

HOLCOMB'S ADIEU

RETIRING GOVERNOR'S FAREWELL MESSAGE.

AN ABLE STATE PAPER

The Message Calls to the Attention of the Legislature the Needs of the State Institutions, and Finances of the State.

Governor Holcomb's message to the legislature is twenty-six and one-half columns long, too long to handle with satisfactory results; and here follows a brief summary of the same.

To the Senators and Representatives of the Twenty-sixth Session of the Legislature of Nebraska—Gentlemen: In the discharge of the obligation imposed upon me as chief executive of the state, I present this, my second annual message to the legislature.

Much trouble, uncertainty and needless litigation have too often been the result of hasty and ill-considered legislation. In amending the present laws and the enactment of new legislation, which you may find to be wise and proper, I bespeak that careful preparation and consideration which should characterize all legislation.

The governor then calls attention to the war with Spain and in relation to Nebraska's part therein says: In the creation of the volunteer army for the war with Spain the citizens of our state responded with promptness and patriotism inspiring and gratifying to all Nebraskans.

The growth of the state and its material progress during the past two years has not been without satisfactory results. The agricultural interests have steadily increased from year to year. We advanced to first place in the magnitude of our corn crop for the year 1879, excelling all other states in the union.

The growth and development of her resources Nebraska offers opportunities for engaging in profitable business, acquiring property and securing homes where families may be reared amid churches and schools and healthful surroundings equal or superior to any section of the country.

The state business has been carried on in a satisfactory manner. Economy and business-like methods have as a rule prevailed in all branches and departments of the state government. Expenditures have quite generally been kept within appropriations. The state's indebtedness has been liquidated as rapidly as the collection of revenues would permit.

Next in the message is a long and detailed resume of the state's finances. The governor said he took pride in the showing of economy made. It is too long to admit of publication in what must be but a very brief summary of Governor Holcomb's message.

The same general principles seem to be involved as in the maximum freight rate cases. The people have a right to have the case speedily tried. If the act in question is not valid we ought to ascertain a reasonable time when it is defective, so that the legislature may remedy the defect and by suitable legislation give to the people such protection from unjust exactions as they may rightfully demand.

I suggest the propriety of some action on the part of the legislature urging the advancement and speedy determination of cases of this character. If laws of the state are to be annulled and their operation suspended by the extraordinary writ of injunction, a proceeding in itself of doubtful propriety, certainly the state may rightfully insist that the litigation shall be expedited and involve no unnecessary delay.

BEET SUGAR AND CHICORY BOUNTY. The legislature of 1895 passed a law providing for the payment of a bounty upon sugar manufactured from sugar beets raised in Nebraska, and on chicory manufactured from chicory raised in the state.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION. Judging by past experience it seems almost hopeless to expect any amendment to our fundamental law by submitting the question to the voters, under the provisions of the constitution as construed by the court.

may be abolished and all shall be re- and just share to the public revenues. To what extent and in what particular feature is left to your judgment. The legislature two years ago added materially to the revenues of the state by an amendment to the law regarding charges in the office of secretary of state for filing articles of incorporation and in other respects.

The governor urges the legislature to enact an inheritance tax and says it would be a source of large income as the state grows in population and wealth. He also says that some provisions should also be made whereby the large floating indebtedness now outstanding may be gradually reduced until finally extinguished.

He especially urges the legislature to enact laws that will secure greater revenue from fire and life insurance companies.

He also recommends that the legislature carefully consider the reports of the various state officers, and the needs of the state institutions, and advise that the state labor commissioner bureau be kept, and more liberally provided for that it might do better work with more beneficent results.

STOCK YARDS REGULATIONS. The last legislature passed an act to regulate certain stock yards by declaring them public markets and defining the duties of the person or persons operating the same and regulating all charges thereof and providing penalties for the violation thereof.

The Union stock yards of South Omaha, a corporation subject to the provisions of this act, had itself, or perhaps, more accurately speaking, its managing officials, who were creatures of its own making, enjoined from putting in force the rates of charges as therein provided, and the case seems to be traveling the same road as the maximum freight rate case, except moving by slower stages, if that were possible.

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I have heretofore spoken somewhat in detail regarding the revenues of the state and the expenditures necessarily incurred in the conduct of the state's business. Under the present system of raising revenues it is possible only to provide for the ordinary current expenditure of the state, with, perhaps, a small sum for extraordinary expenditures, such as public buildings, permanent improvements and miscellaneous matters without the appropriations exceeding the amount which may be derived from taxation and from other sources.

A revision or amendment of the revenue laws of the state is required in order that inequalities now existing

ing the governor to investigate and report the amount of beets raised in Nebraska during the years 1895 and 1896, to the next session of the legislature, with his recommendation, if any, thereon.

I find from reports filed in the office of the secretary of state, to which are attached the certificates of the secretary of state, that the bounty due under the law is as follows:

	Pounds.	Amount.
Norfolk Beet Sugar Co., Norfolk, 1895.....	3,960,000	\$ 24,750.00
Oxnard Beet Sugar Co., Grand Island, 1895....	2,530,500	15,871.25
Norfolk Beet Sugar Co., Norfolk, 1896.....	5,630,000	35,187.50
Norfolk Beet Sugar Co., Norfolk, 1896....	128,800	805.00
Oxnard Beet Sugar Co., Grand Island, 1896....	5,012,462	31,327.58
Totals	17,270,762	\$107,942.23

The German Chicory company of O'Neill has also on file in the office of the secretary of state a claim bearing the certificate of the secretary of state for a bounty of \$622.81 for chicory produced and manufactured in the year 1895.

DIRECT VOTE FOR SENATORS. I recommend that the legislature memorialize congress to amend the constitution so that United States senators be elected by the direct vote of the people. In the election of senators by the legislatures of the different states it has too frequently been necessary in the past few years for investigations to be made into the means employed to secure election.

He urges the erection of an executive mansion for the governor and concludes as follows: In conclusion permit me, gentlemen, to express the hope that you will find pleasure in the performance of your duties while you remain at this capital, and that the result of your combined efforts will be of enduring benefit to the state and reflect credit upon your body.

Tim Murphy, the actor, gave a display of his pugilistic powers one afternoon at the Lincoln hotel in Lincoln which was not down on the bills. He accused a travelling man named Henry Bell of looking over the transom of a room occupied by a lady member of his troupe, and to make the charge more emphatic exchanged a few blows with the traveler.

At Wilber Ed Bartos, son of J. F. Bartos, while assisting to butcher some hogs for a neighbor slipped and fell into a vat of scalding hot water. His whole body except his face and one arm was so badly scalded that death resulted soon afterward. He was fourteen years old.

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As Dr. George Moeze of Geneva left his office to answer a call he stumbled and fell downstairs, receiving severe injuries about his head and neck. Just as the Omaha board of health had calculated that they had smallpox stamped out of Omaha a new case is reported. A child in a family at Thirty-sixth and Farnam is ill with it.

Mrs. Dudley, wife of Lieutenant Colonel Dudley of the regular army, has written a letter to a friend in Lincoln stating that Colonel Dudley has been appointed secretary of state in the provisional government being formed in Havana. He is also connected with the judicial system.

KILLED IN A WRECK

HEAD-END COLLISION ON UNION PACIFIC.

Passenger Trains Collide Between Sidney and North Platte—Five Lives Lost—Two Trainmen Among the Number Killed—The Blame Not Yet Placed.

A fatal wreck occurred at Sunol, a small station fifteen miles west of Sidney on the Union Pacific, Monday morning, and five people were killed, and many injured, some dangerously.

The collision was between westbound passenger No. 3 and the second section of eastbound train No. 2. No. 3 was being pulled by two large eighteen hundred size engines. The train dispatcher had given orders for the trains to meet at Sunol.

The forward engineer and fireman, the latter being named J. C. Coleman, were killed and the other engineers and crews were seriously injured. Three mail clerks were injured, one being F. B. Eastlund, a former employe of the Kearney postoffice.

Conductor Stone of train No. 3 says that a minute before the crash came the air brakes were vigorously applied but the train was too heavy to stop.

As to the cause of the accident, nothing more definite has arrived than that a brakeman failed to turn a switch in time to permit the trains to pass.

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A telegram was received in Lincoln Monday conveying the sad information that Capt. R. O. Phillips at one time a prominent citizen of the capital city, had passed away in San Francisco.

At Loup City Rev. W. E. Mathews, wife and one child were badly poisoned by eating canned salmon, and are in a very critical condition. The doctor was summoned and medical treatment soon relieved them.

Judge Crimson of Schuyler has been appointed as judge of the Sixth judicial district to succeed Judge William Marshall, deceased. He will begin his duties on the bench at Fremont at the opening of the regular term, February 13, next.

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HUNTER ACCIDENTALLY SHOT.

A Charge of No. 6 Shot Lands in James Sarver's Thigh.

While hunting near the Blue river recently James Sarver, a resident of York, was accidentally shot by his companion, Wilbur Holmes. They were about twenty-five yards apart when both turned to shoot at the same bird, and as Holmes was about to elevate his gun it was accidentally discharged, the full charge of No. 6 shot striking Sarver in the right thigh.

After Colonel Stotsenburg. Friends of the Thurston rifles have made public the communication agreed upon at a meeting of about 100 of their number early last week, to be forwarded to the war department, asking that Colonel Stotsenburg be relieved from command of the First Nebraska regiment, now at Manila.

August Kellerman, his wife and six children, living in the north part of Jefferson county are lying very low with trichinae. The family butchered a hog a few days since and it was from eating the meat that the disease was acquired.

Jack Bright, a prisoner of the state who has been working on an Otoe county farm during parole, escaped recently and has not since been apprehended. Bright was sent up for a term of years from a western county, in which he committed burglary, and for the past three or four months had been out on parole.

Hiram Polley, a well known resident of Lancaster county, died near his home, two miles south of Raymond, while on his way from Lincoln. He was driving along the road and fell from the carriage, striking on his face. It is thought heart disease attacked him before he fell.

D. M. Dean, president of the state millers' association, met O. C. Holmes, secretary of the Nebraska manufacturers' and consumers' association, in Lincoln Saturday last and they arranged for the annual meeting of the millers' association to be held in Lincoln, January 26 at the Lindell hotel.

The three-weeks-old baby found a few days ago in a second floor hallway at Nineteenth and St. Mary's avenue, Omaha, died from exposure suffered at the time it was left in the hallway.

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POLLARD'S BILL APPROVED.

County Commissioner's Committee Consider Revenue Measures

At a meeting of the state association of county commissioners, held in Omaha in September last, a committee of eleven was appointed for the purpose of framing and presenting to the legislature some recommendations as to necessary changes in the state revenue laws.

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STILL IN SAN FRANCISCO.

Christmas Boxes Sent to Manila Still in the United States

An inquiry sent from York to San Francisco concerning the Christmas boxes for boys of the First Nebraska at Manila has brought the following reply: San Francisco, December 31.—I. A. Baker, Esq., York, Neb.—Dear Sir: Referring to your communication of the 26th inst., in which you ask if boxes shipped from York, in my care, for Company A, First Nebraska, Manila, have left for their destination, I have the honor to state that the boxes referred to, which were received here December 14, 1898, are still at this depot, as no government transport or freight steamer has left this port for Manila since November 18, when the St. Paul left carrying Christmas packages for the soldiers at Manila. However, both a freight and transport steamer will leave soon for Manila, and all packages received too late for the St. Paul will be forwarded. Very respectfully, Charles D. Long-depot quartermaster.

Will Wagner of Beatrice, while on a visit to his farm, was attacked by a vicious boar confined in a feed lot. The animal was not thought dangerous and the attack was unexpected. Mr. Wagner was knocked down and one of his legs was dangerously bitten and torn by the enraged beast's tusks.

J. T. Bailey, a news agent on the Rock Island, went to the residence of his father-in-law in Beatrice, J. J. Hahn, and abducted his two-year-old child. He boarded the Rock Island train, but officers secured him before the train left.

NUGGETS OF NEBRASKA NEWS.

Over 10 per cent of the population of Benedict are recovering from the measles.

Burwell is enjoying a building boom. Improvements for the past year foot up \$15,000.

Mrs. Minnie Voight has brought suit at Fremont against her husband. She seeks separation.

Oreal Ward of Lincoln has been appointed state centurion for the Century road club in Nebraska.

Nebraska City's board of education thinks the small pox scare over and has resolved to start up the schools.

J. J. Fallon of Wilcox, who recently returned from Mexico, died of mountain fever contracted in that country.

Two would-be burglars were arrested by the night watch at Creighton, pleaded guilty to the charge of vagrancy and were given thirty days in the county jail.

A sensational divorce case has just been placed on the docket at Hemmingford. J. T. Watson, a ranchman, accuses his wife Josephine of infidelity after twenty-eight years of married life.

Senator Allen has introduced in the senate a bill granting permission to Colonel Vifquain of the Third Nebraska to accept the decoration of the "order of the double dragon" from the emperor of China in recognition of a service the general did for Chinese subjects when he was consul general at Panama.

Mrs. Henrietta Lynoette, a widow who has been living alone near Alliance, was taken before the insanity board, who adjudged her insane. She had just purchased a railroad ticket for New York city at Alliance, where she was placed under arrest. She has been living a hermit's life and is supposed to have considerable money.

Mrs. Cora Hamilton, wife of T. N. Hamilton, a farmer living 8 miles southwest of Burwell, was accidentally shot by the premature discharge of a gun. Mr. Hamilton and a friend named Warden were preparing to go hunting. Warden dropped his gun and it was discharged, striking the leg on a stove and sending splinters into Mrs. Hamilton's face. Warden started for town at a breakneck speed and when about half way his horse fell, and one of his legs was broken. The lady's injuries are painful but not serious.

A ten year-old daughter of L. Colvia, a farmer residing near Hemmingford, was thrown from a horse into a barb wire fence and her limbs were horribly lacerated.

Sir Robert Ball, the eminent astronomer, told an audience the other night that any one who took the trouble to lie on his back on the ground and gaze at a clear night sky would, as his eyes become accustomed to the heavens, soon perceive numbers of shooting stars.

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