

NEBRASKA NEWS NOTES.

Grafton is threatened with a liquor growth.

Broken Bow will celebrate July 4 with big doings.

Robert Gustin of Benkman has been arrested for stealing cattle.

Grasshoppers are having "one old time" in the neighborhood of Cozad.

John Dinsmore, a prominent citizen of West Point, died of blood poisoning.

William Kerr, a banker of Hastings, has lost \$12,000 via the gold brick route.

James Rider of Dakota City has been arrested for selling liquor without a license.

The Saunders County Teachers' institute was in session all last week at Wahoo.

Fire at Lincoln destroyed two buildings belonging to Frank Rawlings. Loss, \$3,900.

The Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor held its annual session at Nelson.

The Webster County Teachers' institute is holding a two weeks' session at Red Cloud.

Sunday, June 10, was celebrated as children's day by the churches throughout the state.

The North Nebraska college at Madison was struck by lightning and burned to the ground. Loss, \$5,900.

Fremont is to have a new morning daily. N. W. Smalls will be the editor, and the paper will be democratic.

Fred Springer dug up an old cannon ball weighing fifty pounds on his premises in the eastern part of Fremont.

Farmers of Papillion tracked horse-thieves to Omaha with bloodhounds and lost the scent at Thirteenth and Vinton streets.

The total value of real estate and personal property in Cass county, as returned by the assessors, foots up to \$3,252,396.

Beatrice was visited by a tornado which, although small, did considerable damage in the western and northern parts of the city.

The Nebraska Funeral Directors' association held its fifteenth annual convention at Lincoln, with an attendance of nearly 200 members.

John Poyer of Cowles shot Deputy Eberly Burdick at Red Cloud while the latter was serving papers on him. The wound is not serious.

Chris Sasse of Fremont was struck by lightning and his body was so terribly burned that it lost all resemblance to a human form.

What is supposed to be the body of Floyd Meredith, who was drowned near Nebraska City, has been found five miles below Auburn.

The jury in the case of Collins vs. Smith, which was an action for slander, at Fremont, brought in a verdict for the defendant.

The Superior hotel, at Superior, has changed hands. George Woolsey retiring and George H. Wilkes, Jr., of Clyde, Kan., taking possession.

Census Enumerator Moon of Taylor found a pair of twins two and a half years old who have no given names. He says he christened them himself.

The Table Rock Driving Park association has arranged for a series of races to be held at the Table Rock track on the Fourth of July. A number of premiums have been offered.

Special Agent Llewellyn of the rural free delivery service was at Aurora last week for the purpose of inspecting a rural free delivery route in Hamilton county with starting point at Aurora.

The celebrated case of the State of Nebraska against P. S. George of Lincoln, for practicing medicine without complying with the law, was tried last week at Table Rock. The doctor managed his own case.

The reports of the city assessors show that W. J. Bryan pays more taxes on personal property than any other man in Lincoln or Lancaster county. In 1909 his property was assessed at \$2,500, and this year at \$4,500.

Winter wheat around Table Rock never looked finer than now. Many fields stand waist high and the berry is filled out plump and full. Some fields will be ready for harvest by next week and it is believed that the yield will be much more than an ordinary one.

Senator John M. Thurston has wired Sen. John S. Dew of Tecumseh that he has appointed the latter's son, Rodolph Dew, to a cadetship at West Point. The message came from Washington. Dew is a young man of good mental and physical makeup and will make the best of his opportunity.

Following is the amount of mortgages filed and released in Gage county during the month of May: Farm mortgages filed, \$1, amounting to \$50,000; city and town mortgages filed, \$1, amounting to \$1,000; city and town mortgages released, \$1, amounting to \$1,000.

FOUR YEARS OF M'KINLEY

THE ADMINISTRATION IS BADLY SMIRCHED BY MANY SCANDALS.

CAMPAIGN IS OPENED.

Desperate Efforts Are Being Made To Suppress the Truth, But the Record Cannot Be Brushed Aside -- Republican Congress Just Adjourned Will Be Remembered for Its Waste of Public Funds.

Washington, D. C.—(Special.)—With appropriations by the late congress aggregating \$168,729,476 ready for distribution and with anti-trust legislation in such shape that it can be used as a club to force money out of corporations, the campaign to re-elect President McKinley may be said to be open.

Mr. McKinley goes before the people with an administration whose record is smirched by many scandals. Beginning with the war with Spain and its enormous, useless expenditures for auxiliary boats for the navy, there have been the embalmed beef scandal, the Egan and Alger scandals, the Abner McKinley clothing contract scandal, the City National bank and the custom house scandals, the fraud and embezzlement in Cuba, the armor plate scandal and many more, in fact one for every month since McKinley took his oath.

The congress that has just adjourned, republican in both branches, will be known what it did not do. After the president had announced in his annual message that it was the "plain duty" of congress to provide for free trade with Porto Rico, a part to the United States, the sugar trust influences were great enough to cause him to face about and to demand a tariff, which congress meekly granted.

Congress refused to reduce the onerous war taxes which the late Nelson A. Dingley, then the leader of the house, pledged himself to have stricken off the statute books immediately after a treaty of peace was signed with Spain. Congress was deluged with petitions from commercial bodies, asking that these taxes either be wiped out entirely or materially reduced, but it turned a deaf ear to all appeals.

For political and campaign fund reasons no anti-trust legislation was enacted. An anti-trust bill was passed by the house and was in good time to have been acted upon by the senate. The democrats made several ineffectual attempts to have it taken up, but objections were always made by republican leaders.

Through the obstinacy of the administration in endeavoring to force a ratification of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty the Nicaragua canal bill failed of passage in the senate.

The army reorganization bill did not become a law. It was passed by the house and amended in the senate, but the house did not accept the senate amendments.

Every Pacific cable bill was defeated or remained unacted upon through the efforts of rival concerns to secure the concession.

The shipping subsidy bill failed, through the efforts of the democrats. Senator Hanna was personally interested in this bill, but even his great influence could not secure its passage. This bill practically provides for a gift of a greater part of \$9,000,000,000 to the Standard Oil trust, through its correlative company, the International Navigation company.

Army Transports That Were Unsafe.

The army transport service has cost the government millions of dollars, and will continue to be a heavy drain so long as an army is maintained across the seas. Hundreds of thousands of dollars have been thrown away in attempting to make serviceable old hulks which promoters and politicians have worked off on the government. Soldiers have suffered the most terrible hardships in crossing the seas on these transports.

The hospital ships, fitted up at great expense by the war department, have furnished another scandal. Vessels equipped for this service proved to be unworthy and unfit for the well, to say nothing of the sick.

At the beginning of the Spanish war the navy department wanted to take charge of the transport service for the army, but the department would not listen to the proposition.

There were no seamen in the war department, and even now there are no officers of that department in charge of the transport service who have any practical knowledge of ships.

Transports have been started across the Pacific without inspection, with the result that provisions have run out and machinery has been broken down. Only by rarest good fortune have several of the vessels been saved from foundering. The Manuense was sent from San Francisco to Manila without inspection.

At the first storm encountered the machinery gave way, and, but for the fact that another transport was near to give aid, the Manuense would have gone to the bottom.

The hospital ship Missouri was bought for \$200,000. Twice as much was spent in fitting her up. She made a trip to Honolulu, and was ordered from there to Manila. Her captain protested that she was unseaworthy, but was forced to make the trip. The ship was not only unseaworthy, but unsanitary.

A large number of invalid soldiers aboard died on the way home. A board has since condemned the vessel, and she is now practically worthless.

Auxiliary Warships That Were Worthless.

One of the big scandals of the war with Spain came about through the expenditure of \$29,973,274 by the navy department for vessels to be utilized as auxiliary warships. Ships ranging from indifferent to useless were purchased at enormous prices. Since the

termination of the war they are being sold at a small percentage of their cost. Owners, agents, attorneys and all sorts of middlemen realized vast profits from the sale of the vessels to the navy department. Prominent politicians lobbied to sell old ships for many times their value, reaping small fortunes in the way of commissions. The excuse given for these expenditures was the necessity of forming a "mosquito fleet" to perform patrol duty. As an example of the recklessness which obtained the old and practically worthless Merrimac was bought for \$443,000. She was found to be of no utility in the service, and was sunk in a vain attempt to prevent the egress of the Spanish fleet. The yacht Comanche, the property of Senator Hanna's brother, was sold to the government at a high figure.

While the purchase of these vessels was made public, the sums obtained in disposing of them have in only a few instances come to the surface.

An instance of extravagance in the purchase of the auxiliary fleet has recently come to light in the case of the yacht Enquirer. This yacht was owned by W. J. Connors of Buffalo and cost him about \$21,000.

Through the efforts of John R. Hazel of Buffalo, the Platt leader in western New York, who has just been made a federal judge, the government bought this yacht for \$80,000 during the last days of June, 1898, when the war was practically over. Of this money \$5,000 went to Hazel for what he calls a "fee." The yacht was refitted at an expense of several thousand dollars and was not in service more than three weeks. Last fall it was sold by the war department for \$20,000.

The Standard Oil Bank Favored Through Its Pull.

Amongst the most unsavory of the scandals of the McKinley administration

is the policy of silence in order that the scandal might be hushed if possible. Custom House Fund Given By Gage To Favored Banks.

Administration leaders were dumb-founded when it was revealed that Secretary Gage had permitted the National City bank of New York, which purchased the old custom house site in that city, to retain control of the money thus acquired as a deposit. According to law it should have been converted into the United States treasury also.

In addition to drawing interest on the \$3,265,000, which it was proposed to pay for the old custom house, the bank received an annual rental from the government of about \$130,000. The deeds of the property were never formally delivered by the treasury department to the National City bank. The title remained with the government at the direct request of President Stillman of the bank. In that way the administration officials conspired with the National City bank to mulct the city of New York out of \$2,900 a year taxes on the property.

Through the manipulation of the purchase price and the saving in taxes the National City bank was the gainer of about \$20,000 a year. The custom house matter was never fully inquired into because of the fear of the republicans that the disclosures would have a disastrous result on the campaign for the re-election of McKinley.

"Brother Abner" and the War Contract Scandals.

Abner McKinley, brother of the president, has been responsible for much of the scandal which is attached to the administration.

During the Spanish-American war he was said to have been retained by a large number of firms and corporations that desired to profit by the lavish expenditure of government funds. The precise weight of his influence was

to his ante-convention compact. He went before the committee on commerce and assisted Wimberley and Demas in every possible way. Through his influence and that of the president, the appointments were confirmed.

How the Administration Aided the Armor Trust.

President McKinley, through his political manager, Senator Hanna, endorsed the grab of the armor plate trust, which was agreed to by congress just before adjournment. All during the session the strongest lobby Washington has seen for years has been maintained by the armor plate interests. The shipbuilding lobby and the lobby working for the shipping subsidy bill were also instructed to work for armor plate. The democrats attempted to lower the rate by a threat to build a government armor plate factory. The house refused to consider such a proposition and it was introduced in the senate. Here it was fought by the administration men. When the bill went into conference there were days of wrangling with the senate steadfast for cheaper armor or the building of a government factory. As adjournment approached the lobby became more insistent.

After missionary work done by Senator Hanna and republican leaders it was finally decided to leave to the discretion of the secretary of the navy the price to be paid for armor. Under the new law he is authorized to purchase armor at a "just and reasonable price," and to contract for as many thousand tons as he desires.

No limit is fixed. If the secretary does not believe the price asked by the trust is reasonable, he can use \$4,000,000 which has been placed at his disposal to build a government factory.

On the night the armor plate section was adopted the lobby held a celebration at Chamberlain's that is still the talk of wine-drinking Washington.

Algerism, Eganism and the Beef Trust Scandal.

"Embalmed beef," "Algerism," and "Eganism," and the favors shown by

had been extracted were dished up to the soldiers in Cuba and Porto Rico. Thousands of pounds of rotten beef were thrown overboard by officers in command of transports, but the trust lost nothing. The officers were reprimanded and the beef concerns were left for the meat.

Peck's Vast Outlay Yet To Be Explained.

The scandal in connection with the American exhibits at the Paris exposition is the result of recent disclosures. For the use of Ferdinand W. Peck, the commissioner general, \$1,448,786 was appropriated. The law creating the commission required that a detailed report be made of all expenditures. The report when submitted gave details of about \$600,000 disbursements. The remainder, nearly \$800,000, is yet to be specifically accounted for.

Government funds have been scattered for excessive salaries and heavy traveling expenses. The charge has been made that employes have sold space privileges and retained the money. The French government allotted space free of charge. The sums extracted from exhibitors are said to have ranged from \$150 each upward. The number of exhibitors exceeds 7,000. Some of them have forwarded complaints to this city.

The senate by resolution and the state department by cablegrams have sought to ascertain in detail what Commissioner General Peck did with the government money. In his first detailed report he lumped the salaries of experts at \$72,945, and put his traveling expenses at \$3,724. The assistant commissioner general received \$4,079 for traveling expenses, more than his salary. The director of machinery and electricity drew a salary of \$3,600 a year and traveling expenses of \$3,587.

The salaries of clerks and other employes are fixed by Commissioner General Peck.

Of the \$200,000 appropriated for government buildings but half was expended, according to the reports filed, and nothing is given to indicate where the remainder was used.

What Has McKinley Done With \$50,000,000?

The conservative public has been astounded by the way in which the \$50,000,000 emergency fund placed by congress in the hands of the president has disappeared without an accounting. The president gave a solemn pledge that he would account for every dollar of this fund. He has done so in the lump, but with a remarkable evasion of detail.

Each of the interested departments presented a makeshift report indicating in bulk what general disposition was made of its share, but there has never been the detailed statement that was expected.

Senator Jones of Arkansas, chairman of the democratic national committee, recently called attention to this scandal. He said that for two years he had been waiting to see a satisfactory report, indicating how the \$50,000,000 fund was spent, and as yet none has been made.

The favoritism shown the sons of distinguished public men in army appointments has caused a scandal of no mean proportions. The selection of officers for the volunteer army during the Spanish-American war was based very largely on purchase, and not on merit. The son of a prominent statesman or public official could obtain a commission without regard to experience or qualifications. In this way the troops were in many instances placed under the leadership of most incompetent officers.

It finally became practically impossible for a commission to be secured unless the applicant's father, grandfather or some other near relative was of national reputation and commanding influence.

"Sons of Somebodies" became the officers, while men of practical experience and military training were compelled to forego service or enlist as privates.

Cuban Postal Scandal Comes To Cap the Climax.

The latest scandal of the McKinley administration is that connected with the Cuban postal service. Defaulter Neely and his accomplices stand today charged with stealing \$100,000. Investigation has shown that the Cuban postal system for more than a year has been a prolific source of fraud and embezzlement.

Charles F. W. Neely was the choice of Perry S. Heath, first assistant postmaster general, for the treasurership of the postal service in Cuba. He was fencing with creditors in Muncie, Ind., when he left for Cuba. When he was arrested for defrauding the government he was able to deposit two \$10,000 bills as cash bail.

Neely had a printing office in Muncie. After he arrived in Cuba this office was swamped with orders for government postal business—from Neely.

In December, 1898, Neely assumed his office in Cuba. At that time there were claims and judgments against him big and little. He welcomed the salary of \$3,000 and in a few months sent a package containing \$15,000 to a safe deposit concern in Muncie.

A month ago the truth came out. Neely was arrested, charged with appropriating government funds. He was caught in Rochester and arraigned in New York before Commissioner Shields and his extradition applied for. The formal accusation was that instead of destroying condemned stamps he sold them in the Havana postoffice and appropriated the money.

Postmaster Thompson of Havana confessed and Estes C. Rathbone's name was dragged in. He was director-general of the posts in Cuba, and is now under suspension and prevented by the authorities from leaving the island.

All the men implicated in the Cuban postal scandal were appointed by the influence of Senator Rathbone or his friends.

Chicago Tribune: "Twenty-five dollars for that hat, Maria? That's a frightful price for such a little thing. It's nearly all profit." "The milliner I bought it of may have made a little something, but I took up the time of three other milliners for half a day while I was looking around town for it. There's some satisfaction in that."

The electric lamp was born in 1802, when Sir Humphrey Davy produced electric light by passing a current of electricity from a battery of 2,000 cells over charcoal points.

ALL ABOARD FOR PHILADELPHIA.



tion is that of the National City bank of New York City. This bank, dominated by the Standard Oil trust, was enabled, through Secretary Gage and a potent political pull, to invade the United States treasury. This scandal furnished the democratic party with much campaign material and threatened for a time to disrupt the republican party.

The National City bank was selected by Secretary Gage, with the full approval of President McKinley, as the distributing agent for all the internal revenue funds of the government during the financial crisis of last December. By this favoritism it is estimated that in a few months the bank cleared about \$2,500,000.

The cause of the favoritism shown the National City bank by the administration was shown in a letter from the bank's vice president, A. P. Hepburn, to Secretary Gage, that closed thus:

"Of course the bank is very strong, and if you will take the pains to look at our list of directors you will see that we also have very great political claims, in view of what was done during the canvass last year."

In one year the government deposits in this bank jumped from \$300,000 to \$19,085,421.

The business of the bank has constantly grown since the "list of directors was looked over" by Secretary Gage. Mr. Gage was the personal friend of President Stillman of the bank.

Secretary Root could not resist the pull of the National City bank and he transferred to it the handling of about \$3,000,000 a month in Philippine business.

The disclosures frightened the republicans, and they declined to grant a full investigation of Secretary Gage's connection with the National City Standard Oil bank.

Senators Allen, Vest and others made charges repeatedly in the senate against Secretary Gage while the administration did not deny, pursuing

never known, but he was popularly credited with "pulling off" all the big events in which he was entered.

During the entire period that his name was mentioned in connection with the letting of these contracts he was a frequent visitor at the executive mansion.

The scandal caused by the activity of Abner McKinley finally became so great that Senator Hanna called the attention of both brothers to the injury being done to the republican party. Indeed, certain members of the republican national committee spent much time and money in gathering evidence regarding the operations of Abner, with the view of having it given to a newspaper, the intention being to open the president's eyes to the damage being wrought by his brother. But when the work of collecting this data was about completed the war ended and Abner ceased to be the important factor he was during the contract letting days. The necessity for publication thus being obviated, the facts were suppressed.

One of the earliest scandals of this administration was the appointment of certain notorious men to public offices in New Orleans to pay the ante-convention obligations of Senator Hanna. Louisiana was favorable to the candidacy of Speaker Reed for president.

Wimberley, Demas and their associates came to Washington and demanded their pay. Great pressure was brought to bear upon the president to prevent their selection. Petitions were presented by the women of New Orleans to Mrs. Gage urging her to have the secretary assist in defeating the Wimberley gang.

Mr. Gage openly declared that the appointments should not be made. Delegates of prominent men from all sections of Louisiana came to protest against the appointments. The notorious records of the aspirants were presented to the public throughout the world but Senator Hanna commanded and Mr. McKinley obeyed.

The nominations were sent to the senate.

Then a bitter fight began against the confirmation. Mr. Hanna was faithful

the administration to the beef trust will not soon be forgotten. Nothing which occurred during the war with Spain aroused the public to a higher pitch of indignation than the feeding of rotten beef to the army in Cuba.

Beef contractors reaped rich harvests, while soldiers by the hundreds were going into hospitals from eating this meat upon which they were obliged to subsist.

Desperate efforts have been made by the administration to suppress the entire truth but they have only served to emphasize the rottenness of the system as it was conducted during the war.

One hundred thousand dollars were spent by the administration on a commission created to whitewash Alger, Egan and the embalmed beef. The commission was partisan and reported in accordance with instructions, but that did not modify public sentiment. The commanding general of the army and hundreds of army officers, to say nothing of a thousand soldiers, declared that the beef was putrid. Egan said it was sweet and wholesome, and in his rage abused General Miles and was court-martialed. But having been a faithful servant of the administration and a friend of the beef trust, he was restored to rank.

Then a military court of inquiry was ordered by the president. Despite the efforts of this court to make a favorable showing for the beef, the evidence was so overwhelming against it that the investigation resulted disastrously to the administration.

As a final move the president and his cabinet decided that Alger must be made a scapegoat. He was forced out of the cabinet—but the scandals still live.

It was developed during the investigation that beef that had been canned and shipped to Europe several years before the Spanish war began was shipped back to this country, relabeled and sold to the war department for the army. Chemically prepared beef and meats from which the substance