

ABOUT NEBRASKA.

The Live Stock Commission.

Capt. W. W. Abbey, of the state live stock commission, in answer to questions propounded by an Omaha Bee reporter, said: "The law now in force was suggested by an outbreak of Texas fever about five years ago in a bunch of cattle, near Brady Island, that was shipped direct from the south. Native cattle passing over the pasturage which had been occupied by this diseased shipment, and stock with which they communicated, were subjected to great fatality, aggregating a loss of \$100,000. There has been no such prevalence of disease since the sanitary law was carried out.

"Two years ago pleuro pneumonia was raging in the stock yards at Chicago, and had it not been for this law, that fatal affection would doubtless have spread, not only through Nebraska, but it would have reached the country west of us. To illustrate our danger, Dr. H. L. Ramocciotti, of this city, acting for the commission, stopped four shipments of ten cars of feeders from the Chicago yards, at the Bluffs transfer, and sent them back to Chicago, thus preventing the importation of this dangerous malady."

On being questioned as to the sanitary vigilance of the commissioners in relation to keeping out glandered horses and exterminating those animals within the state already stricken with that disease, the doctor asserted that although cases were numerous at the time of the organization of the commission, at the present time fifty counties of the state were practically rid of the destroyer of horses, and that he expected two more years of its aggressive work would relieve the state of the malady.

STATE JOTTINGS IN BRIEF.

—Dr. J. S. Brice, a prominent physician of Crete, died in Des Moines last week of heart disease.

—In Custer county on the 10th Fred Pierce shot and killed Samuel Ankney. Ankney was partly intoxicated, and had abused several people and made a brutal attack upon his brother George. At the request of George's wife, Pierce pulled Samuel off his victim. The furious man then struck Pierce, who pulled a revolver and fired. Samuel Ankney had a hard name, and was an ex-convict and a violent man.

—Young Beers, convicted in the district court of Lincoln of killing his sweetheart, has been sentenced to the penitentiary for life.

—Word has been received by a Fremont man, says the Tribune, as to the whereabouts of George W. Lehr, the ex-station agent at West Point, who eloped a short time ago with Mrs. J. M. Maybee. He is at Sherman, Texas, and remitted a sum of money to the Fremont man to cancel an obligation. He is a railway agent at Sherman.

—Death is announced of two brothers in the southern part of the state from glanders contracted from diseased horses.

—Steps are being taken at Beatrice for the construction of the paper mill.

—It is rumored that a bill will be introduced during the present session of the legislature excluding all females from any employment in the legislature or on committees.

—Brainard was somewhat disturbed a few days ago by Miss Hoghe filing a complaint against John Leisure, charging him with seduction, under promise of marriage. Sheriff Darnell took the bird in charge before he could fly, as he was spreading his wings to do, and he thereupon concluded to marry the girl he had wronged.

—Some of our best citizens of Tecumseh are talking of going to the Oklahoma country to get their fill of Indian lands and Indian arrows.

—The B. & M. will build freight and passenger depots in Plattsmouth this year.

—The entire highway from Grand Island to Wood River is to be graded as soon as the weather will permit.

—The city of Tecumseh is somewhat excited over the fact that the supreme court rendered a decision which closes up both saloons of that place. The ground upon which the decision is based is that a councilman who has signed a petition for a license is incompetent to pass upon it as a councilman.

—An electric fire alarm is the latest improvement at Grand Island.

—Prof. Thrasher, of Edgar, will soon issue a 300 page cloth volume containing biographical sketches of the more prominent teachers of Nebraska.

—Scarlet fever has laid hold of the little ones in the Lincoln Home of the Friendless. Four of the inmates are down with the disease.

—The board of trade of Nebraska City has propositions from four different manufacturers looking for locations.

—H. C. Hitt, an Omaha lawyer, was arrested on the street for being drunk. He resisted vigorously and was booked on that charge as well. When taken to the station he tore down the water closet and raised Cain generally until it was found necessary to handcuff him to a post.

—The county surveyor of Custer county, with a force of eleven men, is busy making the survey for the proposed canal to connect the Dismal river with the Muddy and thus furnish a magnificent water power for Broken Bow.

—It is told that a prominent citizen of this county, says the Culbertson Sun, who does not live more than a dozen miles from the river went home one night and found his wife in the arms of another man. The gentleman's question left so suddenly that he forgot his hat and coat, which to his great grief were brought to him by his ever faithful horse a few hours later.

—The independent plamers to have a ball gang at Grand Island put to the streets, just to keep them from doing something for their life or so.

—The Catholic church at Homer was dedicated on Sunday last.

—There are six barkers in the Nebraska lower house.

—The Custer county court house bonds will be sold to the highest bidder on the 2d of March. The bonds are expected to bring a good price, as it is understood there will be a number of bidders.

—Real estate in Valparaiso has been active since opening of the year.

—The citizens of Louisville are moving in the matter of securing a wagon bridge across the river at that place.

—Fremont, in the matter of improvements, expects to beat the record this year.

—Over \$2,000 has been subscribed at Cedar Rapids to build a "lodge hall."

—An effort is being made to organize a Christian church at Table Rock.

—The street car robber has turned up in Beatrice. He made a capture of twelve dollars while the driver was changing teams.

—The auction craze has struck O'Neill to an alarming extent, so much so as to have a rather depressing effect on the old tried and true merchants.

—The 7-year-old son of Post Surgeon Haskins at Fort Omaha died last week from the effects of having a leg amputated at the thigh. The lad was badly injured while trying to catch a ride on a wagon near the fort, and in some manner his leg was caught in the wheel, crushing it in a horrible manner. The amputation took place in the evening, and in spite of the best medical aid the child died.

—A step in the interest of rigid economy of the Union Pacific was taken by Mr. Cushing last week. He has given instructions to the effect that all time worked in the Union Pacific machinery department outside of the regular hours must be reported fully with a detailed statement of the necessity of such extra work before any allowance can be made for such.

—The Union Pacific railway company has incorporated the Carbon Cut-Off railway company in Wyoming. W. A. Holcomb, T. L. Kimball, C. M. Cummings, V. C. Boyne and J. S. Cameron are the incorporators. The capital stock is placed at \$1,000,000, and the company intends building a road from Sulphur to its coal fields, fifteen miles northwest of that point, and has agreed in its charter to build branches to any coal or mineral deposits in Carbon, Sweetwater or Fremont counties.

—Representative Wilcox of Red Willow county, has introduced a bill to encourage the manufacture of sugar from cane, beets and other sugar producing plants. By the provisions of this bill the sum of \$35,000 is appropriated to be expended in paying a royalty of 2 cents per pound on all sugar produced in this state from cane or other plants.

—G. W. Barnhart, one of the state live stock commissioners, thinks it would be a most unwise thing to make any change in the present law, and gave figures to show what had been saved for the state since the commission was created.

—The Schuyler Sun hears of a very sad case in the vicinity of Clarkson. A family by the name of Hejtmank lost four children with that dreaded disease diphtheria.

—A peculiar accident happened last week at Morrissey's elevator in Milford. The floor in a shipping bin broke through, letting about 800 bushels of corn drop to the floor below and breaking through that floor.

A SKY SCRAPER'S COLLAPSE.

The Tallest Office Building in Chicago a Total Wreck.

Chicago dispatch: One of the tallest office buildings in America collapsed today. A number of workmen rushed out just in time to escape being crushed under the mountain of wreckage. The ruined building was the Owings block, a beautiful gothic structure, fourteen stories high, situated at the corner of Dearborn and Adams streets, just opposite the postoffice, in the center of the business district. The ten lower stories fell in, one after another, leaving the walls, the four upper floors and the roof standing in a decidedly shaly condition. In the tenth story the tile flooring was defective, or was damaged by the natural settling of the building.

About 8:30 this morning a dozen or so of the workmen who were in the basement heard an ominous crack and crash. Fortunately for them they did not stop to inquire the cause, but rushed frantically into the street. A succession of thunderous reports followed the first crash, then one mighty din, and the atmosphere was filled with a great uprising cloud of dust. When the air was cleared, where once stood above story rose with every appearance of colossal strength and durability, now mounted a fantastic heap of debris, while a space for 130 feet above was empty, save for the bent and distorted iron beams that here and there projected from the walls.

The superintendent and contractors were summoned, but did not seem to have any idea of the cause of the wreck, or if they did they kept it carefully to themselves. The building, which was rapidly approaching completion, was considered one of the finest in the city from a standpoint of convenience, strength and architecture. The three lower stories were of stone and others above of pressed brick. The interior was entirely of tile, supported by massive iron girders.

The tiles of which the flooring were made were fitted together like keystones, and any extension of space confining them would tend to allow the entire mass to drop out. It is presumed that the setting of the building caused the first break, and that the weight of the mass precipitated from the tenth floor carried down the remainder of the inner structure. The matter creates great comment among business men. The very fact that the accident seemed to be unforeseen is generally considered the most serious phase of it, when taken in connection with the idea that it might have occurred when the building was completed and filled with occupants. Notwithstanding the great height of the building, the land on which it stands is not more than fifty feet square. The design was to utilize every inch to the utmost. The exterior shows no signs of the wreck of the inside. No information as to the probable loss or what is to be done could be obtained from any one about the building.

A "Fancy" Ball in Helena.

Helena (Mont.) special: The demimonde of Helena turned out in force last night, and made a night of it in a way that made the on-lookers open their eyes in wonder and astonishment. Helena has never had such an exhibition during its history. The police did not interfere, and the gay members of the substratum of Helena society held high revel. The performance took place in a large basement in an out-of-the-way place, and the noise and ribaldry did not reach the ears of the people on the street. The occasion was a grand masquerade and fancy dress ball tendered them by one of the most prominent landladies residing in the prescribed section of Wood street. About seventy-five couples were present, some en masque, others in abbreviated skirts, many in fancy dress, not a small sprinkling of whom appeared in a suggestive style of undress. Frail coquettes in silken tights which brought out the contour of the naked form were conspicuous. The fun grew fast and furious and between heated turns in the waltz and more heated turns at the bar the crowds wild and reckless abandon committed acts that were very far outside the limits of propriety. As they filled with wine their orgies were of the most outrageous character, and not until the dawn of day did the revellers adjourn exhausted by the night's experience.

THE NEBRASKA SENATE AND HOUSE.

Proceedings of the Upper and Lower Branch of the Nebraska Assembly.

In the senate on the 9th two bills were introduced, as follows: A bill for an act to amend section 2 of chapter 2 of the compiled statutes of 1887 of the state of Nebraska, entitled "Agriculture," and to repeal said section. A bill for an act entitled "An act to appoint registrars of election and to provide for the registry of voters in cities having a population of 5,000 or more inhabitants. The registry bill for cities of over 5,000 inhabitants provides that one inspector or registrar shall be appointed for each ward or precinct by the mayor of the city, and the confirmation of such appointments lies with the city council. It provides that a list of voters in all the precincts shall be prepared by the inspectors or registrars acting as a board, which shall meet five weeks before the election. Into the list shall be incorporated the polling lists of the last previous general election, and every voter shall be exactly located. The list is to be posted in some conspicuous place in the city clerk's office. On the Tuesday preceding election the board of registrars shall meet to revise the lists, but additions shall not be placed on the original list. The usual safeguards are thrown around the registry lists, and it is provided that the right of challenge shall not be impaired. Senate files Nos. 113, 120, 122 and others, reported from the joint committee on county and township organization, were recommended after some lively passages between Howe and Ransom over the bill granting the right to condemn real estate to water companies supplying towns and cities. In the house but few members were present. The motion by which Corbin's bill for an amendment to the constitution providing for the investment of a permanent educational fund of the state was refused a position at the head of the general file, was reconsidered and given the desired position. The house then went into committee of the whole to consider the measure. Hall of Lancaster moved that the bill be recommended to pass. Corbin, of Clay vigorously opposed. The measure, claiming that there was a vast sum of money lying idle in the treasury which might be loaned to school districts on their registered bonds. Hamilton favored the measure on the ground that it ought to be submitted to the people as any other measure. Burnham of Keya Paha also favored on like grounds, adding that the selling of school lands is constantly swelling the state school fund. The bill was recommended to pass.

The senate on the 11th held a short session, beginning at 4 o'clock. It passed a bill authorizing Omaha's chief of police and police judge to sell unclaimed property coming into their possession in the course of duty. Another bill provides that the proceeds shall go to the police relief fund. The senate also passed a bill allowing a yearly expenditure of \$1,000 for the city engineer's salary in cities of second class. The committee of the whole approved the bill establishing a police relief fund in Omaha. In the house barely a quorum of members responded to the roll call. McBride offered a resolution directing the committee on insurance to report back senate file 3, the Ransom bill to compel insurance companies to pay full face of policy, and house roll 14, a bill of the same tenor. Satisfactory explanations were made, and the resolution was withdrawn. A bill was introduced by Hawthorne to compel purchasers of tax titles to notify all parties who held mortgages on the property of the sale, also one by the committee on public lands and public buildings to appropriate the sum of \$30,000 to repair the damages that resulted from the recent explosion at the insane asylum.

In the senate on the 12th, Senator Connor introduced a bill, senate file No. 124, amending section 25 of the compiled statutes, regarding school lands and funds. The purport of the bill is to compel the state treasurer to keep the permanent school funds of the state invested in bonds of some kind named in the statutes. Senate file No. 125 was introduced by Jewett. Senate file No. 91 was passed. This bill provides that in counties under township organization, the assessor with his assessment book and the schedules and statements of property by him assessed, together with the town board, or in cities of the second class of over five thousand (5,000) inhabitants, the assessors with their said books, schedules and statements, together with the supervisors from such city or board of trustees shall constitute a board for receiving assessments. The time of the senate in the afternoon was chiefly employed in committee of the whole. The most interesting bills under discussion were the bill granting municipal suffrage to women and that amending the pharmacy law by raising the examination fees and annual dues. The latter was recommended to pass. The former was indefinitely postponed.

Hoover, from the committee on military affairs, reported house roll No. 47, with the recommendation that it pass. In the house Representative Majors' joint resolution making state warrants state securities when indorsed by the state treasurer "presented and not paid for want of funds" was put on third reading and passed unanimously. Lee offered a resolution to adjourn over February 22, in order to give the members of the legislature an opportunity to attend the G. A. R. reunion. Carried—44 to 13. G. A. R. reunion, offered the following resolution: Whereas, Hon. Frank E. Murrisey has publicly charged in the Omaha Herald of the 10th inst., that members of this body corruptly received a money consideration for their action upon measures pending before this house, and declared his ability to furnish such consideration and the amounts received; therefore, Resolved, That Seville, Hopper, Majors, White and Corbin, be, and they are hereby appointed a committee to investigate said charges and all other charges of corruption made against members of this body, with full power to send for persons and papers and administer oaths and affirmations to witnesses called. And be it further resolved, That said committee be and they are hereby directed to proceed with such investigation with all convenient dispatch and report all evidence taken to the house with their recommendation in the premises. After discussion the resolution was adopted.

In the senate on the 13th, Senator Jams' bill for a police relief fund in cities of the metropolitan class was passed. The senate passed Nesbitt's bill giving the Tenth district two judges, Manning's bill, permitting persons to associate to insure their own property, and Pope's bill, making counties liable to an individual who may suffer damage by reason of a defective bridge or highway. Cornell's resolution for a constitutional amendment relative to the investment of the permanent school fund was defeated. Senator Cornell introduced a resolution directing the judiciary committee to frame a bill for the investment of the surplus in the state treasury. Laid over under the rules. Sutherland's resolution requesting the board of transportation to make a schedule of freight rates that will prevent discrimination came up as a special order. After lengthy discussion the resolution was indefinitely postponed. In the house the following were reported for passage. A bill to insure a more speedy trial by limiting the postponement on the motion of one party alone, and prescribing the conditions on which trials may be adjourned. A bill incorporating homestead associations to loan each member money to purchase land and make improvements. A bill to punish anybody with a \$25 or \$100 fine for selling intoxicating liquors to habitual drunkards. The bill authorizing the mayor and council of cities of second class, having over 5,000 inhabitants, to borrow money not to exceed 5 per cent on the valuation to aid in building or repairing the court house, was recommended for passage. The South Omaha charter bill was recommended for passage. A bill was introduced by Hill, of Butler, appropriating \$3,100 to pay the damages caused by Billings in his experiments to prevent hog cholera. The money is to be distributed as follows: H. H. Huss, \$1,280; Edward Hinkley, \$480, and Louis Linden, \$340. All these parties are residents of Butler county, and have lost swine through "innoculation" by Billings, aggregating the amount named. House roll 45, Hall's maximum tariff bill was taken up, but went over. Gilbert's usury bill was then taken up. Wistoner's motion to strike out the enacting clause was lost by a vote of 41 to 35. The matter was not disposed of at the hour of adjournment.

In the senate on the 14th Senator Funck presented a resolution directing the committee on public lands and buildings to prepare a bill for the removal of the home for the friendless to the experimental farm. The resolution recited that the home needs enlarging and the adjoining land is very expensive. The resolution called for the sale of the present home and the use of ten acres of the farm. There was quite lengthy discussion over the resolution, which was finally adopted. The committee of the whole took up Senator Paxton's bill, giving Nebraska's consent to the purchase or condemnation of a postoffice site in Omaha, and ceding jurisdiction thereover to the United States. The bill was passed over for a time. Mr. Howe's class ballot box bill was approved in committee. When reported to the senate the fight to indefinitely postpone was begun, and to save it the house consented to have it recommended with a view to making it apply only to the larger cities. Senator Linn's bill for taxing sleeping cars was recommended for passage. In the house rolls 14, 18, 194, and senate file 3, all bills of a similar character, regulating insurance companies, were reported from the committee without any recommendation. Among the few bills introduced was one by O'Brien, of Douglas, to limit the number of insurance agents in a town or city to one for each company. The Gilbert usury bill was called up and ordered to a third reading by a vote of 43 to 38. The house went into committee of the whole to consider bills on general file.

House roll 124, a bill by Hall, provides that at each election in cities or villages, the question of license or no license shall be submitted to the voters. If a majority vote for license, the city council or village board shall issue licenses to all who comply with the provisions of the statute, and if the majority vote no license, then the sale of intoxicating liquor shall be unlawful in city or village. The bill was amended to make it necessary for the applicant to secure the written consent of each property holder adjoining the proposed location of the saloon, before a license shall issue. The license is fixed at \$500 for all villages under 2,000 inhabitants, and \$1,000 for all cities of a larger size. Efforts were made to increase the license fees from \$500 to \$1,000 and from \$1,000 to \$2,000, but they were not successful. The bill was reported back with the recommendation that it do pass. The following bills were introduced: To provide for the letting by contract for all printing or stationery used by the state of Nebraska, and all societies and institutions of the state where the bills for printing and stationery are to be paid for by the state. To provide for the uniformity of text books for the public and common schools in the state of Nebraska.

The senate on the 15th labored with the three bills for the creation of Thurston county. One took a slice from Wayne county, the other robbed But

of a patch and the third joined them with the Omaha and Winnebago reservations to make territory enough for the proposed county of Thurston. The bills were made special order for the 15th. The senate passed Linn's bill for taxing sleeping cars, Burton's bill increasing the aggregate limit of school taxes in cities of 1,000 to 5,000 from 20 to 25 mills, and Hoover's resolution calling on the secretary of state for a bill of the telephones in state institutions and their cost. The committee on public lands and buildings reported favorably on Polk's bill requiring executive officers to report annually to the governor the personal property in their offices and a statement of any such property as may have been disposed of. Senator Connor's abstractor bill was discussed at length and killed. It made abstractors liable under their \$10,000 bonds for errors in their abstracts, and fixed penalties for violating the act. The secretary of state reported fifteen telephones in state institutions at a yearly cost of \$864. Three of them cost \$100 each. The others range from \$48 to \$54, the six in the state house being at the latter figure. In the house Hampton introduced a resolution reciting that whereas the house had 137 employees, a larger number than ever before, therefore a committee consisting of Johnson, Elliott, Berry, Hanna and Farley be appointed to examine the matter and report to the house the names of those, if any, whose services could be dispensed with. Adopted. Bills were introduced: To establish a board of printing, and to appoint a state printer and regulate his prices therefor, and to establish a system for contracting for the material for the public printing used by the state. To provide that all persons shall be entitled to the same civil rights and to punish all persons for violation of its provisions. To repeal the law creating a bureau of labor. A bill appropriating \$20,000 for the purpose of sending a delegation to the centennial celebration of the inauguration of President Washington, at New York, on April 30, was taken up and debated at length without reaching a vote.

A SECRET SESSION OF THE SENATE.

Whereas is Passed a Bill to Protect Our Interests in Panama.

Washington dispatch: The senate, in secret session, has passed the following bill to enable the president of the United States to protect our interests in Panama: Be it enacted, etc., that there be and is hereby appropriated out of any money in the treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$250,000 to enable the president to protect the interests of the United States, and to provide for the security of the persons and property of citizens of the United States at the isthmus of Panama, in such manner as he may deem expedient.

It is learned that the committee on foreign relations had received no news of any outbreak at Panama, but deeming it best to be prepared for any that might occur, it had decided to ask for the passage of this bill at once, as an independent measure, rather than risk the delays and uncertainties attending an amendment to the appropriation bills. The troubles are such as are incident to the discharge of a body of laborers whose means of gaining a livelihood are thereby cut off, and who, in their desperation and distress, may resort to violence and bloodshed. It is understood that it has been deemed wise by the authorities of the United States, Great Britain and other nations having large numbers of their citizens employed on the Panama canal, to arrange for bringing them home in case of wholesale discharge, and not to suffer them to remain on the isthmus in destitution and want. To provide for this sum of \$250,000 was appropriated. After a number of appointments favorably reported by committees had been confirmed, the question of removing the injunction of secrecy from the proceedings in connection with the consideration of the British extradition treaty was taken up. To this there was considerable opposition. The motion finally prevailed, and to-morrow the record of proceedings, covering a period of two or three years, will be furnished to the press.

A CONFERENCE OF COLORED MEN.

An Address to President-Elect Harrison Formulated.

Indianapolis dispatch: An important conference of colored men was held here to-day. It gathered at the instance of Prof. J. M. Langston. Seven states were represented by the delegates present, South Carolina, Georgia, Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Florida, and Missouri, and letters were read from other southern states. The conference was held with closed doors, and an address to General Harrison was formulated. In substance, the address says that they are loyal to the republican party and residents of states in which a fair election would give the electoral vote to the republican party by a large majority, but such undue influences and frauds are brought to bear against the voters that scores of the republican masses are constantly defeated. "We cannot doubt that you agree with us that the fifteenth amendment should be maintained with fairness and vigor, and that you desire such object shall be accomplished in the interest of seven millions of American citizens who to-day in the south are practically disfranchised, and whose cause we represent and plead. In view of our present and prosperous condition under your administration of the government, we are profoundly interested in the construction of your cabinet, especially as concerns the attorney generalship. The importance of the absolute necessity for the appointment which we name of a man who, in addition to great learning in law, is free from undue feeling and bias, becomes apparent in a single moment's reflection. Such being our opinion, we have ventured to bring it formally and earnestly to your consideration."

During the afternoon it was presented to the general. It was supposed that the conference would oppose the appointment of General Mahone to the cabinet, but nothing of the kind was done.

The general had a number of callers. Among them were Dan McCauley, Mayor H. F. Ozman, Niagara grant minister at Washington, and Milton B. Butler, who was president of the electoral college of Nebraska.

The Chicago and Northwest and Union Pacific railways have inaugurated a special fast passenger service between Chicago and Denver.

Wheat—No. 1... Corn—No. 2... Oats—No. 1... Rye... Butter—Cream... Eggs—Fresh... Turkeys... Lemons... Oranges... Onions—Per... Potatoes... Turnips—Per... Apples—Per... Beans—No... Wool—Per... Honey... Chopped... Hay—Mixed... Hoots—Heavy... Hoots—Light... Sheep—Cloth... Wheat—No. 1... Corn—No. 1... Oats—No. 1... Pork... Land... Wheat—Per... Corn—Per... Oats—Per... Pork... Land... Wheat—No. 1... Corn—No. 1... Oats—Per... Hoots—Per... Sheep—Per... Hoots—Per... Oats—Per... Pork... Land... Hoots—Per... Sheep—Per... Hoots—Per... Oats—Per... Pork... Land...