

AS TO THE MILITARY

Chairman Hall of the House Committee Preparing a Bill.

PRESENT ACT ONLY TEMPORARY

Organization Under It Expires by Limitation Next Year—Imperative that Substitution Should Be Adopted—Staff Organization of the Army.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—Chairman Hall of the house committee on military affairs says some measure of a general character relating to the organization of the army probably will be presented at this session of congress. Mr. Hall had conferred with war department officials prior to the understanding as to what was needed in military legislation.

He says the present law will do as a temporary measure, but as it specifically provides that the present organization of the army shall cease July 1, 1900, it is imperative that this congress do something in the way of army organization. He holds the view, however, that conditions are too unsettled in the Philippines and elsewhere to say definitely as to the number of troops needed in a permanent organization, but is confident that there never will be a reduction of the regular army back of 28,000. There are several features of army organization which Mr. Hall believes will be embodied in such legislation. These include the three-battalion formation, which was a marked departure inaugurated by the last act, and has given general satisfaction. Another feature is that allowing to "expand from within" by increasing the numerical strength of the companies instead of constituting new regiments. Mr. Hall says this has proved most beneficial, as it gives a more elastic organization, capable of expansion in time of need without additional officers and an entire new organization.

The staff organization of the army is likely to receive attention. Secretary Root favors a change in the present system with a view to having a "detail staff," that is, staff bureaus recruited largely from the line of the army. This would be a marked departure, as the present staff bureaus are almost entirely permanent. Among military experts there is said to be considerable difference of opinion on this point, as the German, French and other continental military systems have permanent staff organizations. Great Britain is the only great power having a staff detail.

DENIES BRYAN AIDED HIM.

Secured the Vote Without His Assistance—For Bryan for President.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—Senator Allen, of Nebraska, in an interview tonight, authorized an absolute denial of reports that he would be the candidate for the presidency of the fusion forces. He said: "I would not accept the nomination if it were unanimously tendered me. Mr. Bryan undoubtedly will be the candidate of the democratic, populist and free silver parties for the presidency. Nebraska will give him a united, active delegation to all three of the conventions."

Senator Allen declared emphatically that so far as he knew Mr. Bryan had not aided him in his candidacy for the senate, saying: "I did not ask Mr. Bryan directly or indirectly to aid me in securing my appointment to the senate, nor did he aid me to my knowledge. I did not see or communicate with the governor respecting the matter until he sent for me. Mr. Bryan knew nothing of my appointment until it had been determined upon by the governor. The relations between Mr. Bryan, Mr. Hitchcock (who was a candidate for senator when Mr. Allen was appointed) and myself are of the most harmonious character and will continue so."

PHILIPPINES TO THE FORE.

Major Beveridge Ready to Reply to Assaults of Senators.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—It is probable that very soon after the senate reconvenes there will be more or less discussion of the situation in the Philippines, the resolutions of Senators Tillman, Bacon, Morgan and Hoar being used as a text for the speechmaking. Senator Beveridge of Indiana, who spent several months in Luzon and other islands of the archipelago, and made a special study of conditions there in preparation for consideration of the Philippine question when it came up in congress, probably will make an elaborate and comprehensive speech soon after the session begins. He has had several conferences with the president on the subject.

Thanks to Americans.

DUBLIN, Jan. 3.—At a meeting of the Parnell memorial committee in this city today Daniel Tallon, lord mayor of Dublin, presiding, John E. Redmond announced the result of the recent tour of the lord mayor and himself in the United States in the interest of the fund. The committee adopted a resolution thanking the people of the United States for their generosity; with particular reference to Tammany hall's donation of \$3,000.

No Mention of Secret Treaty.

LISBON, Jan. 3.—The Cortes were opened today. The message from the throne declared that the cordiality of Portugal's relations with the other powers was shown by the presence in the Tagus of fleets of France, Germany and Great Britain. The government it continued, has caused itself to be represented at the Brussels and The Hague conferences, the former to check the abuses of alcoholism in South Africa and the latter to reduce the frequency and to minimize the horrors of war.

SUCCESS OF FRENCH'S COLUMN.

At Last Confirmed Officially by Dispatch From Capetown.

LONDON, Jan. 3.—The success of General French's column is at length confirmed officially, the war office this afternoon issuing a dispatch from Cape Town Monday, January 1, as follows: "French reports at 2 p. m. today from Coleskop by heliograph as follows: 'Leaving at Rensburg, holding the enemy in front, half of the First Suffolks and a section of the Royal Horse artillery, I started thence at 5 in the afternoon, December 31, taking with me five squadrons of cavalry, half of the Second Berkshires and eighty mounted infantry, infantry carried in wagons and ten guns. I halted for four hours at Mador's farm and at 3:30 this morning occupied the kopje overlooking and westward of Coleskop. The enemy's outposts were taken completely by surprise. At daylight we shelled the laager and enfiladed the right of the enemy's position. The artillery fire in reply was hot from a fifteen-pounder using royal laboratory ammunition, and other guns. We silenced the guns on the enemy's right flank, demonstrating with cavalry and guns to the north of Coleskop, toward the junction, where a strong laager of the enemy was holding a hill and a position southeast of Coleskop, as far as the junction. Our position cuts the line of retreat via the road and bridge. Some thousands of Boers with two guns are reported to be retreating toward Norvalspont."

"All Remington scouts proceeded toward Achterland yesterday morning; slight casualties, about three killed and few wounded. Details later."

CHINESE DOORS TO BE OPEN.

Negotiations for a Common Understanding Between the Powers.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—The session of the cabinet today was brief, but it was the occasion of the important announcement by Secretary of State Hay that the negotiations with Japan to secure a common understanding for a continued "open door" policy throughout China, had been eminently successful and that favorable responses had been received from Great Britain, Germany, France, Russia and Japan. The only country addressed which has not responded is Italy, and a favorable answer is also expected from that country.

Secretary Hay's statement to the cabinet fully confirms the information in the Associated Press dispatches from this city last Saturday. The announcement of the success of the negotiations was extremely gratifying to the president and cabinet, as it insures to the United States a full share in the future development of commerce with the great empire of China. Secretary Root was not at the cabinet meeting today, and, therefore, none of the matters which usually occupy such a large share of the attention was considered.

CIRCULATION AND COINAGE.

Increase in National Bank Notes and a Decrease of Circulation.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—The monthly circulation statement issued by the comptroller of the currency shows that at the close of business December 30, 1899, the total circulation of national bank notes was \$246,195,523, an increase for the year of \$2,460,418. The circulation based on United States bonds amounted to \$209,759,985, a decrease for the year of \$4,256,002, and an increase for the month of \$598,083. The circulation secured by lawful money was \$36,435,538, an increase for the year of \$6,716,439, and an increase for the month of \$1,837,192.

The amount of United States registered bonds on deposit to secure circulating notes was \$234,484,570, and to secure public deposits \$75,997,830. A statement issued by the director of the mint shows that the total coinage executed at the mints of the United States during the calendar year ended December 30, 1899, was \$139,243,121, as follows: Gold, \$111,344,220; silver, \$26,161,519; minor coins, \$1,837,451.

The coinage executed during the month of December last amounted to \$7,111,884, as follows: Gold, \$7,469,952; silver, \$1,886,605; minor coins, \$355,327.

LAWTON FUND IS A SUCCESS.

Total Subscriptions Received Are Over \$30,000.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—General Corbin, chairman of the Lawton relief committee, announces that the subscriptions to the Lawton fund received up to noon today amount to \$39,263.35, which does not include all the subscriptions made to the independent agents in various outside cities. General Corbin also announces that the amount subscribed already exceeds the amount hoped for when the movement was originated and is amply sufficient for the Lawton homestead at Redlands, Cal., and to provide for the education of the children.

Owing to the gratifying success of the movement it has been decided to close the subscription lists January 5.

Not Fighting the Trust.

CHICAGO, Jan. 3.—A special to the Record from Akron, O., says: Hugo Schumacher, one of Ferdinand Schumacher's assignees, denies the report from Chicago that Ferdinand and A. A. Schumacher were organizing a big company to fight the oatmeal trust.

Defeat a Small Command.

LONDON, Jan. 3.—The war office has received the following from Capetown under today's date: Colonel Piller reports through the officer commanding at the Orange river: "I have completely defeated a hostile command at the Sunnyside laager, this day, January 1, taking the laager and forty prisoners, besides the killed and wounded. Our casualties are two privates killed and Lieutenant Adie wounded. Am encamped at Dover farm, twenty miles northwest of Belmont and ten miles from Sunnyside."

BLOWN UP AND BURNED

Eden Baptist Church at Stromsburg Destroyed by Fire.

THE OUTCOME OF AN EXPLOSION

Death of Mr. Sinclair, a Pioneer of Otoe County—A Former Member of the Legislature—Trouble With the Swift Ice Company at Ashland—Other Matters in Nebraska.

STROMSBURG, Neb., Jan. 3.—Eden Baptist church, dedicated a year ago, burned to the ground about midnight. The fire resulted from the explosion of the acetylene gas, which blew out the foundation and wrecked the windows. A crowd was present to watch the New Year fire.

The force of the explosion hurled the people in all directions. Rev. J. L. Hedblom, the pastor, and Mr. Cowan, the janitor, were burned about the hands and face. Mrs. J. L. Johnson and her daughter, Pearl, were slightly injured.

The building was heated by a furnace situated in the basement as was also the gas plant. Loss about \$3,200; insurance \$1,800.

Question Legality of Divorce.

CHADRON, Neb., Jan. 3.—When is a divorce not a divorce? That is the question now agitating the minds of a couple in Chadron who secured a supposed legal separation in the district court of Rushville recently. They were residents of Chadron and procured a decree in the court of Sheridan county contrary to the statute of divorce and alimony. The question of residence was not introduced in the testimony and the interested parties were not wiser of the illegality of the procedure until court had adjourned. They were Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Reinhold, formerly of Missouri Valley, and Mr. Reinhold is an engineer on the Elkhorn and a property owner in this place. This case was only in court fifteen minutes. It is not learned what action will be taken to have the decree confirmed.

Prosperity in Gage County.

BEATRICE, Neb., Jan. 3.—The year just closed shows an encouraging condition in the county, as is shown by the mortgage report furnished by Register of Deeds Charley Reed. The record for December was as follows: Farm mortgages filed, 32; amount, \$28,637; released, 53; amount, \$49,537; city mortgages filed, 22; amount, \$12,601; released, 14; amount, \$1,614. For the year the record is as follows: Farm mortgages filed, 577; amount, \$783,648; released, 775; amount, \$949,951; city mortgages filed, 190; amount, \$94,770; released, 260; amount, \$194,048. Number of releases in excess of filings, 260; amount of releases in excess of filings, \$265,581, or over a quarter of a million dollars represented as indebtedness paid off.

Otoe County Pioneer Dead.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., Jan. 3.—Word was received in this city from Burr, this county, of the death of Hon. Sinclair at his home in that place at the age of forty-four years. Bright's disease of the kidneys was the cause of his death. He had been a resident of Otoe county since 1857 and was one of its best and most highly respected citizens. He was a member of the state legislature of 1892 and worked hard for the election of J. Sterling Morton to the United States senate. A widow and two children mourn his untimely death. The remains will be interred at Wyuka cemetery in this city on Monday.

Buried in the Town He Founded.

LOUP CITY, Neb., Jan. 3.—The funeral of William Benochter, who owned a homestead on the townsite of Loup City in 1872, was held here. For the last eleven years he had been a resident of Richardson county, living near Falls City, where he died. As it had always been his desire to have his last resting place here at the town he was instrumental in founding, his wish was carried out by the family. The bell which he gave to the Methodist church, when it was built, tolled seventy-six times as a requiem. The services were conducted by Rev. W. E. Matthews of the Methodist church, assisted by Rev. McCahan of the Presbyterian.

Ice Plant May Close.

ASHLAND, Neb., Jan. 3.—The prospects are now that Swift & Company's ice house north of this city, will not be operated this winter. The board of county commissioners at Wahoo this week instructed County Clerk Chapek to purchase the property for delinquent taxes for 1896 and 1897, amounting to \$2,400. The company says this amount is more than its share of the taxation and refuses to pay the money. The closing down of the plant, which now seems probable, will throw many hundreds of Ashland laborers out of employment.

H. C. Thompson Declared Insane.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., Jan. 3.—H. C. Thompson, the former Missouri Pacific agent at Talmage, who left and was found in Omaha and brought to this city, was before the commissioners on insanity and adjudged insane by them and will be taken to the asylum at Lincoln.

Police Find Bloody Clothing.

SIOUX CITY, Ia., Jan. 3.—The Sioux City police have in their possession a suit of bloody clothes, which was found under a railway bridge and it may prove a valuable clue toward the capture of the murderer of John Robson. It was found hid away in a hole by some children. The collar was spattered with blood and about the place were numerous rags used by the man to wipe his filthy hands. It is hoped they may lead to a capture. So far no arrests have been made.

AGUINALDO NOT THERE

Insurgent Chieftain's Wife and Sisters Surrender to Major March.

FILIPINO OFFICERS SURRENDER.

Capitulation Takes Place at Bontoc in the Province of That Name—American Advance Southward Begins—Tabuon Laguna Bay, Is Occupied by Two Battalions.

MANILA, Jan. 2.—Aguinaldo's wife, sister and eighteen Filipinos have surrendered to Major Marsh's battalion of the Third Infantry at Bontoc, province of that name.

Three Filipino officers also surrendered to Major Marsh and the Filipino gave up two Spanish and two American prisoners.

The report sent out by an American officer several days ago that Aguinaldo's wife had died was incorrect. She was very much exhausted by the hardships incident to the progress of the Filipino army and found it impossible to undergo the rigors of further flight.

The first movement of a general southern advance occurred this morning when two battalions of the Twenty-ninth Infantry landed and occupied Cabuyo, on the south side of Laguna de Bay. Two Americans were killed and four were wounded. Twenty-four of the enemy's dead were found in one house. One hundred and fifty prisoners and four six-pounder rapid-fire guns were captured.

The gunboat Laguna de Bay bombarded the town before the disembarkation of the troops from the cascos, which was made under the enemy's shrapnel fire.

The enemy evacuated the place, moving to Santa Rosa, to which town they were pursued. Heavy fighting occurred along the road to Santa Rosa, the insurgents retreating south toward Silang. The Americans burned the country between and around Cabuyo.

The gunboat returned to Calamba for the reinforcements and thence came to Manila to fetch ammunition. She recently captured two of the enemy's steam launches under the fire of artillery at Calamba, and also four cascos laden with rice.

Other regiments are mobilizing tonight at San Pedro Macati and Casig preparatory to continuing the southern advance.

Yesterday's capture of bombs involved the seizure of documents incriminating 1,000 Filipinos who intended to rise against the Americans. Papers were also found showing a distribution of the city into districts and a careful assignment of leaders and followers. The precaution taken by the Americans on Saturday, it is now evident, alone prevented an uprising. The provost marshal has requested that two more regiments be detailed for the protection of Manila. Three thousand troops are now actually in the city.

BULLER IS BEING REINFORCED.

Troops Arrive at Estocort From Mool River.

CHEVELEY, Jan. 2.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—All quiet, except an occasional shelling by the naval guns and exchange of shots between the pickets and patrols.

Strong reinforcements have arrived at Estocort from Mool river, making the force at Buller's disposal very powerful.

The Boers are still strengthening their entrenchments and their position is growing daily stronger.

Last night a beautiful new armored train arrived from Durban, passing the wreck of its predecessor, and paraded through camp as far as the naval battery. No one has yet applied to go with it as a spectator.

Tinano Brought to Manila.

MANILA, Jan. 1.—The transport Zafro has arrived at Manila, bringing Colonel Tinano, who is much grieved at being supplanted by Colonel Hood as military governor of Cagayan province. He looks upon Manila as a nest of insurgents who may assassinate him because he surrendered Cagayan. He says that when Colonel Hood arrived the presidents of all the towns of the province repaired to Appari and begged to continue them in their present positions, saying also that the natives desired to be rid of the Macabebes, toward whom they entertained a violent antipathy.

Collision on the Union Pacific.

CHEYENNE, Wyo., Jan. 2.—About 1 o'clock this morning Fireman Tom Walsh of Laramie was killed and Brakeman D. S. Lower seriously injured in a head-end collision near Fort Steele, Wyo., on the Union Pacific. Train No. 27, a westbound freight, ran into a helper engine. The engine crews jumped when they saw that a collision would take place.

Moody Left No Will.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Jan. 2.—A petition was presented in the probate court today here by W. R. Moody, eldest son of the late Evangelist Moody, asking that he be appointed administrator of his father's estate. His petition will be acted on tomorrow when it is expected the request will be granted. Mr. Moody left no will.

Filipino Junta Sues for Peace.

HONG KONG, Jan. 2.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Lichauco, treasurer of the Hong Kong junta, on behalf of his committee, has made proposals through an American citizen to Consul Wildman to submit allegiance to himself and colleagues to the United States. Previously he had consulted the authorities in Hong Kong as to the possibility of the entire junta becoming British subjects, but was informed it would be impossible as they are insurgents against the United States.

NEW YEAR'S AT WHITE HOUSE.

Most Brilliant Reception of the Washington Social Season.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—Beneath a sky as bright as that above Cuba and in a wind as cold as the Arctic more than 2,000 citizens stood in line at the White House gate today, waiting to pay their respects to the president of the United States, after the brilliant reception which ushered in the New Year and marked the opening of the social season in Washington.

There have been larger crowds in the past at the White House New Year gatherings, but few functions of the sort have been more brilliant and in none have the crowds been better handled with less confusion or less of feminine heartaches and resentments for dainty toilets disarranged in the crush.

Beginning promptly at 11 a. m. the ceremony was concluded at 1:15 at which time 3,354 guests passed down the line.

Mrs. McKinley was present in spite of her feeble health. She remained in the blue parlor only during the strictly official section of the program, retiring then as had been previously arranged. With the flush of excitement on her usually pale face she looked bright and happy as she led the cabinet procession down the corridor with the president to the blue room.

The brilliant lights reflected from the chrysalis chandeliers overhead, the twinkle of tiny electric globes through the heavy draperies of smilax and foliage plants that lined the carpeted corridor, made an excellent stage setting for the official procession as it moved down the stairs and through to the blue parlor, where the receiving party was to take its stand.

Mrs. McKinley bowed and smiled to the little crowd of favored spectators who filled the end of the corridor to witness this opening act of the day's ceremonies. As she turned into the blue room she kissed the tips of her white-gloved fingers to some of the children who waved their hands to her from a point of vantage near the door.

The troublesome question of precedence between the army and navy was settled in favor of the former, General Miles leading the contingent with General Corbin at his side. After the army had passed in review Admiral Dewey, with the veteran Admiral Melville on his arm, led the naval party. Mrs. Dewey was in the receiving party.

The diplomatic corps, which headed the list of guests, was, as always, the show feature of the reception. Lord Pauncefote, the British ambassador and head of the corps, led the way. The display of uniforms was brilliant. The Turkish fez, gilded orders of continental powers, the fur-trimmed tunics and high, polished boots of the Russians; the queer, sage green, gold-encrusted uniforms of the Japanese and the ermine trimmed silken robes of the Koreans and the Chinese all combined to form a picture of unusual brilliancy.

Following these, the American officials including judges of the supreme court, appellate judges and department chiefs made a longer if less striking procession. The reception to the general public concluded the function.

PENSIONS RAILWAY EMPLOYEES.

Fund of \$300,000 Set Apart by the Pennsylvania Road.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 2.—The system of pensioning old employees on the Pennsylvania lines east of Pittsburg was inaugurated today. About 950 men who, by reason of long service in the company's employ, have become incapacitated for further active duty, were retired on pensions that average nearly half the wages they received when at work. It is understood that a sum approximating \$300,000 is at present available for pensioning purposes, but that before the system can be extended to the lines west of Pittsburg a much larger appropriation will be necessary. Thus far no person holding a position of importance has been affected by the pension rule. Hereafter no person over 35 years of age will be taken into the employ of the company.

SPIES IN BRITISH RANKS.

Number Discovered to Have Enlisted in Yeomanry and Horse.

LONDON, Jan. 2.—Alleged Boer spies, it has been discovered, have enlisted in the yeomanry. A representative of Lord Chesham, who is in command of the yeomanry forces, says that the officials of this arm of the service are being pestered by agents of Dr. Leyds, the European plenipotentiary of the South African government. He adds that two of them were actually accepted, but that they were afterwards discovered. He declares that the same thing occurred in Thorneycroft's Horse, seven spies being discovered in that body. He says, continuing: "We have given word to all our commanding officers to keep a sharp lookout for spies."

FIFTY MILES WITHOUT ENGINEER.

Northwestern Flyers Wild Chase—Engineer Fell From Cab.

CEDAR RAPIDS, Ia., Jan. 2.—The overland flyer on the Northwestern road ran fifty miles last night without an engineer. No one was conscious of the danger until the fireman brought the train to a standstill.

Near Mechanicsville the engineer, E. J. Fiske, in some unknown manner, fell from the cab and the fireman did not notice his absence until the train had whirled over fifty miles. Fiske was picked up unconscious a few hours later and died in a hospital here today.

Iowa Rider Makes a Record.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Jan. 2.—Orlando Stevens of Citrus, Ia., has made a new world's record in a competition mile bicycle race here. His time was 1:59 1-3. The record was formerly held by Fred Sims, made at Washington in 2:00 2-5.

Crocker Breaks a Leg.

LONDON, Jan. 2.—A special dispatch from Wantage, County of Berks, says that Richard Crocker, who has been staying at a country house near there, slipped while mounting a horse, owing to the animal swerving, and broke his leg.

THE SESSION IS OVER

The Teachers of Nebraska Get Through With Their Deliberations.

DEFENDS FREE HIGH SCHOOL LAW

The State Association Appropriates Money for the Same—Schools of the State Called Upon to Co-operate—Other Matters in Nebraska of General Interest.

LINCOLN, Neb., Jan. 1.—The thirty-fourth annual convention of the Nebraska State Teachers' association was brought to a close here with a general session.

At the general session in the morning John Latenser of Omaha spoke on school architecture, David R. Major of the State university spoke on psychology of education and discussions were led by W. K. Fowler of Blair and A. H. Waterhouse of Omaha.

The following resolution touching upon the free high school attendance law was adopted by the association: "Whereas, The free high school attendance law has been declared unconstitutional by a district judge in Lancaster county, and

"Whereas, We consider this law one of the most beneficial along educational lines that has been enacted in our state in recent years; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That the educational council of Nebraska hereby recommend that the State Teachers' association appropriate \$100, or so much thereof as may be needed, to procure competent co-counsel to defend said law before the supreme court; and,

"Resolved, That we recommend that all high school districts interested in sustaining this law assist in a vigorous defense of its validity before said court; and further, be it

"Resolved, That the high school districts co-operate in requesting the honorable court to advance the case on the calendar to an immediate hearing.

The speech delivered by Murat Halsted on "Dewey, Manila and the Philippines" was the most interesting feature of the teachers' convention. He spoke from a nonpartisan standpoint and from his own observation and investigations. While in Manila, Mr. Halsted interviewed Aguinaldo and he repeated word for word the conversation that took place between them. In the course of the address, he treated of the evolution of Aguinaldo from beggar to tyrant, and showed his real character to be false and malicious. He told of the circumstances that gave him power and notoriety, and especially his treason and quarrel with the United States.

"Aguinaldo's principal distinction was that he had started a superstition about himself that he had a charm to divert bullets and the ceremony by which he was recognized was that his followers would not permit him to approach a field of battle," he said.

"After accepting, with other rebel leaders, a bribe of \$1,600,000, and consenting to a public deportation to China, he begged his way back from exile under the American flag, and in three weeks was a hostile."

State Brand Commission.

LINCOLN, Neb., Jan. 1.—S. P. Delator of Lewellen and J. H. Quigley of Valentine, members of the State Brand and Marks commission, arrived in the city and began the work of checking over the 1,700 applicants for brands. M. J. Blewett of Harrison, the third member of the commission, will come to Lincoln soon after the first of the year. It will probably take the three commissioners about a month to go over all of the applications. Many requests have been received for the use of a single brand and in all such cases all but one of them will be rejected. In case of duplication the application first received will be granted. The commissioners are each allowed by law a fee of \$5 per day for their services, which must be taken from the money received with the application for brands.

Capital City Notes.

All the newly elected judges of the district court of Douglas county have filed their oath of office with the secretary of state.

Lyman H. Fitch, a populist of Stockville, has been appointed county treasurer examiner by Auditor Cornell to take the place of J. M. Gilchrist, who has been transferred to an inside office.

The State Board of Transportation appointed Patrick Ford of Omaha to the position of state weighmaster, to take the place of C. F. Zeller, promoted to grade inspector.

The Burlington Railroad company last week compromised by the payment of \$5,000 the three suits instituted to recover damages for the death of James B. Doyle, Luke Boyce and Elmer E. Graham, killed in a wreck at West Lincoln last winter.

Nebraskan Strikes It Rich.

WILCOX, Neb., Jan. 1.—C. Shetler, who formerly lived in Wilcox, has become the owner of several fine marble quarries at Sheridan, Wyo. It is said by those supposed to know that the quality of the marble in Mr. Shetler's quarries is the finest in the United States and he has recently refused an offer of \$50,000 for an interest in them. Postmaster D. C. Shetler, a son, also owns a valuable claim.

Violation of Railroad Order.

LINCOLN, Neb., Jan. 1.—Secretary G. L. Laws of the State Board of Transportation furnished the attorney general with evidence of the violation by the railroads of the order made in 1897, prohibiting the 100-pound rate on live stock shipments and restoring carload rates. Attorney General Smyth announced that he would examine the evidence and if satisfactory would commence proceedings against the railroads to recover the fines provided by the law for the violation of the order, which must not be less than \$500 nor more than \$5,000 for each offense.