

NEWSNOTES CONDENSED

A Boiling Down of the More Important Events Here and There

Foreign

The unionists gained another seat in the Southport division of Lancaster. Otherwise the few results before announced do not change the party strength. The newly elected members of parliament now stand: Unionists, 221; Liberals, 202; Laborites, 34; Nationalists, 69.

President Madriz of Nicaragua issued a proclamation giving the details of the causes which have led to a renewal of hostilities. He refers to the offers of peace made to the revolutionists through Rear Admiral Kimball and their refusal to accept anything but complete recognition of the provisional government, and says questions must now be settled by arms.

American shoe manufacturers are making extraordinary shipments on orders from their German agents, placed in anticipation of the enforcement of Germany's general tariff against American importations on and after February 7.

A native runner who has arrived from South Africa reports that Col. Roosevelt has killed three good bulls and two cows of the white rhinoceros family and considerable lesser game. The naturalists have collected many species of birds and mammals.

According to a German consular report the Kobe-Akashi Electric Railway company, with a capital of \$1,500,000, has been formed to build an electric railway from Kobe, Japan, to Askashi. The first five miles of the road is to be double track.

General

The postal savings bank bill has been introduced in the senate. If Ballinger is convicted it will be a victory for honesty and conservatism. If acquitted it will be a vindication for a much abused man.

Baron Komura gave assurance in the Japanese diet that relations with the United States were excellent.

The management of the postoffice department was criticized by the management of the Butterick company.

A letter from Guadalajara asserts that Conductor Cook, who is in jail in Guadalajara, is falling rapidly under his close confinement.

President Taft cabled to Emperor William of Germany a birthday greeting.

Foodstuff exports last year fell off heavily as compared with the previous year.

General Paulino Godoy has been appointed inspector general of the Nicaraguan army.

President Taft has decided to pay a visit to Albany and Rochester, N. Y., some time in March and in both towns will deliver addresses.

Erza Kendall, the comedian, died of apoplexy in a sanitarium at Martinsville, Ind.

The supreme court may delay an opinion on the corporation tax.

That Harry Kendall Thaw is a bankrupt and that his estate is subject to the United States bankruptcy laws is held by Referee William B. Blair.

The senate committee on territories perfected the Beveridge measure to create a legislative council for Alaska.

Congressman Smith of Iowa will be a candidate for re-nomination.

National Committeeman Taggart of Indianapolis, Ind., who was accidentally shot by W. H. Morton, while hunting, will lose the sight of the right eye.

The senate committee on irrigation will report a bill providing for a \$30,000,000 bond issue to complete irrigation projects.

Armour says beef is high because of increased price of corn.

American affairs are being prominently headlined in the Chinese native newspapers. The speeches of President Taft and the hunting exploits of Col. Roosevelt are followed with interest.

The petition of the American Federation of Labor asking for an investigation of the operations of the United States Steel corporation has been referred by President Taft to the committee on judiciary.

The United States Banking company at Mexico City suspended following its failure to make the clearing house settlement of the day's business.

Joseph A. Graham, a widely known editor and author, died at his home in Salisbury, Md. He was widely known in the west.

Cork oak, which grows to a large extent in Spain, is to be tried in the national forests here.

All along the line the people are cutting out the meat ration, but the price does not come down.

The "beef trust," so-called, is to be prosecuted by the national government.

Millions in royalties to the government from leases of Alaska coal lands was the proposition made by a Seattle man to a senate committee.

Business needs of the nation are to be discussed in annual convention of national boards of trades.

The executive committee of the national education association announced that the forty-eighth annual convention would be held in Boston July 2 to 8, 1910.

Senator Conger's exposing New York's state politics scandal is likely to win victory for direct primary systems.

The British liberal party must depend on the Irish to secure a majority in the house of commons.

The twentieth century limited on the New York Central was wrecked and two trainmen killed.

There is dissatisfaction among house democrats with the leadership of Champ Clark.

Chances favor the passage of the ship subsidy bill this session.

The new comet is traveling more than 120 miles per second according to Prof. Winslow Upton of Brown university.

Special educational training for rail road men is advocated and predicted by J. Shirley Eaton.

Irregularity in grand jury room may open the prison doors for Charles W. Morse, and F. Augustus Heinze may also benefit from a court ruling on this matter.

In the memory of senators and representatives now in office, says a Washington dispatch, there never has been a time when the people were writing so many letters to members of congress about public affairs.

Meat dealers are firm with their prices all over the country and the move now being made has in no wise affected the packers.

The intensely cold weather in the east has saved eastern Pennsylvania from disastrous floods.

It was stated by a high authority at Paris that no settlement has yet been reached regarding the Hankow Sze-Chuen railroad loan of \$30,000,000.

Erza Kendall, the famous comedian, died of apoplexy in a sanitarium at Martinsville, Ind.

President Taft is urging upon senators to "get busy" with the nation's affairs.

The price of extra fancy creamery butter dropped to 30 cents a pound on the Elgin board of trade. It was a cut of six cents.

Liberal forces in Great Britain have not abandoned hope of a substantial victory.

Warner M. Van Norden, a rich New Yorker, was robbed on the street of \$28,000, supposedly by two women.

Investigations by the immigration commission were denounced in the house as a big junket.

Mrs. Hetty Green has joined the anti-meat crusade because she says the price is too dear.

Washington

Senator Penrose introduced a bill to amend the oleomargarine law in accordance with recommendations by associations of dairymen and grangers.

The measure imposes on manufacturers of oleomargarine a special tax of \$600 a year. The tax to be paid by wholesale dealers in uncolored oleomargarine is fixed at \$200 and the tax assessed against retailers in a similar product is fixed at \$6.

Reports which reached Washington from foreign sources declared that Whitelaw Reid, ambassador to Great Britain, had been offered and had accepted an extension of two years of service as the representative of the United States at the court of St. James.

Estimates made by officials of the postoffice department indicate 300,000,000 one-cent pieces annually are taken by the rural letter carriers from letter boxes for the payment of postage on mail matter deposited. Complaints against the practice have become so widespread that the post office department has issued instructions to all postmasters at rural delivery office that after February 15 the practice will be discontinued.

Detailed statements of exports of the United States during the calendar year 1909 have just been completed by the bureau of statistics of the department of commerce and labor. They show a reduction in the value of exports of nearly all the important agricultural products except cotton.

As a result of the agitation against the increased cost of living, Representative Garner (rep. Pa.) introduced a bill in the house to repeal the duty on all cattle intended to be used as food. This is the first bill of the sort introduced, but it is expected that a flood of similar measures will follow.

Personal

Indictments were returned at Chicago against men accused of conspiring to defraud the city.

Governor Shallenberger of Nebraska declines to call an extra session of the legislature.

Congratulations poured in on Gompers on his sixtieth birthday.

Friends of Brigadier General Smith of Fort Russell believe he will succeed to the command of the Department of the Missouri when Brigadier General Charles Morton, now in command, retires from the service in March. Brigadier General Frederick Funston is in line for the command but it is understood he does not care to be transferred and that Brigadier General Smith will get the place.

The prediction was made that it will take nineteen years to finish the Ballinger-Pinchot inquiry.

There is still a possibility the liberals will have a majority in commons.

Zelaya, former president of Nicaragua, is preparing to go to Belgium.

Liona, Peru, arranged a special reception for Hon. W. J. Bryan.

The election of Gifford Pinchot to succeed Dr. Charles W. Elliot as president of the National Conservation association is announced.

Iowa editors will hold their semi-annual meeting at Boone, March 17.

CONGRESS IS SLOW

LITTLE PROGRESS IN LEGISLATION DEMANDED BY TAFT.

A MATTER OF MUCH CONCERN

Two Months of Session Gone and Adjournment Already Being Talked About.

Washington.—Little headway has been made in the two months congress has been in session toward the enactment of important legislation demanded by President Taft; yet on every side are heard predictions of an early adjournment. Thoughtful members of congress are asking each other what kind of reception they will meet if they go to the White house on April 15 or May 1, with plans to quit work for the summer, if the administration program is unfulfilled.

The question is one which congressional leaders admit is giving them deep concern. The absence of unanimity of thought on almost every one of the president's measures is such as to make exceedingly difficult the work napped out for those who have the bills in charge. Bills to create a court of commerce and amend the railroad rate laws, to establish postal savings banks, to validate withdrawals of public lands wanted for conservation purposes and to legalize national charters for corporations doing interstate business, which have been placed at the head of the "White house schedule," have all met with determined opposition.

From a political point of view, republicans waters seemingly are becoming muddied by the several investigations which are in progress, and the minority members appear not unwilling to let this procedure continue indefinitely. Inquiries such as that being made into the affairs of the interior department and the forest service naturally are having some effect upon plans to amend land laws and enact legislation for Alaska and even bear to some extent upon the Arizona and New Mexico statehood bill.

Other investigations, such as those relating to second class mail matter and the postoffice deficit, and the causes of the increased cost of living, all tend to minimize the chances for a complete redemption of republican campaign pledges.

A conference of republican leaders is now being considered and probably will be held soon after Senator Aldrich returns from Florida, as he is expected to do this week, whether he went a week ago to recuperate from a severe cold. Whether this will be held at the White house, so as to enable Mr. Taft to participate, or at the capitol, has not been decided. It has been settled that it will include the more prominent members of both branches of congress and that vigorous means will be advocated to restore to some semblance of order the chaotic conditions now existing.

The plan most in favor with such republican leaders as are now in Washington, is a rearrangement of the Taft policies, placing them in order of executive preference or in such sequence as it is thought would most benefit the majority party.

Jeff Davis Likes Taft.

Washington.—Senator Jefferson Davis of Arkansas paid his first visit to the White House. The senator said he had never met President Taft before. "I like him," he added; "he is a fine man."

Americans Are All Safe.

Washington.—In answer to inquiries the State department has received a dispatch from Ambassador Bacon in Paris stating that all Americans in that city were safe.

WICKHAM STAYS IN ARMY.

Commutes Captain's Sentence to Reduction of Fifty Files in Rank.

Washington.—President Taft has saved Captain Frank D. Wickham, Twelfth United States infantry, from dismissal from the army. Captain Wickham recently was convicted by court-martial in the Philippines of drunkenness on duty and sentenced to dismissal. On the recommendation of Secretary Dickinson, the president has commuted the sentence to a reduction of fifty files in rank.

Troops to Greytown.

Bluefields, Nicaragua.—General Estrada has learned that 700 of the Madrid troops are entrenching north of Greytown and as a consequence he, together with General Matuty, is arranging to head an expedition to that district. It is expected that the two generals with 500 men will leave here Tuesday morning in the steamer Senator and Blanc. General Estrada will direct the troops on the Senator, which was recently chartered by the provisional government. A conflict is soon expected.

Price of Bibles Advance.

Chicago.—The price of Bibles will go up March 1, according to an announcement made by a large Bible publishing house which has branches in Cincinnati, Kansas City and San Francisco. The cause for advance is the enforcement of the new tariff on imported leather and paper. "Bibles are now about 20 per cent higher than they have ever been before," said a member of the firm. "The materials for the best Bibles have gone up so high in price on account of the tariff that we cannot afford former prices."

NEBRASKA NEWS AND NOTES.

Items of Interest Taken From Here and There Over the State.

A large number of men living in the Ponca neighborhood, north of Florence, formed a hunting party and made a raid on coyotes in that neighborhood. Only two were secured, but the boys had a lot of fun.

R. W. Daggett of Salem, whose wife left him a few months ago and eloped with a telegraph operator, taking with her one of her two sons, has returned to Salem with the boy. The boy was found in Colorado.

Word was received in Republican City of the death of William Koll of that place. He was in a hospital at Salt Lake City, Utah. Mr. Koll was an engineer on the Oregon Short Line. About four weeks ago he was in a wreck, where he was badly scalded and injured otherwise.

Secretary C. G. Marshall of the Nebraska State Horticultural society has received two immense silver cups which were taken by his society as prizes at the national fruit show at Council Bluffs, Ia. One cup is for the best display of any state horticultural society at the national show. The other cup is for the best eight varieties of apples intended to furnish the home with fruit the year round.

In 1909 the Midwest Life made a net gain of 338 policies for \$559,000 of insurance. The greatest gain was in 20 Payment Life Policies. The increase here amounted to 136 policies aggregating \$222,500 of insurance. The next greatest increase was in Ordinary Life Policies. The gain in this form was 101 policies, carrying \$184,500 of insurance. The remaining gain was distributed over a number of different forms. Few companies operating in this state made as good a net gain in insurance in force in Nebraska as did The Midwest Life. Write the company at Lincoln for an agency or a sample policy.

A full company of the national guard has been mustered in at Blair by Adjutant General Hartigan.

Fred Robinson, the barber, charged with murder in the first degree, was arraigned in district court at Beatrice. He pleaded not guilty and was bound over without bail.

The poultry show at Hastings was more largely attended than any other show in the history of the association.

Herman Draeger, a farmer living on the Ernest Fisher farm, ten miles northeast of Pierce, was injured seriously by being trampled by a team of heavy horses. He had four ribs broken and is otherwise injured, perhaps fatally.

Ex-Senator Michener of Polk county died recently at the age of 70. He was one of the best known men in the county.

Scarlet fever has broken out at Gibson and a number of cases are under quarantine.

Friends of Senator Burkett in many localities are holding meetings in his favor as his own successor in the senate for another six years.

Many Nebraska farmers, having obtained a competence by tilling the soil, are moving to towns to spend the evening of their days.

In the district court of Dodge county Charles Nordveich pleaded guilty to forging a check for \$10.50 and was given fifteen months in the penitentiary.

The largest stock sale ever held in Buffalo county took place last week at the farm of E. H. Andrews. The total sales amounted to little less than \$20,000. Fifty head of hogs averaged \$74.50 each. The price for a single hog was \$210.

There has been considerable dispute as to who was the first white child born in Washington county. Grandma Francis, widow of the late Samuel A. Francis, who is still a resident of Arlington, claims that her daughter, Mattie Francis, has the honor of being born October 2, 1855, at Fontanelle. The same night a daughter was also born to Mr. and Mrs. William Davis, also of Fontanelle, and both were presented with town lots by the townsite company of the then prosperous city of Fontanelle.

W. O. Eldridge, representing the Department of Agriculture, stopped in Grand Island between trains and took some data from the secretary of the Commercial club, with the view of reporting an estimate on the cost of building some permanent road. As soon as sufficient data are at hand the purpose of the club is, through a committee already appointed, to take the matter up with the county board.

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Kelly, pioneers of Cambridge, celebrated their fifty-fifth wedding anniversary. This was one of the most unique events of the season, at which all their sons and daughters and grandchildren were present.

Preparations are being made for the entertainment of the State Chess and Checker association, which will hold their annual meeting in Hastings February 8.

From Portland, Ore., comes the information that Mrs. Ebbie Northcutt has brought suit for a divorce from her husband. They were former residents of Nebraska City.

The First National bank building at Columbus is to be remodeled at a cost of \$10,000.

A new court house for Custer county will take the place of the burned structure.

Le Roy Erismann, who resides five miles northwest of Auburn, lost his residence and nearly all the contents by fire.

The state railway commission will recommend to the next legislature the enactment of a law by which it will be necessary for railroads to publish in advance contemplated changes on their time tables.

EXTRA SESSION OFF

GOVERNOR WILL NOT CALL LEGISLATORS TOGETHER.

MATTER DEFINITELY DECIDED

Thinks Situation Does Not Warrant Such Action.—Other Matters at the State Capital.

Gov. Shallenberger has decided not to call an extra session of the Nebraska legislature. He does not think the situation at present such as contemplated by the constitution as warrant for so doing. He says the bank guaranty bill has been enjoined by the federal court, which defies to the state the right to determine the terms under which persons may engage in the banking business, and the authority of the state to levy a tax to protect the depositor as an exercise of the police power.

Until an opinion is rendered upon these points by the supreme court of the United States any action by the legislature to carry out the people's will for providing safer bank laws must wait upon the action of the supreme federal authority. The Oklahoma banking law is now before the supreme court of the United States and a decision as to its constitutionality will probably be rendered in a short time. A finding upon the vital points in that case may also settle the matter as to the validity of the Nebraska statute, or so clarify the situation as to enable the legislature to frame a satisfactory guaranty law, founded upon the opinion of the highest court. Should such a situation occur and the conditions permit of the framing of a law in conformity with the court's decision and satisfactory to the people of Nebraska, the governor would not hesitate to call an extra session to pass such a statute and such other laws as deemed for the best interests of the people of the state.

The governor said he found a strong sentiment in the east for a postal savings bank law, and that the prospects were that this congress would enact such a measure. A postal savings bank law will inevitably drain the money of the western states to the great financial centers of the east, he was convinced that a guaranty of deposits law that would keep the money of Nebraska in our own state, provide equal security to that afforded by a postal bank law and keep Nebraska money available for Nebraska business men was a consummation very much to be desired.

The indorsement of the income tax amendment by Nebraska and other legislation of importance is not of such vital interest at this time that it cannot wait for action either by the next regular session or at an extra session to be convened should future developments, as indicated above, warrant the assembling of the legislature in extra session.

To Increase Rates.

The Douglas County Telephone company operating at Valley, Waterloo and Elkhorn, has filed a modified petition, asking the State Railway commission to increase rates. The proposed increases are as follows: Independent party line, from \$1.50 to \$1.75 for business, and from \$1 to \$1.25 for residence; farm line, \$1 to \$1.25, providing that if the charges are not paid six months in advance an additional charge of 25 cents shall be made. Hearing on this application has been set for February 15.

Wants Free Delivery.

Citizens of North Platte have informally requested the State Railway commission to issue an order to the Pacific Express company to install a free delivery for express packages in that city.

Burlington Admits Liability.

Six thousand three hundred dollars is the judgment which the Burlington road confessed in the Lancaster district court in the case of Mrs. Elsie Stafford, administratrix, against the railway. Mrs. Stafford brought suit against the Burlington for the death of her husband, a switchman.

Railroad Hearing at Hastings.

The hearing of the complaint against the Burlington for not giving adequate train service between Red Cloud and Hastings will be held at Hastings February 9. One of the commissioners will go to Hastings to take the testimony.

New N. N. G. Company.

Adjutant General Hartigan went to Blair to muster in a company of the National Guard recently organized there. The company numbers sixty men and it was recruited by Postmaster Cook.

Mooted Criminal Point.

A legal question shortly to be tried out in Adams county is of considerable interest to Attorney General Thompson. It is whether a boy paroled from the industrial school at Kearney and arrested for a crime may be sent to the penitentiary under the new change or must be returned to the industrial school to complete the sentence there. Attorney General Thompson is of the opinion the industrial school should be able to take the boy back on the original sentence.

NEBRASKA HAPPENINGS.

State News and Notes in Condensed Form.

N. Thompson of Odell purchased the W. H. Patmore farm of twenty acres east of Beatrice, consideration \$4,100.

J. B. Dinsmore, for many years engaged in the banking business at Sutton, has gone to Cuba for a stay of one month.

Rev. Joseph Ress, rector of the Catholic church at Steinauer, has suffered a nervous collapse and has gone to a sanitarium at Milwaukee, Wis., for treatment.

Five children of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Bowen of Beaver City were poisoned by ptomaine from a can of sardines. They all recovered, but were critically ill for several hours.

Indications have it that the people of Crab Orchard will not be long in darkness. The old electric lighting company is dismantling its plant there. A new company will be formed and new equipment purchased.

While operating a power meat chopper at a meat market, Jacob Komsak of St. Paul, an experienced operator of the machine had three large fingers of his right hand cut off and the small finger badly bruised.

The village of Lewiston has been incorporated. The following were appointed as village trustees by the county commissioners: Frank L. Bratton, August Liebrock, William Dillon, Clyde Richardson and Luke Lytle.

Henry F. Cady, pioneer Nebraskan, ex-state senator, and one of the best known lumber dealers in the state, died at his home, 205 South Thirty-sixth street in Omaha, at 8 o'clock on Monday morning. Mr. Cady has been ill for about six weeks, but his death came unexpectedly.

David City was visited recently by a couple of solicitors who claimed to represent an insurance company. As in other localities they did not succeed in securing the desired number of applications to form a club and left the town with the fees already collected.

The First National bank of Columbus has submitted plans for the remodeling of its building at a cost of approximately \$10,000. When the work is completed the building will rank well with any in the city. The work will be carried on without discommoding the bank.

John F. Oberg, a farmer residing twelve miles east of Fremont and two miles northwest of Valley, committed suicide at 4:30 Sunday afternoon, by drinking carbolic acid in the presence of his family. It is said he was intoxicated at the time. The man died before a physician could reach him.

Preparations are being made to hold the Burt county farmers' institute at Oakland January 30 and February 1. Andrew Young, the secretary of the county organization, is arranging to have the good roads question made one of the leading topics of the meeting.

Levi Hartman of Vesta precinct, Johnson county, who has farmed the same place for over thirty years, has obtained a competency and will retire. He is undecided whether to move his family to Tecumseh, Beatrice or Lincoln. He has been looking Lincoln over the past week, but did not buy a residence property there.

LeRoy Erismann, who resides five miles northwest of Auburn, lost his residence and nearly all the contents by fire Sunday. It is not positively known how the fire caught, but probably from some clothing that was being dried near the stove. The loss is estimated at \$2,500, with insurance of about one-half that amount.

Two young men, Marcus R. Humphrey and Gilmore C. Nye, both residents of Pawnee City, started on Saturday morning to walk to San Francisco, Cal., via Denver, Phoenix, Los Angeles, then up the coast to San Francisco. They started without a cent and no baggage. They wore white hats, tan walking shoes and serge coats.

The stockholders of the Odell Farmers' Elevator company held their annual meeting Saturday afternoon, electing officers and disposing of other business. During the past year the company purchased 167,237 bushels of grain for which it paid out \$125,240. A dividend of six per cent was declared. T. W. Stanoscek was elected president, F. Bures, vice president; A. D. Burkett, secretary and J. E. Lomker, treasurer of the company.

The severe winter and much snow has not had much effect on Polk county real estate. At an auction of stock and farm implements held by A. P. Linder one mile from Stromsburg, he offered his 160 acre farm for sale, which was bought by Louis Beckman, living west of town, for \$113 per acre. There was another half section sold near Polk without any improvements for \$32,000. Land is being listed at from \$125 to \$150 per acre. Some of this same land could have been bought ten years ago for from \$35 to \$50 per acre.

T. R. Crunes, a resident of Amherst committed suicide Friday morning by hanging himself. He had secured a short string of wire and fastening one end of it to the top of a fence post he tied the other about his neck. At first he had tried to use a pair of suspenders, but these broke when he threw his weight on them. The body was afterwards found by some of his neighbors. Crunes was forty-five years old and is said to have brooded over the sale of a farm. Friends believe he was temporarily insane at the time. He is also said to have been drinking heavily the last few days. A brother is in the asylum for the insane.