm sales ever held in the state of Nebraska was the Chester R. Sutton sale, five miles north of Blair, when twenty-four head of mares and colts averaged \$200 per head and one span of mares brought \$820. The sale amounted to \$7,000 and every dollar was paid in cash.

Two boys who were "bumming" across the country were run over by train No. 16, west of Benkelman, one had lost both legs and the other, whose name is Fritzel, his remaining leg, the other having been taken off some years ago in a street car accident in St. Louis. Fritzel is dead and the other boy is in the hospital.

Riley S. Har of Burt county is having lumber sawed from the cottonwood trees planted on the homestead he filed on in 1866 when a young soldier fresh from the civil war. He will use this lumber to build a new house in Lyons for his old age. In these days of high priced lumber this, he considers, is a good object lesson for land owners.

From Sunderland it is reported that range cattle have stood the hard winter pretty well and the abundance of feed which was put up in the fall has been utilized to the best possible advantage. The grass on the prairies "dried up" satisfactorily, there being very little rain or moisture in the fall, valuable sustenance thereby being conserved.

Mrs. Benton Kinkead of Plattsmouth, aged 60 years, was found dead in her bed by her husband. She had been in the best of health and death was evidently due to heart trouble.

Numerous homesteaders who filed under the Kinkaid one-section law several years ago are now making five-year proof on their estate since settlement was made has made many of the claims more valuable than was hoped for at the time of filing, and many of the settlers have reason to rejoice because of having taken up claims.

THE WATERWAY BILL

BIG LOT OF MONEY FOR RIVERS AND HARBORS.

REPORTED TO LOWER HOUSE

Largely an Annual Budget, and Effort Will Be Made to Expedite Its Passage.

Washington.—Waterway projects throughout the country at a cost of \$42,355,276 of which \$7,206,430 is for continuing contracts, are provided for in the rivers and harbors appropriation bill reported to the house by the committee on rivers and harbors. The bill will be called up in the house Monday in an effort to press the measure to passage as expeditiously as possible. The \$7,000,000 odd outside the cash appropriations is for expenditures which hereafter may be made under the continuing contract system. The bill is theoretically an annual budget, although no regular rivers and harbors bill has been reported since that approved March 2, 1907.

In the great haste with which the bill was prepared the totals in the report of the committee disclose a number of minor discrepancies which it was impossible to correct. The figures as given are according to those furnished by the committee.

All the projects already under improvement aggregate \$252,817,400, including the Mississippi river from Cairo to the head of the passes. Further projects favorably reported by the engineers, but not yet adopted by congress, amount to \$87,548,000, or a total of \$339,565,000, including the projects provided for under the present bill, which would leave \$29,000,000 yet unacted upon, if congress adopts the present measure.

The total amount required to complete adopted projects, except the Mississippi river, foots up \$70,820,100, and for the Mississippi river \$17,501,650, from the mouth of the Missouri to the mouth of the Ohio; \$18,500,000 thence to St. Paul and \$59,550 from St. Paul to Minneapolis.

Besides this the cost of projects, which congress, having started, presumably intends to complete, is estimated at \$9,346,500 and the canalization of the Ohio for a nine-foot depth, practically adopted in the bill approved March 3, 1909, is placed at \$50,280,500, making a total of \$177,617,400, which "congress may be considered as committed to."

Norfolk, Va.; Mobile, Ala.; New York harbor, the great lakes, the Detroit river and other sections receive great attention.

The Missouri river gets \$1,000,000 and for the Ohio approximately \$5,000,000 a year for twelve years is contemplated.

Protest Against Railroads.

Washington.—Representatives of humane societies and live stock associations were before the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce protesting against the manner in which the railroads handle live stock en route to market. One witness declared that 100,000 head of stock were taken from the cars dead every year as a result of inhuman handling. The loss in money was estimated at millions in the killing of stock and in the shrinkage of weight.

Says He Didn't Say It.

Washington.—Food Inspector Dodge declared he never testified to the congressional committee on the cost of living that beef "ready to fall to pieces" was served at the White house during President Roosevelt's administration.

Big Verdict for Woman.

New York.—A verdict of \$75,000, said to be the largest ever rendered in an alienation suit, was awarded to Mrs. Charles C. Hendrick of Brooklyn, against Laura Biggar, the former actress, accused of alienating the affections of Mrs. Hendrick's divorced husband, Dr. Charles C. Hendricks. Mrs. Hendrick sued for \$100,000.

OCEAN LINER DESTROYED.

Only One Passenger Out of 157 Saved.

Palma, Island of Majorca.—Driven helplessly from her course in one of the wildest storms that has swept the Mediterranean sea in forty years, the French Transatlantic Steamship company's steamer, General Chanzy,