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REFORM AND INVESTIGATION.

The present legislature of Nebraska has many important tasks to perform. Standing high among them is the task of reforming abuses that have become established in the legislature itself. Reform like charity should begin at home. The shameless extravagance of legislatures is a notorious fact. While the legislature of 1891 made a record for economy that was fair indeed when compared with that of its predecessors, it fell far short of the mark it should have made. This was due largely to the inexperience of the independent members, and the action of the demorepublican combine which encouraged extravagance.

Now the circumstances are different. The independents have an opportunity to retrieve their mistakes of two years ago, and set a pattern for all future legislatures.

It is true the independents have not a majority in either house, but they are nevertheless in a position to shape the action of both houses in the matter of legislative economy. In the house, by combining with the antimoney party of the democratic party, the independents have secured the organization. They have full control of that body so far as the matter of employees and other incidental expenses is concerned. In the senate the monopoly wing of the democratic party has combined with the republicans, but that body will not dare leave a record for extravagance to be contrasted with that of the house in the next two campaigns. Therefore the independents hold the key to the situation, and on their heads will fall either the credit or the blame for the manner in which it is used.

IN THE MATTER OF EMPLOYEES

The house has made an excellent beginning. So far provision has been made for only forty-four employees, less than half the number usually employed. Of course several more will have to be employed in the enrolling and engrossing room later on. But these will not be employed till needed. The speaker has also acted wisely in empowering the speaker to discharge any employed who fails to perform his duty satisfactorily.

Another matter called for; but if the legislature has not only knew the parlous condition of the treasury, but also knew that Edmonia was talented and modest as a violet. The hours beside her in the garden, in the parlor on the moonlit porch, and by the like minutes and this party lingered on till Charley came.

They learned duets together, and they would talk over every subject. The table was filled and the floor, lobby and gallery was jammed to suffocation with spectators. Eder Howe then prayed and the trouble began.

L. P. Ludden was appointed temporary clerk and was directed to call the roll. This proceeded in peace and quiet until he called the name of Chester Norton, the republican contestant from Knox county. Then a storm arose. Immediately Porter, of Merrick, and Casp. R. Butler, were on their feet for a point of order. Porter was recognized.

"I demand," said Mr. Porter in his piercing voice, "to know by what authority the name of Mr. Norton is placed upon that roll."

The secretary of state replied that it was because of a mandate from the supreme court.

"I deny," said Mr. Porter, "the right of the supreme court to settle election contests in its house." He then turned to that part of the constitution which provides that all election contests in either house shall be decided by that house.

Norton read Mr. Porter taken his seat and Johnny Watson tried to answer him, but it was a weak attempt. Then Charley Casper, of Butler, came to his feet. He said that the decision of the court was an attempt to usurp the district of the state and that was a function of the legislature alone. On the printed roll which had been furnished to the speaker, neither Mr. Kruse's nor Mr. Norton's name appeared.

They had been promised that this was the roll that would be used, and they were agreed to abide by it. But since that roll had been prepared, they had attempted to surreptitiously insert the name of Mr. Norton. He demanded that Mr. Norton's name be stricken from the roll.

Things were becoming interesting by this time and Secretary Allen was evidently badly rattled. Again young Mr. Porter, of Merrick, came to his feet and demanded to know what Allen intended to do.

Allen came on himself then and said he intended to use the roll as made out.

"The I appeal from the decision of the chair," shouted Porter.

"I cannot entertain an appeal during roll call," replied Allen.

"Will you put it after roll call?" said Porter.

"I will see about it," said the republican secretary.

"Then I shall out it myself," said Porter, and he did. He declared it carried.

The secretary of state, however, ordered the call to proceed. After it was finished he refused to entertain any motion whatsoever. This was a piece of tyranny such as has never been attempted in this state, except, perhaps by the infamous McKeljohn two years ago.

But the vote came on temporary speaker. The republicans named Church Howe, the independents I. A. Sheridan, of Red Willow. The result of the ballot was, Sheridan, 51; Howe, 48. Sheridan took his seat amid deafening applause. He made a few well-chosen remarks, and called for nomination of temporary clerk. Eri. Johnson was nominated. Church Howe moved that he be elected by a clamorous remarking that the republicans

of past legislatures in this matter will be repeated by the present one. Independents and democrats who are anxious to reform the abuses which have grown up under republican rule, should begin at once on this matter of legislative supplies. A committee should be appointed by each house to take charge of ordering supplies, with instructions to take a careful inventory of everything received, to see that no goods are paid for unless ordered and delivered, and to see that the goods are bought at the lowest market prices. This committee should be instructed to confine its purchases, both as to quantity and kind, to such as are necessary for the actual use of members and officers in the performance of their duties.

The next duty of the legislature after reforming the abuses that have grown up within itself, is to look beyond itself. It will not have far to go. Several of the executive departments demand attention. During the past four months the air has been thick with rumors and charges of crookedness, disregard of law, and scandalous negligence on the part of certain state officers.

As members of the "opposition," both democratic and independent members should unite in the investigation of these offices. All honest republicans should join in this effort. No party can afford to shield evil-doers in its ranks.

THE STATE TREASURY.

Probably no department in our state government has been administered with as much disregard of the interests of the people and the statutes of the state as the treasury. The chief object of state treasurers in the past has been to enrich themselves regardless of their duty to the state. Vast sums of public money have been put out in favored banks, the interest invariably going into the pocket of the treasurer. The law requiring the permanent school fund to be invested in state warrants has been absolutely ignored, and thus the tax-payers have been robbed of about \$35,000 per annum. Two years ago the state treasurer refused to give information regarding the treasury to a committee appointed to inquire into the matter.

It is to be seen whether the treasury is controlled by men with a conscience sufficient to do their duty without delay in length, and to let the committee to inquire into the details of the treasury under the statutes which read:

"The auditor shall, without delay, in length, and to let the committee to inquire into the details of the treasury under the statutes which read:

mouth, and nose and ears that closely resemble those of a raccoon.

"In 1891, the auditor was heard on all sides. 'He is too old and venerable to be dishonest.' It will be remembered that Maxwell dissented in the Kruse-Norton contest and said that it was a matter with which the supreme court had no right to interfere.

After the roll was signed and the oath administered came the permanent organization.

Barry, of Greeley, in an eloquent little speech nominated James N. Gaffin of Saunders.

Then came another of the remarkable scenes of the day.

Ex-Speaker Elder in a most graceful and fitting speech seconded the nomination. Elder in this act surprised his enemies and pleased his friends. In the way he did it, it showed something of the hero, and the audience cheered as though it appreciated that fact.

The republicans nominated John Jensen of 52 votes, Jensen, 48. Gaffin received 52 votes, Jensen, 48.

When the new speaker was conducted to the chair, the impression he made was favorable in the highest degree. The happy speech that he made still heightened this favorable impression. And the courteous, poised and manly manner of the man inspired all with confidence and respect. The independents made no mistake in their selection of speaker.

Er. Johnson was elected clerk by acclamation and the house adjourned for the day.

IN THE SENATE.

In order to preserve the senatorial dignity, a door-keeper was stationed at the door to keep out all except the elect, and such others as had special privileges. The common herd was crowded into the gallery. But the door-keeper's care. It wasn't interested in the center of interest. At 12:15 the senate to order, and Chaplain Garhart offered prayer. Eri. Johnson or was in his seat. Majors then called for nominations for temporary secretary. C. H. Pottle was named as the independent candidate, Frank Wilson as the republican, and Frank Morrisey as the democratic candidate. A rising vote showed Pottle 14, Wilson 14, Morrisey 5. A second vote was taken with the same result. Senator Moore then moved that the presiding officer appoint a secretary. Motion lost. Majors said he would keep the minutes himself. A third vote was then taken for secretary with no better result. A roll call was then called to take a recess till 3 o'clock.

On reassembling several ballots were taken, but all resulted as before. Senatorial dignity was a half-side and several members indulged in witty remarks and humorous suggestions. Several motions were offered but Majors ruled that no business could be transacted till a temporary organization had been formed.

Finally the senate adjourned till 10 o'clock on Wednesday.

Senate Organized

Friday morning the senate met and three democrats, Matias of One, North of Platte and Babcock of Omaha voted with the republicans, electing Correll, republican president pro-tem. The senate then adjourned till Tuesday.

should be made to lay bare all the records and transactions of his office to the end that the truth may be brought to light regardless of consequences.

The following are some of the important matters that call for investigation in connection with the secretary of states' office:

First—The payment of large sums of money to W. H. Dorgan, the penitentiary contractor, from the appropriation for building a new cell-house at the penitentiary, in a most loose, unbusinesslike manner, and under circumstances that excite the strongest suspicion.

Second—The approval of forged vouchers for supplies for state institutions.

Third—The disappearance from the state house of furniture of which he is custodian.

Fourth—The whole matter of purchasing supplies for state institutions should be thoroughly investigated.

THE ASYLUM THIEVES.

The work of exposing the crookedness of men connected with the Lincoln insane asylum, and the state penitentiary was pushed most vigorously by Hon. E. C. Rewick, The ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT, the World-Herald and others during the past campaign. After election it was taken up by a grand jury, the charges reduced to definite form, the evidence collected, and at least some of the guilty parties indicted. Now the people of the whole state are interested in seeing the facts brought to light in open court and the guilty parties brought to justice.

This is a matter in which the whole state is deeply interested. It is certainly the right and duty of the legislature to take a hand in this matter. It is highly important that the best legal talent should be employed to assist the county attorney of Lancaster county in the prosecution of the indicted parties.

In view of the fact that it is the state that has been robbed, why should not the state bear at least a portion of the burden? It would certainly be in order for the legislature to pay for the employment of competent counsel to assist in the prosecution. There is good precedent for such action. Previous legislatures have appropriated money to assist in prosecuting cases of far less importance to the state as a whole. This is a proposition that should receive the earnest and prompt consideration of the legislature.

"STAND UP FOR NEBRASKA"

was the watchword of the republicans during the past campaign. The republicans

THE SENATORSHIP.

Next Tuesday is the day set for the first vote on candidates for United States senator. On that date the two houses will vote separately. If no candidate has a majority in both houses they will meet in joint convention on Wednesday. After that at least one ballot must be taken every day until a senator is elected.

The election of a United States senator to the state, and the election of an independent is a matter of supreme importance to the new party.

The office of senator is the highest within the gift of the state. It is the most important elective office in the United States except that of president. The term of office is longer by two years than that of president, and three times that of a member of the lower house; The power of the senate is equal to if not greater than that of the house, yet it contains only a little more than one-fourth as many members. The power of the individual senator being four times as great and his term of office three times as long, the importance of electing a senator is twelve times as great as the importance of electing a member of the lower house.

The gold bugs, the shysters, the railroad kings, the protected manufacturers and the grain gamblers fully realize the supreme importance of electing a United States senator. They know that forty-six senators can block all reform legislation. Is it any wonder that they are willing to pay well for the election of senators? The combined legal robbers of the nation could well afford to pay a million dollars apiece for senators.

If there is an independent member of the present legislature who does not realize the supreme importance of this matter, it is time he gave the subject his serious consideration. The election of an independent senator is worth more to the state and to the new party than all the laws that will be enacted by the present legislature.

We believe the independents in the present legislature can elect a senator of their political faith if they stand firmly and solidly together, banish factionalism from their ranks and hold personal preferences in abeyance.

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PRESS COMMENTS.

What the Papers Had to Say About the Senate. Approves the Deal.

The State Journal, the mouth-piece of the corporations, the apologist for all that corrupts and degrades our politics, the ally of all who live by robbing the producers and tax-payers approved the demorepublican alliance in the following language:

The republicans in the legislature have so far showed themselves worthy of the trust that their constituents have reposed in them. They have taken the matter of organization coolly, and have refused to make any coalition in either house that would hamper their actions as a party or as individuals on any matter that may hereafter come up.

The wild ravings of the Omaha Bee, a paper that pretends to be republican, to the contrary notwithstanding, the fourteen republicans in the senate have used every honest means to break the deadlock, get the house to organize on a fair basis from the first day of the session. To neither party that would join with them they agreed to concede an equal division of the offices of the senate. Rosewater put in several days of his valuable time in endeavoring to induce three or four republicans to abandon the republican caucus, and make personal terms with the populists that would give them places on sundry committees. At one time it was proclaimed that such a sell out had been actually accomplished, but the delivery was never made. The democrats finally got so full of disgust at the porcine propensities of the populists that some of them concluded to elect Mr. Correll president pro tem and take their chances with the party that offered fair terms. The organization was made without any coalition and without any pledges.

The houses are therefore organized without any stultification of the principles of any republican member. No man is pledged on any matter of legislation and will vote on all measures according to his own judgment and his promise to his constituents. That is as it should be.

The Dead-Lock.

On Friday morning a few hours before the "unholy alliance" between the republicans and democrats broke the dead-lock, the following editorial appeared in the Omaha Bee:

The people of Nebraska are beginning to realize the significance of the dead-lock in the state senate. It is nothing more nor less than a treasorable plot on the part of the confederated corporations to dominate the state by blocking all legislation that does not meet their approval. The infamous bargain

ANOTHER HOG OFFER.

Mr. H. S. Williamson, proprietor of the Furnas county herd of Big Berks-shires, of Beaver City makes the following offer: He will ship to the person sending the largest list of subscribers to THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT by March 1st, 1893, a first-class big Berkshire pig (of either sex) of September farrowing, worth at least \$20. He also has a fine lot of young males large enough for service for sale. Also forty sows to be bred for spring farrowing to Echo's Duke -IX 2327, Monmouth Duke 15548. He invites all who want something good in the hog line at very reasonable prices to correspond with him.

THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT fully appreciates Mr. Williamson's kindness in making this liberal offer. It is a beautiful gift and a big pig.

"Of course I have!"

"So have I—where the Dutchman had his anchor—at home! But Elliot stand me up, the way you sell hotel, are more fully, the way you sell hotel, own time and an independent quarters, water and many of the excitement, ing to the harbor, and the Lincoln, where some do most congregate, have cry quiet, B the lobby of the l has been totally crowded with talking statesmen and politicians way, is Jane reek.

My name for Secretary Pirk-markeably issued a call for the independence members to meet at the Lindell christening December 30th the evening of that day found a large majority of their members on hand. A large number of the leading men of the party brought also present by invitation to give her counsel. In the evening a conference was held. The members concluded that they would take a vote of advice to start with, so they cast on the various leading lights of the party to express their views. Among those who spoke were Judge Neville and Allen, W. L. Green, C. Ehrader, W. H. Dech, W. A. Poynter, V. Wolfe, J. V. O. Strickler, Dr. Craig, Beatrice, J. W. Edgerton and others. The burden of these speeches was that the independents should if possible secure the organization of the legislature. The supreme importance of this was pointed out in various lights. It might be necessary to make a temporary combination with the democrats in order to do this, but that would be entirely justifiable under the circumstances.

Of course there was some opposition. Representative Stevens of Kansas opposed it as being in the nature of "fusion." Others thought it did not call for "fusion." It was a situation for doing something that had to be done, but which no party could do. Not a particle of principle need be sacrificed. There was in fact nothing to lose and everything to gain. If the republicans succeeded in organizing both houses, they would control all appointments, all committees, all legislation and perhaps elect United States senator. Finally a vote of the visitors present was taken, and the decision was almost unanimous in favor of such a combination.

Then the visitors retired and the members held a secret caucus. The character and results of their deliberations were not made public. Saturday they caucused again, and again on Monday. The members kept their secrets well, and no detailed reports can be given. But it is apparent that every caucus meeting was productive of much good in harmonizing and uniting the members, and the result shows that absolute harmony and unity were finally secured.

Besides the distinguished persons

of long established precedent, which gives the member holding the certificate the seat.

In the senate the exercises were even briefer. It required only a few minutes for the senators-elect and the hold over members to enter upon the pleasant duty of drawing salary from the state.

The Democratic members in caucus nominated by acclamation Thomas M. Mabrey of Ripley county, for speaker. He will be the youngest speaker who ever presided over a Missouri assembly. About fifteen years ago Mr. Mabrey came up from Ripley county as a page in the house. He has been coming back to the biennial sessions for several years as a member, and this time he captured without apparent effort the richest prize in the general assembly.

The speakership out of the way interested centers in the make-up of the house committees. There are several questions that will enter into the arrangement of those on ways and means and on appropriations. Those on criminal jurisprudence and judiciary, which have heretofore been regarded as the important ones, are dwarfed by the other two because of the financial difficulties to be overcome. It is a serious question whether the present assembly may conclude its session and pass all the appropriation bills that will be presented without creating a deficit in the general revenue fund. The reduction of the tax levy from 29 cents to 15 cents, on the \$100 valuation has made possible a condition of affairs where an empty treasury may stare big appropriations in the face.

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Illinois Democrats in Clover.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Jan. 5.—A large crowd witnessed the opening of the thirty-eighth general assembly at noon to-day. There were many old time Democrats among the throngs in the galleries who had gathered from all parts of the state to realize their dreams of a quarter of a century. Clayton E. Crafts, nominee of the Democratic caucus of last night, was chosen speaker of the house. The senate likewise organized with the election of the Democratic caucus nominees.

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MANY LINES COMPLAIN.

Canadian Discrimination Against American Railroads May Soon End.

NEW YORK, Jan. 4.—Railroad men and shippers are eagerly watching for the outcome of President Harrison's recent demand upon the departments of state and treasury for all the information in their power relative to freights coming into the United States by way of the Canadian Pacific railway.

So irritating and damaging has Canadian discrimination been against American railroads that there is a steadily increasing pressure upon the authorities at Washington to find some relief. The retaliatory step taken by the president last August, imposing a toll of twenty cents a ton on all freights passing through the Canadian ports, was not sufficient to put a stop to the evil. It is the abuse of the consular seal system by the Canadian Pacific road that causes the chief annoyance and loss to the railroads in this country.

Under that law, which was passed by congress in 1864, merchandise of all kinds is shipped from Canada direct to interior points in this country protected in the Canadian Pacific cars by a consular seal. The United States consul at the place of shipment merely has to certify that the manifest is correct, and that he has sealed and closed the car. Such certification carries the merchandise to its consignee without inspection or delay at the border. By the scope of the law has been enlarged, extended by the Canadian Pacific road, so that now it is sufficiently comprehensive to bring into this country over the Canadian border large cargoes of raw silks and other Chinese and Japanese goods are brought across the Pacific ocean to Vancouver, British Columbia, loaded into Canadian Pacific cars there, and brought into this country under the consular seal system. From one to two days' time is saved, as well as the cost of rehandling the freight. In that way imports from China and Japan can be brought through in bulk quicker and in better condition than over the American routes, for the reason that the law does not extend the privileges of the consular seal system to the American roads.

Even while enjoying this great advantage, extended by United States law, the Canadian people calmly devised a law of their own still further to injure the American railroads. A discriminating duty on all coffee and tea imported into Canada from the United States has been put into the Canadian tariff. These necessary commodities are admitted free into Canada from all countries except the United States.

In the manufacture of quinine there is quite as much misery as in the disease it alleviates. The making produces untold eruptions accompanied by a fever, the vapor from boiling solutions being the chief cause. Some can not work in china.

A weighing machine has been invented which weighs cars at the rate of six per cent. A device automatically records the weight on a piece of tape similar to that of a ticker machine.

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Marshal Yoes Writes of Kansas.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—A general Miller being asked if further information with the truth of the dispatch from Dalton and Bill Lipsy were deputy United States marshal for the western district of Kansas, Oklahoma, the Indian territory and the eastern district of all and deny that "Bill" Dalton member of the Dalton family or has been appointed, or been a deputy United States marshal for of these districts for more than years past, and each denies that Lipsy has ever acted under Marshal Yoes of the Western of Arkansas says: "The Dalton officers under my predecessor Robert and Emmet Dalton were twice in 1890, assisted in passing three considered desperadoes until the fall of 1890, when they were all confined in prison. Some gang were employed by me at the time."

Senator Kenna's Condition Hopeless.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—The condition of Senator Kenna is hopeless. No hope of his ultimate recovery is held out by his physicians.

Legislative Notes.

The Colorado legislature will probably be controlled by a fusion of Democrats and Populists.

The Democrats and Populists in Montana combined and organized the legislature. The combination has a majority on joint ballot. It is believed the senator will be a Democrat.

In California the Democrats organized the house and the Republicans the senate. The Populists hold the balance of power on joint ballot.

Murder and Suicide by a Girl.

WHITEHALL, N. Y., Jan. 5.—Monday night Nora Bott shot and instantly killed Edward Smith to whom she was betrothed, and then blew her own brains out. The couple had quarreled during the day. That night they attended a party and in the midst of it the tragedy occurred.

Aimed at the Pinkertons.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—Senator Chandler introduced to-day a short bill to prohibit unlawful military organizations. The bill is aimed at the Pinkertons. Mr. Chandler also introduced a bill restrictive of immigration designed to supplement or supplant his bill introduced some time ago.

HOOPER, Neb., Jan. 5.—D. L. Dimood of Omaha, who has been stopping at the Wickwire for the past week, was arrested here yesterday for malpractice. He has advertised quite freely in the county papers as an experienced dentist, but an investigation proved that he has no diploma. He was aware that detectives were on his track, but made no effort to get away.

Probably the largest meteor that ever reached the surface of the earth lies the plains of Incanman in South America where it fell. It measures 7 1/2 feet length, and weighs between 14 and 15

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