

NEWS OF NEBRASKA

A GENERAL RESUME OF THE HAPPENINGS OF A WEEK.

DISCUSS PRIMARY LAW CHANGE

Propositions Are Being Advanced for the Betterment of the System —Platform Building to be Considered.

Politicians are discussing desired changes in the primary law with much interest these days. No one doubts that changes will be made when the legislature meets, and on a few propositions there is much unanimity on what these changes should be. Some of the objections to the present law and suggestions concerning amendments most frequently heard are:

The primary date is too near election.

The interim between primary and platform convention could be reduced to two weeks without inconveniences.

The method of adopting party platforms is crude and does not give the desired chance for delegates to fight for what they want.

Some hold that the platform convention should be held before the primary that candidates running for office may know for what issues they must stand before they make the race.

More time should be given for the selection of committeemen than the law at present permits.

Some favor selecting committeemen by vote of the people, but many campaign workers enter objection to this, holding that were committeemen selected in this way half the men who serve would never do a thing toward helping along the campaign work.

One scheme for platform building that would give delegates a chance to fight in convention for what they want, has been discussed in political circles. This is to have the state committee named by the convention the year before, draft and make public a proposed platform, thirty or forty days before the convention meets. Then make it necessary to consider that platform when the convention meets plank by plank and decide each plank by roll call vote. It would be possible as each plank is brought up to amend or substitute the draft offered, as the convention might vote. Planks not touched on by this platform could be added by the convention, or reference made to issues not desired could be entirely eliminated.

It is urged in support of this plan that while there might be some rather interesting divisions of opinion on the issues that the platform adopted finally would reflect the desires of a majority of the delegates. Some would amend the plan so that important issues might be decided by the party at the primaries by ballot. It is held that were such a scheme made into law it would at least permit state conventions to get down to business when they convene, and that there would be no long waits on resolutions committees to report, during which many delegates leave.

POINT IN TELEPHONE LAW.

Subscriber Has No Right to Connect Up Two Separate Lines.

In a case from Nuckolls county, the court finds that Henry L. Pharris, a farmer living near Superior, was not entitled to have two telephone lines in his home, connected with a switch enabling him to use one or the other at his convenience, while paying the same rate as other patrons who had only one line. The plaintiff in this suit was the Red Line Telephone Company of Burr Oak, Kas., which asked an injunction to restrain Pharris from connecting up one of the lines after it had been disconnected. It is held by the supreme court, in affirming a writ of injunction issued from the district court, that Pharris had no reason to claim a special privilege over other subscribers.

Social for Old People.

The annual "Sunset Social" was held in the Methodist church at York Thursday afternoon. This social is given to all people who are over 70 years old, and 100 were in attendance. This was the eighth event and it was greatly enjoyed by the "sunset" folks. An entertaining program was given and substantial supper served. The church was nicely decorated with sheaves of wheat and autumn leaves. The tables were decorated with roses, foliage plants, autumn leaves and flowers.

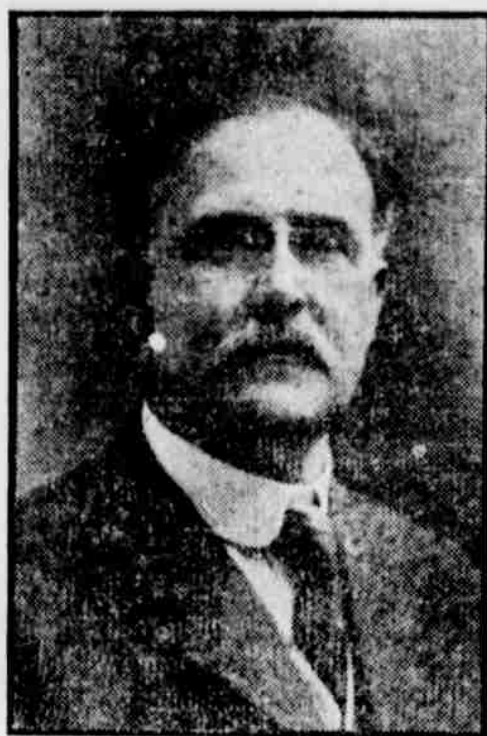
HITS THE NATIONAL GUARD.

Government Pays Only Men of Six Months' Service.

No longer will the Nebraska National guard be allowed to draw money from the government for the support of raw recruits taken to the state camp or to the regular army maneuvers. The war department has issued an order that no money will be paid to guardsmen who have not been enlisted for six months. The government pays the state troops invited to participate in maneuvers and it pays a portion of the per diem of all enlisted men taking part in state encampments and pays all the salary of officers of the guards during their attendance in state camps.

The new order of the government will cause considerable hustling among the different companies in the Nebraska National guard. The company officers who desire full companies at the next state encampment must begin to recruit in January and then must try to hold the men on the rolls for six months.

Formerly many recruits were accepted just prior to the annual camp. Men were not hard to find for the annual camp was considered a sort of holiday week. The men later might drop out almost at will and there would be a new set in the succeeding camp. The adjutant general's department during the past summer asked company commanders to bring to the state rifle camp only those of their men who had been faithful in attending drill. This shut out many "dead" ones from the camp.



President Benjamin Ide Wheeler, of the University of California will attend the forty-third annual session of the state teachers' association to be held at Lincoln, November 4, 5 and 6. He will give the principal address of the occasion at St. Paul's church at the last general session.

President Wheeler was graduated from Brown in 1875, taking his doctor's degree at Heidelberg in 1885. He has been an instructor at Brown and at Harvard, professor of comparative philology at Cornell, professor of Greek at Cornell and at the American school of classical studies, Athens, Greece, and has served in his present position since 1899. He is an author of the highest authority, and is an eloquent speaker, always giving to his audience invaluable thought.

That he will have a fitting audience is assured, as a large number of schools have already decided to close to permit the teachers to attend. Friday's program will contain features of special interest to rural teachers.

BIG FUND FOR UNIVERSITY.

Corporation Will Ask Half Million for Presbyterian School.

A long step toward the realization of plans for the University of Omaha, including Bellevue college, was taken Friday when the university corporation was organized and incorporated and announcement was made the university hoped to raise \$500,000 to start it off. With a site practically located in North Omaha the move toward the raising of this fund was given an impetus. The citizens of Omaha will be asked to donate \$200,000 of the half million by popular subscription, the other \$300,000 to be raised by the corporation. The Presbyterian state synod which was in session at Wayne gave its endorsement to the project and commended the formation of a big Presbyterian university in Omaha.

The recent disastrous storms have emphasized the necessity of protection against fire, lightning and tornado. A good company for farmers to insure in is the Farmers & Merchants of Lincoln. Their policies are easy to understand and prompt settlements are made after adjustment of claims. Thousands of satisfied customers have received benefits.

Farmers should all have telephones. Write to us and learn how to get the best service for the least money. Nebraska Telephone Company, 18th and Douglas streets, Omaha. "Use the Bell."

NEWS OF THE WEEK

Most Important Happenings of the Past Seven Days.

Interesting Items Gathered From all Parts of the World Condensed into Small Space for the Benefit of Our Readers.

Miscellaneous.

The Democratic national committee announces that their campaign fund so far amounts to \$222,000. There are 14 contributors of \$1,000 and 18 of \$5,000, a list of whose names is published.

After passing resolutions in favor of deep water from Chicago to New Orleans, the Deep Waterway convention adjourned its Chicago meeting. Next year's convention will be held in New Orleans.

The Trans-Mississippi Commercial congress, in session at San Francisco, has chosen Denver as the 1909 meeting place.

Mrs. Myrtle Baker, who was connected at Carthage, Mo., of attempting to kill her husband, was sentenced to six years in the penitentiary.

Three track repairers were killed and another fatally injured in an accident at the Lake Short switching yards in South Chicago.

State Chairman Timothy L. Woodruff of New York has announced that Andrew Carnegie had contributed \$20,000 to the Republican national campaign fund. Mrs. Russell Sage contributed \$1,000.

Treasurer Sheldon of the Republican national committee has issued an appeal for contributions of \$50 each from 10,000 business men throughout the country.

The Atlantic battleship fleet has left Manila en route to Japan.

The National Congress of Mothers will convene in New Orleans in February next.

A case of cholera was discovered in the Souverin theater at St. Petersburg during a performance. A panic resulted, but no one was hurt.

The suit of the government against the Ute Coal & Coke company of Durango, Col., to recover \$630,000, has been compromised for \$40,000.

The National Rural Letter Carriers' association which has been in session at Omaha, Neb., has adjourned. Paul L. Lindsay of Tucker, Ga., was elected president.

At a special meeting of the board of directors of the M. K. & T. Railway company at Parsons, Kan., the regular semi-annual dividend of 2 per cent on the preferred stock was declared.

Orsey Peters, 21 years old, while working in a saw mill near Sedalia, Mo., fell upon the saw and his body was cut in two lengthwise.

The board of managers of Kansas Soldiers' home at Dodge City have issued an order that hereafter no portion of veteran's pension money shall be taken to help support the home.

Patrick Clancy, an ex-member of the St. Louis police force and at present a city employe, has been sentenced to five years in the penitentiary for false registration.

According to the Kansas attorney general the nominations of the independence party were made too late to get on the official ballot in that state.

Twenty-five members of the Salvation army were arrested at Los Angeles, Cal., for violating the city ordinances regarding parading and speaking on the public streets.

Abe Snyder, an Owosso, Ok., farmer, is dead from hydrophobia, the result of being bitten by a cow afflicted with the rabies.

Because of the importance of the two-cent fare cases pending in the federal court at Kansas City, the Interstate Commerce commission has assigned an expert in freight and passenger rates from that body to assist Attorney General Hadley. The cases are set for hearing November 9.

The Chicago & Alton Railroad company has placed a second order at Pittsburgh, Pa., for 1,000 steel cars.

The boiler house of the Holden, Mo., electric light plant has been destroyed by fire.

Attorney General Bonaparte has asked that the injunction suit filed by 55 western and southwestern railroads against the commerce commission regarding live stock rates be advanced over all other litigation at St. Louis.

To prevent his wife and eight children from becoming impoverished by his illness, August Figi committed suicide in an East St. Louis hospital.

The stables on the country place of Richard Harding Davis, the author-playwright, were broken into and robbed of three valuable horses. Mr. Davis was recently appointed a deputy sheriff of Westchester county, N. Y.

The trial of the 18 cases brought to test by the Missouri two-cent fare law were postponed in the federal court at Kansas City until November 9.

The trans-Mississippi Commercial congress was opened in San Francisco with an address by President J. B. Case of Abilene, Kan.

The Burlington Railroad company has restored the ten-hour day in the shops at Havelock, Neb. The order affects 700 men.

A Civil war veteran who has drawn for years a pension to which he was not entitled, has turned into the national conscience fund the sum of \$1,172.

Kansas City's new municipal hospital, one of the most complete and modern in the country, and which cost \$500,000, has been opened for the reception of patients.

The Frisco railroad pleaded guilty in the federal court at Springfield, Mo., to seven charges of violating the 28-hour stock law and was fined a total of \$900.

The situation in eastern Europe has been further complicated by the people of the island of Crete who have arisen and proclaimed their union with Greece.

The governing committee of the Aero club of France has awarded its gold medal for 1908 to Wilbur Wright, the American aviator.

Thirteen persons lost their lives when a large grain elevator at Richford, Vt., exploded and was destroyed by the fire which followed.

The attorney general of Kansas has filed two ouster suits in the supreme court against Hutchinson and its mayor, John P. Harsha, for violations of the prohibitory law.

A quarter of a block of residences, stores and a livery stable were destroyed by fire at Topeka. On account of a bursting water main the firemen were helpless in fighting the fire.

Nine persons lost their lives in a tenement fire in lower Mulberry street, New York. Eight Italian families occupied the building and 50 persons were asleep when the fire was discovered.

The Balkan crisis has reached an acute phase and the whole of Europe is stirred by the formal proclamation of the independence of Bulgaria. The treaty of Berlin has been abrogated and it will be necessary to hold another congress of the European signers of that document.

A French submarine boat made a run of 81 hours covering a distance of 693 miles under water.

The attorney general of Kansas has ruled that voters in the state who failed to vote at the primary election in August, but were legally entitled to do so, need not register for the general election in November.

The wives of American naval officers now at Tokyo awaiting the battleship fleet were recently entertained at dinner by Admiral Togo.

Personal.

Congressman W. A. Reeder of Kansas has been added to the board of control of the National Irrigation congress for the ensuing year.

William Lyon McKenzie, a Civil war veteran who saw exciting service as a Union scout in the border days in southern Kansas, is dead on his farm in Wyandotte county, that state, where he has lived for 42 years.

Elbridge Henry Goss, author and banker, is dead at his home in Melrose, Mass. His best known work is a life of Paul Revere.

Dr. J. P. Stewart of Clay Center, Kan., died on a Rock Island train between Topeka and Lawrence while en route to Kansas City.

Senator La Follette is to start a weekly paper in Madison, Wis.

President Castro of Venezuela is reported seriously ill again.

Stephen A. Douglas, son and namesake of Lincoln's rival in debate, died suddenly at his home in Chicago. He delivered an address with Mr. Taft at Galesburg, Ill., on the day before his death.

Capt. Allen Fisher, an attorney of Chadron, Neb., has been disbarred for a period of one year by the supreme court of the state.

Norman E. Mack, chairman of the Democratic national committee, collapsed as a result of fatigue and a severe cold at Chicago and is under the care of a physician and a trained nurse.

Harry A. Garfield, of the class of '85, son of the late President Garfield, has been inducted into the office of president of Williams college at Williamstown, Mass.

William J. Bryan is to make a tour of New York state during the last week of October.

Fay Hempstead of Arkansas was recently crowned poet laureate of the Masons at Chicago with much ceremony. He is the third poet to be thus honored. The others were Robert Burns and the late Robert Morris of New York.

Augustus D. Lynch, formerly of Indianapolis, and for 36 years connected with the office of the comptroller of the United States treasury, is dead in Washington.

William H. Taft and William J. Bryan, the rival candidates for the presidency, were guests of honor at the annual banquet of the Chicago Association of Commerce. When the two men met and shook hands the spectators and guests broke out into a tumult of applause which lasted for 45 minutes. Both candidates made nonpartisan speeches to the assembled guests.

DROP FROM CLOUDS

TERRIFYING EXPERIENCE OF TWO AMERICAN AERONAUTS.

BALLOON BAG BURSTS IN AIR

Bag Finally Forms Itself into a Parachute When Half Way to Earth —Flights Begin at Berlin Suburb.

The international balloon race, which started Sunday from the suburb of Schmargendorf, Germany, was the occasion of a thrilling accident, two American aeronauts having a miraculous escape from death. The American balloon Conqueror, the only American-built craft in the contest, having on board A. Holland Forbes and Augustus Post, less than two minutes after the start, burst at an altitude of 4,000 feet. For 2,000 feet it shot down like a bullet, and then the torn silk bag assumed the shape of a parachute, thus checking the rapidity of the descent. Coming close to the earth, however, the basket smashed into the roof of a house, but the two men escaped with but slight injuries.

Thousands who had gathered there stood for a moment petrified. Some turned away, fainting as they saw the balloon falling with lightning-like rapidity. At the same time showers of sand and appurtenances of the balloon shot downward with equal rapidity, and then daylight was seen through the envelope, great ragged edges of the silk showing on either side. Shortly the remainder of the envelope appeared to take, first a triangular shape and then was transformed into a sort of a parachute at the top of the net and the progress of the wrecked balloon was considerably arrested.

It came down slower and slower, meanwhile being swept by the wind far to the southeast and finally disappeared from view behind a block of houses. The suspense among the crowd was terrible. But a few minutes later a telephone message was received which announced that the men had landed and had not been seriously injured. A sigh of relief went up from the people, who threw their hats in the air for joy.

NEW POSTAGE STAMP ISSUE.

Bureau of Engraving and Printing Completes Designs.

The bureau of engraving and printing has completed designs suggested by Postmaster General Meyer for a new issue of United States postage stamps. The new stamps will be of the following denominations. One cent, 2 cents, 3 cents, 4 cents, 5 cents, 6 cents, 8 cents, 10 cents, 15 cents, 50 cents and \$1. The two-dollar and five-dollar denominations now in use will not be reprinted. The two-cent stamp will be the first distributed, and it is expected that shipments to postmasters will commence sometime in November. The new issue has been designed with the object of obtaining the greatest simplicity commensurate with artistic skill. The profile has been taken in each instance instead of a full view, giving a base relief effect. All the stamps are of a similar design, containing a head in an eclipse, the only decoration being laurel leaves on either side of the eclipse. The lettering is in straight lines, at the top being "U. S. Postage," at the bottom the words "two cents."

TWO DIE TOGETHER.

Man and Woman Meet Death From Gas Fumes.

B. L. Sheppard, a travelling salesman, and Mrs. Leona Bruner, or Mrs. Sheppard, a waitress, was found dead in the apartments which they had been using for some months in the rooming house of Mrs. V. Hoag, at 140 North Eleventh street, Lincoln. The room in which they were was filled with fumes of a peculiar nature, and the gas heater in the bath room was said to be turned on and not lighted. It was the smoke in the room which was responsible for the fire department being called, and the bodies of the dead persons being discovered. Whether a double suicide or a case of accidental asphyxiation is not known.

Fire in White House Stables.

Fire of unknown origin was discovered in the loft of the White house stables, Washington, Sunday morning, causing \$15 damage. But for the prompt work of the stable-keeper and his assistant, the building, in which are housed several of the president's thoroughbreds, would have been destroyed.