

# NEBRASKA NEWS

STATE FAIR FINANCES ARE IN GOOD SHAPE.

**\$26,000 BALANCE ON HAND**

Board Meets in Lincoln and Congratulates the State and Itself On the Good Showing for the Year of 1907.

President Peter Younger and the other officers and members of the state board of agriculture assembled in annual session last week in Lincoln and congratulated the state and each other on the condition of agriculture in Nebraska and recounted the advancements of the year and the improvements made at the state fair grounds at Lincoln. They told of the expenditure of \$33,000 in improvements on the grounds owned by the state, all of which was paid with funds on hand and the expenditure of \$22,000 appropriated by the legislature for an immense cattle barn and expressed the hope that the construction of a large live stock pavilion would be the next improvement authorized by the legislature. The sum of \$26,000 remains in the board's treasury.

### Governor Favors Navigation.

Governor Sheldon returned from the Missouri river navigation congress held at Sioux City imbued with the hope that the meeting would result in considerable good. He said the purpose of such a meeting is to get congress and the people generally interested in the improvement of waterways. Appropriations from congress are expected, and these cannot be had unless the people show an interest in the subject. Congressman Edgar C. Ellis of Kansas, a member of the rivers and harbors committee in congress, was elected president of the congress. With 700 people from seven different states behind him he is expected to have some influence in the matter of improvements desired along the Mississippi and Missouri rivers. "Congressman Ransdell of Louisiana," said Governor Sheldon, "presented the aims and objects of the deep waterways movement so graphically that one could almost see the steamboats breasting the current of the Missouri river. One of the strong claims of the supporters of the movement is the cheapness of river rates. They hope to improve facilities and thus induce a greater volume of traffic by river."

### Law Will Be Enforced.

State Food Commissioner Johnson announces that the requirements of the law in regard to the handling of milk and cream will henceforth be enforced. In regard to testing cream he says: The Babcock test must be employed, using a weighed sample of eighteen grams, weighed on a delicate balance and tested in a nine-inch bottle, graduated to at least 5 per cent of the fat column and read between the temperature of 130 and 140 degrees Fahrenheit. The fat column should be measured with a pair of sharp pointed dividers. The reading should be made from the extreme bottom of the fat column to the dark line about middle way of the meniscus or convex surface on the top of the fat column. This line shows plainly in a clear test.

### Fees for Hunting and Fishing.

Chief Game Warden Carter has compiled a statement showing the license fees received by the state for the issuance of fishing and hunting licenses since the license law went into effect. It shows a constant increase as follows: 1901, \$2,628; 1902, \$4,032; 1903, \$4,564; 1904, \$5,439; 1905, \$6,742; 1906, \$7,510; 1907, \$7,705. The appropriations made by the legislature for the fish and game commission, including the state hatchery, have not been compiled. The last legislature appropriated a total of \$25,530 for the support of the fish and game departments for two years. Of that amount \$10,630 was for salaries, \$12,850 for improvements at the fisheries and \$2,000 for a sub-hatchery in Cherry county.

### Deer Killed in Nebraska.

Roy Soules, a boy living at Brady Island, Lincoln county, killed a deer in December and was fined \$100 and charged with \$8 costs. Chief Game Warden Carter has been informed that the boy's widowed mother died since he was fined and he is unable to pay the money. The game warden will endeavor to have the case settled without payment of the fine if this is possible. It is believed the deer was one owned by Mekon Bros. of Willow Island in Dawson county. The herd was kept in an enclosure, but escaped Thanksgiving day, and all of them have not been found.

## DEATH OF C. W. SEYMOUR.

Well Known Attorney Passes Away at Nebraska City.

Charles W. Seymour, one of the best known attorneys in the state, died at his home in Nebraska City, aged sixty-nine years. He was born in Hartford, Licking county, Ohio, June 4, 1838, and when sixteen years of age entered the Wesleyan university at Delaware, Ohio, and remained there three years. He attended business college and then returned to the university, graduating with the degree of A. B. and A. M., and then began the study of law in the office of Judge Allen G. Thurston, in Columbus, O. In 1861 he came to Nebraska city and in 1862 was admitted to the bar, and farmed a partnership with William H. Taylor, and on the removal of Mount Taylor from the territory he formed a partnership with B. M. Davenport, which lasted for some time. In 1862 he was elected to the territorial legislature, and re-elected in 1863.

Mr. Seymour held the position of United States commissioner for years, was master in chancery for years, land commissioner for the Midland Pacific, prosecuting attorney, delegate to the convention held in Cincinnati, which proposed to move the capital, at Washington; was a member of the commission that met at Chicago to locate the Union Pacific railway. He was one of the leaders of the republican party, never missed a convention since he located in Nebraska City and served as chairman of the state central committee. In the early days he was quite a political factor and while successful in securing appointments for his friends he rarely asked for anything for himself. At the breaking out of the civil war he enlisted as a member of the Ohio Infantry for ninety days and when discharged came to Nebraska.

### Hand Crushed in Sheller.

Harry Tigner, living three miles southeast of Murray, while attempting to pull some trash out of the elevator of a corn sheller, got his mitten caught in the elevator chain. His hand was drawn into the sheller. The spikes riddled the mitten and cut and mangled the fingers, tearing the flesh off and grinding the bones in a terrible manner. The first two fingers of the right hand were ground off to the knuckles while the third finger fared but a trifle better. The thumb was ground off to the second joint leaving nothing whole but the little finger on the hand. Dr. Livingston amputated the remaining fragments, leaving the little finger and about a half inch of the ring finger and thumb.

### Will Cost Money.

Labor Commissioner John J. Ryder finds that it will cost his department at least \$100 to send out requests to merchants, dairymen and farmers for statistics in regard to the production and consumption of cream, butter, eggs and poultry. As his department has little money to pay the expense of original investigations the expenditure is considered a serious matter. What the returns will be in the form of information depends on the diligence of the persons who receive the requests.

### Ulysses Bank Meeting.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Farmers & Merchants' bank of Ulysses was held recently, the old officers and directors being re-elected, a dividend declared and a neat sum placed to surplus fund account. The officers are: George L. Smith, president; W. R. Brown, vice president; Floyd Seybolt, cashier; D. W. Patrick, assistant cashier; R. E. Moore and W. T. Auld of Lincoln are stockholders in this bank.

### Not Kearney Lake, Nebraska.

State Superintendent McBrien, who asked recently where lake Kearney was located, the lake from which the people of Kearney were to furnish protection for the new state normal school, has received a picture post card with a fine mountain landscape and a big lake in the foreground, that picture being labeled Kearney lake. Mr. McBrien examined the picture more closely and found that the lake so beautifully pictured is in Wyoming. Then he breathed more easily.

### Will Obey the Order.

Effective January 25, all roads in Nebraska put in an oil rate cut by 30 per cent. That is complying with an order of the state commission to reduce it to 70 per cent of what it was a year ago. This the Burlington does under protest. General Freight Agent Spens says it cannot be told until it is tried whether this rate is non-compensatory. The St. Joe & Grand Island first announced it would obey the order.

### New School for Sidney.

The \$15,000 school bonds of Sidney district No. 1, were received from the state auditor. The bonds are issued for the purpose of building an addition to the high school building and are in denominations of \$500 running from one to twenty years, optional after five years, drawing five per cent interest. Plans and specifications have been prepared for the new building and the board of education is anxious to rush the work.

## A TWICE TOLD TALE

Story of Evelyn Nesbit Thaw Did Not Create the Same Thrill It Did Before.

## COMSTOCK ON THE STAND

Letters Introduced That Were Written to Head of Society for Prevention of Vice—Wanted White Prosecuted.

New York, Jan. 21.—Mrs. Evelyn Nesbit Thaw told her story Monday for the second time. The repetition lacked the vitality of the first recital, but the great crowd in the courtroom where her husband is on trial for the killing of Stanford White, listened intently to every word. Justice Dowling had ruled that he found no warrant in the law for closing doors against the public and there was a great clamor for admittance from a throng which hung about the building all day long. District Attorney Jerome, falling in his move to exclude spectators, took occasion when it came his turn to cross examine the witness, to bring out all of the details of the first trial which Mr. Littleton of the defense, had omitted on his direct in-

assistant, Mr. Garvan, who was ever at his chief's elbow with new suggestions. She fenced with them as skillfully as she did a year ago, and at times reflected the mood of the district attorney by answering in a voice pitched in as loud a key as his own. The prosecutor's pitiless and aggressive questions often struck fire and once when Mr. Jerome demanded to know if the young woman had told Thaw certain things, she replied hotly: "Yes, I told him, but I did not use the language you are using."

But one new feature appeared in the testimony of the witness. This was when she told about Thaw swallowing the contents of a bottle of laudanum at Monte Carlo in 1904, in an attempt to end his life.

New York, Jan. 22.—District Attorney Jerome's long and severe cross-examination of Mrs. Evelyn Nesbit-Thaw at the trial of her husband came to an end late Tuesday. The attorneys for the defense then succeeded in placing in evidence a letter written by the defendant in the fall of 1903, which completely corroborated the claim that the girl who was to become his wife did tell him the story of her relations with Stanford White, much as she has related it upon the stand at this and the former trial.

New York, Jan. 23.—Anthony Comstock, vice-president of the Society for the Suppression of Vice, was the prin-

### EVELYN NESBIT THAW IN COURT.



cipal witness at the trial of Harry K. Thaw Wednesday. He testified that late in 1904 Thaw came to him and complained of vicious practices by Stanford White and several of White's friends. During the year that followed Thaw wrote to him several times and was a frequent visitor at the vice-president's headquarters. Letters were read in evidence. They gave the names of the alleged victims of White in the famous studio and referred to White as "the blackguard." The house, Thaw declared, "was consecrated to orgies and controlled by six or seven criminal scoundrels."

The letters were new evidence in the case, but were mentioned at the last trial when Dr. Evans was telling what Thaw had said to him of his efforts to have Stanford White sent to the penitentiary.

"I did not want to kill the beast," said Thaw at that time, "but I did want to have him brought to court and have his acts known. Providence intervened, however. It was an act of Providence."

Mrs. Wm. Thaw, the mother, was recalled to conclude her testimony begun last week. Mrs. Thaw told of waking up one night shortly before Harry's birth and finding that her eldest child, an infant was dead in her bed. The nervous shock was so severe, she declared, that for more than seven months she scarcely slept at all. As an infant, Harry Thaw suffered the most remarkable sleeplessness she had ever known in a child. He was nervous and instead of sleeping at night would insist on being propped up to a sitting posture in bed, his eyes having a wide-awake expression.

Mr. Littleton's objections on the ground of "offensiveness and impropriety" frequently were sustained by the court.

Mrs. Thaw matched wits against both District Attorney Jerome and his

## TO BREAK UNION

GOVERNMENT IS AFTER HARRIMAN RAILROAD TRUST.

## SUIT STARTED TO DISSOLVE

Attorney General Orders Filing of Equity Bill—Too Great One-Man Power—Controls Two Pacifics—Has Hands On Others.

Attorney General Bonaparte has directed that a bill in equity be filed to set the control by the Union Pacific Railroad company and its subsidiary corporations of the Southern Pacific and the San Pedro, Los Angeles & Salt Lake road; also to have declared illegal the ownership by the Union Pacific or the Oregon Short Line of stock in the Santa Fe, the Great Northern and Northern Pacific, all of said lines being competitors of the Union Pacific. The attorney general issued an official statement to this effect, and after referring to the extended investigation by the interstate commerce commission into the relations existing between the various lines of road engaged in trans-continental traffic, says:

"From the evidence so adduced and from independent investigation the department has arrived at the conclusion that the stock holdings of the Union Pacific and its subsidiary company in the other corporations mentioned above, is in direct violation of the Sherman act.

"The department regards the suit as of first importance, as it is sought by means thereof to break up a substantial monopoly of the transportation business of the country between the Missouri river on the east and the entire Pacific coast south of Portland on the west.

"Aside from the railway companies above named, the other defendants in the suit are the Farmers' Loan and Trust company of New York, which is the depository of all the stock of the San Pedro road under a contract by which it is required to give proxies to such persons as may be named by Mr. Harriman and Mr. Clark for a period of years. There are also the following individual defendants who are alleged to have conceived and carried out the conspiracy complained of, to-wit:

"E. H. Harriman, Jacob H. Schiff, Otto H. Hahn, James Stillman, Henry C. Frick, Henry H. Rogers and William Clark."

### SHELDON FAVORS A CHANGE.

Governor Believes in Indeterminate Sentence of Criminals.

Addressing the Nebraska conferece of charities and corrections in Omaha Governor Sheldon made a strong plea for indeterminate sentences for all convicts.

"Justice is not being done our convicts," said the governor. "A man's sentence for a crime often depends upon the temperament of the judge. The indeterminate sentence would remedy this. It would be necessary to have a state board of pardons to look into the merits of cases and a constitutional amendment would be required, but I believe it would be the means of doing greater justice to these men."

### Endorse Forest Policies.

At a session of the Missouri dry farming congress in Salt Lake City a resolution from the committee on resolutions endorsing the efforts to preserve the forests and thus conserve the moisture called forth from Daniel Harrington of Utah a criticism of the restrictions placed upon stock grazing on the public range. A motion to recommit the resolution was made, but the congress, taking the view that water is more important than grazing from a farming standpoint, decided not to tamper with the committee's report and adopted it overwhelmingly.

### Sentenced For Boodling.

William R. Coyne, manufacturers' agent, who was recently convicted of perjury in connection with his testimony before the October grand jury during investigation into charges of boodling in the St. Louis municipal assembly, was sentenced to two years imprisonment in the penitentiary. Pending appeal Coyne was released on \$3,000 bond.

### Garfield Explains Bill.

Secretary Garfield appeared before the sub-committee on legislation of the house committee on appropriations and explained the items in the general appropriation bill for the reorganization and maintenance of the interior department bureau.

### Kentucky Deadlock Continues.

Frankfort, Ky., Jan. 23.—There was no election for United States senator in joint session of the legislature Wednesday.