

NEWS NOTES CONDENSED

A Boiling Down of the More Important Events Here and There

Congress.
The salary of the president of the United States has been definitely fixed at \$75,000 per annum, without any additional allowance for traveling expenses.

A complete agreement was reached by the conferees of the general deficiency bill. The amendments making an appropriation of \$500,000 to pay the first two installments to Colombia under the provision of the treaty recently ratified and appropriation of \$20,000 to pay the expense of a commission to investigate the interests of the United States in Liberia were adopted.

Senator Burkett's bill to amend the federal court law governing the Nebraska district passed with some amendments in the senate and was sent at once to the house.

A bill was presented in the house by Representative Bird S. McGuire of Oklahoma to confer upon the court of claims jurisdiction to hear and determine claims of the Pawnee tribe of Indians in Oklahoma against the United States government.

Senator-elect Joseph L. Bristow of Kansas has reached Washington, and was a visitor at the capitol, where he was introduced in the senate side by Senator Curtis.

Now that billion-dollar sessions of congress are the rule, little other than appropriation legislation can be enacted during the short session. The appropriations for the session probably will be the largest on record—even exceeding the \$1,008,000 provided for at the first session.

Representative Hinshaw introduced a bill appropriating \$25,000 to purchase a quarter section of land near Beatrice, Neb., for the purpose of a public park.

The immigration commission, composed mainly of members of the senate and of the house of representatives, was sharply criticized in the senate by Senator Gary of South Carolina.

The senate ship subsidy bill was lost in the lower house.

Congress worked nearly all night on the 3d to finish up business.

The president sent to the senate the following nominations: To be consul at Boma, Congo Free State, William W. Handley of New York. To be associate justice of the supreme court of New Mexico, Edward A. Mann and Ira A. Abbott.

Senator Burkett of Nebraska introduced a bill providing for an inspection of locomotive boilers similar to that now required in the case of steamboat boilers.

General.

President Taft had a flood of callers on the first day of his administration.

The new tariff has been tentatively completed by the republican members of the house ways and means committee and the tariff framers are now devoting their attention principally to discussing the proposed provisions for additional means for securing revenue.

Permanent headquarters for the National League of Republican clubs, of which John Hays Hammond is president, will be established in Washington in the near future. In order to keep the 3,800 clubs and 1,200,000 members active throughout the year.

The inaugural address of President Taft published in Tokio evoked appreciative comments for the statesmanlike views embodied in it.

The ceremony of inauguration of Taft and Sherman took place the usual way and at the usual time, except that exercises were held in the senate chamber on account of severe storms. Immediately after Taft had taken the oath of office Roosevelt left for Oyster Bay. The street parade and grand ball in the evening were features of the inauguration.

President Taft will convene congress in extra session March 15th.

Secretary Wright approved the findings of the retiring board in the case of Colonel William F. Tucker of the pay department of the army, and son-in-law of Mrs. John A. Logan. This places Colonel Tucker on the retired list for life on three-quarters pay.

It is rumored that Harriman has made a deal for an entrance to Seattle over St. Paul tracks.

State Senator Skinner charges that the saloon element is spending large sums of money in influencing legislation in Colorado.

The lower house of the Arkansas legislature has passed a state-wide prohibition bill.

Deadlocks in Illinois and Wisconsin may cause two senate vacancies in the next congress.

The pope of Rome is indisposed from a severe cold.

The ninth attempt of Mrs. Elizabeth Lowery of St. Louis to end her life was successful. She drank carbolic acid because of despondency.

The price of May wheat surpassed all records of recent years on the New York produce exchange, when it advanced 2 cents a bushel to \$1.22 1/2. The final price was \$1.22 1/4, a net advance for the day of 1 1/2c.

The negro who killed the young woman at Ottumwa, Ia., has been arrested and made full confession.

The house, by a majority of four, adopted a rule reported by the committee on rules creating what is to be known as "Calendar Wednesday."

The Kansas house and senate voted to concur in the second conference report on the bank guarantee law and the bill will become a law as soon as it is signed by the governor and published.

One hundred thousand strangers were in Washington to witness the inauguration.

Mobilization of troops by the Serbian government continues.

Venezuela is not regarded a safe place for ex-President Castro.

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

The Columbus Memorial commission has awarded the contract for making a statue of Columbus, to be erected in the plaza of the union station in Washington, to Lorado Taft, of Chicago, a relative of the president-elect.

The inquiry into the beef trust may result in landing big game.

The purchase of upwards of \$21,000,000 of general development bonds of the Southern Railway company by J. P. Morgan & Co. was announced. The price was stated to be about 75.

Bishop Richard Scannel of Omaha was a passenger on the steamer Adriatic which arrived in New York from Southampton.

Judge Taft says he has been misquoted on his tariff views.

The Kansas senate passed the bill already passed by the house prohibiting bucket shops in Kansas. Not only the establishments are illegal but telegraph operators taking quotations for such purposes are subject to heavy penalties.

The International Harvester company paid to R. L. Thomas, clerk of the Shawnee county district court \$13,702, the fine and costs assessed against the company by Judge A. W. Dana for violating the Kansas anti-trust laws.

Kentucky's governor has pardoned an editor who has been found guilty of telling the truth about certain evildoers.

Washington.

Final preparations are now being made at the Smithsonian institution for the scientific expedition to Africa to be headed by Theodore Roosevelt. The work of preparing and packing the collecting apparatus is now well advanced.

Secretary of Agriculture Wilson has decided to establish at the University of Wisconsin a laboratory plant for the testing of various kinds of woods in the eastern part of the United States.

This is President Taft's cabinet: Philander C. Knox of Pennsylvania, secretary of state, Franklin McVeagh of Illinois, secretary of the treasury, Jacob M. Dickinson of Tennessee, to be secretary of war, George W. Wickersham of New York attorney general, Frank H. Hitchcock of Massachusetts to be postmaster general, George V. L. Meyer of Massachusetts secretary of navy, Richard A. Ballinger of Washington secretary of the interior, James Wilson of Iowa to be secretary of agriculture, Charles Nagel of Missouri, secretary of commerce and labor.

Thos. E. Stone, now chief usher at the White House, succeeds Major Charles D. A. Loeffler as doorkeeper to the president.

An immense big stick, handsomely carved and beautifully colored, was cleared through the customs house here. The stick is a gift to President Roosevelt from the American colony at Chihuahua, Mexico, and carries with it their wish that President Roosevelt may be recalled to office, so that he may use it.

Nebraska millers, and there are nearly 350 of them, according to recent statistics, are face to face with a situation that spells reduced prices for their flour unless Secretary Wilson modifies his recent order compelling Nebraska millers to mark their packages of flour "artificially bleached."

Representative Pollard has been getting many letters about the recent decision of the agricultural department in the bleached flour cases. He called on Secretary Wilson and raised with him the question of whether the matter might be reopened. Mr. Wilson said he had held hearings for five days on the subject and was satisfied the decision was right.

Both the president and the president-elect and their wives occupied the White House the night before inauguration.

The senate committee on judiciary voted to report a disagreement on the resolution providing for an investigation of the absorption of the Tennessee Coal & Iron company by the United States Steel Corporation.

Personal.

A committee to wait upon Mayor Busse of Chicago and ask for work was appointed at a meeting of 300 unemployed at Hull house.

Dr. Wm. D. Crum has resigned as collector of customs at Charleston, S. C.

The Honolulu legislature gives a premium to big families.

Nebraska legislators are half through with their work. No more bills will be introduced.

THE EXTRA SESSION

UNDER THE CALL IT CAN DO ANY BUSINESS IT DESIRES.

PROBABLY PASS CENSUS BILL

This Matter, the Statehood Bill and Other Measures Are Likely to Be Considered.

Washington, D. C.—When congress meets on the 15th inst., upon the call of the president to consider a revision of the tariff, there will be no constitutional restrictions upon the nature of the business that may be transacted. It is generally conceded that at least two months will be required for the representatives to conclude consideration of all the schedules involved in this legislation. The house itself will not receive the bill for some weeks, as the committee on way and means will require considerable time to report the measure. During this long period the senate will have nothing to do in respect to the tariff, and even after the bill leaves the house it will be in the hands of the committee on finance for some time before the senate actually gets possession of it, and the debate begins. Then will begin a long wait by the house of representatives until the state amendments can be known and conferees appointed to bring about an agreement upon them.

This procedure will result in each house having to remain in session with nothing to do in relation to the tariff covering a period of a couple of months. Three days is the extent of a recess that may be taken by either body.

In view of the extended period of inactivity that would face each house should nothing be considered except the tariff, many senators are considering the advisability of entering upon other legislation which they believe ought to be passed in time to send it over to the house when that body has disposed of its bill and will only have to wait for senate action on the tariff. The advocates of postal savings banks have talked of the possibility of such a policy being adopted ever since they became aware of their inability to secure legislation in the last session of congress.

There are many earnest advocates of a change of date in the inauguration from March 4 until a later day, when favorable weather is likely to prevail. Senator Dewey took the first legislative step in favor of such a change when he introduced a resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution to change the date of the inauguration from March 4 to the last Wednesday in April.

Advocates of statehood for New Mexico and Arizona were greatly disappointed that no progress could be made toward the enactment of an enabling act during the last session and they are restless over any proposition to delay action until the regular session of congress because they fear that the mass of legislation that will then come up will crowd their claims to the background.

The president's veto of the census bill make mandatory some action to provide for the enumeration of the thirteenth census, and while legislation might be delayed until early next winter, some of those who are interested in the passage believe that the extra session would give an admirable opportunity to dispose of it.

HARRIMAN AND GOULD DEAL

Union Pacific and Wabash Will Exchange Business a Kansas City.

Chicago—The Record-Herald says: Negotiations are in progress which will eventually land for Edward H. Harriman's Union Pacific line west of Kansas City the greatest traffic coup in its history. It is understood that beginning early in May there will be an interchange traffic agreement between the Wabash and the Union Pacific at Kansas City which will be of immense value to each system.

Wireless for Storm Use.

Philadelphia, Pa.—One result of wire prostration due to the blizzard will be the establishment by the city of a wireless plant on top of the city hall tower.

Loeb Goes to Gotham.

Washington—William Loeb, jr., who was named by President Taft as collector of the port of New York, will take charge of the New York customs house Tuesday morning.

No War in Sight.

New Orleans, La.—President Zelaya of Nicaragua, in a cable to Consul General Altschul here, denies positively that preparations are being made in his country for a war with either Costa Rica or Salvador.

Simplicity of President Taft.

Washington, D. C.—Domestic simplicity characterized the first Sunday in the White House of the Taft family. President Taft, accompanied by his brother, Charles P. Taft, walked to the Unitarian church for morning services. The capacity of the church was taxed to its utmost with worshippers and strangers whose curiosity impelled their presence. It was expected that the president would arrive in his automobile, and his appearance among the crowd of several hundred.

THE GUARANTY BILL

RECOMMENDED FOR PASSAGE BY HOUSE COMMITTEE.

FEATURES OF THE MEASURE

Railroad Legislation to Be Given Consideration, Now that the Banking Bill is Out of the Way.

Substantially as it came from the standing committee, the banking bill, providing for a depositors' guaranty, was recommended for passage by the house committee of the whole. An effort will be made to get it engrossed at the earliest possible date and sent to the senate.

The first test vote which has been secured on the proposition was taken on the committee report. The democratic majority lined up for the bill, while the republican minority, with the exception of Thiessen of Jefferson, went on record as opposed to the bill. McCall of Gage voted against his republican brethren, when the test vote was taken, but he did so with the explanation that "I am opposed to this bill and opposed to any kind of guaranty bill. Therefore I vote 'no' now and shall vote 'no' again when the bill comes up for passage."

Some of the essential features, as the bill now stands, are: The business of banking and the terms relating to it are defined and the business of banking is prohibited except by means of a corporation organized under the laws of the state, national banks which organize under the federal laws being excepted.

The banking board is organized with the governor, auditor and attorney general as members, the governor being made chairman.

The board is given the power of general supervision over the banks of the state.

The governor is given authority to appoint a secretary of the board at a salary of \$3,000, a clerk at \$1,500 and a sufficient number of bank examiners at \$1,800 a year.

The secretary and examiners must have had at least three years' practical experience in banking.

The bank examiners may not examine the affairs of any bank in which they have a personal interest or with which they have had any connection for a year previous.

The secretary and examiners must put up a \$25,000 bond each.

In making examinations, examiners are authorized to administer oaths and enforce the attendance of witnesses. Examinations must be made in the presence of two directors.

At least once a year examination from sources outside the banks must be made of 10 per cent of deposits and loans.

Now for Railroad Bills.

With the guaranty banking bill and the bill restoring the right of direct election of precinct assessors practically out of the way in the house that body is preparing to tackle right away some of the weighty railroad bills.

Three of the most important, the physical valuation bill, the reciprocal demurrage bill and the oil rate bill, were ordered advanced to the head of the general file when they were reported out of the railroad committee.

The physical valuation and demurrage bills have already passed the senate and are therefore in a fair way of becoming laws with the next week or two. The oil rate bill is a house bill, but was introduced late. This latter bill applies principally to crude oil to be used for fuel purposes. It is declared that it will let the Kansas operators into Nebraska with their product and that the result will be a cheapening of power through the substitution of oil for coal in a good many enterprises.

The bill provides a set of distance tariffs on crude oil which are a considerable cut from the present rates. The rates are said to be similar to those in effect in Kansas.

Against Constitutional Convention.

A considerable sentiment has developed in the house against the proposed bill for a constitutional convention. Since the unexpected passage of the bill by the senate the question has received considerable attention in the house and sentiment against it has grown materially since it has come to be regarded as a matter which may possibly have to be dealt with. The senate bill has not reached the general file of the house, and a bill introduced in the house by Raines is far down the file.

Oregon Plan Now a Law.

Gov. Shallenberger has signed H. R. 1, by Humphrey of Lancaster, enacting into law the Oregon plan for the selection of United States senators.

Agree Upon \$20,000.

At last the state of Nebraska is going to erect a statue in memory of Abraham Lincoln, and the city of Lincoln may take its visitors to the state house grounds and show what has been done for the martyred president. The conference committee of the house and senate reported back that they had agreed upon an appropriation of \$20,000, and the report was adopted in both houses. The bill passed the house carrying an appropriation of \$15,000, but it was not sustained by the upper branch.

NOW FOR BUSINESS.

First Half of Legislative Session is Completed.

With the close of the week ending March 2 the first half of the legislative session has been completed. From now on until adjournment the legislature will be occupied with completing what has been begun. Rather more than half of the time of the session has been passed, but it has been passed in getting started on their way toward final fulfillment the measures which are to mark the work of the legislature.

But few bills have yet reached the governor, although the house and senate acting separately have already disposed of much legislation. The house has passed and sent to the senate seventy-two of its own bills and has passed four senate bills. The senate has passed and sent to the house seventy-eight bills and has passed sixteen house bills. A total, therefore, of twenty bills has already been passed, eleven of which have reached the governor and received his signature.

Five house bills have failed of passing after reaching a third reading, and three senate bills have met defeat in the same manner. Through the route of indefinite postponement the senate has disposed of seventy-two of its own bills and four house bills. The house has indefinitely postponed ninety-four of its own bills.

Of the bills which have been passed most important is undoubtedly that providing for the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people through the medium of the Oregon primary plan, which permits candidates for the legislature to definitely pledge themselves to vote for that candidate for United States senator who has received the greatest number of popular votes. It has been passed by both houses, but has not yet reached the governor.

Senate Passes Primary Law.

The bill of Senator Ollis and Senator Ketchum, amending the direct primary law passed by the last legislature, was passed by the senate.

The bill changes the date of the primary election from the first Tuesday in September to the second Tuesday in August, largely on account of so many farmers being in attendance at the state fair on the other date.

It provides that the precinct committees shall be elected at the primary, that they shall meet at the county seat on the second Saturday following, organize and elect delegates to the state convention, which shall consist of three delegates from Douglas county, two from Lancaster and one from every other county.

The state convention will meet at Lincoln on the first Tuesday in September, formulate a platform and elect a state central committee of one member from each senatorial district.

It provides for a rotary secret ballot, although the man is compelled to vote only for his own party candidate, or at least vote for candidates of one party only. Any voter may write in the name of any candidate for whom he wishes to vote if the name is not on the ticket, and should such person receive a majority of the votes he shall be considered the candidate, provided he files acceptance of nomination within ten days.

Ninety-Nine-Inch Bed Sheets.

Representative Sink's bed-sheet bill has been recommended for passage in the senate, and there is no indication of any further fight on the measure. It was brought up in committee of the whole and disposed of without great difficulty. Senator Raymond of Scott's Bluff proposed an amendment, suggested by the hotel men of Lincoln and Omaha, that individual towels be supplied to guests only on request, but the senate, after listening to Senators Tibbets and Randall, voted this down, as they did other amendments.

Security for Public Funds.

Randall of Madison obtained the approval of the committee of the whole for S. F. No. 122 and S. F. No. 117, the first relating to security to be given by banks for county funds on deposit, and the second to state funds in depository banks. The bill permits banks that are county or state depositories to give a guaranty bond as security or to deposit with the state auditor first mortgages on real estate, United States bonds, bonds of this or other states, county, municipal or school district bonds.

Woman Suffrage.

The house passed Jerry Howard's bill submitting an amendment providing for woman suffrage, the vote standing 62 to 34. This was two more than enough to carry the proposition, a three-fifths majority being necessary.

Assessment of Real Estate.

After a period of disagreement lasting several weeks, the senate recommended for passage a bill by Fuller of Seward county providing for the assessment of real estate every two years instead of each four years.

Demurrage Law.

A bill that has passed the senate is a reform measure which has been sought for many years by the shipping public. This is a reciprocal demurrage law. Two years ago such a law was introduced and backed by a democratic minority, but failed to be uncovered, when a sitting committee was appointed. E. B. Quackenbush of Nemaha was author of the bill, and was called home by illness in his family just at the time when his personal effort was needed to push the bill along.

NEBRASKA IN BRIEF

NEWS NOTES OF INTEREST FROM VARIOUS SECTIONS.

ALL SUBJECTS TOUCHED UPON

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

The members of the Methodist church of Seward are raising funds to build a parsonage creditable to their splendid church building.

The people of the First German Congregational church of Hastings expect to begin the erection of their new church about May 1.

The Baldwin Manufacturing company of Cincinnati has filed its articles of incorporation with the secretary of state and will open headquarters at Omaha. The capital stock of the company is \$1,800,000, and the company paid the secretary of state a fee of \$902 for filing the articles.

The shipment of hogs to Pacific coast points from the vicinity of Kearney is again under way, and many carloads of Buffalo county porkers are in this way sent to the far east. During the summer and fall season as high as a trainload a week is no uncommon shipment from that point.

Theodore Leserve, who was found unconscious in the yards at Alliance, is a son of W. A. Leserve, a well-known Grand Army man of Broken Bow. Young Leserve left there Sunday night, carrying on his person, so his father states, \$1,600. He was accompanied by two companions, Roy Gallington and Frank Davis. When found, it is said, Leserve had only \$600 on him.

Mrs. Mary Hanks, a former resident of Beatrice, and wife of Paul Hanks, was killed in a railway accident at Fort Worth, Tex. Mrs. Hanks, in company with her little son, was driving over a crossing in the outskirts of Fort Worth, when the buggy was struck by a passenger train. The vehicle was cut in two and Mrs. Hanks received injuries from which she died a few hours later. The boy was not hurt.

Two of the leading churches of Hastings, the First Methodist and First Presbyterian, have installed the telephone method of giving indisposed members an opportunity to hear the sermon. The apparatus consists of a large transmitter placed upon the pulpit, into which the pastor talks as he delivers his sermon. Those who are ill notify the pastor and he connects their line with the transmitter.

Mrs. Jennie Grogor, the woman who murdered Volney Mann, pleaded guilty to murder in the second degree at Ogallala, and Judge Grimes sentenced her to thirty-nine years in the penitentiary at hard labor. He directed that each anniversary of the crime, Oct. 8, shall be spent in solitary confinement. Dales, her accomplice, was given a life sentence at hard labor in the penitentiary, with solitary confinement upon each and every anniversary of the crime.

Lawrence Daily, teller in the Bank of Commerce at Hastings, is suffering from blood poisoning, supposed to have been contracted in the handling of infected money. For a time it was feared that amputation would be necessary, but that danger is now passed.

The proposition for the issue of bonds for the proposed new high school building in Hastings, to cost upward of \$100,000, will probably be submitted at a special election following the regular municipal election in April.

Sylvester Cozad was accidentally shot and killed at a ball game about a mile north of Freedom in Frontier county. As young Cozad was making a run during the game a revolver fell from his pocket, which was immediately picked up by a younger boy named Bonar, a son of George N. Bonar. He called out to young Cozad, "Stop or I will shoot you," apparently in fun, and then fired the revolver. Cozad turned at the call and was shot through the left breast, and died almost instantly.

All efforts to save the life of R. Mead Shumway, the murderer of Mrs. Sarah Martin of Adams, failed, and he was hanged in the penitentiary. Six stays of execution had been granted during the progress of the case. Shumway walked to the scaffold supported by two assistants, but ascended the stairs unaided. "You are hanging an innocent man," he said, when asked to make a final statement. Then he added: "May God forgive all of you who have had anything to do to me." Death did not come as swiftly as in the three executions held before at the penitentiary, for the rope was not placed tightly enough about his neck, and it was twenty-one minutes before the heart ceased beating and twenty-seven and a half minutes before the physicians pronounced Shumway dead.

The high water of the Elkhorn and ice caused sixty feet of the bridge south of Stanton to wash away. Big chunks of ice, some of which were forty feet square, caused the trouble.

Sheriff Rosseter arrived in Valentine from LeGrande, Ore., where he went to bring back Sam Storey, the man who left Douglas, Wyo., with Fred Smith the man who was found in the river at Valentine last October. It is known that Storey was in the city about that time, and his preliminary will be held soon to find out just what he knows about the case.