

# The State Capital

Matters of General Interest  
FROM  
Nebraska's Seat of Government

### Burlington Deducts Taxes

The Burlington railroad last week filed with the auditor for the use of the state board of equalization in its assessment of railroads the statement of earnings for the year 1907. By deducting from the gross amount of earnings for the year, the sum of \$382,960.44 back taxes paid as a result of the injunction suits won by the state, the total amount is sought to be decreased by this sum.

The Burlington figures for the year compared with 1906 are as follows:

Gross earnings	\$119,166,258.47	\$15,862,969.28
Operating expenses	10,709,500.37	8,224,049.50
Taxes	8,456,858.10	7,629,810.65
Net earnings	9,959,899.90	466,579.91
Net earnings per mile	7,962,477.11	7,172,430.87
Back taxes paid in 1907	382,960.44	
The railroad counts net earnings for 1907	7,579,516.67	

In 1906 the road deducted \$1,176,662.75 arbitrary of 4-10 of one mile allowed lines west of Missouri river on freight business. This left the net earnings for the road \$2,066 per mile. Figuring the mileage at 2,611.23 for the state, the net earnings per mile not allowing the back taxes as an offset in this year's business, were \$3,951 per mile. Figuring the net earnings per mile according to the railroad method, they would be \$2,902. The railroad schedule sets forth the net earnings for the year at the sum of \$7,579,516.67 being the amount secured by deducting the back taxes paid.

### Must Give New Bonds.

The state depositories must give new bonds if they desire to have state funds on deposit up to the full amount of the bonds given. This is the ruling of the attorney general. He holds that the recent enactment of the legislature cannot affect contracts already existing between the state and depository banks. The bill that is now a law is S. F. No. 275 by Randall of Madison, and it applies only to state depositories. Under its provisions if a state depository gives guaranty bonds, as all do now, the state treasurer may deposit an amount equal to the bond. If a personal bond is given, the treasurer of the state may deposit one-half the amount named in the bond. Governor Sheldon vetoed S. F. No. 281, by Randall of Madison, making a similar provision for county depositories. The governor signed S. F. No. 410 by Clarke of Adams, which permits county depositories to give two or more bonds, such bonds to be concurrent. Both bills signed by the governor contain an emergency clause and the laws are now in force. In the bill relating to state depositories there was a provision permitting banks to deposit certain securities in lieu of a bond but this was stricken out in the senate. The same provision was in the county depository bill that did not become a law.

### Kearney Files Suit.

The mandamus suit to compel Secretary of State Junkin to certify that the bill carrying the \$85,000 appropriation for the Normal school at Kearney, became a law by reason of the failure of the governor to take action within five days from the date he received the bill, was filed in the supreme court by Oldham, Sinclair and T. F. Hamer. The decision in the case will determine whether the chief executive has five days after the legislature actually adjourns, in which to act upon bills, or whether he must act within five days of the record adjournment of the legislature. The bill actually reached the governor April 4 at 11:45 o'clock and the records show it reached the office of the secretary of state April 10, but as a matter of fact it was not actually filed in the office until April 11 at 2 o'clock. Those bringing the suit will contend that the record made by the secretary of state is wrong and will endeavor to prove the same. This will bring directly before the court the question whether a person can go behind the records on these matters.

### Young Greek Wants Pardon.

Friends of James Touris, a Greek, serving a one-year term in the penitentiary for manslaughter, are trying to get Governor Sheldon to pardon him before the sentence expires in order to prevent him from being sentenced to prison in Greece upon his return to that country.

### From An Escheated Estate.

The state treasurer received a draft for \$71.56 from the county treasurer of Antelope county, as the amount due the state from the escheated estate of John Morley, who died with no known heirs. The money will be paid into the general school fund.

### Telephone Company Reports.

The state railway commission has received the reports from twelve independent telephone companies in this state. They gave their rates and other information asked by the state commission. The Nebraska Telephone company has written the commission that it has an army of clerks at work preparing the schedule which will be presented as soon as made. They have about one and one-half million different rates to record, Manager Vance Lane said, and he asked for the indulgence of the commission.

### Limits Passes to Lawyers and Doctors

In an opinion given to the county attorney of Cass county, Attorney General Thompson held that it is unlawful under the anti-pass law for an attorney or doctor employed less than half his time by a railroad to receive free transportation, even though he is subject to call at any time by the corporation. He holds that the intent of the legislature was to prevent any one not exempted from the provisions of the law from receiving transportation at less than the rates charged the general public.

### Point in Two Cent Rate.

The State Railway commission is trying to work out a plan whereby the railroads will be compelled to sell tickets in Nebraska to points in other states at rates not more than the total of the local rates. Considerable can be saved the traveler, the commission has pointed out, if he will buy his ticket to the state line and then buy a ticket to his destination, thus getting the benefit of the 2-cent rate in this state. The railroads, however, are making this rather inconvenient by compelling the traveler to purchase the separate tickets at the state line and also by re-checking his baggage, which will mean in many cases that he will miss his train. It may be that the commission will take the matter before the Interstate Commerce commission to compel the railroads to sell a through ticket, at least, not in excess of the total of the local rates. A member of the commission has made numerous calculations on the total of the local rates and the through rate and in every instance the through rate is the higher. For instance, the distance from Omaha to Denver is 538 miles and the advertised rate is \$16.15. The distance from Omaha to Haigler, this state, is 256 miles. At 2 cents a mile this rate would be \$7.12. From Haigler to Denver is 182 miles. At 3 cents a mile (interstate business) the rate would be \$5.46 or a total rate, should the traveler buy his ticket to the state line of \$12.58, instead of \$16.15 through rate. The total of the local rates from Omaha to Deadlock is \$13.91, while the through rate is \$17.05.

### Want Lapsed Appropriations.

It is probable that a mandamus suit will soon be begun in the supreme court to determine whether appropriations made by the 1905 legislature lapsed March 31 of the current year, as is contended by the attorney general. Food Commissioner Redfern, who had about \$1,800 left over from the last biennium, will in all likelihood bring the suit. It was his intention to use the money to equip his office with laboratory paraphernalia such as will be required under the more amplified food, drug and dairy law, but by reason of the attorney general's opinion, the auditor has refused to draw warrants against the old appropriation. The state constitution says that the legislature shall make appropriations to run until the end of the first fiscal quarter after the next legislative session. Thus appropriations made by the 1905 legislature would be available until July 1 of this year. The appropriations made by the 1905 legislature, however, were made with the provision that they should cease March 31, 1907. It is deemed questionable whether the legislature had the power to make any such limitation in the face of the provision of the constitution, and this is what the court will be asked to pass upon.

### Wants to Meet Competition.

General Agent R. W. McGinnis of the Northwestern railroad filed a request with the state railway commission, asking permission for his road to vary from the straight two-cent-a-mile rate published recently, that it may meet short line rates published by other roads. Assurance was given by the railway commission that permission will be granted. This means that the Northwestern may meet the \$1.10 rate of the Burlington between Lincoln and Omaha.

### Death of Prominent Nebraskan.

Gilbert L. Laws, for more than 30 years a prominent man in public affairs, died in this city the past week after an illness of about six weeks. Mr. Laws came to Nebraska in 1876. In 1886 he was elected secretary of state by the republicans and in 1888 he was chosen for another term. In 1889 he was elected to congress to fill a vacancy caused by the death of James Laird. He leaves a wife and two daughters.

### After the Illinois Central.

The Illinois Central, which runs its trains into Omaha and South Omaha over leased tracks, has replied to a notice from the Nebraska railway commission that it has no trucks in Nebraska. The company does business here and the commission does not intend that the railroad shall deny the jurisdiction of the Nebraska officers.

### Bad for Encampment.

Railroad rate legislation has made it most likely that the state militia encampment will be seriously impeded. Adjutant General Culver has been considering the question of railroad rates and location of the encampment, and can see small prospect of getting the 1 1/2 cent rate secured for previous encampments.

### Wolf Vouchers Dead.

State Auditor Searle has written each paper of the state asking them to announce that wolf vouchers are dead. He states in his circular that the vouchers are still pouring into the auditor's office in an unobstructed stream, causing considerable trouble.

### A Change in Methods.

The method of buying securities for the investment of the permanent school fund is to be revolutionized by the Board of Public Lands and Buildings, cutting out the middleman, who makes the profits, and by dealing directly hereafter with the state which has securities to sell. This the board decided recently, and Treasurer Brian left for Idaho to purchase Idaho state bonds, which the board has heretofore bought from brokers, who received a fat fee for making the deal, usually cutting from both ends.

### After Insurance Schemes.

The insurance department is taking steps to sit down on the stock company scheme when worked in connection with the sale of insurance. The Interstate Fiscal agency of Kansas City, Kas., is selling stock in Nebraska, and a report has reached the insurance department that agents are selling life insurance in connection therewith. If this report is true insurance Deputy Pierce will stop the insurance company back of it from doing business in the state, as he looks upon this as a special contract.

## VACATION TIME IS COMING.



## INSPECTORS OF PURE FOOD

### A BOARD CREATED TO ENFORCE THE LAW.

Chief of the Bureau of Chemistry on the Board with Dr. Dunlap as Assistant Chemist.

Washington—Secretary Wilson has created by executive order the board of food and drug inspection, whose duty it shall be to administer the national pure food law. The board consists of Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, chief of the bureau of chemistry, chairman; Dr. Frederick L. Dunlap, who is commissioned as associate chemist, and George R. McCabe, solicitor of the Department of Agriculture.

### Evades Poor Food Law.

Topeka, Kas.—Dr. S. J. Grumbine, secretary of the board of health, announced Thursday that he had discovered in use here a preservative formers, the manufacturers of which, he asserts, are openly defying the state and federal pure food laws. The preservative is made in the east and chemical tests show that it contains charcoal and pure sulphur, which, when burned forms a sulphur dioxide gas that is absorbed by the meat and has the same effect as borax.

### Dead Letters Made Lively.

Washington—All previous records for a day's work in returning letters to writers from the division of dead letters were eclipsed on Monday last, when 20,368 letters were returned. The largest number heretofore returned in a single day was 14,488 on March 28 last. The number of letters on hand awaiting return has been reduced to 63,000. A little over a month ago there were over 200,000 of such letters on hand.

### Loeb May Quit.

Washington—According to a rumor which has been in circulation for some time and which was more defined Thursday, William Loeb, Jr., secretary of the president, will next January become head of the Washington Railway & Electric company of this city.

### Canada Buys Buffaloes.

Denver—A message was received in this city Thursday to the effect that the famous Pablo herd of buffalo of the Flathead reservation, Montana, had been sold to the Canadian government. Howard Eaton of Wolf, Wyo., telegraphed W. F. Kendrick, a Denver mining man, that the Canadian government had paid a deposit on the herd. The bulls will be removed to Canada about May 1 and the cows and calves will be sent north in July. There are between 400 and 500 buffalo in the herd.

### Banker Must Stay in Jail.

Sioux Falls, S. D.—Charles C. King, the Scotland, S. D., banker who was arrested in Chicago on Tuesday and brought here, has not been able to furnish the \$20,000, fixed by the United States court commissioner in Chicago.

### Nebraska Ex-Congressman Is Dead.

Lincoln—Gilbert L. Laws former secretary of state and representative in congress from the old Second Nebraska district, died here Thursday after an illness of several weeks.

### Assassinate Prison Chief.

Osdeso—The chief of the political prison was killed here by four terrorists whose indignation he had provoked by alleged atrocities upon prisoners. One of the terrorists committed suicide, another was captured and two escaped.

### Dies With Fish on His Line.

Kankakee, Ill.—With a fish struggling on his line and the pole grasped in his stiffened fingers, George Powell, an aged fisherman, was found dead in the river near this city.

## THE PEACE TREATY IS SIGNED

### CENTRAL AMERICAN FACTIONS SETTLE DIFFICULTIES.

Conference Held at Amalpa and Terms Concluded That are Honorable to Both Countries.

Washington—The state department has been informed of the successful conclusion of the peace negotiations at Amalpa. A cablegram received from Captain Doyle of the United States cruiser Chicago dated, Thursday says, "Peace conference agreed to treaty at 11 a. m."

### ENDORSEMENT FOR TUCKER

Stockholders in Oil Company Say the Corporation is Solvent.

### Around the World in a Boat.

San Francisco—Jack London's sailboat, the Shark, started Tuesday for Honolulu, the first port to be touched on a six years' cruise around the world. The vessel is forty-five feet long, ketch-rigged, and its occupants, beside London and his wife, are Herbert S. Stoltz, a Stanford graduate and athlete; Roscoe Eames, captain; Martin Johnson, the cook; and Hillechia Tochigi, cabin boy.

### Standing Army for Cuba.

Havana—The plan of a Cuban standing army of 12,000 men, as suggested by the general staff of the American army, is most attractive to that element of the Cuban people which is fond of the gold lace and regalia of Spanish-American armies.

### MILLION FOR NEGRO SCHOOLS.

Philadelphia Woman Gives Large Sum for Education in South.

### Consumption of Sugar.

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### Buffalo Bill's Show.

New York—Indians bit the dust, rangers galloped across the tanbark plains and train robbers were punctured with bullets Tuesday night in Madison Square garden, where Buffalo Bill's Wild West show opened before thousands of spectators.

### Priming is Barred.

Washington—Priming among the women employees of the government printing office must cease. An official order has been issued removing all mirrors from the big building.

### DEADLOCK STILL ON.

Outlook in the Central American Controversy.

Washington—The Central American controversy is no nearer a settlement today than it was some time ago, according to a dispatch received at the State department from Phillip Brown, the American charge at Guatemala, calling from La Union, Salvador.

### MOther OF GOVERNOR DIES.

Aged Pioneer of Nebraska Succumbs After Two Weeks Illness.

Lincoln, Neb.—Mrs. Julia Sheldon, mother of Governor Sheldon and widow of the late George Lawson Sheldon, died at her home in Nemaha Tuesday, after an illness lasting about two weeks, which began with an attack of pneumonia. Mrs. Sheldon was a pioneer settler of Nebraska, having come to what is now Nebraska from Vermont in 1867.

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## THE LABOR CIRCLES

### FEWER CLOUDS IN THE INDUSTRIAL HORIZON.

## THE RELATIONS HARMONIOUS

### Nearly All Trade Agreements in Chicago Have Been Renewed—Outlook in St. Louis and New York.

Chicago—The relations between employers and employees were never so harmonious in Chicago as now. In the past of May 1 there has always been some sort of struggle going on between the labor unions and the employers in Chicago, but this year there is scarcely a cloud on the industrial horizon. Every union in the building industry, with the exception of the structural iron workers, has renewed contracts with employers, and the iron workers expect to reach a settlement without a strike. Machinists have demanded an increase of 25 cents in wages, but the indications are there will practically be no trouble in putting the new schedule into effect.

### ST. LOUIS SCALES SIGNED.

St. Louis—Employers and labor leaders of St. Louis and the southwest report labor conditions better for May 1 this year than for many years past. Practically all wage scales in St. Louis and the surrounding territory for 200 miles are signed. In St. Louis alone this includes 120,000 union men. The unions allied with the Building Trades' council here are all signed for the year with the exception of a very few men employed in small shops. There are about 40,000 men in these unions. Other branches of trade show similarly good conditions. The brewery workmen, who were on a strike a few months ago, are now signed, as are also the other important trades.

### BRIGHT OUTLOOK IN NEW YORK.

New York—The opening of the out-of-door construction season finds New York, both city and state, without apprehension of serious labor troubles. In the building trades, especially, prosperous and reassuring conditions prevail. There is a large and well-met demand for both skilled and unskilled labor, due to the extensive private construction projections now under way and the tunnels, railway terminals and other undertakings of a public or quasi-public nature.

### GRADUATED SCHEDULE PROVIDES FOR QUITE AN INCREASE.

Washington—Postmaster General Myer has approved the detailed adjustment of salaries of rural free-delivery carriers, as submitted by Assistant Postmaster General DeGrew. The new schedule, which will become effective July 1 next, will make a graded increase in the compensation of carriers of from 9 to 25 per cent, based upon the number of miles traversed. The readjustment adopted, with the increase of upwards of \$6,000,000 made in the appropriation by congress, will involve an aggregate expenditure for rural service during the next fiscal year of nearly \$35,000,000.

### PRESIDENT CASTRO TO RETIRE.

Report that Executive of Venezuela Will Give Up His Office.

### STANDING ARMY FOR CUBA.

Havana—The plan of a Cuban standing army of 12,000 men, as suggested by the general staff of the American army, is most attractive to that element of the Cuban people which is fond of the gold lace and regalia of Spanish-American armies.

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### EXPOSITION IS OPEN.

### President Touches the Button and Show Begins.

Norfolk, Va.—The Jamestown Tercentennial exposition, a land and water display such as never was attempted in this country or on foreign shores, was opened Friday with that pomp and ceremony which always attends an event where the president of the United States is a central figure, and diplomatic representatives of foreign nations, governors of states and like dignitaries are honored guests and participants.

The day of the inaugural ceremonies opened cloudy, but by 8 o'clock the sun shone forth and an strong breeze from the southeast soon drove the cloud banks beyond the horizon, leaving a clear sky. The breeze sweeping across Hampton Roads also tempered the heat, which had a tinge of mid-summer in it by the time the president landed on the exposition grounds. The unfinished streets were deep in dust, which made the grass-covered, parade from which the inaugural function was viewed by the populace a welcome refuge.

Incident to the opening, President Roosevelt reviewed from the deck of the Mayflower the war vessels anchored in Hampton Roads. He reached Discovery Landing, having been transferred in a naval launch shortly before noon and amid applause from the thousands gathered to voice their welcome, and was received by the exposition management. Then followed the program for opening to the public the enterprise commemorating the 300th anniversary of the first English settlement in America, which program included an address by Harry St. George Tucker, president of the exposition, and one by President Roosevelt, singing by the exposition chorus of 700 trained voices, the pressing of the gold button by President Roosevelt, which marked the formal opening, and a review by the president of the assembled military forces.

### GREAT MILITARY DIVISIONS.

An Order of Abolishment Issued From War Department.

### GIFT FROM ROCKEFELLER.

Ten City Blocks to Holding of University of Chicago.

### FUNERAL OF MRS. SHELDON.

Newark, Neb.—The funeral service of Mrs. Julia Sheldon, mother of the governor of Nebraska, was held at the home of her son Vilas. It was the largest funeral cortege ever occurring in this place