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A SPECIAL SESSION

MR. BRYAN SEES WORK FOR NEBRASKA LEGISLATORS.

INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM

Letter to Democratic Members Asking Their Views in Reference to the Proposed Extra Session.

Hon. W. J. Bryan has mailed a letter to all democratic members of the last legislature asking them if they will support an initiative and referendum resolution for the submission of a constitutional amendment to that effect at the general election this fall.

He has also asked J. H. Mockett, Jr., president of the Nebraska Direct Legislation League to get a poll of the republican members. The letter for most part follows:

My Dear Sir: The failure of the legislature to submit the initiative and referendum at its regular session has brought county option—which is direct legislation—into the present campaign, and this question is drawing attention from national issues. It is unfortunate that this should be the case at this time when six congressmen are to be elected, and when a senator is to be chosen by the next legislature.

Unless the mistake made by the legislature can be remedied, our party will be confronted by a very serious situation. It might promise in its platform to submit the initiative and referendum at the next session, but it could hardly expect to be trusted to submit the measure next time if with a democratic governor, senate and house it is unable to do so now, unless it declares its independence of special interests.

In my opinion the best way to meet the situation is by the submission of the initiative and referendum by a called session of the legislature and I have no doubt that Governor Shallenberger will call such a special session if assured that a majority of both houses will support the initiative and referendum resolution, which will give to the people the legislative machinery through which they could legislate upon any question in which they are interested. A called session would also doubtless ratify the income tax amendment.

If it is not possible to submit the initiative and referendum for ratification as a constitutional amendment at the election this fall, nothing is left for our party to do but to declare for the initiative and referendum and county option in its state platform this summer. In order to ascertain whether an initiative and referendum resolution would pass in case of a special session being called, I take the liberty of submitting the question to you and to the other democratic members of the senate and house. Please wire me at once, at my expense, whether you would be willing to support such a resolution at a special session.

In a written statement regarding his letter to democratic members, Mr. Bryan says: "I hope that the democratic and republican papers that favor the initiative and referendum will take the matter up and urge the passage of the initiative and referendum resolution. It might be well for the committees and all others, both democratic and republican, who are interested in the present campaign, to see these senators and members who didn't support the measure at the last session and point out to them the importance of the special session."

Hughes is Appreciative. In reply to his telegram of congratulations over his appointment as a member of the United States supreme court, the State Railway commission has received the following message from Governor Hughes:

Albany, N. Y., April 27.—Nebraska State Railway Commission, Lincoln, Neb.: "I cordially appreciate your telegram."

Ruling on Bleached Flour. State Food Commissioner S. L. Mains has returned from Portland, Ore., and Boise City, Idaho. At the latter place western food commissioners met and asked for a speedy hearing of the suits in federal court to test the ruling of the national food department against bleached flour.

Must Quit Business. Clubs that do business merely to serve drinks to members were warned that they must quit business in Lincoln. The Phoenix club and the Eagles were raided, a few arrests made and the booze found on the premises was hauled to the station.

Can Increase Stock. The railway commission gave permission to the Grand Island Telephone company to increase its capital stock from \$75,000 to \$100,000. The proceeds from the sale of the stock will be used for improvements and extensions.

Lincoln, Neb.—Ernest M. Pollard of Nebraska will not be a candidate for congress in the First district. He will issue a statement to this effect and will thank his friends for the favors shown him in the past.

STATE FIRE WARDEN

Seeks to have instruction in the Schools.

A. V. Johnson, state fire warden, has written a letter to State Superintendent Bishop suggesting that a day or an hour of some day each month be set aside for the teachers to instruct their pupils about how to prevent fires and what to do in some emergencies. It is Mr. Johnson's idea that if the children are taught the dangerous use of gasoline and kerosene and what to do in case of explosion, as well as how to prevent fires by keeping refuse burned and the danger of permitting old papers to be stacked in an attic or closet that the lessons now learned will remain with them always.

Mr. Johnson gave out the following statement:

The Nebraska Fire commission, whose business it is to do everything possible for the prevention of fire waste desires to direct public attention to the necessity of a general cleanup during the spring time. Debris that has accumulated during the winter months should be thoroughly cleared away. The reasons for this are obvious, one which might be mentioned is that this debris is often responsible for spontaneous combustion, which, more prevalent during the hot summer months than during the cold period, is generally regarded by experienced fire fighters as one of the chief causes of what are called "unknown fires."

Too often houses are built without giving proper consideration to attic ventilation; the hot summer sun beats on the roof, the heat in the attic becomes intense and with the attic filled with rubbish, dust, oily rags, highly varnished pieces of furniture or other accumulations spontaneous combustion is a natural result.

Closets are often used for storing away greasy overalls, oil clothes and oily rags, such closets should be thoroughly cleaned and this is particularly true of the closet under the stairway, which is too often permitted to become a fire trap immediately under the only way of escape from the upper stories of the building.

This is the season for varnishing and painting, hence old rags used for wiping greasy wood and varnished surfaces should be burned; if they must be saved for future use they should be kept in an iron receptacle substantially covered and set away from the wood buildings.

Paint and oily rags, varnish and waste, used to wipe machinery are particularly liable to spontaneous combustion. We desire to suggest that when people are removing their stoves for the summer months, if they would be careful to see that the hole in the chimney was stopped with a metal thimble and not with paper or rags it would prevent a great many fires.

New Fraternal Organization. The Clansmen of America, of Omaha, a new fraternal organization, has been licensed to do business in this state. The rates of the new company are not up to the fraternal congress standard and consequently did not meet with the approval of the auditor. Nevertheless, under the insurance law a license must be issued when 250 applications have been signed, no matter what the rates may be.

Money for Soldiers' Homes. Governor Shallenberger received from the government warrants for \$9,175 for the use of the two soldiers' homes. The money is apportioned at the rate of \$100 for each member of the home. At Grand Island there are 255 members and at Millard 112.

Missouri Pacific Losses. Maggie Wollenburg, who won a damage suit against the Missouri Pacific in the district court of Douglas county, after having been tossed some sixty-five feet by an engine, won out also in the supreme court.

Cost of Life Insurance. Figured on the basis of the vote cast in 1908, every man in Nebraska who has attained his majority spent \$13.70 for life insurance last year. This represents an increase over the preceding year.

New Lieutenant. The adjutant general's office has authorized the election of a second lieutenant in the Gatling gun section at Beatrice, that section having recently increased its strength to thirty men.

Go to Fort Riley. There will be no state camp for the Nebraska national guard this year, excepting the rifle teams. All the rest of the guard will be taken to Fort Riley. Adjutant General Hartigan has refigured the expense of taking the guard, amounting in all to about 1,100 men, and believes that he can send all of the boys to Fort Riley on the \$30,000 that is available for the purpose.

Some of the companies may, however, be left behind unless they are able to show a strength of at least forty-three men.

Not Like Sample. Superintendent Percival of the Norfolk asylum has notified the state board of public lands and buildings that the coffee delivered to his institution by the H. P. Lau company does not conform to the sample which was submitted to the board when the contract was let. Dr. Percival sent a sample of the coffee to the board and according to Secretary of State Junkin it is not like the coffee that was bought. The superintendent will be notified to reject the shipment as soon as the board can get together.

CONGRESS IS SLOW

ADMINISTRATION MEASURES MAKE LITTLE PROGRESS.

MEMBERS ANXIOUS TO LEAVE

Apprehension of Congress Quitting Without Passing Measures Decried by President.

Washington.—Administration leaders in congress are beginning to feel a good deal of concern over the chances of putting through the several measures on which President Taft has set his heart. Hot weather already has settled down upon the city and stifling days in the executive halls are sure to create general desire among members of congress to get away.

Many who have had political battles in prospect even now are making their plans to go to their states or districts. Nearly all of the Taft bills are suspended by more or less uncertain threads. The railroad bill, which is pending in both branches, is not out of danger. The bills were adopted in the senate and house and a number of bills which are almost certain to be adopted in one branch or another, will produce measures so widely different that harmony in conference threatens to be utterly out of the question.

The house has adopted an amendment making provision for ascertaining the physical valuation of railroads, and this is sure to meet with determined opposition in the senate. It is said also that on the final vote the house is likely to strike out the provision for the creation of a commerce court, which feature is certain to be retained by the senate.

By the time the bill reaches conference President Taft will have returned to Washington and it is hoped he may bring the conference together by commanding each side to grant concessions. Nothing but the most determined pressure from the White house, it is admitted, could accomplish a result.

Chairman Mann of the house committee and Chairman Elkins of the senate committee both hope to bring the bills to their final vote this week. There is but little doubt that Mr. Mann will stand, but in the senate there is no way in which debate can be shut off, and it would not be surprising if the bill took ten days or more in this body.

That the administration senators will put the bill through in about the same form in which it now appears on the calendar is indicated by the vote last week on the Cummins amendment relating to traffic agreements.

Supporters of the long and short haul amendment, which was introduced by Senator Dixon, claim they have votes enough to incorporate it in the bill. Party lines will be broken in this amendment, in all probability, and the outcome generally is thought to be uncertain.

MRS. LEAVITT'S WEDDING.

Guests Will Be Limited to Family and a Dozen Intimate Friends.

Lincoln.—Mrs. Ruth Bryan Leavitt reached Lincoln Sunday after an absence of several months spent in Germany. She was preceded by Lieutenant Reginald Altham Owen, to whom she will be married Tuesday at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Bryan. All the members of the Bryan family are now at Fairview except William J. Bryan, Jr., who was unable to leave his home at Tucson, Ariz. The wedding will be a very quiet affair, with guests limited to the family and less than a dozen intimate friends.

A MAY DAY STRIKE.

Missouri Pacific Workmen Likely to Go Out.

Sedalia, Mo.—All the machinists in the employ of the Missouri-Pacific railroad will go on strike Monday morning at 10 o'clock on an issue involving a wage increase of 1 cent an hour, unless there is an unexpected turn in the situation. This is the information received at the shops here, the largest on the Missouri Pacific system. The men demand 40 cents an hour, an increase of 4 cents in the present scale.

To Buy Twin Home.

New York.—Sentiment among the rich men in the east who were friends of the late Samuel L. Clemens, to furnish the bulk of the funds necessary to purchase the humorist's old home in Missouri, rehabilitating it into a museum, will soon take tangible form.

Want Mr. Bryan's Help. Indianapolis.—Chairman Jackson of the democratic state central committee will write to William Jennings Bryan, asking him what time he can devote to the Indiana campaign and if it will be possible for him to stay in the state one month.

Famous Sculptor Dead.

New York.—John Quincy Adams Ward, one of America's greatest sculptors, died Sunday at his home here in his eightieth year. He had been ill for three months.

NEBRASKA IN BRIEF.

News Notes of Interest From Various Parts of State.

A freight train, No. 29, from Plattsmouth to Lincoln, ran over and killed the 10-year-old son of C. E. Schurman, the foreman of the extra bridge gang at Cedar creek.

At a special election held in Columbus—city and township—to vote bonds to build a new steel bridge across the Platte, the provision was carried almost unanimously.

Leman Weddle, who lives three miles west of Stella, has a pig 3 weeks old that has five well developed ears. Two of the extra ears are growing from the regular ears, and the other one is near one of the others. The pig is in a healthy condition.

John Just, and C. P. Johnson, of Battle Creek were before the Commission on Dipomania and were adjudged fit subjects for detention and treatment, and were taken to Lincoln.

Rev. Lou Wallace Cade has accepted a call to the pastorate of the First Presbyterian church in Plattsmouth to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Rev. J. H. Salisbury, now of Auburn.

The body of Mrs. D. C. Wallace, who died in Los Angeles, arrived in Tekamah for interment in Tekamah cemetery. Mrs. Wallace was for many years a resident of Tekamah and removed to California, but two years ago.

A Washington dispatch says: Secretary Wilson today detailed an expert from the department of agriculture to make experiments in Nebraska with a view to preventing and curing hog cholera. The bureau of animal industry has been working for nearly ten years in an effort to discover a serum which would check the spread of this disease, and it is now believed that they have been successful, and Secretary Wilson has expressed his willingness to send a veterinary surgeon to Nebraska.

As a result of the vote of the citizens of Fairbury in a special election that city will construct a water works system and also erect an electric light plant, both of which will be municipally owned.

The printed plans and specifications of the new Odd Fellows' home for which contract has been let are on exhibition in York. It promises to be one of the largest, best built, most commodious and sanitary fire-proof buildings of its kind in the west. The Odd Fellows will expend the coming year nearly \$90,000 in improvements.

Mrs. A. Marquardt, a widow living about five and a half miles southwest of Pilger, committed suicide by hanging in a small grove near her house. She had been ill for some years and it is supposed that temporary aberration was caused by her continued illness.

Anna Zook, a German woman whose home is in the south part of York county, filed complaint against Joseph Weiss for attempt to kill. Last summer Weiss went to Germany and induced Anna Zook to come to America with him under promise of marriage, but has refused to carry out the marriage ceremony.

The Burlington has been granted authority to put into effect a rule against receiving sheep for shipment until twenty-four hours after they have been dipped. Dipping seems to weaken the sheep and render them more liable to injury when shipped. The rule is adopted, it is said, for the mutual protection of the shipper and the railroad.

Alex Lyon, a real estate dealer, of Central City, was killed when his auto skidded over an embankment about seven miles east of town in Hamilton county and turned over in a ditch. There was about a foot and a half of water and soft mud in the ditch and Lyon was pinned down by the steering wheel and death resulted apparently from drowning. The dead man was a prominent farmer.

A hen belonging to Mrs. H. T. Wilson, who lives four miles north of town, laid an egg weighing four ounces. The egg was eight inches in circumference and inside the shell of the large egg was another egg perfect in every way.

The body of Porter Bidwell, a man 72 years old, who has lived alone in a cottage near Watson's ranch for several years, was found in a path near the cottage where it is evident that he fell and died alone. His daughter, Mrs. N. B. Hisset, is a resident of Kearney.

Tilton Webber of Randolph, who had been at Osmond on business, on returning home, lost control of his automobile and paid the penalty with his life. The automobile is a complete wreck.

The grand lodge of Eagles are making elaborate preparations for the next grand lodge session at Chadron.

The State Railway commission telegraphed both President Taft and Governor Hughes its congratulations over the appointment of Governor Hughes to the supreme bench of the United States.

Engineer McLaughlin has arrived in Superior from Kansas City to work on the \$1,000,000 cement plant, claimed to be the largest single industry of the state outside of Omaha.

Victor J. Fried, county treasurer of Burt county, died at his home in Oakland after an illness of two weeks of muscular paralysis at the age of 46 years.

A disastrous pasturage fire occurred at the old Buckeye ranch and some adjoining farms about twelve miles southeast of Broken Bow. About 3,000 acres of fine pasture land and many fence posts were destroyed.

ALL WANT CHICKENS

When Spring Comes Around Man's Mind Turns to Them.

Fervent Anxiety for Poultry Is Shown in Kentucky Newspaper Containing Advertisements in "For Exchange" Column.

Galveston, Tex.—When the gentle sunshine of springtime opens the buds and fills the mind of man with doubts as to whether, after all, life isn't worth living, the soul of the average man apparently turns to chickens. Pick up a newspaper at random and see how the yearning of his soul displays itself in cold type.

Below are some yearnings taken from the classified advertisements of a Kentucky newspaper; Kentucky being selected as a central point from which to view this fervent yearning for poultry, says the News. The advertisements following were under the heading "For Exchange," and in one issue of an afternoon paper:

- "S. C. Black Minorca eggs for common hens."
- "Female collie for chickens."
- "Good bicycle, just in need of front tire and chain, for chickens."
- "Pair of ball-bearing skates and bicycle with clincher tire for chickens."
- "Sewing machine, bench wringer, and light harness for chickens."
- "Full paid, \$120 correspondence school course for chickens."
- "Maple trees and fine strawberry plants for Black Minorca or other chickens."
- "Outdoor brooder, 60-egg incubator and Springfield rifle for chickens."
- "White Leghorn rooster for chickens."
- "Platform wagon, push pole and shafts, top, for \$5 chickens."
- "Set of good buggy harness for six good hens."
- "Grocery scales, capacity 200 pounds, for chickens or ducks."
- "Party dress for chickens."
- "Water motor, large wheel rock, jardiniere and artificial plant for table for chickens."
- "Visible typewriter for chickens."
- "Incubator and brooder for chickens."
- "Spring wagon for incubator."
- Large size 1900 washer for Blue

GREAT FINANCIAL FAMILIES UNITED



NEW YORK.—The marriage of Anthony J. Drexel, Jr., of Philadelphia to Miss Marjorie Gwynne Gould, just celebrated, unites two of the great financial families of America. The bride is the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George J. Gould and will inherit a vast fortune. Mr. Drexel will soon be the head of the distinguished Philadelphia family of financiers and bankers. America has been especially pleased by Miss Gould's selection of an American husband, for she has been wooed by many titled foreigners, among them being the duke of Braganza and Prince Komanowski, who is related to the czar of Russia.

- Andalusian chickens, Golden Sea Bright Bantams or Feking ducks."
- "Thoroughbred bloodhound for Cornish Indian game chickens."
- "Rolltop desk for good brooder."
- "Lady's gold watch for Black Minorca or Rhode Island Red pullets or cockerels."
- "Novels by good authors for chickens."
- "Handsome peafowl for Rhode Island Red pullets."
- "Gold watch, open face, for chickens or ducks."
- "Coal vase, large size water cooler and three-burner gas stove for chickens."
- All of which would seem to indicate that a great and overwhelming desire for fowls is among us, leading us to strip our backs and our homes, to sell our party dresses, our jewelry and pretty much all we may own in order to satisfy this desire.
- And who knows that some day, judging by these examples, the great American hen may not be adopted as

SPORT ON PRAIRIES

Modern Motor Car Used in Chasing the Fleet Jack Rabbit.

Coyote Is Run to His Hole, Then Hunters Pour in Gasoline—When Animal Emerges Wild Race Across Open Is Resumed.

Topeka, Kan.—The faithful horse is going into the discard in Kansas as a necessary adjunct of a hunting party or the chase of a horse thief. Motor cars are becoming so plentiful in the state and they have been found so much better in chasing the fleet jack rabbit or driving the common coyote to its lair or catching those who take horses and mules from stables without the owners' permission that the horse is being relegated to the rear.

Rabbit and wolf hunts have long been a common sport in Kansas. Men would go out with horses and dogs and have a rabbit or wolf drive. Now a party of a dozen men in three or four motor cars go out and make more successful drives than 100 men with horses.

A wolf hunt with a motor car is about as exciting sport as any one would care to indulge in. In middle and western Kansas are thousands of acres of wheat and corn lands without a fence. Often one can drive five or ten miles across the country and encounter few fences except those around a small pasture on each farm. Motorists can drive miles and miles across the prairie lands of the western half of this state without running into a fence or creek or gully.

It is not much trouble to stir up a coyote or prairie wolf in western Kansas, and when the motor party sees one the race begins. The coyote runs in a large circle. He does not dodge back and forth, or zig-zag much, so it

is a comparatively easy matter for the driver to keep right behind Mr. Coyote. But that motor car must be moving along at a lively gait. The coyote can hump along across the prairie at about 30 miles an hour, and he can also do some tall spurning when necessity demands.

In the days of coyote hunting with horses and dogs, the wolves were never driven to their dens. But about an hour's driving with a motor car gives the coyote about all the running he cares for, and he makes for his den. But his rest is not long, because the hunters pour some gasoline down the hole, and the fumes soon drive the coyote out, and the race begins again. Within the last month not less than eight coyotes have been run down and killed by the wheels of the motor cars or shot by members of the party after the animals had been driven until they could run no longer.

The Kansas jack rabbit is also a

18,000 Slums Knocked Out

Liverpool City Council Razes Insanitary Dwellings and Spends \$5,000,000 in New Ones.

Liverpool.—The greatest movement in any city in the world for the purification of the slums is in progress in Liverpool. More than 18,000 insanitary dwellings have been demolished and 4,000 remain to be dealt with. About 6,000 of the dwellings have been destroyed by private enterprise to make room for business premises, while 12,000 have been cleared away by the municipality. There has been so "graft" in it. The city has put up 2,170 dwellings on the site of a greater portion of the houses which were swept away by the

municipality and on the other sites required for like purposes. More than 250 courts and alleys, mainly insanitary slums, have been cleared out of existence and in their places now stand wholesome dwellings for the occupancy of the poor. About \$5,000,000 has been spent in this work of demolition and reconstruction. More than 20,000 persons, chiefly former denizens in the destroyed sections, are housed in simple comfort and under sound conditions in these new buildings. The operations are in the hands of a committee of the city council. The plans now under way provide for 80 houses of four rooms each, 183 of three rooms and 277 of two rooms. No single-room tenements will be constructed. The 558 dwellings will contain 1,480 rooms. There will be a recreation ground. The net annual tax for the housing reforms is less than one cent on the dollar. No such work has been attempted in America, owing to the cry "socialism," which has been raised in New York and other large cities. The said city church corporation, which is said to have a similar plan in mind in dealing with the future of its dwelling-house tract on the lower West side in New York, has had forwarded to it a full report of the progress of the British enterprise. Experts from all over Europe say the Liverpool plan for housing the poor is working well.

Paris Is Still Paris.

Paris.—The Matin is worried over the aftermath of the flood. In a recent editorial it says: "Foreigners, believing that Paris has become, owing to the recent flood, a city of ruins and desolation, have ceased to visit us. Our theaters, hotels, and restaurants are empty. Our pessimism has been exaggerated. It is time we 'formed the foreigners that Paris is still Paris.'"

Doctor Saves Kitten's Life

Boston Physician Rebukes Brutal Driver and Takes Injured Cat Into Drug Store.

Boston.—It was one of those lean, yellow cats that cringe in fear at every strange noise, and it slouched across Scollay square, dodging in and out through the traffic. But a honking taxicab crushed it beneath a wheel and sped away, leaving the quivering form lying on the pavement. The driver of a three-horse truck laughed brutally and deliberately veered his horses so as to crush the cat beneath their hoofs.

"You big brute. Stop!" shouted a man on the sidewalk, running out and grabbing the bridle of the off horse. The frightened horses reared on their haunches and the man picked up the cat and stepped back on to the sidewalk before the astonished driver fully comprehended what had happened.

Stepping into the drug store at the corner he went into the rear and laid

the apparently dead cat on the floor in a corner. Opening the physician's bag that he carried, he stretched up a deep gas in the animal's side that had been cut by the tire chains of the taxicab. Adroitly examining to see if any bones had been broken, he stood it on its feet to see if it could walk. Unable to do so, the cat finally staggered back into the corner, curled itself up and lay quivering with fright, but having apparently implicit faith in its savior.

When the physician left, after rubbing from his fur coat the mud from the body of the cat, the reporter asked the proprietor what the doctor's name was.

"He wouldn't like to have me give you his name," answered the druggist, "but that man is one of the largest anonymous contributors to animal rescue leagues in New England. His heart is as big as a washtub."

A glutton is merely a man who can eat almost as much as a small boy.