

Nebraska Legislature

Routine Proceedings of Senate.
The senate Monday afternoon passed the following bills:
By Randall—Providing for the incorporation of grand and subordinate lodges of fraternal orders.
By Randall—Allowing fraternal orders to establish and maintain charitable homes.
By Root—Requiring private corporations to pay employees twice each month.
By Phillips—Prohibiting judges from hearing cases in which litigant or attorney is related to the judge.
By Eyring—Providing for adoption of township organizations by counties.
By Randall—Providing for the establishment of sewage systems in cities of the second class and villages.
The senate then went into committee of the whole on the bill for the chair, and acted upon the following bills:
H. R. 373—By Knowles. Drainage district bill. For passage.
S. F. 384—By Aldrich. Giving labor commissioner power to investigate corporations in which public is interested. For passage.
S. F. 42—By Patrick. Making county commissioners road commissioners in their district, except in counties under township organization. For passage.
S. F. 290—By Thomas. Making salary of clerk of the county court in Douglas county \$126 a month. For passage.

Routine Proceedings of House.
The house spent the entire afternoon Monday on bills on third reading. The following bills were passed:
By joint committee on privileges and elections—Direct primary bill.
By Gilman of Lancaster—Defining a "reputable dental college" as one inducted by the National Association of Dental Examiners or the National Association of Dental Faculties.
By Hart of York (by request)—Joint resolution giving Ruth Ober the right to sue school district No. 23 of Douglas county for damages because of injuries sustained April 22, 1903.
By Harvey of Douglas—To provide additional means of revenue for the fire and police relief funds of Omaha.
By Harrison of Otoe—Removing the \$5,000 limitation to the recovery of damages in cases of death.
By Lee of Douglas—Requiring the county board to furnish office room and supplies for the county comptroller.
By Lee of Douglas—Making the county comptroller of Douglas county ex-officio city comptroller of Omaha.
By Lee of Douglas—Requiring the county comptroller to countersign all county and city warrants.
By Byrstone of Lancaster—Appropriating \$50,000 for the erection of an additional building for men at the Lincoln hospital for the insane.
By E. W. Brown of Lancaster—Call for a constitutional convention.
By E. W. Brown of Lancaster—Providing for conveyances of real estate, including homesteads, by widow, wife or husband. By the joint committee on privileges and elections. Making primary day the first day of registration in cities.

Terminal Tax Wins.
After defeating a motion by Cullide of failure to indefinitely postpone the senate terminal tax bill, the house, in committee of the whole Wednesday afternoon, recommended the measure for passage. The triumph of the pledge-keeping Republicans and their fusionists, whom the railroads cannot control after the most strenuous and bitter fight of the session. The railroads for a long time tried to kill the bill and they demanded that their henchmen go to the front for them, and they went. They recruited a new spokesman in Cullide of Saline and in Cone of Saunders, while the old guard, reliable and true, Hamer of Buffalo, Killen of Gage, Hill of Chase, all stood firm to carry out the orders of the railroad lobby to kill the bill. Friends of the bill were reinforced by Barrett of Buffalo, Hamer's colleague, and by Quackenbush of Nemaha, both of whom talked for the bill. Barrett read numerous telegrams from home endorsing his position and urging him to stand pat. Hamer didn't read any or receive any, showing how the two men stood with the people. The railroads first tried to discuss it in committee of the whole, they tried to ruin it by amendments, which were killed; then they tried to kill it by having Cullide move to indefinitely postpone it; that failed, then Cone tried to have the committee merely report progress and have the whole fight over again Friday morning. That failed. It was a slow, painful, hard fight and all the tricks of the railroad gang were brought to bear to kill the measure, but the tricks were in vain.

Commission and Food Bills Pass.
The senate Wednesday morning passed the railway commission bill and the pure food bill. No votes were cast against the commission bill, but Latta of Burt voted against the pure food measure. Wednesday afternoon the Gibson bill prohibiting brewers from owning an interest in a saloon license or saloon business and preventing them from leasing buildings or rooms for saloon purposes passed the senate. Ashton, Clarke, Saunders and Thomas voted against the bill, the former explaining he did so because he believed the provision prohibiting the leasing of saloon buildings by brewers to be unconstitutional.

Routine Proceedings of Senate.
The senate Wednesday morning passed the following bills:
By Dodge—Providing judgments in forcible entry and detainer suits shall become operative even if appeal is taken.
By Miller—Defining embezzlement from fraternal societies and providing a penalty.
By Gilman—Providing for a state board of optometry.
By the joint railway committee—The railway commission bill.
By Burns—The pure food bill.
The senate then went into committee of the whole and acted on these measures:
By Sackett—Providing for reciprocal demurrage and to require railroads

to furnish cars to shippers within a reasonable time and to prevent discrimination in the furnishing of cars. By McKesson—Providing elevator companies shall make a daily report of prices to the commissioner of labor and commerce.
At the afternoon session the following bills passed:
By Gibson—Prohibiting brewers from owning or leasing saloons or saloon buildings. Ashton, Clarke, Thomas and Saunders voting no.
By Burns—Lincoln charter amendments.

Routine Proceedings of House.
The following bills were passed by the house Wednesday:
By Quackenbush—Reciprocal demurrage bill.
To amend the state treasurer ex-officio treasurer of the university and the custodian of the Hatch, Adams and Morrill funds.
To provide for the entry of townships by the corporate authorities of incorporated villages or by the county judge.
In the committee of the whole the house recommended for passage H. R. 356, by Doran, appropriating \$50,000 to those school districts which are not able to hold seven months' school a year.

By R. 203, by Thiessen, of Jefferson, providing for weighing on demand of live stock, coal, lumber and grain, was amended providing for state weighmaster by the governor at points where 100 cars are to be weighed. The bill was recommended for passage.
In committee of the whole Wednesday night the house recommended for passage the following bills:
Jenison of Clay—Appropriating \$50,000 for normal training in high schools.
By Hamer of Buffalo—Appropriating \$100,000 for an addition to the Kearney normal school.
By the judiciary committee—Providing for warehouse receipts.
By Walsh of Douglas—Appropriating \$75,000 for improvements at the state fair grounds. Amended to read \$50,000.
By Hart of York—Providing for the consolidation of school districts by vote instead of by petition.
By Aldrich—Providing salaries for employees of the industrial home at Milford.

Terminal Tax Passes.
By a vote of 56 to 40 the senate terminal tax bill, as amended in the committee of the whole, passed the house on third reading Friday morning. The fight was bitter and at times personal and true to the promise made by Hamer, he and the other railroad-controlled Republicans and fusionists fought to the last, bringing to bear every device and trick of the trade to secure the recommitment of the bill that it might be killed.

Routine Proceedings of Senate.
The following bills were passed by the senate Friday:
By Barrett—To enable cities and villages to erect statues and monuments to soldiers in cemeteries and parks. Epperson of Clay was the only member voting in the negative.
By Ashton of Hall—Regulating the public service of stations.
By Thorne of Nuckolls—Requiring county assessors to gather statistics relating to agriculture.
By Thomas of Douglas—Making the salary of the clerk of the county court of Douglas county \$1,500 per year.
By Root of Cass—Making taxes levied against corporations delinquent Feb. 1, the same as other taxes.
By O'Connell of Johnson—Reducing interest on warrants issued by counties and school districts in metropolitan cities and cities of the first class to 5 per cent.
By Patrick of Sarpy—Allowing cities of the second class less than 5,000, and villages, to sell special tax liens.
By Patrick of Sarpy—Making it unlawful for an intoxicated person to ride on any street car, interurban or railway car.
By Epperson of Clay—Providing for the establishment of high schools by special elections.
By Epperson of Clay—Requiring insurance companies to return the net assets of this state to the state treasury by the company after deducting customary short rate premium for the expired time when policy is cancelled.
By Saunders of Douglas—Providing for the dissolution of defunct corporations.
By Glover of Cass—Authorizing and deposing assessors to administer oaths.
By the governor, by request of Thompson of Buffalo—Validating the issuance of bonds for the establishment and maintenance of heating and lighting systems by villages and cities of less than 5,000 inhabitants which were issued in compliance with the act of 1903.
By Hanna—To allow cities of the second class and villages to grant franchises to steam and interurban railroads.
By Ashton—Requiring railroads to maintain track scales at division points for the weighing of coal in carload lots.
By Sackett—A reciprocal demurrage bill, requiring railroads to furnish cars within a reasonable time after application by shippers or pay a penalty of \$3 a day per car and prohibiting discrimination in the furnishing of cars. Hanna voted no.

Routine Proceedings of House.
The house Friday concurred in the report of the conference committee on the railway commission bill.
By Noyes of Cass, providing that the state pay for bridges built across the Platte river and appropriating \$50,000 for the purpose, was indefinitely postponed on motion of Eller of Washington, by a vote of 49 to 35.
By McMullen of Gage, providing for the state to receive the special United States appropriations, was recommended to pass.
Springer introduced a joint resolution to add a department to the state farm to raise coyotes. The speaker ruled the resolution out of order because it was introduced after the 40-day limit on the introduction of bills had passed.
By Hamer of Buffalo, appropriating \$100,000 for an addition to the Kearney normal school, was passed on third reading.
H. R. 356, appropriating \$50,000 to provide a seven months' school in those districts which, though levying the limit, are unable to hold a school for that length of time, was passed.
H. R. 241, the warehouse receipt bill, was passed.

Everyday Occurrences.
"The clearing in court of that receiver of stolen goods was a homely sort of triumph for the lawyers."
"It was a whitewashing of the fence."
—Baltimore American.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

CHICAGO.

Along with the advent of spring business generally is seen to have acquired further momentum. No corresponding period in previous years was entered upon with production, distribution and transportation more largely engaged, and it is a remarkable index of industrial strength that demands and costs exhibit to reaction. Labor problems attract attention, but the difficulties obtain prompt treatment, thereby avoiding the danger from a spread of strikes. A gratifying feature is the improvement in railroad facilities, less complaint of car shortage and less delay in current shipments.

Distributive trade has responded promptly to the stimulus of seasonable weather. The wholesale markets are yet attended by many outside buyers, heavy purchases of spring and summer merchandise make a healthy reduction of warehouse stocks, and there is little diminution in the pressure upon shipping rooms, country merchants insisting upon prompt forwarding, despite high rates for money, the commercial demand is well kept up, western collections make a good showing and failures are comparatively low in both number and liabilities.

Bank clearings, \$243,145,727, exceed those of corresponding week in 1906 by 30.8 per cent.
Failures reported in the Chicago directory numbered 20, against 25 last week and 30 a year ago.—Dun's Review.

NEW YORK.

Spring trade is at its height, and the turnover bids fair to exceed even last year's, the stimuli being furnished by more favorable weather, the approach of Easter and the visits of country merchants to the larger centers. Improvement is reflected all around, even in the Northwest, which now appears to be getting ahead of the West. In fact, notwithstanding as to the future is nowhere in evidence in the great producing sections of the country. In some points in the West sales of dry goods on spring account are fully 10 per cent above those of last year, while fall business thus far placed is also in excess of that booked at this time in 1906. While the car situation in the West has improved, conditions in the East are worse, but nevertheless a greater movement of cereals to market may now be expected.

Business failures in the United States for the week ending March 21 number 157, against 180 last week and 170 in the like week of 1906. Canadian failures for the week number 32, against 23 last week and 29 in this week a year ago.—Bradstreet's Report.

THE MARKETS

Chicago—Cattle, common to prime, \$4.00 to \$6.05; hogs, prime heavy, \$4.00 to \$6.45; sheep, fair to choice, \$3.00 to \$5.75; wheat, No. 2, 72c to 74c; corn, No. 2, 42c to 44c; oats, standard, 30c to 32c; rye, No. 2, 67c to 70c; hay, timothy, \$13.00 to \$18.00; prairie, \$9.00 to \$14.00; butter, choice creamery, 27c to 30c; eggs, fresh, 14c to 18c; potatoes, 35c to 45c.
Indianapolis—Cattle, shipping, \$3.00 to \$6.50; hogs, choice heavy, \$4.00 to \$6.70; sheep, common to prime, \$2.50 to \$5.00; wheat, No. 2, 72c to 75c; corn, No. 2, white, 45c to 47c; oats, No. 2, white, 41c to 43c.
St. Louis—Cattle, \$4.50 to \$6.75; hogs, \$4.00 to \$6.50; sheep, \$3.00 to \$5.35; wheat, No. 2, 72c to 78c; corn, No. 2, 42c to 45c; oats, No. 2, 40c to 41c; rye, No. 2, 64c to 65c.
Cincinnati—Cattle, \$4.00 to \$5.65; hogs, \$4.00 to \$7.00; sheep, \$3.00 to \$5.50; wheat, No. 2, 78c to 79c; corn, No. 2, mixed, 46c to 47c; oats, No. 2, mixed, 43c to 45c; rye, No. 2, 72c to 74c.
Detroit—Cattle, \$4.00 to \$5.25; hogs, \$4.00 to \$6.85; sheep, \$2.50 to \$5.50; wheat, No. 2, 75c to 76c; corn, No. 3, yellow, 46c to 47c; oats, No. 3, white, 42c to 45c; rye, No. 2, 70c to 72c.
Milwaukee—Wheat, No. 2, northern, 78c to 81c; corn, No. 2, 41c to 42c; oats, standard, 41c to 42c; rye, No. 1, 68c to 70c; barley, standard, 70c to 72c; pork, mess, \$15.65.
Buffalo—Cattle, choice shipping steers, \$4.00 to \$6.00; hogs, fair to choice, \$4.00 to \$7.15; sheep, common to good mixed, \$4.00 to \$5.40; lambs, fair to choice, \$5.00 to \$8.50.
New York—Cattle, \$4.00 to \$6.20; hogs, \$4.00 to \$7.50; sheep, \$3.00 to \$5.50; wheat, No. 2, red, 80c to 82c; corn, No. 2, 54c to 55c; oats, natural white, 46c to 50c; butter, creamery, 29c to 30c; eggs, western, 15c to 18c.
Toledo—Wheat, No. 2, mixed, 75c to 76c; corn, No. 2, mixed, 45c to 46c; oats, No. 2, mixed, 42c to 44c; rye, No. 2, 68c to 69c; clover seed, prime, \$8.95.

Pence Congress at New York.

The first national arbitration and peace congress ever held in this country is to be convened in Carnegie hall and Cooper Union, New York City, April 14 to 17. Andrew Carnegie is to preside and more than 200 delegates, including many men of prominence, will discuss new projects for submission to the Hague conference in June. Among the speakers announced are William T. Stead, Archbishop Farley, Bishop Potter, Rabbi Hirsch, Ellhu Root, James Bryce, Woodrow Wilson and W. J. Bryan.

Northwest Passage Valueless.

Amundsen, the Norwegian explorer who some months ago succeeded in making the northwest passage in his little 47-ton boat, the Gjoa, has been delivering a series of lectures in Paris. While he says that the observations made by him in the vicinity of the magnetic pole will prove of considerable scientific value, he thinks that the northwest passage cannot be made practicable for purposes of navigation, thus dispelling the hope which has attracted the attention of scientific men, as well as dreamers, for centuries.

Fishes Hear and Talk.

A dispatch from Paris states that at the next meeting of the academy of sciences a paper written by Prof. Koellicke, director of the zoological laboratory at Naples, will be read, describing the experiments which he made with a special microphone in connection with fishes. These experiments, he claims, prove that fish, even shellfish, emit a certain humming, varying their tones and enabling them to communicate with each other. He found the gurmet the most loquacious and so well qualified as to be entitled to the nickname "sea lawyer."

LABOR

Unions in Switzerland have a total membership of 41,962.
Boston (Mass.) ladies' garment cutters formed a union recently.
Eighteen unions in Germany publish a newspaper of their own.
Minnesota building laborers will ask for \$3 a day after April 1.
A building trades' council has been formed in Lawrence, Mass.
A new union of cigarmakers has been organized at Crookston, Minn.
Labor unions of Richmond, Va., are planning to erect a \$100,000 temple.
The cloth hat and cap makers will meet in convention May 1 at New York City.
Master horsehoers of San Jose, Cal., have granted the journeymen the wage raise demanded.
Efforts are being made to organize thoroughly the Italian tailors and pressmen of Boston, Mass.
The International Butchers' Union is building up rapidly, forty-two charters having been issued last year.
A meeting to form a Massachusetts State organization of city employees' unions will be called in Boston.
Waitresses of Phoenix, Ariz., are on strike for a ten-hour day. They have been working eleven and twelve hours.
The International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths and Helpers recently organized a branch local in the isthmian canal zone.
Kannaks in Queensland, Australia, exempted from deportation, are forming a union for the protection of their own interests.
The Associated Blacksmiths of England report that this is the jubilee year of the society, which was established in August, 1857.
The two railwaymen's unions in Italy have decided to amalgamate, there being 23,393 votes in favor of amalgamation and 489 against.
The Cooks and Waiters' Union of Vallejo, Cal., is making a determined fight against the non-union restaurants and hotels of that city.
Union printers of Norfolk, Va., have made a demand for an increase in their wage scale of \$3.50 a week. The increase is based on the increased cost of living.
A reduction of one and one-half hours a day has been obtained for the Waltham barbers by the Boston journeymen's union, which includes Waltham in its jurisdiction.
Union carpenters of Oakland, Cal., are banding together to build a labor temple. Articles of incorporation have been filed with the Union Carpenters' Hall Association. The capital stock is \$100,000.
Reports from the general headquarters of the Iron Molders' Union of North America are to the effect that 7,886 names of molders and core makers were added to the membership rolls during 1906.
Officers of the New York Harbor Boatmen's Union recently announced that there would be a general strike of tugboat men unless their demands of \$10 a month increase in wages is granted.
The following scale of wages paid in China will give some idea of the daily returns received for labor done (in United States gold): Laborer, 10 cents; mason, 15 cents; artisan, 10 to 20 cents, and clerk, 40 to 50 cents.
Sacramento is soon to have a handsome and commodious labor temple. The building is to be erected by the Sacramento Labor Temple Association, composed of representatives of the various labor organizations of the city.
The Operative Bricklayers of England, with a membership of 40,000 men, have resolved to make their executive a permanent body to meet daily for the transaction of business. The executive is to be elected for two years instead of one.
According to a Census Bureau report issued recently, women wage earners are increasing steadily and are engaged in 316 of 339 industries. The greatest increase is shown for the manufacture of tobacco, cigars and cigarettes. New York State leads in the employment of women, with garment-making most prominent.
Chicago, Ill., has just formed a new labor union, articles of incorporation having been granted by the Secretary of State. The organization is known as the Retail Drug Clerks' and Soda Dispensers' Benevolent and Protective Association. The organization has made no move toward affiliation with the Chicago Federation of Labor.
After being organized for nearly two years without making any formal requests from the lumber companies, the representatives from unions of the International Brotherhood of Woodmen and Sawmill Workers have formulated plans for a uniform scale of wages and hours for the various camps and mills of Humboldt county, Colo.
The organized farmers of Colorado will raise no beets next year. This was decided at a convention of the Beet Growers' Union at Fort Collins, recently. The executive board of the union reported that it had failed, after negotiating with the sugar trust, to get the price paid for beets last year restored. The trust had announced that it would reduce the price 5 per cent.
A committee of five from the Lake Seamen's Union has met a similar committee from the Marine Firemen, Oilers and Water Tenders' Benevolent Association to provide means for closer relations between the two organizations.
Firefighters and dock holders of Cleveland, Ohio, have signed an agreement for two years with all contracting firms except one, which provides for the closed shop and the nine-hour day, with the same pay as received for ten hours. The new agreement will go into effect on April 1.
The Retail Clerks' International Protective Association expended during the month of January for sick and funeral benefits the sum of \$1,975. The total cash in the treasury to date is \$30,045.28.
The percentage of children under the legal age employed in New Jersey factories is less than it has been for many years, according to the annual report of Col. Bryan, State commissioner of labor.
When first chartered six years ago the pay of the members of the Fresno (Cal.) Painters' Union was \$1.75 to \$2.25 a day of ten hours. Now its members receive from \$3.50 to \$4 for an eight-hour day.

GATES TO SOON OPEN.

ONE OF THE GREATEST PAGEANTS IN HISTORY.
As a Naval Display the Jamestown Exposition Has Never Been Surpassed—Ten Thousand Acres of Water—Many Other Features.

Soon the gates will open for an exposition unlike any ever before attempted in America. On the shores and waters of Hampton Roads, near the cities of Norfolk, Newport News and Portsmouth, Va., across from Old Point Comfort and the frowning Fortress Monroe, this militant presentation is located in a section of the country rich with historical landmarks.

Here was the first permanent settlement of the English in America—not on the very ground it is true, for as a matter of fact, the so-called Jamestown Exposition is not at Jamestown at all, but forty miles from the peninsula, now made an island by the James river, on which in 1907 Captain John Smith, with his company of six score adventurous gentlemen and soldiers, disembarked from three small vessels and established habitation.

Without an exposition the country is historically and physically attractive to every American who loves his flag and believes in his country's institutions. With what is planned it should be the Mecca of every citizen who journeys from his hearthstone during the days between April and November.

In commemoration of the first permanent settlement of English-speaking people in America, the Jamestown Tercentennial Exposition is a military, naval, marine, industrial and historic exhibition. It will contain the features usually found in displays of this character, and in addition will be the greatest naval rendezvous in history. Every description of fighting craft will be anchored in Hampton Roads, from the latest and largest battleship to the most minute dispatch boat. The squadrons of the United States will be here, and fleets of ships from England, Germany, France, Austria, Spain, Russia and Japan will add to the congregation of such craft. Ten thousand acres of water will float this great exhibit.

England, as well as America, affords ample opportunity for wealth to the young man of perspicacity and energy. The man who came to be known as the "universal provider," because there was nothing required for human sustenance which he did not sell, was born in the village of Asprey, Wakefield, England, in 1831.

Union printers of Norfolk, Va., have made a demand for an increase in their wage scale of \$3.50 a week. The increase is based on the increased cost of living.

A reduction of one and one-half hours a day has been obtained for the Waltham barbers by the Boston journeymen's union, which includes Waltham in its jurisdiction.

Union carpenters of Oakland, Cal., are banding together to build a labor temple. Articles of incorporation have been filed with the Union Carpenters' Hall Association. The capital stock is \$100,000.

Reports from the general headquarters of the Iron Molders' Union of North America are to the effect that 7,886 names of molders and core makers were added to the membership rolls during 1906.

Officers of the New York Harbor Boatmen's Union recently announced that there would be a general strike of tugboat men unless their demands of \$10 a month increase in wages is granted.

The following scale of wages paid in China will give some idea of the daily returns received for labor done (in United States gold): Laborer, 10 cents; mason, 15 cents; artisan, 10 to 20 cents, and clerk, 40 to 50 cents.

Sacramento is soon to have a handsome and commodious labor temple. The building is to be erected by the Sacramento Labor Temple Association, composed of representatives of the various labor organizations of the city.

The Operative Bricklayers of England, with a membership of 40,000 men, have resolved to make their executive a permanent body to meet daily for the transaction of business. The executive is to be elected for two years instead of one.

According to a Census Bureau report issued recently, women wage earners are increasing steadily and are engaged in 316 of 339 industries. The greatest increase is shown for the manufacture of tobacco, cigars and cigarettes. New York State leads in the employment of women, with garment-making most prominent.

Chicago, Ill., has just formed a new labor union, articles of incorporation having been granted by the Secretary of State. The organization is known as the Retail Drug Clerks' and Soda Dispensers' Benevolent and Protective Association. The organization has made no move toward affiliation with the Chicago Federation of Labor.

After being organized for nearly two years without making any formal requests from the lumber companies, the representatives from unions of the International Brotherhood of Woodmen and Sawmill Workers have formulated plans for a uniform scale of wages and hours for the various camps and mills of Humboldt county, Colo.

The organized farmers of Colorado will raise no beets next year. This was decided at a convention of the Beet Growers' Union at Fort Collins, recently. The executive board of the union reported that it had failed, after negotiating with the sugar trust, to get the price paid for beets last year restored. The trust had announced that it would reduce the price 5 per cent.

A committee of five from the Lake Seamen's Union has met a similar committee from the Marine Firemen, Oilers and Water Tenders' Benevolent Association to provide means for closer relations between the two organizations.

Firefighters and dock holders of Cleveland, Ohio, have signed an agreement for two years with all contracting firms except one, which provides for the closed shop and the nine-hour day, with the same pay as received for ten hours. The new agreement will go into effect on April 1.

The Retail Clerks' International Protective Association expended during the month of January for sick and funeral benefits the sum of \$1,975. The total cash in the treasury to date is \$30,045.28.

The percentage of children under the legal age employed in New Jersey factories is less than it has been for many years, according to the annual report of Col. Bryan, State commissioner of labor.

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RAYNOR DOOMED TO DIE.

London Slayer Given Example of Britain's Strict Justice.
Horace George Raynor, who shot and killed William Whiteley, London's "Universal Provider," on Jan. 24, was placed on trial, found guilty of murder in the first degree and sentenced to death.

Raynor entered a plea of insanity which the court directed the jury to disregard. Raynor told of his interview with Mr. Whiteley, whom he believed to be his father, on the day of the tragedy.

Mr. Whiteley had advised him to go to the immigration bureau for relief he felt the hard rush to his head and had no consciousness of what occurred afterward. Raynor's wife testified that he had been subject to moods of depression.

Mr. Muir, counsel for the treasury, introduced documents to prove the falsity of Raynor's claim that Whiteley was his father. The jury deliberated only nine minutes before returning a verdict. In pronouncing sentence the judge said: "I cannot hold out to you the slightest hope that the sentence will not be carried into effect."

The career of Whiteley proves that England, as well as America, affords ample opportunity for wealth to the young man of perspicacity and energy. The man who came to be known as the "universal provider," because there was nothing required for human sustenance which he did not sell, was born in the village of Asprey, Wakefield, England, in 1831.

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When first chartered six years ago the pay of the members of the Fresno (Cal.) Painters' Union was \$1.75 to \$2.25 a day of ten hours. Now its members receive from \$3.50 to \$4 for an eight-hour day.

CURRENT COMMENT

Every school district and every church in the United States will take an interest in the trial of the furniture manufacturing companies that have been indicted by the federal grand jury sitting in Chicago, on the charge of having violated the Sherman anti-trust law. It is a matter of common knowledge in educational circles that prices of school furniture have been maintained by some device on a high level and frequent efforts to break the combination have met with no success.

Nine companies, said to produce over 80 per cent of the school and church furniture in the United States, are said to have been caught in the government's dragnet. Inasmuch as every citizen directly or indirectly contributes to the support of the public schools, a conspiracy to stifle competition in school furniture affects more people than any of the other combinations which the government has prosecuted.

Any violation of the law is to be condemned, but when the act of lawlessness is aimed at education or religion, little sympathy is lost on the offenders. Such a trust as the furniture manufacturers are alleged to be maintaining traffics on the brain and the soul, and seems at least vastly more immoral in its activity than other combinations which affect only a small per cent of the people.

"If the soul has weight," said an eminent physiological chemist of Chicago, "it becomes an object of physics. Years ago a group of German students settled this point. If a mouse was allowed to die in a hermetically sealed bottle, absolutely no loss of weight occurred even using a scale easily showing a milligram. But if the mouse died in an open vessel, a loss within one-half minute of death of 10 to 20 milligrams was noticeable. That proves clearly that a gas was given off, no weightless substance. A human body is too large to be put into a sealed glass bottle, and therefore repeats the mouse experiment with an open vessel. This is further proved by the amount in the Boston experiment, said to be from one-half to one ounce. This tallies with that of the gases of the body. The average body weighs 150 pounds or 2,400 ounces. The loss therefore was about 1,300. A mouse weighs 20,000 to 40,000 milligrams. The loss was 1,300 or the same ratio for the same phenomenon."

The new labor union, embracing all section hands employed on railroads west and southwest of Chicago, have asked the general managers' committee to exclude all aliens from employment in track work. The men want a wage scale of \$75 a month for foremen and \$2 for a day of eight hours for laborers. The union has promised close affiliation with the other railway organizations.

As a result of recent railway wrecks the managers of several trunk lines leading into Chicago have expressed their intention of running trains on slower schedule. A number of prominent Chicago bankers, lawyers and railroad men have signed a petition to the New York Central and Pennsylvania managements requesting the extension of the New York and Chicago schedule from eighteen to twenty hours during the winter months.

One result of the recent accidents on the New York Central and the prompt action of the coroner and grand jury in calling the company to account is an order to all trainmen on the Harlem division within the electric zone to run their trains not over forty-five miles an hour on a straight track and not over thirty-five on a curve. Officials of both the Central and the Pennsylvania say that the limited flyers will have to be taken off if the 2-cent fare laws stand.

The Pennsylvania railroad has decided to make an exhaustive test of steel ties. If these steel ties stand the test the company will use hundreds of thousands of them annually, but if they fail to meet the requirements the company will not make any further experiments with steel ties, but will stick to the thousands of trees exclusively in the future. On its various lines the Pennsylvania company uses about 5,500,000 wooden ties annually.

The interstate commerce commission has recommended a law enforcing the use of the block signal system on all passenger lines and giving the commission power to inspect and regulate. It holds that the system has failed on account of had operation rather than from any defect in its design. Supervision would be made to prevent unduly long hours of labor, which impair the faculties of those charged with the operation of the system. At the same time the New York State railroad commission has recommended the adoption of a system which will prevent more than one train being in a block at the same time. In practice, railroad men have very generally allowed more than one train in a block under cautionary orders.

The stock of the Great Northern railroad declined sharply when it became known in Wall street that the Minnesota Attorney General, Young, had begun action to compel the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railroad Company to show cause why its charter should not be forfeited. The complaint says that the Great Northern has been guilty of stock watering, and that it should not be allowed to continue to pay dividends on watered stock, nor to create subsidiary companies composed of its own stockholders.

The central labor union at Omaha, Neb., took a hand in the proposed street car strike in that city, and after an investigation of the claims of both sides recommended to the workmen that they continue at work. The president and