

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TRIBUNE

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NEBRASKA

NEWS NOTES
CONDENSED

A Boiling Down of the More Important Events Here and There

Congress.

The president has submitted to the message transmitting two preliminary reports of the commission appointed to consider the needs of the navy.

The senate has voted to retain in an agricultural bill an appropriation of \$25,000 for digesting, compiling and publishing the material gathered by the commission on country life.

A protest against the establishment of postal savings banks was registered with the house committee on post offices by Chicago and New York bankers.

The bill which provides for the reinstatement of the Brownsville negro soldiers and sailors will be favorably reported by the house committee on military affairs.

The house rejected the senate amendments to the executive, legislative and judicial bill increasing salaries of president, vice president, speaker and judges.

Mr. McCumber made an extended speech in the senate on the right of congress to fix standards for grading grain entering interstate commerce.

With its war paint on, the house of representatives on the 24th, by sweeping majorities many times desired the senate by rejecting its amendments to the executive appropriation bill providing for salary increases for the president, the vice president, the speaker, the judiciary and for the creation of the offices of under-secretary and fourth assistant secretary of state.

The senate passed the compromise bill providing for the reinstatement of colored soldiers.

Before the close of the sixtieth congress a ship subsidy, or ocean mail subsidy, law will be enacted by congress, if new plans of house leaders be successful.

The coming hunting trip of President Roosevelt to Africa was brought up during the consideration of the sundry civil bill in the house. Mr. Garrett (Tenn.) wanted to know how much of the expense of the expedition was to be paid by the government. Mr. Mann (Ill.) volunteered the answer that no public moneys were to be used. He said there was nothing in connection with the proposed trip that could be criticized.

Secretary J. F. Hanson, of Fremont Commercial club, has appealed to Senator Brown to secure the assistance of the national government in the drainage operations planned for the bottom east and northeast of Fremont and south of the Elkhorn at the Platte river.

An amendment was incorporated in the diplomatic and consular appropriation bill which was reported to the senate providing that hereafter no new ambassadors shall be created unless the same shall be provided for by an act of congress. This would take from the president the discretion of raising an American legation to an embassy.

Senate committee added a provision to the agricultural bill for a denatured alcohol still in Nebraska, presumably at the state university.

The subcommittee of the senate committee on judiciary, has agreed to report that the president's action in permitting the merger of the steel companies is unauthorized.

By a vote of 62 to 2 the senate decided to retain the eighteen pension agencies, including Des. Moines. The house had voted to consolidate all the agencies in Washington.

The sundry civil bill which has been reported to the house carries liberal appropriations for Iowa. They relate chiefly to continuing work on public buildings under authorizations made in previous sessions, rentals for temporary buildings while postoffices are being constructed and the like.

The agricultural appropriation bill, carrying \$13,773,276 an increase of \$889,450 over the bill as passed by the house, was reported to the senate. The forest service secured an increase of \$500,000 for fire protection.

General.
George Bonhag of the Irish-American athletic club, broke the world's record for the five mile run at the state armory athletic meet at Troy, N. Y.

H. Harriman celebrated his sixty-first birthday in a quiet manner at San Antonio, Texas. He spent the morning in pistol and rifle practice.

E. R. Woodward, superintendent of the Multnomah amateur athletic club, Portland, Ore., shot and fatally wounded himself.

More than 10,000 rubber mill operatives in New England, who have been idle for a month have been opened up again.

Prominent cigarette dealers throughout the country have decided to abolish cut prices on standard brands of cigarettes.

At the recent election in New York some counties largely voted "dry."

A rug said to be worth more than \$50,000, and to be the finest in the world, was presented to the White House as a gift to the nation by a rich Armenian.

Greeks at South Omaha were mobbed and driven from their homes, many of them being severely beaten. The situation between Austria-Hungary and Serbia is again giving rise to uneasiness.

An attack by Burton on Rainey of Illinois was the feature of the session of the house recently.

R. Mead Shumway, the Nebraska murderer, was granted a stay of execution until March 5 by the supreme court, the announcement being made while he was preparing for the gallows.

Demand for the immediate creation by congress of a permanent tariff commission was voiced in resolutions adopted by the National Tariff Commission conference convention in Indianapolis.

President Roosevelt will make no more appointments during his term.

With \$800,000 in gold pieces, fresh from the government mint, to pay the officers and men of the Atlantic fleet, the Yankton left Washington to join the fleet.

An assault on a white woman caused a mob to collect in Ottumwa, Ia., and a race riot is feared.

President Roosevelt has written a letter to Chairman Hale saying that Hemenway's report on secret service work contains many false and misleading statements.

Congressman Kinkaid is not hopeful for the passage of his bill-reducing amount of improvements required on Kinkaid homestead.

Congressman Burton made a sensational reply to charges made by Mr. Rainey against the financial deal for the Panama canal.

A bill was favorably reported in the senate for an additional federal judge for Nebraska.

Return of the Atlantic squadron was the occasion of big demonstration at Hampton Roads and President Roosevelt praised the men and ships.

Washington.
A call for a caucus of the democrats of the next house for 10 o'clock Tuesday forenoon, March 15, was issued today by Representative Clayton, chairman of the present democratic organization. This caucus will select a democratic candidate for speaker to be voted for two hours later and also candidates for other offices of the house.

Senator Gamble went before the appropriation committee of the senate in behalf of an appropriation of \$100,000 for a new water system at Fort Meade, S. D.

Senator Burkett had up with the postmaster general a petition of citizens of Bethany for the establishment there of a branch office of the Lincoln postoffice. The postmaster general called his attention to the section of the law providing that no postoffice could be established in any town of less than 1,500 inhabitants and that in this petition the citizens had made a statement that their population was 1,200.

On the recommendation of Senator Dawson, Dr. H. R. Dean has been appointed pension examining surgeon at Muscatine, Ia., vice Dr. C. C. Moyridge, deceased.

The remarkable feature of the "Inaugural Souvenir" used by the committee in charge of the inaugural ceremonies is a biographical sketch of President-elect Taft by President Roosevelt. It has peculiar significance in view of rumors that have been published to the effect that friction existed between Roosevelt and Taft. The keynote of the president's sketch may be found in these words: "No one of better training, no man of more dauntless courage, or common sense and higher character has ever come to the presidency than William Howard Taft."

That a final determination should and will be obtained from a court of last resort as to the question of labeling whisky under the pure food law, is the opinion expressed by Attorney General Bonaparte in a letter to President Roosevelt.

The Aldrich bill, providing means for the re-enlistment of negro soldiers who were discharged without honor on account of participating in the Brownsville affray, was passed by the senate.

The senate passed the diplomatic and consular appropriation bill, carrying \$3,046,336. The house provision vesting in a vice consul general judicial authority in civil and criminal cases, heretofore vested in the consul general of China, was stricken out, and the Lodge amendment appropriating \$400,000 for grounds and buildings for the American embassy at Paris was laid on the table.

Myron T. Herriek of Ohio is said to be out of the cabinet race.

Personal.
Prominent suffragists of London were sentenced to terms in prison.

The question of woman suffrage will be put to a vote in Washington state.

With the selection of Franklin MacVeagh for secretary of the treasury the Taft cabinet is made up.

President Roosevelt was violently abused in the house by two republican members.

Gov. Shallenberger of Nebraska sets the precedent of retaining the three heads of state institutions who are women.

Unofficial announcement made at Columbus, O., says that J. M. Dickinson of Tennessee is to be secretary of war in Taft's cabinet.

Secretary Wilson argued for a denatured alcohol plant at Lincoln.

SUPPLY BILLS WORK AS TO THE FINANCES

IMPORTANT MEASURES ARE YET BEFORE THE SENATE.

CONGRESS ENDS THURSDAY

Number of Men Long Prominent in Both Houses Will Retire With Close of the Session.

Washington.—The Sixtieth congress will come to an end Thursday noon with the inauguration of Taft and Sherman. Until that time business in both the senate and the house will be in a hurry-burly condition, with conference reports on appropriation bills the principal order of business.

All of the big supply bills have been passed by the house and all but the sundry civil military academy and general deficiency bills have passed the senate. The supply measures in conference are the legislative, executive and judicial; the pension, army, agriculture fortification and rivers and harbors appropriation bills.

An effort will be made in the senate by Senator Heyburn to have the conference report on the penal code bill adopted, but some opposition is anticipated. In the house it is expected the question of changing the rules to establish a calendar day for the consideration of bills will be taken up on Monday and on Tuesday an effort will be made to pass the senate bill providing for the granting of subventions to mail-carrying vessels between United States ports and South America, Japan, China and Australasia.

The passage of the bill will be stubbornly resisted. The Appalachian and White mountain forest reservation bill will receive first attention from the house Monday. The senate will meet in special session on Thursday to consider nominations.

Twelve senators and seventy-seven representatives, who are members of the present congress, will be absent when the Sixty-first congress assembles in special session in March 15. In the re-election of Mr. Hopkins in Illinois and Mr. Stephenson in Wisconsin takes place, it is possible that the number of senatorial absentees will be augmented to fourteen.

Of the seventy-seven representatives who retire on March 3, one, Mr. Hepburn of Iowa, who has served twenty-two years in congress, and another, Mr. Sherman of New York, who becomes vice president, has served twenty-two years in the house. Mr. Cousins of Iowa and Delegate Smith of Arizona have served sixteen years.

THE WEEK'S GREAT EVENT.
It Will Be That of Inducting Taft Into Office.

Washington.—All other events of the week will be overshadowed by the inauguration at Washington of William Howard Taft, twenty-seventh president of the United States. On Thursday while President Taft graces the ball that will bring the inaugural program to a brilliant close, Mr. Roosevelt, relieved of the burdens of state, will be surrounded by his neighbors of Oyster bay and Mr. Bryan will be the guest of honor at a dollar dinner in Pittsburgh.

If he is permitted to follow the plans chosen, Mr. Roosevelt will go to New York late Thursday, and thence to Oyster Bay, where a home-coming demonstration has been arranged.

THE INAUGURATION BIBLE.
Oath of Office Will Be Taken Upon It by Taft.

Washington.—William H. Taft will take the oath of office as president of the United States on the century-old Bible which belongs to the supreme court of the United States and by it kept in custody. There is a touch of sentiment in this decision which Mr. Taft announced with the statement that had he become a member of the supreme court his oath would have been taken on identically the same book.

A Million Dollar Session.
Washington.—Now that billion-dollar sessions of congress are the rule, little other than appropriation legislation can be enacted during the short sessions, and the one to end this week is no exception to the rule. The appropriations for the session probably will be the largest on record, even exceeding the \$1,068,000,000 provided for at the first session. As only one of the fifteen general appropriation bills of this session has been sent to the president for signature, an accurate statement of the amount is impossible.

First Chinaman Elected.
Ithaca, N. Y.—Toufu Hu of Wu Chengh Sien, China, was elected to the Phi Beta Kappa fraternity at Cornell this week. It is the first time that a Chinaman was ever elected to the highest honorary society at Cornell.

Crisis Near in Manchuria.
Pekin.—Advice received from Harbin state the situation there arising out of Russia's insistence that it administer the local municipal government on account of its railroad interests, is rapidly nearing a crisis.

Ethel Not Engaged.
Washington.—An emphatic denial of the report that the president's younger daughter, Miss Ethel, is engaged to marry Third Assistant Secretary of State William Phillips was given out here.

HOUSE COMMITTEE COMPLETES ITS BUDGET BILLS.

FINANCE BILL.

ALLOWANCES OF DEPARTMENTS

Other Matters that Were up for Consideration the Past Week in the Legislature.

The house finance committee has completed its budget bills for all but the special appropriations for buildings and kindred subjects, and for those things which are specially appropriated for in the bills which created the need.

By this bill the governor's office is to have incidental expenses together with the executive mansion of \$7,200 for the biennium, the commissioner of public lands and buildings \$4,600, the attorney general \$10,000 to enforce the rules of the railway commission and the Junkin act, the expense of the state banking board are to be \$11,000, the state historical society gets the customary \$15,000, the pure food commission \$15,800 exclusive of the commissioner's salary, the national guard \$51,800, Peru normal excluding salaries and new buildings, \$39,000, the state university \$145,000 divided into permanent improvements \$109,000, expenses of farmers' institutes \$20,000 and the North Platte sub-station \$25,000, the Kearney normal gets \$24,700, the institute for the blind at Omaha \$49,066.09, the boys' industrial school at Kearney \$55,500, the girls' industrial schools at Geneva \$32,750, the home for the feeble minded at Beatrice, \$90,500, the Lincoln hospital for the insane \$171,300, the penitentiary draws \$130,200, and the soldiers' home at Grand Island \$123,230. All these are exclusive of salaries and buildings that may be ordered by special bills.

How to Get the Franchise.
The house passed Shoemaker's bill which is intended to hold in check the tendency of foreigners in this state to be registered as intending to become citizens and then voting on the strength of this declaration. Shoemaker would make it necessary for any foreigner hereafter coming to the state to become a full-fledged citizen before voting, and those who have already taken out the first papers to complete their transformation within five years or have the franchise taken from them. The chief section of the bill follows: "Every male citizen of the United States, of the age of twenty-one years, who shall have been a resident of this state six months next preceding the election and of the county, precinct or ward, for the term provided by law shall be an elector: Provided, that persons of foreign birth who shall have declared their intention to become citizens conformably to the laws of the United States, and are now voting, may continue the exercise the right of suffrage until such time as they may have resided in the United States five years, when they shall take out full citizenship papers to be entitled to vote at any succeeding election."

The Oregon Plan.
In the senate house roll No. 1, providing for the Oregon plan for the direct election of United States senators, was recommended for passage by the senate committee of the whole on Thursday, by a straight party vote of 19 to 12, and senate file No. 160, introduced by a republican, Senator Thompson, somewhat similar in nature, was indefinitely postponed by a similar vote.

The house bill provides that a candidate for the legislature can, if he chooses, have one of two statements placed after his name on the ballot; that he will support the people's choice for United States senator, or that he will consider their choice, expressed by a vote, as merely a recommendation.

Senator Thompson's bill adds a third statement, that the candidate may promise to vote for his party's choice for United States senator. The bill went through with little argument, Senator Myers, motion that it be indefinitely postponed being voted down by a vote of 19 to 12. Senator Tibbets moved that the senate bill be indefinitely postponed.

Fine for Trading Stamps.
Senator Diers introduced a bill providing for a fine of from \$20 to \$100 for the use of trading stamps or premiums for the boosting of trade.

Backing Bank Bill.
According to one of the senators all of the democrats in the senate, with the possible exception of one, are strongly backing the bank bill prepared by the banking committee. One man thinks that a higher capital stock should be required for the admission of new banks into towns to discourage the formation of too many banks.

Indeterminate Sentence.
Senator Brown of Lancaster county introduced into the senate a bill providing for the indeterminate sentence of men convicted of any felonies except murder and treason. The bill provides for a prison board composed of an attorney and a physician appointed by the governor, and the warden of the penitentiary. Every man must serve the minimum sentence for the crime for which he was convicted, and then he may be paroled by the board, which must get him proper employment.

ISSUANCE OF STOCK.

Bill by Senator Brown to Regulate the Same.

To prevent the issuance of watered stock by public service corporations and to provide for the regulation of the issuance of stock by the railway commission Senator Brown of Lancaster has introduced a bill in the senate. The bill provides:

"No corporation heretofore or hereafter organized in this state for the purpose of opening a street, interurban or other railroad, telephone, gas or electric lighting or power system, or for the purpose of furnishing any other public service, shall be permitted to issue any stock or bonds until such corporation shall have submitted to the state railway commission a statement showing to the satisfaction of such commission that the same is to be issued for money or property of equal value actually received by such corporation."

"The state railway commission is hereby given full power and authority and is required to supervise and regulate the issuance of all stock and bonds by corporations described in the act. The commission must also approve the same only when it is shown to the satisfaction of the commission that it is for money or property to the value of the amount of the stock and the bonds."

"No corporation of the class described shall have power to issue any stocks or bonds except for money or property equal in value to the amount thereof actually received, and all watered stocks or bonds or other fictitious increase of the capital stock or indebtedness is prohibited and all such stock or bonds, when issued in violation of this act, shall be void."

The bill contains an emergency clause.

Appropriation Bills.
The salary appropriation bill and the appropriation bill for current expenses of the state and state institutions have been completed and will be introduced in the house by Representative Clark of Richardson. The salary bill carries a total of \$964,180, against a total amount appropriated two years ago of \$882,400. In 1907 the total appropriations for current expenses was \$1,912,780, against a total of \$1,847,806.09. The current expense bill does not contain an appropriation for the expenses of the State Railway commission, which amount last year was fixed at \$20,000. This is probably an oversight, as a member of the finance committee said an amount had been agreed upon though less than two years ago. The reduction in the current expense bill is due to cuts made in the appropriations for state institutions more than any other items and the increase in the salary bill is due mostly to increase in salary of the supreme judges and members of the district court.

Sinking Fund Measure.
Senator Ransom has introduced a bill for a new method of securing a sinking fund. The bill provides that the state auditor shall certify to the county clerk of each county the amount of all municipal bonds of any city or village and when the interest and principal are due. It is made the duty of the county board of equalization to levy a sufficient amount of tax against the taxable property of such city or village to meet the said bonds and the interest on them when due. If the county board refuses or neglects to do so it is made the duty of the county clerk to levy the same against the taxable property.

Prohibitory Amendment.
Temperance forces will introduce in the legislature, probably in the senate, a joint resolution for an amendment to the constitution for state-wide prohibition. The supporters of county option are not satisfied with the progress being made on this matter and have determined to put the more radical measure before the legislature.

Stock Yards Bill.
The Stock Yards bill, recommended for passage, fixes the price for yarding, loading, unloading, feeding and watering stock as follows: Cattle 20 cents a head; calves, 8 cents; horses and mules, 5 cents; hogs, 6 cents, and sheep, 4 cents. These charges are said to be a cut of about 20 per cent from the charges now made by the stock yards company at South Omaha. The bill as amended in committee of the whole also fixes a charge of 35 cents above the market of the previous day for hay and grain. It also requires an annual report to be made by the stock yards company to the state railway commission.

New Road Laws.
The committee of the whole did not object seriously to any portion of S. F. No. 91, introduced by the committee on highways and bridges, an act requiring one-half of the cost of road making to be paid by the state. It was ordered to third reading.

Squirrel Bill Laid Over.
The biennial controversy over shooting quail and squirrels was given a whirl on the floor of the house in committee of the whole. The bill was laid over.

The Wisconsin Plan.
Senator Donohoe and Representative Henry of Holt county introduced into both houses the Wisconsin plan for the control of public service corporations, furnishing gas, electricity, heat, water, or power, for public or private use, in cities. The state railway commission is vested with power to supervise, appraise and value the physical property of the corporations, and these must file with the commission schedules of their rates. The service of the corporations must be adequate, and the charges reasonable.

NEBRASKA IN BRIEF

NEWS NOTES OF INTEREST FROM VARIOUS SECTIONS.

ALL SUBJECTS TOUCHED UPON

Religious, Social, Agricultural, Political and Other Matters Given Due Consideration.

McCook is taking the initiatory steps for a water works system.
Miss Etta Bryant, of Auburn, was allowed \$117 as damages sustained by falling on a defective walk.

Frank Irigoin, a farmer, living three miles northwest of Huntley, fell from a load of hay and suffered a bad broken arm.

Representative Taylor of Merna, Neb., has filed a complaint with the railroad commission, against the poor facilities for caring for cattle that the railroads have at that place.

Jack Smith, who was found guilty of horse stealing at the beginning of court in Falls City, was sentenced to three years in the penitentiary.

The contractors who have the Carnegie library in Fairbury say the building will be completed by June. The masons have the basement completed.

Frank McColey of Beatrice, against whom his wife filed suit for divorce, alimony and the custody of their 4-year-old child, has disappeared, taking with him the child.

The Whalen diversion dam in Morrill county, is now completed and the farmers of the Platte valley can be sure of all the water they want to use for the 1909 crops.

M. H. Scroggins has sold the seventy-six acre farm between Kearney and Buda for \$124.50 per acre. As near as can be learned this is the highest price paid for straight farm land in Buffalo county.

Brakeman John Eidt was a victim of an accident at Oberlin, Kan., in which he sustained a fractured skull and a crushed left arm, which had to be amputated. He was taken to the hospital at McCook.

K. Tachikana, a dapper little Jap employed as a section hand in the local yards at North Platte, left for Japan where he will be married. He will return to North Platte with his bride.

The jewelry store of L. E. Aubert, Rushville, was broken into before daylight and \$800 worth of watches, rings and jewelry stolen. The thief got in through the back door by sawing out a panel.

The home of Rev. J. R. Mouer, Beatrice, was entered by sneak thieves and a pocketbook containing about \$5 and a gold watch stolen. Both the pocketbook and watch were old family keepsakes and their loss is much deplored by Mr. Mouer.

Charles Wanrow, a well known young man of Humboldt, was placed under arrest for assault on the person of Mess C. Davis an old man. The only excuse the assailant has to offer is that he was drunk. That ought to object him to a double fine.

Rev. J. J. Parker, formerly pastor of the Congregational church at Kearney, now at Geneva, has accepted a call to again become pastor of the Kearney church and will remove to that city, being there to hold services the first Sunday in March.

The contract for constructing the municipal waterworks plant in Scott's Bluff, for which the town recently voted \$30,000 bonds and sold them at par, has been let to the Katz-Craig Contracting company of Omaha, their bid of \$2,660, being the lowest of six bids submitted.

Blackleg has appeared among several head of cattle near Nebraska City and considerable alarm is felt. Serum is being used and the cattle are being looked after by a veterinary. He is confident that he will prevent the spread of the disease and save most of the stock affected.

At the state convention of postal clerk in Hastings resolutions were adopted asking the senators and all congressmen from Nebraska to favor the passage of several bills now pending in congress for improvement of the conditions of postal clerks. One of these bills provides for strict enforcement of the eight-hour law.

The appropriations committee at Washington has authorized the expenditure of \$60,000 on the North Platte federal building during the year 1910. This means that no work will be done on the building this year, and that at least two years will elapse before its completion after construction work begins.

Chief of Police Trindle, of Kearney was notified to watch out for one Joe Kelley who had skipped from North Platte with an amount of money which did not belong to him. He was taken from a Union Pacific train and locked up to await orders from North Platte. He had on his person \$214.37 when taken. He had been in partnership with Mrs. Veve Stevens and had been running the Star Hotel at North Platte. On payday he collected up the money from railroad men and concluded to skip.

Dick Consbuck, aged 25, attempted to commit suicide at the farm house of his brother, Joe Consbuck, four miles south of Hastings, by slashing his neck with a razor. Although seriously wounded he will probably recover.

The dislike against the Greeks in Nebraska City seems to spring up in all directions and Sheriff Fischer was called to the eastern part of the city to cause some Greeks to move, as they have been in the habit of shooting the chickens of the neighbors and doing other things of reprehensible character.