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THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

THE WEATHER.
Partly Cloudy

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On Trains and at Hotel News Stands, 5c SINGLE COPY TWO CENTS.

HOUSE REQUIRES CAREFUL CHECK OF ALL MONEYS PAID

Taylor of Custer Adds a Few More Restrictions to the Expenditure of Coin of the Realm.
STATE OFFICERS ARE WARNED
Notice Given in Advance that All Overtime Must Be Carefully Explained.
POWER BILLS INTRODUCED

(From a Staff Correspondent.)
LINCOLN, Jan. 15.—(Special.)—Squams of economy surge over the house at each recurring session of that body and have come so frequently that members of the upper house have even suggested that perhaps the next move will be to bring the trustees from the penitentiary to perform the clerical work of the session.

Today Taylor of Custer, well known economist of days gone by, had the honor to adopt another rule to safeguard expenditures whereby a string of "O. K.'s" several yards long is required before any money is paid out.

Pointer to State Officers.
The resolution goes so far that it instructs the state officers in their duties and admonishes the secretary of state, state auditor and printing commissioner to approve no vouchers or issue warrants until claims have been passed upon and approved by the committee on employees or the committee on expenditures and also provides that on January 19 and every two weeks thereafter those two committees shall report to the house in detail the amounts paid out to each employe for regular time, overtime, salary and mileage drawn by each member, supplies bought and some other things.

Bills So Far Introduced.
The first week of the session closed with an adjournment this morning until 2 p. m. Monday. The record shows that fifty-three bills have been introduced in the senate and eighty-four in the house.

In the senate Byland of Boone leads the procession in the introduction of bills, seven being credited to him, while Beal of Custer comes next with six, Lahnert of Jefferson and Quinby of Douglas with five each. Shumway of Dixon with four and Bedford of Douglas with three. The rest of the members have fallen below that number. Brookley, Dodge, Douthett, Henry, Kohl, Marshall, Mattes, Piller, Robertson, Spencer, Weesner and Wilson of Dodge having not yet broken into the column.

In the house end on account of the drought in employe the record has not yet been prepared.

Court House Bill Introduced Again To Make It Valid

(From a Staff Correspondent.)
LINCOLN, Jan. 15.—(Special.)—To remedy the defect which invalidated the Hummel act, passed by the legislature of 1912 and afterward declared unconstitutional by the supreme court, the same bill has been introduced again this year in slightly changed form to meet the legal objections that operated to annul it.

COL. THRASHER CUSTODIAN, NOT JANITOR, IN SENATE

LINCOLN, Jan. 15.—(Special.)—Colonel Thrasher of Plattsmouth is considerably agitated because the list of employes published in the newspapers makes him a janitor of the senate chamber. "I am not a janitor," said the colonel this morning. "My official cognomen is custodian of the gallery. I have been receiving letters from home jolting me because I have accepted a job as janitor and I want the public to know that I am a custodian and not a janitor."

The Weather

Hour	Deg.
6 a. m.	38
7 a. m.	39
8 a. m.	40
9 a. m.	41
10 a. m.	42
11 a. m.	43
12 m.	44
1 p. m.	45
2 p. m.	46
3 p. m.	47
4 p. m.	48
5 p. m.	49
6 p. m.	50
7 p. m.	51
8 p. m.	52

1915	1914	1913	
Highest yesterday	41	47	45
Lowest yesterday	21	24	25
Mean temperature	36	40	40
Precipitation	0.00	0.00	0.03

Station and State	Temp.	High	Rain
Cheyanne, snow	20	30	4
Davenport, clear	49	49	0
Denver, snow	26	34	0
Des Moines, cl. cloudy	40	41	0
London, cloudy	36	40	0
North Platte, cloudy	30	39	0
Omaha, cloudy	41	41	0
Piute, cloudy	36	42	0
Rapid City, cloudy	15	24	0
Salt Lake City, cloudy	28	39	0
St. Paul, snow	22	34	0
Sheridan, snow	22	34	0
Sioux City, cloudy	39	41	0
Valentine, snow	14	21	0

JAPANESE NURSES ON WAY TO FRENCH BATTLE-FIELDS

Seventeen Japanese nurses, under the leadership of Dr. J. Suzuki, photographed in New York en route from Tokio to French battlefields.



GERMANS FORCE FRENCH TROOPS ACROSS AISNE

Kaiser's Army Has Been Advancing Near Soissons for Several Days, but Has Not Recovered All Lost Ground.

BRITISH TROOPS ARE ADVANCING
Report from La Bassee Says They Pushed German Line There Back for One Mile.

MORE SNOWFALL AND FLOODS

The Day's War News in Condensed Form

BRITISH forces stormed the German entrenched positions near La Bassee, in France, about ten miles south of the Belgian border, driving back the Germans with heavy losses and advancing one mile. The positions involved are of considerable strategic value, but confirmation of their reported capture is lacking.

GERMANS have won important advantages over the allies near Soissons. Near Perthes, in the Argonne and Upper Alsace, and elsewhere along the western front where recently there have been heavy engagements activity has subsided.

PETROGRAD is confident that the German offensive movement in Poland has spent its force, and the war office announces that Russian forces have made gains along the Vistula.

TURKISH forces which penetrated Persia, occupying Tabriz, are now advancing into the interior. The report is said to have offered to withdraw the forces from Persia if Russia also would do so.

FRENCH official statement says that German positions near Arras were captured by soldiers in a bayonet charge.

RUSSIAN general staff expects a concerted attack by the German forces west and southwest of Warsaw.

LONDON, Jan. 15.—The violent German attack to the north of Soissons under the direction of General von Kluck, which, coupled with a flood stage of the river, has forced the French back across the Aisne, is the most striking news of the last twenty-four hours from the heat of war.

The Germans have been gaining in this locality for several days, but they had not recovered all of the ground lost by them. This engagement north of Soissons is the first notable fighting in the vicinity since last September, when the British army which subsequently was transferred to Belgium was successful in crossing the Aisne.

Snow in the Vosges mountains and floods in Flanders still prevent any extensive operations on the eastern or western fronts. The British observers it appears as though the Soissons district had been selected for the point where, with reinforcements and first-line troops, the Germans are planning to display once more the hammering tactics so familiar during the autumn. On the other hand, some war experts argue that the operations at Soissons may have been undertaken to compel the allies to lessen the pressure in Alsace.

The British claim to have won a marked successful victory several days ago near Labassee, when they drove the Germans from strongly entrenched positions, gaining one mile in distance and inflicting severe losses on their antagonists.

There has been no change of importance in the eastern arena of the war. Italy has been momentarily distracted from thoughts of war by the devastating earthquake of January 13. The assertion still is being made in London that the allies confidently expect Italy to join them in due course.

Nothing Important to Report, Says France
PARIS, Jan. 15.—The following official communication was issued tonight: "There is nothing of importance to report."

The National Capital
Friday, January 15, 1915.
The Senate.
Senator Lodge spoke on the national defense.

Twenty-seven Quarter Sections Wheat Land
This is located in the Niobrara valley in northern Box Butte county, Nebraska. This location excels in potato raising and the soil and climate is especially adapted to spring and durum wheat. This is all in one body and an excellent proposition to colonize. Will sell all or half. Might consider some exchange if clear.

Estimates of Number of Dead at Avezzano and Sora Increasing

PARIS, Jan. 15.—A dispatch to the Havas Agency from Rome quotes the number of dead at Avezzano is larger than has been believed. According to his paper 11,000 persons lie buried beneath the ruins of the city.
The Messagero says that at Cappadocia all the houses are uninhabitable and the people are camping on the snow. Twenty bodies have been recovered from the ruins there and it is estimated that thirty more are still beneath the debris. The town of Sorocastro is now nothing but a pile of ruins, beneath which are buried hundreds of bodies. Of the population of 800 only thirty escaped death.

Magliano di Marsi 1,200 were killed. Capelle was destroyed with the loss of more than 1,200 lives. Nearly the entire population of San Benedetto, numbering 5,000, met death. The towns of Ortonico, with 2,000 inhabitants, and Glosamara, with 3,000, are in ruins. At Pescara the number of deaths is about 4,000, which is approximately one-half of the population.

Many Die in Other Cities.
LONDON, Jan. 15.—The Exchange Telegraph company has received a message from its Rome correspondent, who says that the magnitude of the Italian disaster increases, as further news from the devastated area is received.

PARIS WAR OFFICE REPORTS ADVANCES
Positions in Belgium and France Taken by Storm and Others Demolished by Artillery.

VILLAGE OF ST. PAUL RETAKEN
PARIS, Jan. 15.—(2:45 p. m.)—The French war office this afternoon gave out an official communication which says: "From the sea to the Loz there were yesterday artillery engagements, some of them quite spirited. We made progress near Lombardzyde and near Beclere. To the north of Arras a brilliant attack by Zepaves resulted in the capture at the point of the bayonet of the positions of the enemy near the road between Arras and Lille."

"In this same region, at Targete and at St. Laurent, as well as at a point to the north of Audeby in the region of Roye, our artillery secured the advantage over that of the enemy. German batteries were reduced to silence, two pieces of artillery were demolished, a depot of ammunition was exploded and field works in course of construction were destroyed."

"At a point two kilometers (a mile and a quarter) northeast of Soissons the Germans yesterday attacked the village of St. Paul. They entered the village, but we lost no time in recapturing it."

Violent Artillery Engagement.
"In the region of Soissons and near Rheims there were yesterday violent artillery engagements during the course of which the batteries of the enemy were frequently reduced to silence."

"In the region of Perthes, in the Argonne, and on the heights of the Meuse there has been nothing important to report. We have destroyed the foot bridges set up by the Germans over the river Meuse at St. Mihiel, and in the forest of Alliey we repulsed an attack upon the trenches taken by us January 8."

"In the Vosges to the south of Senones we repulsed the Germans after a spirited infantry engagement. We broke through their barbed wire entanglements and occupied their trenches."

"Along the rest of the front there is nothing to report."

City Where Beautiful Women Live Struck By the Earthquake
AVEZZANO, Jan. 15.—The physicians engaged in the work of rescue formed an organization and established two field hospitals. They made arrangements for medical and surgical work day and night.

In digging among the ruins, rescuers discovered a woman's hand. A physician was summoned and said the woman was still alive. The rescuers worked with feverish haste, but it was almost impossible to dislodge the mass of shattered masonry in which the woman was imprisoned. After several hours only one arm was freed. Then the attempt was abandoned for the physician said that death had made futile the efforts of the rescuers.

Many houses are in ruins in Saracineco, a village perched on the summit of a crag, which has been well known to several generations of American artists on account of the unusual beauty of the young women who have come from that town to serve as artists' models. The ruins of the medieval castle there rolled down the face of the mountain.

Hitchcock Named on Committee to Confer with Bryan
WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—Senators Root, Hitchcock and Swanson were named today members of a foreign relations sub-committee to confer with Secretary Bryan on amending the pending treaty to pay Colombia \$25,000,000 for the partition of Panama. There is some sentiment for reducing the sum and to strike out the clause in which the United States would express "sincere regret" to Colombia.

CHAPERONE AT CAPITOL, KNOCK STIRS SOLONS
HELENA, Mont., Jan. 15.—Rejecting today a petition from the Woman's Study League of Helena that a chaperone be appointed for women employes at the state capitol during the session of the legislature, a joint committee of the senate and house addressed a rebuke to the petitioners. The committee declared the petition was a reflection upon the law-making body of the state.

SIXTY TOWNS IN ITALY STRICKEN BY EARTHQUAKE

Latest Estimates Place Number of Dead at Twenty-Five Thousand and Injured at Thirty-Five Thousand.

BIGGEST DAMAGE AT AVEZZANO
Shock Felt as Far North as Swiss Frontier and Numerous Avalanches Occur in Alps.

KING DIRECTS RELIEF WORK
PARIS, Jan. 15.—A dispatch to the Havas Agency from Rome quotes the Messagero as saying that the number of dead at Avezzano is larger than has been believed. According to this paper 11,000 persons lie buried beneath the ruins of the city.

ROME, Jan. 15.—Constantly shifting estimates, based on reports that continue to trickle in, now place the death toll from Wednesday's earthquake at 20,000 and the injured at a number in the excess of 35,000.

Hundreds, possibly thousands, of victims still are buried alive in the wreckage of their homes, while rescuers from every walk of life struggle desperately to dig them out. King Victor Emmanuel, who returned to Rome from Avezzano last night, personally superintended the release of a number of such unfortunates.

The king reached the capital in his private car, to which were attached three coaches bearing forty wounded. These, like the other hundreds who are slowly reaching Rome, were distributed about the hospitals, regular and extraordinary, in the city.

Pope Benedict this morning offered to the mayor of Rome the use of the hospital of Santa Marta. The offer was accepted.

Two Cities Are Destroyed.
The principal loss of life and probably the chief property damage appears to have been in Avezzano and Sora, fifteen miles away. Both of these municipalities were destroyed and their population virtually wiped out.

Latest reports place the number of dead in Avezzano at 10,000 and in Sora at 4,000. In at least sixty other towns more than 4,000 have been killed. From these towns come the majority of the injured. In Avezzano and Sora almost everyone was killed.

The situation in Avezzano is increasingly grave because of the destruction of the aqueduct system and the consequent shutting off of the water supply. Communication slowly is being re-established and two hastily improvised hospitals and one refuge camp have been set up.

Americans Aid Rescue Work.
The rescue forces have been augmented by the staff of the United States embassy at Rome, dispatched to Avezzano in automobiles by Ambassador Thomas Nelson Page. The secretaries and attaches carried supplies of clothing and provisions for the sufferers.

Reports from Switzerland show that the quake was felt among the Alps and caused destructive avalanches there. As in the Messina catastrophe it is believed that it will be weeks before the loss of life can be known or the property loss accurately compiled. The work of recovering bodies is proceeding slowly, to care for his home and motherless children. He was absent at the doctor's certificate gave the cause of death as convulsion and cerebral hemorrhages.

Neighbors appealed to the city officials, asserting that they had warned Mrs. Dickey to cease her cruel beatings of the boy.

House Accepts Report on Alien Measure
WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—The conference report on the immigration bill, which includes the literacy test was accepted by the house today by a vote of 27 to 6. It already has been adopted by the senate and now goes to the president, who will hold public hearings.

River Seine Rises, Overflowing Banks
PARIS, Jan. 15.—The river Seine is rising rapidly. At Troyes it is already out of its banks and passenger boat service has been temporarily suspended. At various places the tributaries are out of their banks.

HARRY POLSKY SHOOTS HIMSELF THROUGH HEAD
During a fit of despondency, Harry Polsky, alias the Polsky, of Lincoln, an ex-convict, shot himself through the head with a .38-caliber revolver in a room at the Hotel London, 322 North Fifteenth street.

Polksky for over a year had threatened at various times to end his life and for more than a month had carried a revolver wrapped in a piece of newspaper, whenever he went.

The police were summoned at once by the clerk of the establishment, who said Polksky had not been in the room more than five minutes when he heard the shot.

Asserts Dry Kansas More Wicked State Than Wet Nebraska

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—Prohibition was debated in the senate nearly all day without a vote being reached on Senator Sheppard's motion to suspend the rules to consider an amendment to the District of Columbia appropriation bill which would prohibit the sale of liquor in the capital.

Senator Martine attacked the proposed legislation as in violation of the personal liberty of the residents of the district and declared the creator must have planned that man should use alcohol when he made all the most nutritious fruits and grains rich in that stimulant. He read statistics which he said showed that crime, lunacy and other evils were more prevalent in Kansas, a state-wide prohibition commonwealth, than in Nebraska, where local option prevailed.

Senator Williams said he had changed his opinion since he opposed prohibition in Mississippi, and challenged senators to show that whiskey had ever bettered anyone.

"I love a toddy as well as did Daniel Webster or George Washington," he said, "but it never did me or anybody else any good, except to make them feel better for a little while."

Two Killed, and Twelve Injured in Wreck at Runnels
DES MOINES, Ia., Jan. 15.—Two persons were killed and twelve injured in a wreck near Runnels, Ia., today. A broken rail is said to have been the cause.

Charge Woman Beat Little Child to Death
TACOMA, Wash., Jan. 15.—Mrs. Bertha Dickey, housekeeper in the home of Amos R. Hall of this city, was arrested today on complaint of neighbors that she had beaten to death Hall's 3-year-old son, Clarence. The body of the child, who died January 11, was exhumed by the coroner and found covered with bruises.

An inquest has been ordered. Hall, whose business called him from the city, frequently employed Mrs. Dickey to care for his home and motherless children. He was absent at the doctor's certificate gave the cause of death as convulsion and cerebral hemorrhages.

Neighbors appealed to the city officials, asserting that they had warned Mrs. Dickey to cease her cruel beatings of the boy.

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The police were summoned at once by the clerk of the establishment, who said Polksky had not been in the room more than five minutes when he heard the shot.

An acquaintance stated that Polksky had declared he was being haunted by the spirit of his dead wife, but as far as the police know he is a single man. The body was taken in charge by the coroner, who is trying to locate relatives.

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