

BRIEF TELEGRAMS.

Colonel C. N. Stevens, a very prominent citizen and wholesale hardware merchant of Gainesville, Tex., died of pneumonia.

L. J. Ramsey, proprietor of a department store at Kokomo, Ind., was sentenced for slander by Mrs. Elizabeth Freeman, a prominent widow.

More than 6,000 persons, four-fifths of whom went to the United States, emigrated from Christiana during the last twelve months, as against 3,300 in 1919.

The Society of Berlin Grain and Produce Dealers has called to American exporters cautioning them to see that their goods correspond with the certificates.

Vester Griffin, who shot and killed Georgia King on the night of July 30 last, was hanged at Danville, Va. The execution was successful. They were colored.

Henry W. Howgate, aged 70, who in 1880 served the government as disbursing officer of the signal service at Washington, was released from the penitentiary, after serving six years for forgery and falsification of accounts.

The Parsons, Kas., lodge of Elks initiated R. R. Brown, aged 92 years. He is a native of New York and is the father of J. R. Brown, president of the Interstate Mortgage and Trust company. He claims to be the oldest Elk living.

Spring Valley, N. Y., is much interested by the quiet marriage of Miss Belle Blauvelt and the Rev. D. D. Lindsay, of Youngsville, N. Y. Miss Blauvelt is 30 years old, the clergyman is 70. Miss Blauvelt taught a Sunday school class for him.

A man who says his name is H. Green has surrendered to the police at Sacramento, Cal. He says he and his brother Jaohn murdered William Feeney at Claire station, Isbell county, Mich., in 1875. He says they knocked Feeney in the head, cut his throat and robbed him of \$600. They then cut a hole in the ice on the lake and threw the body in.

President Ripley of the Santa Fe, speaking of the reported acquisition by that road of the Peconic Valley & Northwestern railroad, said: "We have owned that road for some time, and have no intention, as reported, of extending it to Albuquerque, nor have we the slightest desire to block any plans of the Rock Island for extending its system."

The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railway examining board of the northern division has about completed examining the men on the new rules. They were adopted December 1 and the men have had very little time to post, nevertheless all have stood the test exceedingly well. The new rules are very different from the old and draw a hard and fast line on drinking. Frequenting saloons at all is prohibited.

Robert H. Wilcox, delegate in the house of representatives from the Hawaiian Islands, has just been paid a claim of \$1,000 for mileage. Every congressman is entitled to mileage at the rate of 20 cents per mile by the most direct and practicable route from his home to Washington and return. The distance between Honolulu and Washington is 5,000 miles. Mr. Wilcox will draw \$1,000 more on his return trip.

Mrs. John Sherry, of New Castle, Ind., is dead, as the result of a very peculiar accident. About two years ago she attended an entertainment and social, and all of the ladies took baskets of refreshments. Among other things Mrs. Sherry took a pot of coffee. When she was returning home some boys had thoughtlessly stretched a rope across the sidewalk, and Mrs. Sherry was carrying the empty coffee pot, and as she tripped and fell over the rope the point of the coffee pot spout penetrated deeply into her left breast. A cancer developed from the wound and after months of suffering death resulted.

A. H. Pierce, better known throughout the west and south as "Shanghai" Pierce, one of the wealthiest and most famous of Texas stockmen, died at his home at Pierce, Tex. The fortune he left is estimated at between \$4,000,000 and \$5,000,000, all of which was accumulated by him in Texas.

Andrew McNeff was 100 years old Wednesday. The anniversary was celebrated in Larue, O., and 100 relatives enjoyed a big dinner. This venerable man is hale and hearty, has good eyesight, has never worn glasses and is so spry that he never thinks it necessary to carry a cane. For eighty years he has been a hard smoker.

Five persons were killed and eleven seriously injured at Vivar, province of Grenada, Spain, during an election riot.

Hal K. Wilson, a prominent young attorney of Carmi, accidentally shot and killed himself. He was formerly city attorney of Carmi, Ill.

D. R. Paige of New York has paid the last dollar of his indebtedness. City Commissioner A. T. Page, of Akron, O., a brother of D. R. Paige, said: "The remaining four notes of Paige, Cary & Co. have been lifted. It was a gigantic undertaking to wipe out a debt of \$720,000, but Mr. Paige accomplished it."

Much American maize, 1900 crop, is arriving at Berlin in bad condition. General Reginald Pole-Carey, who has returned from South Africa, will marry Lady Beatrice Frances Elizabeth, elder daughter of the Marquis of Ormonde. He is 51 years of age and she is under 25.

Bishop and Mrs. C. C. McCabe and Miss Brouse, private secretary to the bishop, will sail from New York January 8 for their trip through South America. The bishop was recently appointed to take charge of the mission work in South America, and his trip is for the purpose of going over his work.

NOW READY FOR WORK

The Nebraska Legislature Convenes in Regular Biennial Session.

NEARLY ALL MEMBERS ARE PRESENT

Republican Caucus Nominees for Various Positions Confirmed—Work in Both Branches Begins Under Favorable Auspices—Legislative Notes.

The legislative wheels are again in motion. The buttons to start the machinery were pressed at noon January 1, according to the constitutional mandate, by Secretary of State Porter, in the house, and Lieutenant Governor Gilbert, in the senate.

The program agreed upon by the two party caucuses the previous night were carried out without visible hitch in the organization of both houses, after which adjournment was taken for the day, to prepare for the canvass of the vote in joint session on Wednesday, when perhaps a few more steps will be taken in further perfecting the official roster, the messages of the outgoing and incoming governors being reserved for Thursday.

As usual chief interest centered in the house to which was attracted a good attendance of spectators, who, however, soon tired of the lack of excitement in the proceedings and gradually stole away. There were no flowers and little applause, except for two neat speeches of the temporary and permanent speakers.

The senate organized along lines agreed upon in caucus and adjourned to meet at 10 o'clock Wednesday. Senators were called to order by Lieutenant Governor Gilbert, Alpha Morgan, secretary of the last senate, was present, and had prepared a temporary roll, which was called. Rev. Mr. Cressman asked divine blessing to rest on those present and to guide their every act.

Senators Currie of Custer, Edgar of Gage county, were appointed committee on credentials. After a ten-minute recess, during which time they prepared their findings, they reported that all, with the exception of two, whose names were on the list read by Mr. Morgan, had presented duly accredited credentials, appearing valid and conclusive on their face, and should therefore be entitled to seats. Lyman of Adams and Campbell of Holt had mislaid their credentials, but were recommended to seats. This report was adopted, thus seating temporarily at least, Olsson of Cuming and Liddell and Ransom of Douglas, all of whom have contests confronting them.

The republican nominees were as follows: Calvin F. Steele of Fairbury for president pro tem; John C. Fremont McKesson of Lancaster for secretary, and A. H. Keim of Falls City for assistant secretary. Clark Robinson, sergeant-at-arms, John Patrick of Washington county for doorkeeper, W. H. Pool of Cass for enrolling and engrossing clerk, A. A. Cressman of Crete for chaplain and Harry Beebe of Stanton for custodian of the cloak room.

It was five minutes of the noon hour when the house was called to order by Secretary of State Porter. Rev. George W. Porter of the Methodist Episcopal church of Palmyra led in prayer. Members arose to their feet and remained standing while the divine blessing was invoked. The roll was called by Theodore Mann, bookkeeper in the secretary of state's office. Boullier of Saunders was the only member failing to respond to his name.

Laffin of Gage placed in nomination for temporary speaker J. W. Armstrong of Nemaha county, the choice of the republican caucus. Claus Grel of Sarpy, on behalf of the minority, placed in nomination the name of John C. Sprecher of Colfax county. Roll call resulted in Armstrong's election by a strict party vote of 53 to 46, Boullier, frustion of Saunders, absent and not voting.

John Wall of Arcadia was made temporary clerk. The speaker, on motion of Cain of Richardson, appointed a committee of five on credentials, as follows: Cain of Richardson, Andrews of Frontier, Mead of Douglas, Taylor of Custer, Tanner of Nanceo. On motion of Lane of Lancaster the rules of the twenty-sixth session were adopted pending further action. A recess of ten minutes was taken to give the credentials committee an opportunity to report. Their report was adopted, and Chief Justice Norval of the supreme court administering the oath of office.

In permanent organization of the house W. G. Sears of Burt county was elected speaker. He appeared and expressed thanks.

The house then proceeded to elect, as the remainder of its officers, the nominees of the republican caucus, by a viva voce vote as follows: Chief clerk, John Wall, Arcadia; first assistant clerk, A. D. Gilmore, Auburn; second assistant clerk, C. H. Barnard, Table Rock; third assistant clerk, C. E. Sandall, York; fourth assistant clerk, H. S. Wetherell, Alma; sergeant-at-arms, A. Wilsey, Frontier county; chaplain, J. H. Presson, Millford; doorkeeper, F. L. Miller, Burt county; postmaster, E. D. Preston, Hamilton county. Adjournment followed until 10 o'clock Wednesday.

SENATE.—In the senate on the 2d the following list of employees was reported by Senator Currie and elected unanimously in a bunch: Second assistant clerk, Ralph Johnson; stenographer, Miss Nettie Darth; messenger, Alex Porter; private page to lieutenant governor, Charles Perkins; clerk of committee on claims, W. H. Van Cleave; janitors, Albert Wahig and Edgar McCrea. The senate authorized the hiring of nine employees, heard five of the seventeen bills introduced road for the first time, attempted to select a standing committee on privileges and elections, held a joint session with the house for canvassing the vote cast at the last election and then adjourned until 3 o'clock. During the brief recess of the senate preliminary to the joint meeting with the house

the republican senators caucused and agreed on their committee on privileges and elections. A number of bills were introduced, among them being: To provide for the appointment of supreme court referees. Empowers the court to appoint by unanimous vote nine referees, with necessary stenographers, to hold office for two years as a salary of 2,500 annually. Emergency clause attached. Senator Ransom's kidnapping bill: To amend section 207 of the criminal code. Removes age limit of 18 years in crime of seduction. Providing penalties for the abduction or kidnapping of infants, children or adults. To amend section 75 and section 78 of the criminal code relating to allowing domestic animals with contagious diseases to run at large. Emergency clause attached.

HOUSE.—In the house on the 2d, Lane, Fowler and Gishwiller were appointed, with a senate committee, to notify the governor that the legislature is ready to receive communications. Hibbert, Belser and Schinastock were appointed a committee to arrange with a senate committee for a joint session for the purpose of canvassing the vote. The speaker announced the appointment of the committee on privileges and elections as follows: Whitmore of Hamilton, chairman; Mullen of Douglas, Belser of Thayer, Hibbert of Gage, Armstrong of Nemaha, Warner of Lancaster, Brown of Furnas (republicans) and Loomis of Dodge, Hamilton of Butler and Tanner of Nanceo (fusionists). At 11:30 both houses convened in joint session for the purpose of canvassing the vote of the last general election. The members of the house arose and remained standing while the senators entered representative hall, escorted by their sergeant-at-arms. Lieutenant Governor Gilbert and President (pro tem) Steele led the procession. The lieutenant governor called the joint session to order and announced its purpose. The house and senate rolls were called. The secretary of state not showing up to transmit the returns, Representatives Crockett and Fowler and Senator Arends were sent out to apprehend him. After an interval, Mr. Porter was produced, who handed to the speaker the original abstracts of the vote. The speaker canvassed the vote, and announced the result of the election on presidential electors, state officers and congressmen. Immediately thereafter the joint session, Tanner of Nanceo moved the appointment of a committee of three, to report at the next session, to ascertain the cost of printing the journal each day in sufficient numbers for each member. Uhl of Douglas amended to include the cost of typewritten and mimeograph copies. The motion as amended was agreed to. The chair appointed Tanner, Uhl and Crockett. Tanner next moved that the clerk be instructed to furnish each member daily ten 2-cent stamps, ten 1-cent stamps, five 1-cent wrappers and four daily papers. Taylor of Custer amended to strike out the daily papers, and Marshall of Otoe amended to strike out the 1-cent wrappers. Both amendments were adopted, and the motion thus mutilated was agreed to.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES. Fusionists will probably establish quarters at the Grand hotel, where they caucused. The senate will expend less money for official work than any senate in recent years, said Senator Currie of the apportionment committee. "We are going to keep expenses down and establish a new record."

John C. Sprecher, senator from Colfax, is going to take his pick between deputy oil inspector and the position to which he was elected this fall. He thinks that the oil inspectorship will not last long after the new administration gets to work, so he will pick upon the senatorship. His resignation is expected to be in the hands of the oil inspector in time to assume legislative work.

Mr. Sears, speaker of the house, is of good form and voice and creates a favorable impression. In taking the chair he said that, so far as he honestly and consistently could, as speaker, he would strive to aid each member in advancing the interests he was sent here to represent. He wanted to assure the members of the minority party that, in the progress of the business of the house, he would accord them absolutely fair and impartial treatment. To the majority, "charged with the real responsibility of the session," he promised to make every effort to so discharge the duties of his position as to win the approbation of the voters of the state.

In the senatorial arena the lines are being drawn, but the work is chiefly of the quiet order in making closer acquaintance with the members. The candidates for the senate are all in evidence, the principal ones maintaining headquarters where they are at home to their friends. Delegations are in from various sections of the state in the interest of their special favorites. Quite a joke was sprung when it transpired that Armstrong of Nemaha, who had been chosen to set the legislative ball a-rolling as temporary speaker, is scheduled in the biographical table as by occupation a funeral director. "A funeral director in charge of the house may prove to be a grave matter," suggested Sears of Burt. "I should rather say that it looks decidedly Sear-fous," chimed in Laffin of Gage. And the procession moved on.

The State Bar association met in the rooms of the supreme court and endorsed a bill for introduction in the legislature which provides for the appointment of nine supreme court commissioners, to be appointed by unanimous vote of the three judges. The proposed bill was prepared by the legislative committee of the association, and was presented at the meeting by Judge McHugh of Omaha.

When he retires from office State Treasurer J. B. Meserve will have to account for \$4,774,743.99 of state funds. Of this amount \$300,242.55 must be in the form of actual money or bank certificates and the balance in national, state or county bonds or securities.

All of the permanent educational funds, money that is not invested in such securities, must be turned over in actual cash, but the money of other funds may be accounted for by depository bank certificates.

Auditor Cornell has his office force at work preparing the last statement of the state's funds. This statement shows the money and securities, etc., that the treasurer must turn over, and is as follows: General, \$19,893.96; sinking, \$62,622.44; permanent school, \$44,250.83; temporary school, \$81,155.43; permanent university, \$3,072.32; agricultural endowment, \$15,222.92; temporary university, \$7.87; university cash, \$15,178.48; hospital for insane, \$140.90; normal interest, \$963.54; normal library, \$4,969.61; normal endowment, \$29,083.12; state library, \$6,052.56; penitentiary special labor, \$1,102.84; agricultural and mechanical arts, \$13,036.68; agricultural experiment station, \$560.76; penitentiary land, \$2,618. Total, \$300,242.55.

The senate committee on privileges and elections met and decided to begin hearing evidence in the contest cases next Monday. The Douglas county contest will be the first one brought up. The attorney for the contesting members in these cases met with the committee. The ballots in these cases, which are now under the jurisdiction of the court, will be delivered to the committee Thursday of next week. Many documents and articles which will be used in evidence were turned over by the senate by Secretary of State Porter.

A Plausible Theory. Hixon—"I wonder how Methuselah managed to live to such a ripe old age." Dixon—"Probably because there were no bacteria and disease germs in his day."

Germany's High Class Teaching. At the recent meeting of the Connecticut Valley grammar school masters held in Springfield, Mass., Dr. Balliet delivered an interesting address on the schools of Germany. The high school teacher in Germany is a scholar, a writer of books and often a teacher in one of the universities. The average teaching in Germany is better than it is in this country, and much of the teaching here would not be tolerated in Germany.

Sacred Fires of India. The sacred fires of India have not all been extinguished. The most ancient which still exists was consecrated twelve centuries ago in commemoration of the voyage made by the Parsees when they emigrated from Persia to India. The fire is fed five times every twenty-four hours with sandalwood and other fragrant materials, combined with very dry fuel. The fire, in the village of Oodwada, near Bulsar, is visited by Parsees in large numbers during the months allotted to the presiding genius of fire.

Seizure of M. Zola's Works. The seizure of Emile Zola's works in Berlin, which has recently been reported, was not instituted by the German government authorities, or because the books themselves were objectionable. The government censor had nothing to do with the matter. It was simply the result of a quarrel between publishers, emphasized by the judgment of a Stuttgart court. It seems that the German library at Stuttgart and the Grimm library of Budapest had both secured from M. Zola the right of translating his novels into the German language, the one for Germany and the other for Austria-Hungary. It now appears that the Grimm library, getting out its edition first, immediately placed the books on sale in the Berlin book-shops. The publishers at Stuttgart, on being informed of the matter, at once instituted proceedings, and, according to the judgment above noted, an order was given to seize all of Emile Zola's works in Germany that had come from the Budapest publishers.

LAW NEEDS AMENDMENT

Interstate Commerce Commission Again Urges Action Upon Congress. THE MEASURE IS DAILY VIOLATED. More Stringent Supervision Necessary. Together with Penalties for Violations Which Can Be Enforced for Regulation of Matters.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—The fourteenth annual report of the Interstate Commerce Commission was sent to congress today. Attention is called by the commission to the necessity for further legislation amending the act to regulate commerce, the reasons for urging these amendments having been carefully explained in previous reports. Knowledge of present conditions and tendencies, they say, increases rather than lessens the necessity for legislative action upon the lines already indicated and in such other directions as will furnish an adequate and workable statute for the regulation of commerce "among the several states."

"It is evident," the report states, "that railroad managers generally have made no attempt to conform their practices to the spirit of the law. They may keep within its letter and succeed in avoiding its penalties, but they claim that they are virtually compelled to counteract its aim and evade its observance. Thus it happens that some of the most important and useful incidents of railway service are maintained by methods which are believed to be inharmonious with, if not in actual violation of, a federal statute. This is more than the question of pooling contracts between rival carriers—it is the question of such agreements as relate to classification, terminal charges and the like—concerning which uniformity, certainty and stability are of manifest benefit and convenience to the public."

"Under the conditions now existing it is inevitable that frequent discriminations should occur and endless acts of injustice be committed. Theoretically it is possible for each road to observe its published schedules in every particular, but this in many cases must be done, if done at all, only at the loss of needed traffic, unless all rival roads with equal strictness and honesty conform in like manner to their published rates. The idea of public regulation implies certain standards of correct conduct to which all carriers shall conform. It also implies some measure of supervision and control over those subject to its requirements, to the end that these standards may be observed and practices made to conform thereto. This, without doubt, is inconsistent to some degree at least, with actual and constant competition as that term is commonly understood.

"The policy now pursued cannot and will not prevent an outcome of vicious discriminations. And what is most unfortunate of all, those discriminations favor the few and place the many at a disadvantage. They aid the strong, who have no need of assistance, and handicap the weak with burdens which, by comparison, are always unjust and often destructive."

"The present state of the law has undoubtedly furnished a great incentive to the consolidation or unification of rival lines, which is at once the most conspicuous and most significant result of current railroad financing."

BEET SUGAR FOR EVERYBODY. Remarkable Extension of the Industry Reported from All Sections. WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—The remarkable extension of the beet sugar industry is glutting the markets of the world, according to United States Consul Hughes at Coburg, Germany, in a communication to the State department.

The European producing lands are Germany, Austria, Russia, France, Belgium, Holland, Sweden, Denmark, Bulgaria, Roumania, Switzerland, Italy, Greece and Spain. Persia is just entering the field and Egypt is waking up to the fact that her soil is adapted to the cultivation of the beet. The United States, says the consul, is pressing them all, with Argentina and Chili trying to follow in her footsteps.

Spain of late years has taken great interest in the industry, in a special report on the sugar industry of that country Consul General Lay at Barcelona states that the output of the beet sugar mills of Spain for the next year is estimated to be more than double the actual requirement for home consumption.

The question as to whether the surplus can be advantageously exported without the help of government export duties is engaging serious attention. It is feared that even with the aid of bounties, which are granted in other countries, Spanish sugar would not be able to compete in a foreign market.

Gen. Batchelder Dead. WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—General Batchelder, formerly quartermaster general of the army, died here this afternoon at 2:25 o'clock. General Batchelder has been in delicate health for several years, but his illness did not assume a critical phase until just before the holidays, when he suffered from an attack of angina pectoris. Interment will be made at Arlington cemetery on Monday, after services in All Souls' Unitarian church.

Wants Consul to Seattle. WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—The auditing officers of the treasury have been engaged for some time in an effort to secure from United States Consul Radcliffe H. Ford at Yarmouth, N. S., a satisfactory explanation of certain disbursements made by him on account of the relief of distressed American sailors, but so far without result. The office has been investigated by the nearest consul general and unless some accounting is rendered for the items referred to the case will be reported to the State department.

Will Gray Changes Again. SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Jan. 5.—Willis H. Gray of Bloomington, who has been succeeded by J. H. Barrett as general superintendent of the Chicago & Alton, has been appointed general manager of the Kansas City Southern.

Condition of the Treasury. WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 4.—Today's statement of the treasury balance in the general funds, exclusive of the \$150,000,000 gold reserve in the division of redemption, shows: Available cash balance, \$139,763,959; gold, \$94,340,844.

THE LIVE STOCK MARKET.

Latest Quotations from South Omaha and Kansas City. SOUTH OMAHA. Union Stock Yards—Cattle—There was a good run of cattle and as other markets were in none too good shape buyers started out to pound prices at the post. Bids were generally at a dime lower on beef steers and as sellers were not willing to make the concessions asked the market was slow and drabby throughout. The cow market was also very dull and the prices offered were all of a dime lower, or about like the close yesterday. Buyers did not seem to be particularly anxious for supplies and as a result sellers had to take the prices offered. They were slow in cutting loose, however, and it was late before the pens were cleared. There were quite a few stockers and feeders on sale and the good heavyweight steers were in good demand at strong prices. There was a good demand for feeders showing weight and quality that are ready to go into the feed lot and cattle answering to that description are ready sellers.

Hogs—There was a fairly liberal run of hogs, and, as other points reported a drop in values, the market here started out weak to 25c lower. The early sales were largely at \$4.55, with a number at \$4.50. The last end of the market was about steady, with the hogs selling at \$4.60 and \$4.57 1/2, with the better grades going as high as \$5.00, or the same as yesterday's high prices. There was active market throughout and everything was sold and weighed up in good season.

Sheep—There were only a few sheep buyers in the market, but they were active in buying good quality stock. A string of yearlings sold as high as \$1.25, which was considered just about steady. The same ewes, however, that brought \$2.50 yesterday, sold for \$2.40, so that the market could be described by calling it steady to 10c lower. The demand for choice lambs is in good shape and packers claim they are not getting enough to fill their orders. There were a few feeders on the market today and they sold at good steady prices.

KANSAS CITY. Cattle—Fed steers were slow and some of least desirable bunches sold the lowest; native steers, \$4.50 to \$5.00; stockers and feeders, \$3.00 to \$4.50; butchers' cows and heifers, \$2.00 to \$3.50; canners, \$2.00 to \$3.00; mixed, \$1.50 to \$2.50; light, \$1.50 to \$2.50; mixed, \$1.50 to \$2.50; light, \$1.50 to \$2.50; mixed, \$1.50 to \$2.50; light, \$1.50 to \$2.50.

Hogs—Heavy grades steady; others steady to 5c lower; hams, \$5.00 to \$5.50; mixed, \$4.50 to \$5.00; light, \$4.50 to \$5.00; mixed, \$4.50 to \$5.00; light, \$4.50 to \$5.00.

Sheep and Lambs—Light supply, quick sales, firm prices, \$1.50 to \$2.00; mixed, \$1.00 to \$1.50; stockers and feeders, \$1.50 to \$2.00; culls, \$1.00 to \$1.50.

BUTTER MEN MAKE SHOWING.

Declare Fifty Per Cent of Oleomargarine Is Sold as Genuine Butter. WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—Congressman Wadsworth of New York made a brief statement today before the senate committee on agriculture concerning reflections upon the minority report made on the oleomargarine bill in the house. At the hearing yesterday H. C. Adams, dairy commissioner for the state of Wisconsin, and Secretary Knight of the National Dairy union, stated that they were not correctly represented in that report. Mr. Adams denied that he had said that the purpose of the pending bill is to stop the manufacture and sale of oleomargarine entirely, but Mr. Wadsworth insisted in his statement today that this was his language. The remarks had been taken down by a member of the committee when made because of its bluntness. He also said that the letter which Mr. Knight had pronounced a forgery was still in existence, and would be produced, if necessary.

Hon. John Hamilton, secretary of agriculture of Pennsylvania, advocated the passage of the bill, contending that the fact that chemical analysis of oleomargarine showing it to contain the same ingredients of butter does not render it equally palatable and healthful. He estimated that 50 per cent of the oleomargarine manufactured is sold as butter, and said the farmers of Pennsylvania alone derive an income of about \$18,000,000 a year from the butter sold by them.

CABINET DISCUSSES DEMAND.

Official Family Talks Over Resolution on Cuban Affairs. WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—The cabinet session today was largely devoted to consideration of matters of minor importance. In view of the resolution recently introduced in the senate calling for a copy of the report made by Mr. Lawshe, special representative of the government in Cuba, on the fiscal affairs of the Cuban postal service, also the resolution calling for copies of orders, etc., issued to the army in the Philippines, considerable time was given to a discussion of the rights and duties of the executive with respect to resolutions of this character coming from one of the legislative branches of the government.

It is understood that a disclosure of the facts contained in the report of Mr. Lawshe might seriously prejudice the cases now pending in the courts or cases where action is contemplated. The whole matter was fully gone over at the meeting today. The remainder of the time was given to routine matters of administration.

Hard on Insurance Companies. NEW YORK, Jan. 5.—The Journal of Commerce prints the following: Fire underwriters suffered terribly during 1900. The aggregate fire loss of the United States and Canada during the year just closed, as compiled from carefully kept records, was \$163,253,250. The total losses for 1899 were \$119,650,500, and for 1898, \$186,773,200.

Meets Death in Road House. CRAIG, Colo., Jan. 5.—The famous "Hat Ward" road ranch house, at the government bridge across Bear river, was burned on Christmas night and Mrs. Ward, the owner, perished in the flames. She was one of the most interesting characters from the Colorado mountains, and was the last of a family of four, all of whom met violent deaths.

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"The policy now pursued cannot and will not prevent an outcome of vicious discriminations. And what is most unfortunate of all, those discriminations favor the few and place the many at a disadvantage. They aid the strong, who have no need of assistance, and handicap the weak with burdens which, by comparison, are always unjust and often destructive."

"The present state of the law has undoubtedly furnished a great incentive to the consolidation or unification of rival lines, which is at once the most conspicuous and most significant result of current railroad financing."

BEET SUGAR FOR EVERYBODY. Remarkable Extension of the Industry Reported from All Sections. WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—The remarkable extension of the beet sugar industry is glutting the markets of the world, according to United States Consul Hughes at Coburg, Germany, in a communication to the State department.

The European producing lands are Germany, Austria, Russia, France, Belgium, Holland, Sweden, Denmark, Bulgaria, Roumania, Switzerland, Italy, Greece and Spain. Persia is just entering the field and Egypt is waking up to the fact that her soil is adapted to the cultivation of the beet. The United States, says the consul, is pressing them all, with Argentina and Chili trying to follow in her footsteps.

Spain of late years has taken great interest in the industry, in a special report on the sugar industry of that country Consul General Lay at Barcelona states that the output of the beet sugar mills of Spain for the next year is estimated to be more than double the actual requirement for home consumption.

The question as to whether the surplus can be advantageously exported without the help of government export duties is engaging serious attention. It is feared that even with the aid of bounties, which are granted in other countries, Spanish sugar would not be able to compete in a foreign market.

Gen. Batchelder Dead. WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—General Batchelder, formerly quartermaster general of the army, died here this afternoon at 2:25 o'clock. General Batchelder has been in delicate health for several years, but his illness did not assume a critical phase until just before the holidays, when he suffered from an attack of angina pectoris. Interment will be made at Arlington cemetery on Monday, after services in All Souls' Unitarian church.

Wants Consul to Seattle. WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—The auditing officers of the treasury have been engaged for some time in an effort to secure from United States Consul Radcliffe H. Ford at Yarmouth, N. S., a satisfactory explanation of certain disbursements made by him on account of the relief of distressed American sailors, but so far without result. The office has been investigated by the nearest consul general and unless some accounting is rendered for the items referred to the case will be reported to the State department.

Will Gray Changes Again. SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Jan. 5.—Willis H. Gray of Bloomington, who has been succeeded by J. H. Barrett as general superintendent of the Chicago & Alton, has been appointed general manager of the Kansas City Southern.

Condition of the Treasury. WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 4.—Today's statement of the treasury balance in the general funds, exclusive of the \$150,000,000 gold reserve in the division of redemption, shows: Available cash balance, \$139,763,959; gold, \$94,340,844.