

THE NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

A Synopsis of Proceedings in Both Branches of the Twenty-Eighth General Assembly.

SENATE.

In the senate on the 17th, senate file No. 106, repealing the free text book law, was reported back from the committee for indefinite postponement. S. F. 142, relating to insurance, and S. F. 85, also relating to insurance, were reported back and placed on general file. Senator Jennings' resolution, asking for the appointment of a committee to inquire into the affairs of the office of the commissioner of labor, was adopted. The chair appointed the following committee to act under the resolution: Senators Jennings, Hasty and O'Neill. The following bill was introduced and read the first time: To provide for and establish a state accountant and to fix a salary therefor, and to define his duties and to declare an emergency existing. Providing that no person shall be considered a qualified teacher who has not reached the age of 17 years, was considered in committee of the whole and reported back for indefinite postponement. Providing that petitioners who ask for more than one special election in one year shall deposit the cost of such election with the city or village clerk, to be forfeited if they fail to carry the proposition which they favor. Repealing the law providing for the payment of bounties for the destruction of wild animals, was reported back with the recommendation that it be indefinitely postponed. Providing the amount of fees to be collected by the secretary of the state board of irrigation, and S. F. 138, relating to the storage of water for irrigation purposes, were considered and reported back to be engrossed for third reading.

In the senate on the 18th S. F. 137—Water rights and irrigation passed. S. F. 49, providing that city treasurer shall be ex-officio treasurer of school board and providing for boards, passed. S. F. 65, relating to marks and brands, passed. S. F. 125, providing that state superintendents shall prescribe general course of study, which school boards may follow. Amended that no change in text books be required. Bill passed. Senate went into a committee of the whole with Sloan of Fillmore in the chair. S. F. 120, relating to school lands, and providing when they shall revert to the state upon non-payment of taxes or interest, amended and ordered engrossed. S. F. 191, by Young (by request)—Joint resolution fixing the amount to be set apart for the erection of a sodhouse and modern farm buildings, showing the progress of Nebraska, as an exhibit at the Louisiana Purchase exposition. Mrs. Louise Bowser wants the state to give her \$2,000 out of Louisiana exposition appropriation. She agrees to erect a two-story sodhouse, with a restaurant in lower story, upper story to be open and public, all to cost \$20,000. S. F. 192, by Sloan of Fillmore (by request)—Re-enacting representative feature in fraternal societies. S. F. 193, by Marshall of Otoe (by request)—Defining the name and purpose and providing for the government and maintenance of the Nebraska School for the Blind. S. F. 194, by Marshall of Otoe (by request)—Defining the name and purpose and providing for the government and maintenance of the Nebraska School for the

S. F. 162, by Howell of Douglas, had rough sailing in the senate on the 19th and after a long discussion in the committee of the whole no action was taken, the bill to retain its place on general file. The bill provides that before unincorporated mutual companies shall have power to insure outside of the members of the company or to pay officers more than \$2 per day or to employ solicitors, the company shall deposit with the state a surety bond for \$100,000. Standing committees reported the following bills for general file: Defining desertion of wife, husband or minor child; regarding game and fish commission and season for killing game; no claim for subscription to newspaper or magazine shall be valid except for order judgments paid. In installments; providing for the supersession of cases appealed to supreme court; providing for bonds to be given by parties selling liquor; H. R. 114, providing for the printing of the report of state superintendent, amended that printing be let by state printing board—recommended for passage; H. R. 48, providing for cost of bonds of school board treasurers to be paid by districts—recommended for passage.

The following bills were reported back by committees in the senate on the 20th, with the recommendation that they be placed on the general file for passage: S. F. 152, providing that the deposit of a check or draft in a bank shall be deemed evidence of due diligence in collecting the same; S. F. 128, providing that no judge, sheriff, clerk or constable shall be allowed to practice as an attorney in any court of the county in which they hold office; S. F. 149, providing when an injunction may be granted by the court; S. F. 154, providing for a commission to revise the statutes; S. F. 87, providing that heads of families shall have exempt from attachment \$200; S. F. 118, providing a proceeding to revive a judgment can only be brought within five years after the judgment becomes dormant; S. F. 155, providing the articles of incorporation of a corporation may be amended by a vote of three-fourths of the capital stock; S. F. 155, providing when a defendant is found guilty the court shall render judgment, including costs; S. F. 158, providing it shall not be necessary to serve notice of suit on a minor child to be adopted. The following bills were read the third time and passed: Senate file No. 28, defining conditions of child dependency, prescribing methods of protection and penalties for neglect; senate file No. 98, to prevent the mutilation of horses by docking; senate file No. 129, legalizing bonds for the construction of irrigation canals and works; senate file No. 129, providing if any lessee of educational lands shall be in default of payment for

six months or any purchaser shall be in default for one year the lands shall be declared forfeited by the board of educational lands and funds; house roll No. 32, providing for district ownership of text books in cities; house roll No. 279, appropriating \$10,000 from the fund of the hospital for the insane at Norfolk, for use of the hospital for the insane at Lincoln; house roll No. 42, providing for the organization of school board, salary of secretary, etc.

HOUSE.

H. R. 292, by Good of Nemaha, appropriating \$2,800 out of the state library fund for a library at the Peru Normal, was passed in the house on the 17th, as was also H. R. 27, by McClay of Lancaster, providing for state burial grounds for inmates of Lincoln charitable institutions. H. R. 135, by Tooley of Custer, providing that one-fourth of the school apportionments to the various counties by distribution among them on the basis of the number of school districts instead of pupils, as now, was defeated by a vote of 48 to 41. H. R. 103, by Jones of Otoe, providing for district nominations and election by the people at large of all the county commissioners, was recommended for passage. Bills were introduced as follows: To require street car companies in cities of the metropolitan class and of the first class to operate cars during certain times after midnight, prescribing maximum fares and prohibiting the collection of any fare from any passenger who is not provided with a seat. Requires one car hourly from midnight to 6 a. m. and fixes maximum fare at 3 cents. Fine of \$50 to \$100 for violation. To entitle registered pharmacists of five years' experience to a renewal of registration without examination. To repeal the law requiring constructors of street railways to obtain the consent of the voters of the municipality before building, without which franchises may not be granted, and to repeal provisions requiring precise route and termini to be named in articles of incorporation, the route not to exceed length of five miles. To authorize the organization of mutual insurance companies to insure property against loss or damage from tornadoes, cyclones and wind storms.

In the house on the 18th H. R. 255, by Burgess of Lancaster, providing for an appropriation of \$85,000 to erect a museum and library building by the State Historical society in Lincoln, was recommended for indefinite postponement, as was also H. R. 237, by Gilbert of Douglas, providing for a commission of engine and boiler inspectors. The house took up a special order, the report of the committee on public lands and buildings that the Girls' Industrial home at Geneva be closed, on the plea that there are not enough inmates to justify its maintenance, and that the inmates be removed to the Boys' Industrial school at Kearney. After discussion the report of the committee was tabled. Sweezy moved that two items in the bill approved by the committee be stricken out. These items were \$50 for blue books furnished by the State Journal company and \$47.50 for bills furnished by Harry Porter. Sweezy claimed that in the first place, the contracts for these supplies ought to be made by the house instead of the secretary of state. He disputed the fairness and justice of both bills, and declared as to the first that, while they cost the house \$1.75 each, they were worth not more than 20 cents. The motion was carried. New bills were introduced as follows: To license and provide against the extortion of pawnbrokers and to fix the maximum rate of interest charged by them at 10 per cent per annum, and to provide that pledged articles must be advertised in a newspaper of general circulation for four consecutive weeks before they can be sold. Penalties from \$50 to \$500. To declare void sales, trades or other disposition of entire stock of goods or merchandise, wholesale or retail, or portions thereof, in bulk or otherwise than in the ordinary course of the vendor's business.

The house convened at 2 o'clock on the 19th and immediately went into committee of the whole, considering bills on general file. Among the important bills acted on was H. R. 136, by Davis of Buffalo, providing for a decrease of interest rate on county funds in banks from 2 to 2 per cent and that counties may deposit money within 50 per cent of the capital stock of the bank instead of 30 per cent, as now, and that where banks located in the county refuse or neglect to bid on said money or where there are no banks in the county or none having sufficient capital stock, then any surplus over the 50 per cent that the county may receive shall be deposited in banks outside of the county having sufficient capital stock. This bill was recommended for passage, as was also H. R. 7, by James of Washington, changing the method of appraising the damages in condemnation proceedings by railroads, and H. R. 51 by Cassel of Otoe, compelling road overseers to open ditches in April and October, and H. R. 148 by Perry of Furnas, allowing uniform fees for sheriffs for service in justice, district and county courts. H. R. 96, by Warner of Lancaster, precipitated the house into a brisk discussion in which Douglas county members, especially Kennedy, figured prominently. It provides that the county supervisor shall be made the county engineer and have charge of all the work devolving upon the latter. It likewise brought up the old bridge bill discussion and Kennedy opposed the bill, and finally secured the adoption of an amendment excluding Douglas county from the operation of the measure, which in its amended form, was recommended for passage.

Two eventful proceedings occurred in the house on the 20th, one an appeal from the decision of the speaker and the other a call of the house to note absentees and members present and voting. Both came as a result of the

fight over H. R. 103, by Jones of Otoe, the bill providing for the election of the county commissioners by vote of the entire county, which had been denominated a party measure. Jones, the author, was absent and an effort was made to have the bill passed over until the author could be present. Sweezy and others opposed this. Sweezy, who was against the bill, agreeing to pair with Jones. The speaker ruled that action on the bill should be taken, and Spurlock of Cass moved to appeal from the decision of the chair and was seconded by McAllister of Deuel. The speaker was sustained. The other remarkable incident was when the bill was put to a vote. Several members present refused to vote, whereupon Douglas of Rock moved the call of the house and the motion carried. The bill was finally lost, fifty-one votes being necessary for passage. The house then took up the bridge bill, H. R. 112, and voted to recommit it. It passed H. R. 79, by Loomis of Dodge, requiring teachers in district schools to keep school the statutory term or make report showing the tax levy has been made and is exhausted. The house in committee of the whole recommended for passage H. R. 127, by Meredith of York, as amended by Speaker Mockett, providing that no intoxicating liquors shall be sold on the premises or within two miles of any federal army post or fort; also H. R. 167, by Weborg of Thurston, providing for a memorial to congress for a constitutional amendment permitting the popular election of United States senators.

TO COMPEL MEN TO VOTE.

Representative J. A. Kennedy of Douglas county may introduce a bill providing for compulsory voting in cities. He is known to be interested in the subject and is said to be collecting data and information with a view of drawing up such a measure. A bill to compel every qualified elector in the country districts to vote already has been introduced into the legislature by Representative Ellers, and is known as H. R. 159, being now in the hands of the committee on elections and privileges. It provides a voting tax of \$2, a receipt for which shall be given by the judges of election when each man casts his ballot, the receipt to be accepted by the county treasurer in payment of the tax. The only other alternative than paying the amount is a sworn statement declaring physical disability on election day. Mr. Ellers also has introduced H. R. 158, which seeks to make the general election day each year a holiday, on which the schools and all places of labor shall be closed.

To City Engineer Rosewater is given the credit for originating the compulsory voting idea for cities. He says: "It is one of the reforms that I would make to improve citizenship. If citizenship is good for anything it is worth earning. I do not believe in sending carriages vainly labeled for people on election day."

"I do believe, however, that if every man is compelled to vote or pay a fine we will get an honest expression at all times, either in special or general elections. I would have a board of registration like a census board, to check over the list of registered voters to see whether each casts a ballot and to keep close tab on the eligible voters of the city. The fine that should be administered in case of failure to vote should be enforced by the board, and \$5 for each offense would be the proper amount."

TO CONSIDER BRADY'S BILL.

Through the efforts of Senator Brady of Boone, a meeting of the joint railroad committee will be held in the senate chamber on Monday. The meeting will be open to the public and will be for the purpose of considering S. F. 162, which was introduced by Senator Brady. This bill provides that any railroad company operating within this state shall, when requested in writing by the owner, owners, or operators of any elevator, at any station within this state through which any railroad is operated, erect and maintain a side track of suitable length to approach as near as four feet of the outer edge of their right of way when necessary, and in all cases to approach any elevator that may be erected adjacent to their right of way, for the purpose of loading grain into cars from said elevator. The bill carries a clause providing a penalty of \$1,000 for failure by any transportation company to comply with the law.

In view of the great movement now going on in this state in the way of organizing co-operative elevator companies, it is thought, by those interested, that this bill is one of the most important, if not the most important, now before the legislature, especially to all country districts. The recent organization of farmers perfected in Lincoln looks for its hardest fight for life with the railroads on the very point answered by S. F. 162, and for that reason it is desired by the friends of the measure that all parties interested will lend their weight to help carry it through.

TELEPHONE INVESTIGATION.

The meeting of the telephone investigation committee developed some excitement. Representative Morsman of Douglas insisted on the right of cross-examination by Morsman. The effect of City Telephone company, who had been brought from Minneapolis by the so-called independent telephone people to testify as to rates. Senator Warner of Dakota, chairman of the committee, denied this right, and then Senators O'Neill, Giffin and Meredith sided with Morsman and the result was that Judgment was subjected to a rigid cross-examination by Morsman. The effect of the cross-examination was not encouraging to the independents, but rather favorable to the Nebraska Telephone side of the controversy. At the conclusion of the meeting Senator Howell of Douglas took occasion to read a statement made by President Vost of the Nebraska Telephone company that he had come to Lincoln as representative of the Omaha Commercial club.

NELSON'S BILL DOOMED.

It is said that Representative Nelson's negotiable instrument bill is doomed to postponement. The measure is a long one, codifying the laws relating to paper of this character. It is a copy of the Ohio law and in many ways is a good measure. It is meeting the objections made against all radical changes. The members have no time to study it carefully, and besides the citizens are against innovations no matter how good they may be. Representative Jovanovitch of the committee on banks and currency is in doubt whether to give the measure his support and others have so indicated.

NEBRASKA IN BRIEF.

There is much sickness in and about Exeter, with some fatal terminations.

Judge Geo. G. Bowman, a well known lawyer, dropped dead on the street in Omaha from heart trouble.

The W. S. A. club of Table Rock celebrated the 83d anniversary of the birth of Miss Susan B. Anthony.

There is an epidemic of measles and scarlet fever in the vicinity of Taylor, but as yet no fatalities have been reported.

James R. Alexander and wife have sold to Edward Andrews 320 acres of land in township nine, in Otoe county, for \$19,200.

The York camp of the Modern Woodmen has passed a resolution opposing any change in the present system of assessment.

The fight for the rural telephone system in the vicinity of Murray between the Bell and independent companies is on hot, with the independents in the lead.

Farmers in the vicinity of Vestra are practically starving in the midst of plenty by not being able to get cars to ship out wheat and corn to market. This condition has existed since last September.

What appears to be a very rich deposit of lead was discovered in a quarry a few miles west of Barneston, Gage county, and considerable excitement prevails in that neighborhood as a result.

Alonzo Wymore, a widower, aged about 45 years, living with John Larson, on the George Joyce farm near Alma, was found dead in bed by Mr. Larson. Heart disease is supposed to have caused death.

William Webber, while working with a gang of men on the Burlington bridge which spans the Missouri river at Plattsmouth, fell to the ice below, a distance of about seventy feet, and was injured so badly that he died.

H. A. Cheney, president of the Security bank of Creighton, has been named as receiver of the Bank of Verdigris, after a fruitless effort on the part of the owner to furnish a suitable bond to guarantee its liquidation by himself.

W. J. O'Brien, superintendent of the state fish hatcheries near South Bend, received large consignments of trout eggs from Bayfield, Wis., Manchester, Ia., and Leadville, Colo. This makes over 500,000 trout eggs now in process of incubation at the hatcheries.

C. W. Kiser met with a singular accident at Howe. He and W. B. Cooney were digging the grave of Mrs. W. A. Wright. The ground was frozen hard. Cooney was using an ax to cut the soil and struck Kiser on the hand, splitting the hand open almost the length of it.

Cyrus Kelley, aged fourteen, went out hunting near the home of his half brother, Jerry Kelley, on the Loup, Garfield county line. The gun he carried was discharged accidentally, the charge striking him on the right side of the chin and ranging through the head. Death was instantaneous.

Mr. Hellfy, a traveling man, in York, met a little girl near the post-office who was not dressed very comfortably, and on questioning the girl told him her feet were cold. Mr. Hellfy at once took the little girl into a shoe store and bought her a new pair of warm shoes.

Rev. E. E. Wilson, who has been pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church in Nebraska City for the past five months and who, before coming, was a missionary in South America, has been selected by the Methodist Episcopal missionary board of New York city as missionary to Porto Rico.

After being out five hours the jury in the case of the State of Nebraska against Charles Cain, charged with robbing a Rock Island freight car at Beatrice last fall, returned with a verdict finding the defendant guilty of petit larceny. Judge Letton sentenced him to the county jail for thirty days at hard labor and ordered him to pay cost of prosecution.

At Long Pine after driving his wife and stepson from the room with a revolver, Fred R. Ingalls turned the weapon on himself and inflicted a probably fatal wound in the head. The family was at dinner when the tragedy happened. Ingalls is the official watchmaker for the Elkhorn and has long been in business at Long Pine. An uncontrollable appetite for drink, which has ruined his health, was the cause of the deed.

John Shoemaker, living one mile east of Bertrand, while working with a corn sheller at William Karstens, was caught in a shaft, breaking both bones of his right arm, causing a compound fracture and other bruises. Governor Mickey has paroled Chas. L. Sharp of Papillion. Sharp has been serving a sentence at the penitentiary for car robbing, committed on the Rock Island. The parole was granted at the request of several prominent Papillion people, who have taken an interest in the man.

THE LIVE STOCK MARKET.

Latest Quotations from South Omaha and Kansas City.

SOUTH OMAHA.

CATTLE—There was a fair run of cattle here, and the market as a whole was in very satisfactory condition. Packers seemed to be quite anxious for supplies, so that a fairly early clearance was made. The beef steer market, though, was not quite as brisk as it was the day before on the good cattle. The heavy weights in particular did not sell very well, and on that class salesmen were calling the market a little lower. The cow market was active and stronger on cutters and the better grades of corned beef. For the week the market on that class of cattle is fully 25c higher and in some places more. Canners, however, have been rather neglected all the week and have not shown any improvement. Bulls were not any more than steady, with the demand indifferent. Veal calves sold freely at steady prices. Supplies of stock cattle were limited, and as is generally the case toward the close of the week, the market was, if anything, a shade lower, as speculators were afraid to get many cattle on hand for fear of being obliged to carry them over.

HOGS—There was not an excessive run of hogs at any point, and as a result prices improved a little under the influence of a good demand. At this point the market was rather slow. Sellers held for a 5010c advance, and that was the way the bulk of the hogs sold. The big end of the receipts sold from \$6.55 to \$7.05. The heavier weights sold mostly from \$7.00 to \$7.65, and as high as \$7.15 was paid for prime heavyweights. The medium hogs sold largely from \$6.55 to \$7.00, while the light hogs sold from \$6.95 down.

SHEEP—Choice western lambs, \$8.00; 6.25; fair to good lambs, \$5.65; good native and Colorado lambs, \$6.00; 6.25; choice yearlings, \$5.50; 5.75; fair to good yearlings, \$5.00; 5.50; choice wethers, \$4.75; 4.25; fair to good, \$4.00; 4.25; choice ewes, \$4.25; 4.50; fair to good, \$3.25; 4.00; feeder lambs, \$4.00; 4.50; feeder yearlings, \$3.75; 4.00; feeder wethers, \$3.75; 4.00; feeder ewes, \$2.25; 3.00.

KANSAS CITY.

CATTLE—Fat cattle slow, steady; cows and heifers, steady to lower; stockers and feeders, active, steady; quarantine, slow; choice export and dressed beef steers, \$4.50; 5.25; fair to good, \$3.40; 4.00; stockers and feeders, \$2.50; 4.40; western fed steers, \$2.75; 5.00; Texas and Indian steers, \$3.00; 4.00; Texas cows, \$1.90; 4.25; native cows, \$2.00; 4.05; native heifers, \$2.25; 4.25; canners, \$1.00; 2.25; bulls, \$2.25; 4.25; calves, \$2.50; 6.00.

HOGS—Market opened strong to 5c higher, closed weak; top, \$7.20; bulk of sales, \$7.00; 7.15; heavy, \$7.10; 7.20; mixed packers, \$6.50; 7.12; light, \$6.70; 7.05; yorkers, \$6.50; 7.05; pigs, \$5.85; 6.70.

SHEEP AND LAMBS—Market steady; native lambs, \$4.00; 6.65; western lambs, \$3.50; 6.20; fed ewes, \$3.15; 6.00; native wethers, \$3.50; 5.55; western wethers, \$3.40; 5.70; stockers and feeders, \$2.50; 3.65.

PEACE POWERS' PROTOCOL.

Agreements Between Other Claimants and Venezuela.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Among the callers on Herbert W. Bowen, Venezuela's representative, Friday, was Ferdinand Van Derheld, formerly charge d'affaires of Belgium to Venezuela, who came with the Belgian minister, Baron Moncheur. Mr. Van Derheld has been designated as charge d'affaires to Chile, but has stopped in Washington to give what assistance he can to Baron Moncheur in drawing up the Bengian protocol with Mr. Bowen.

The representatives of the various peace powers are having cable exchanges with their governments to guide them in the drafting of the protocols for the settlement of the claims of citizens of their countries against Venezuela. None of those protocols are yet in shape for signature.

Minister Bowen, accompanied by Mrs. Bowen, made a formal call on the various diplomatic officials with whom he has been conducting negotiations.

Affecting Pension Laws.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Representative Sulloway on Friday introduced a bill reciting "that in the administration of the pension laws and enlisted man in the military service of the United States during the rebellion shall be held to be entitled to a pension for any disability contracted by him during any and all enlistments recognized by the war department as valid, provided his disability or disabilities were contracted during the performance of military duty, within the meaning of the pension laws, any ruling or decision of the secretary of the interior to the contrary notwithstanding."

Was With Roosevelt.

DENVER, Colo.—Sherman M. Bell, a member of Roosevelt's rough riders during the Spanish-American war, has been appointed adjutant general of the Colorado National Guard by Governor Peabody.

Says Sun is Inhabited.

LA PORTE, Ind.—Alexander Young of La Porte makes the announcement that from observations made by him he is confident that the sun is inhabited. He claims to have seen on the sun's surface mountain sides with great and precipitous rocks, which glow with prismatic colors, blended with the greenness of a perennial vegetation and with a floral radiance more beautiful than that of the earth.

BRIEF TELEGRAMS.

Bandits who held up a Burlington train in Montana got but \$7.50.

Lieutenant Peary says he hopes to make another effort to reach the north pole.

Colonel Richard L. Walker, known to every politician in Kansas as "Dick" Walker, died in Topeka.

Arnold Green, LL.D., one of the most prominent lawyers in the state and widely known as a scholar, is dead at Providence, R. I.

The president will appoint James R. Garfield to the position of commissioner of corporations under the new department of commerce act.

Ex-State Senator C. H. Smith of Jackson, Mich., has wired to Washington his acceptance of the office of prosecuting attorney at Manila.

The Standard Oil company has declared a dividend of \$20 per share, payable March 26. This is \$10 more than the last dividend declared.

At Atchison, Kan., a verdict for \$10,000 has been rendered in the district court in the breach of promise case of Miss Olive Sells against Peter W. Allen.

By unanimous vote the Nebraska senate has adopted a joint resolution providing for the election of United States senators by a direct vote of the people.

It is reported that Hon. Edward H. Blake of Ontario has been retained by the Canadian government as counsel before the Alaskan boundary commission.

The United Railways company of San Francisco has applied to the New York Stock exchange to list \$20,000,000 4 per cent sinking fund coupon bonds of 1927.

Active preparations are being made for the early departure of the flagship New York and the cruisers Boston, Marblehead and Ranger for the coast of Honduras.

By unanimous vote of the Athletic council Iowa State college has elected B. J. Wefers, once the world's champion sprinter, as track team trainer for the coming season.

The statement is made in London that Lord Charles Beresford has accepted the command of the channel squadron. This will necessitate his retirement from parliament.

Nathan Doras, a diamond broker of Philadelphia, was robbed of \$7,000 worth of diamonds within ten minutes after stepping from a train on his arrival in Chicago from Cincinnati.

It is the present intention of the navy department to order Captain Purcell F. Harrington, now at the New York navy yard, to Bremerton, Wash., to take charge of the navy yard there.

H. F. Kronslyn of Seoul, Korea, arrived in Tacoma on his way to New York and Philadelphia to contract for idols to be used in the heathen temples of his country as well as for China.

There were three deaths from the plague Monday at Mazatlan, Mex. Two hundred and two patients with the plague have been admitted to the lazaretto since it was established and 121 have died.

J. S. Clarke, the Canadian agent in Australia, cables that a hot wave has struck Australia and is burning up the vegetation in the pastoral districts and undoing advantage derived from the recent rains.

Albert Pfaff, who decorated and furnished most of the great trans-Atlantic liners of the Hamburg-American and North German Lloyd companies, died in Berlin. He bequeathed about \$500,000 to various charities.

A bill has been introduced in the Wisconsin senate to make the teaching of the doctrines of criminal anarchy a felony and punishable by imprisonment for not more than ten years or a fine of not more than \$5,000, or both.

Dr. William R. Brooks, director of Smith observatory and professor of astronomy in Hobart college, has been awarded the comet medal of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific for the discovery of his twenty-third comet.

The Belgium chamber of deputies had a stormy discussion on a bill introduced by the premier imposing a tax on foreign companies having branches in Belgium amounting to 2 per cent of their profits and requiring them to publish annual sheets. A commission was appointed to examine the bill immediately.

Joseph Barry, the musical composer and director of the South Wales school of music, died in London.

Jesus Urueta has been selected by President Diaz to represent Mexico at the international educational congress in Rome.

The Colorado senate passed the bill appropriating \$25,000 to defend the Kansas-Colorado water suit.

Colonel R. H. Pratt has received official notification from the war department that he has been retired as colonel.

The closing of the United States naval station agreement with Cuba has caused a renewal of hopes among the 900 United States artillerymen still in Cuba that they will be ordered back to the United States within three months.