

NEBRASKA NEWS

NEBRASKA SPEED ASSOCIATION
FIXES MEETING DATES.

THREE NEW MEMBERS ADDED

Length of Meetings Reduced to
Three Days and Purses Are
Made Smaller—The 1908
Schedule.

The Nebraska speed association held their annual meeting in Lincoln to map out the circuit for the year's meetings and to date the meetings. Three new members were added to the circuit, making eight towns which will contest for honors. The new members are Tecumseh, Grand Island and Tekamah.

Officers for 1908 were elected as follows: President, F. E. Kimball, of Beatrice; secretary, H. V. Riesen, also of Beatrice. It was the sentiment of the horsemen present that the length of the meetings should be reduced to three days. The purses were also diminished. Last year they were placed at \$400 but for 1908 the purses will stand at \$300.

Entries for the races will not be confined to Nebraska horses but will follow the usual custom of taking all comers. It has been discussed that the circuit should be for state horses alone but the consensus of opinion is that not enough horses would enter to keep the circuit alive.

The following races were agreed to:
Paces—2:12, 2:16, 2:22, 2:30;
purses, \$300.

Trots—2:18, 2:22, 2:27; purses, \$300;
three-year-old purse, \$200.

The schedule for the season of 1908 is as follows:

Tecumseh—July 7, 8, and 9.
Auburn—July 14, 15, and 16.
Wymore—July 21, 22, and 23.
Beatrice—July 28, 29, and 30.
Tekamah—August 4, 5, and 6.
Fremont—August 11, 12, and 13.
Columbus—August 18, 19, and 20.
Grand Island—August 25, 26, and 27.

KEARNEY MAN FATALLY SHOT.

Morgan Lewis, Miner, Claims Killing Was Self-Defense.

At Kearney, Leonard Morton was shot at the American hotel by Morgan Lewis, a miner from Cheyenne, Wyo., who has been registered at the hotel for about three weeks. It was reported that the two men had been drinking and got into a quarrel. Lewis fired three shots at Morton, only one shot hitting him. Death was instantaneous from a wound in the breast. Morton is the stepson of J. L. Nichols, and has been employed by the Union Pacific railroad. Lewis gave himself up to the authorities and claimed that he had shot in self defense.

JOKE ENDS IN SERIOUS CHARGE.

Levy of Seward County Druggist Is Turned to Grief.

A. G. Pitcaithley, a druggist at Goehner, was arrested for selling liquor without a license by Sheriff Gillen, who went to Goehner to levy an execution on Pitcaithley in a civil matter. Pitcaithley treated the matter as a joke, refusing to liquidate, when the sheriff proceeded to make the levy, and discovered kegs of whiskey and beer which he considered to be in too large a quantity for home consumption. He placed the druggist under arrest and brought him to Seward, where he waived his preliminary, pleaded guilty and was fined \$200 and costs by Judge Corcoran. This is said to be Pitcaithley's second offense in selling liquor without a license.

State Poultry Association.

Secretary L. P. Ludden of the state poultry association is confident the state poultry show will tax the capacity of the Lincoln auditorium where it is to be held January 20 to 25. It promises to exceed all other shows in number of entries and the quality of poultry. Nebraska has been one of the leading poultry states for many years and this show may send it a notch higher. The state association has succeeded in getting the western division of the national White Wyandotte society to hold its annual show in connection with the Nebraska exhibit. The Wyandotte district extends from Indiana to the Pacific coast.

Normal Training Class at Lincoln. Superintendent Gamble of the Plattsmouth high school went to Lincoln last week, accompanied by his class in normal training. The class comprises seventeen students. The party visited the state house in the forenoon and were shown over the building by State Superintendent McBrien and went to the state farm and university in the afternoon. At the farm the students were given a special lecture on seed corn.

LARGEST NUMBER OF CONVICTS.

Warden Beemer Reaches High Water Mark in Prisoners.

Warden A. D. Beemer reported that he had 407 convicts under his care. This is the largest number ever in the Nebraska penitentiary. Only once before did the number reach 400. W. H. Dorgan of Lincoln, formerly prison contractor, tells how that high mark was made. It was during the time when Wyoming state prisoners were kept at the Nebraska penitentiary. When the number reached 399 report came that another prisoner was on the way. It was also known at the prison that one convict would leave the same day by reason of expiration of sentence. The man whose term expired was kept in the penitentiary until noon. By that time the new prisoner had arrived, and thus the number reached 400.

Warden Beemer's monthly report shows 404 prisoners on the last day of December. Thirty-four were received during December, six were discharged, two paroled, one released on conditional pardon and one was executed. Harrison Clarke, colored, of Omaha, was the man who left the penitentiary by the death route, making a total of ten who went out in December. Two hundred and seventy prisoners were employed by the contractor the last of the month, 250 being employed on full task in the broom shops. Visitors to the penitentiary paid a total of \$69.90 admission fees. The gate receipts were unusually large on account of the holidays.

KEEPING RECORD OF EMPLOYES.

Burlington's Employment Bureau Being Perfected.

J. N. Redburn of Chicago, superintendent of the new Burlington employment bureau, which the company is putting into effect was in Plattsmouth recently, making an address to the workmen employed in the shops, explaining the working of the bureau. The workings in effect are that in order to secure employment, an application has to be signed, which is a full history of the applicant. This has to be made with a number of references for consultation and reports. In the applications, one has to show where he has been employed, for what company, in what capacity and for what reasons they have stopped work. Their character and habits, whether married or single, and other things pertaining to the applicants that might have to do with their desirability as employees. These applications go to the headquarters at Chicago for examination, consideration and for recording and filing as a portion of history.

A MISTAKE, SAYS WAGGENER.

Missouri Pacific Attorney Regrets Sending of Passes.

The sending of Missouri Pacific passes to the members of the railroad commissioners of Nebraska was a mistake says B. P. Waggener. He explained: "The law of Kansas requires passes to be issued to members of the board of railroad commissioners and their attorneys, together with all other officers and employees of the board. When the names of such members were furnished in my absence in the south the names of the Nebraska railroad commissioners, by inadvertence of my clerk, were included. The Nebraska passes were sent out without my knowledge."

No State Warrants Out.

Treasurer Brian is feeling well satisfied with the record which shows that no general fund warrants on the state treasury are held by private parties. All such warrants are owned by the state, having been bought as an investment for the trust funds. This means that all interest bearing warrants are owned by the state and the interest goes to the state instead of to individuals or corporations. The same is practically the case with university warrants. Only one or two persons are known to have university fund warrants, although they were not bought by the state a short time during the financial flurry and were sold by holders to brokers.

Election Contest Ended.

When the contested election case of Shrewsbury against Wiker came up for hearing before County Judge Berry at Alliance, Boyd & Barker, attorneys for Sheriff Wiker moved that the case be dismissed for the reason that their client had not been legally summoned to court, the service having been made by a constable instead of by the coroner, as provided by law shall be done in all actions in which the sheriff may be a party. Judge Berry sustained the motion, which ends the case, unless the contestant appeals from the ruling to the district court. In all probability Mr. Shrewsbury will drop the case and allow Sheriff Wiker to fill out his second term without further trouble.

Wanted to Be Counted In.

Dr. Rich of Grand Island has taken note of Labor Commissioner Ryder's efforts to portray in words some of the riches of Nebraska. He has sent Mr. Ryder a photograph of himself and wife and seven children with the suggestion that Mr. Ryder has overlooked some of the Nebraska riches, that he and his wife has acquired since he came to the state to get rich.

PUZZLE PICTURE.



Find the Woman Who Spent All Her Money Before Christmas.

SCHMITZ AND RUEF FREED

District Court of Appeals Sets Aside Decision.

The Famous San Francisco Grafters Committed No Crime in Extorting "Fees" From Restaurant.

San Francisco, Cal.—The district court of appeals handed down a decision Thursday setting aside the judgment in the case of former Mayor Eugene E. Schmitz, convicted of extortion in the French restaurant cases. Abe Ruef also benefits by the ruling of the upper court, for, according to its decision, he pleaded guilty to an act that was no offense against the laws of the state.

According to the appellate judges, the compelling of French restaurants to pay big "fees" to Abe Ruef was not a crime, even though Ruef divided the "fees" with the mayor.

After discussing the point the court reversed the judgment against Mayor Schmitz, on the grounds that no act constituting a crime had been proved against him. Abe Ruef who pleaded guilty to extorting money from the French restaurants is therefore equally guiltless.

The decision wipes out the French restaurant cases and pending charges of extortion against Schmitz and Ruef must be dismissed. Both are now entitled to release on bail. If they obtain the necessary bondsmen they can remain at liberty until such time as a jury finds them guilty on one of the indictments charging them with receiving bribes from corporations. Owing to the number of cases against them in ball, figured at \$10,000 a case, would reach an enormous figure. The judges of the court which rendered the decision in favor of Schmitz and Ruef are J. A. Cooper, Frank H. Kerrigan and Samuel P. Hall.

By this reversal it is feared that the prosecution has lost its hold upon Ruef and it was freely predicted that the former political boss would now refuse all overtures for immunity, wholly or in part, to testify in the bribery graft cases and fight every indictment.

Still Pursuing Burton.

St. Louis, Mo.—The government is still trying to collect the fine of \$2,500, imposed on former United States Senator Joseph Ralph Burton of Kansas, who was convicted in the United States district court here of representing get-rich-quick concerns before the postoffice department while he was senator. An application was made Thursday by United States District Attorney Blodgett to Clerk Gray of the United States circuit court for an execution against Burton.

Western Union Will Comply.

Jefferson City.—The Western Union Telegraph company Thursday filed with the secretary of state an application for a certificate of incorporation to do business in Missouri. The filing of this application is a result of the suit instituted by Attorney General Hadley in the circuit court for a writ of mandamus to compel the company to comply with the state laws.

The Relief Put in Commission.

Washington.—The only development Thursday in connection with the controversy between the president and Admiral Brownson was the issue of the formal order by the navy department to put the hospital ship Relief into service as a naval auxiliary.

NOT SO BAD IN CHICAGO.

The Unemployed There is Now About 12 Per Cent But by March 1 Will Be But 7 Per Cent.

Chicago.—Statistics gathered by the Chicago Association of Commerce and made public Friday tend to alleviate the pessimism felt concerning the local industrial situation. In response to letters sent out by the association to 616 business firms which a year ago gave employment to 97,000 persons it is stated that these firms are now employing 86,400 persons, a decrease of less than 12 per cent. It is further stated that within 60 days these firms will have added 4,920 additional hands. David R. Fogan, president of the association, declares that the statistics were gathered from every branch of industry and that by the beginning of March not more than 7 per cent of the resident working population will be without employment.

On the basis of 700,000 employees at gainful occupations in Chicago the statistics presented by Mr. Fogan would show about 80,000 persons out of work. It is pointed out, however, that a large percentage of the idleness is due to the wintry season and not to industrial conditions. Of the 616 replies received only 81 could see no improvement ahead.

GREAT WESTERN RECEIVERS.

The Railroad Placed in Hands of A. B. Stickney and C. H. F. Smith By Federal Court.

St. Paul, Minn.—Judge Walter H. Sanborn of the United States circuit court Wednesday afternoon appointed A. B. Stickney and Charles H. F. Smith, both residents of St. Paul, receivers for the Chicago Great Western railroad. A. B. Stickney is now the president of the road. The firm of Kellogg & Severance of St. Paul was appointed attorneys for the receivers.

The appointment of receivers followed inability of the company to meet obligations falling due in 1908, and the failure to secure an extension of the obligations. Loss as a result of the boiler-makers' strike of last fall is given as a partial cause for the financial straits of the road. It was also pointed out in the proceedings Wednesday afternoon that during the last ten years the road has spent \$79,000,000 in reconstruction.

The petition for a receivership was filed on behalf of the stockholders and the finance committee by John A. Humberg of Minnesota, George P. Meyer of New York, Ward Cunningham and Alex. Wallace of Great Britain.

Found an Ancient Relic.

Marquette, Michigan.—The discovery of a small copper axe, undoubtedly of aboriginal origin, on the shore of Lake Superior here has revived the theory, combated by metallurgists, that the ancient people of the region possessed the art of tempering. The axe appears to have been hammered from a piece of pure metal. It is so highly tempered that it offers more perfect resistance than highly tempered steel. It is presumably a relic of a race of the Indians.

No Opposition for Campbell.

Cherryvale, Kan.—At a meeting here Friday night of the Third district congressional committee a hearty endorsement was given W. H. Taft's presidential candidacy. W. L. Cunningham withdrew from the congressional race leaving Congressman P. P. Campbell a clear field for the republican nomination. A convention was called at Parsons for February 28.

THE SIXTIETH CONGRESS

A Condensed Account of Transactions at the National Capital.

The Most Important Items Gathered From Each Day's Session of Senate and House.

Tuesday in the Senate.

Washington.—Senator Aldrich Tuesday introduced his currency bill, which has been a subject for discussion among the members of the committee on finance for some days. He had the bill read to the senate and announced that the committee would be glad to consider in connection with it all bills that senators might desire to introduce. He assured Senator Culberson that his resolution would receive attention. Senator Clark of Georgia announced that he proposed to have a vote in the senate to test the sentiment of that body on his resolution favoring a federal law to uphold states in their efforts to make effective prohibition within their borders. He wanted the senate to pass his resolution instructing the committee on judiciary to bring in a bill to accomplish this purpose but upon objection by Senator Nelson, the resolution was allowed to go over until the next meeting of the senate. At 1:40 the senate adjourned until next Thursday to permit more work by committees.

They Want the Information.

Washington.—The house committee on banking and currency Wednesday decided to report favorably the resolution introduced by Representative James of Kentucky, calling on the secretary of the treasury for information as to the amount of currency in circulation immediately before the recent financial disturbance and the amount in circulation now; the amount of government funds on deposit in national banks and the character of the securities accepted therefor.

Nomination to Senate.

Washington.—The president Thursday sent to the senate the nomination of Fred Dennett of North Dakota to be commissioner of the land office; also the nominations of James F. Tracey of New York to be a member of the Philippine commission and secretary of finance and justice, and Gregaria Araneta of the Philippine Islands to be an assistant justice of the supreme court of the Philippine Islands.

House Has Currency Bill, Too.

Washington, D. C.—The subcommittee of the house committee on banking and currency, to which was entrusted the framing of a bill to increase the elasticity of the currency, reached a conclusion Wednesday and will report favorably to the full committee a bill drawn in the main by Chairman Fowler of the committee.

To Preserve the Old Capitol.

Washington.—A bill directing the war department to cede to Kansas one acre of the Fort Riley military reservation on which is the building used by the Kansas territorial government as a capitol was introduced in the house Wednesday by Representative Anthony. It is proposed to preserve the building as a historic exhibit.

For New Employers' Liability Law.

Washington.—Representative Bates of Pennsylvania introduced a bill modifying the employers liability law so as to meet the decision of the United States supreme court declaring that law unconstitutional. It is identical in terms with the bill introduced Tuesday by Senator Knox.

Two Important Bills.

Washington.—Among the bills and resolutions introduced in the house Friday were the following: By Webb of North Carolina, to prohibit the shipping of liquors from one state into the prohibition districts of another; by Adair of Indiana, empowering the election of the United States senators by direct vote of the people.

Reduced Boxer Indemnity.

Washington.—Senator Lodge Thursday introduced a joint resolution reducing China's indemnity bond, incurred as a result of the Boxer trouble in 1900 from \$24,440,778 to \$11,655,492 with interest at 4 per cent; payment of the difference being remitted as an act of friendship to China.

Militia to Have More Time.

Washington.—The joint resolution extending to January 21, 1910, the time allowed militia companies in which to conform their organization armament and discipline to that prescribed for the regular forces of the United States was passed by the house Friday.

Would Restrict President's Terms.

Washington.—Senator Gore of Oklahoma Thursday introduced a joint resolution providing that no person shall be eligible to be elected president of the United States for more than two terms in succession.

Insurance President Dead.

Hartford, Conn.—George L. Chase, president of the Hartford Insurance company, died here Tuesday.