

# NEWSNOTES CONDENSED

A Boiling Down of the More Important Events Here and There

## Foreign.

Juan Vicente Gomez was elected constitutional president of Venezuela for a term of four years by congress. All political prisoners have been released in honor of the event.

The body of Bjornstjerne Bjornson, the Norwegian writer, was placed aboard a special car at Paris for transportation to Copenhagen. Prior to the departure of the train the Scandinavian colony passed in front of the coffin and the Norwegian minister delivered an oration.

The Naples police learned that Estelle Reid, the American girl who was murdered and her body thrown into the bay of Naples, had uncles living near Los Angeles and San Francisco. These uncles, the police say, managed her financial affairs and allowed her \$800 a month. The Italian embassy at Washington has been requested to forward to the local authorities all the information possible regarding the girl. Miss Reid was studying sculpture under Professor Lettler, who saw her the day before her disappearance. She was then intending to go to Paris. The murder is as much a mystery as when the body was found.

Graham White, the English aviator who started on a biplane flight from Wormwood Scrubs, London, for Manchester, in an attempt to win the prize of \$50,000 offered by a London morning newspaper, had accomplished more than half of the journey when compelled to descend on account of the intense cold.

Madam Tetrazzini has been attacked with sudden illness and she was able to appear, as billed in "La Traviata," at the opening of the opera season at the Covent Garden theater in London.

## General.

The national party prohibition convention may be held in Des Moines in 1912.

Gov. Hughes of New York has been tendered and accepted appointment as an associate justice of the supreme court of the United States.

Former Judge S. F. Bailett, for twenty years a resident of Des Moines, died in Tonapah, Nev., at the age of 73 years.

Senator Beveridge of Indiana is receiving congratulations upon the arrival of an infant daughter at his home in Washington.

Much of the \$100,000 left by the late Thomas F. Walsh to be distributed by his wife will go to the relatives and old-time friends in Colorado.

John W. Kern was endorsed for the senate by the Indiana state democratic convention.

The supreme court of Missouri denied a motion for a rehearing of R. J. House of the Kansas City Board of Trade, who was arrested on a charge of violating the law requiring grain to be sold by actual weight.

The Kansas apple crop has been greatly damaged by cold weather.

No amendments of any character were placed on the postoffice appropriation bill by the senate committee which ordered the bills reported.

Thomas Bailey, said by the police to be one of the three safe blowers who robbed the National Bank of Chicago, Ill., of \$9,000 on February 15, was arrested in Chicago.

Harry K. Thaw, who killed Stanford White, must remain in the Matteawan insane asylum. The appellate division of the supreme court in Brooklyn handed down a decision to the effect that Matteawan is the proper place for Thaw.

Within three hours after the subscription books had been opened in San Francisco at the local stock exchange, \$4,089,000 of the stock of the Panama-Pacific International exposition to be held in San Francisco in 1915 was subscribed.

Congress will adjourn before the middle of June and possibly by June 1, it is believed by President Taft and the administration leaders. And before that time it is expected most of the so-called administration measures now before congress will have been passed, or, if not, they would be in such shape that they can be enacted into law soon after congress meets in December.

A large increase in the number of casualties on American railroads is shown by the interstate commerce commission report.

Unqualified endorsement was accorded the Taft administration by the republican state central committee of Maryland.

Mr. Bryan, it is stated, will help in the Missouri prohibition campaign when it is fully on.

San Antonio secret service agents have in their possession a number of counterfeit United States \$5 gold pieces believed to have been made in Mexico.

Dr. Eilhu B. Thomas, 83 years old, father of Augustus Thomas, the playwright, died at his home at St. Louis.

Commander Robert E. Peary sailed from New York for a lecture tour of England and the continent. He is accompanied by Mrs. Peary and their two children and by Captain Robert A. Bartlett.

In the death of Bjornstjerne Bjornson Norway has lost her greatest distinctive Norwegian writer.

Mr. Roosevelt was praised in the superlative by heads of the municipality of Paris.

In the next general election Nebraska will vote upon an amendment to the present voting laws.

Senator Hale denied that fear of defeat prompted his announcement of coming retirement from the senate.

More than 5,000 men who receive pensions for service during the civil war live outside of the United States.

A question before the Nebraska supreme court is, has a city or town the right to hay cut by a citizen from its streets.

Indiana democrats, in state convention, endorsed John W. Kern for United States senator.

The prohibition county convention in Nashville endorsed William J. Bryan of Nebraska for president, despite the fact that some of the delegates were skeptical as to whether he would consent to run under their banner.

The stockholders of the Chesapeake & Ohio, in a special session at Richmond, Va., authorized an increase of capital stock to \$100,000,000.

Rev. Henry H. Jessup, a widely known missionary and author, died at Beirut, Syria.

Three more bodies were taken from the mines at Mulga, Alabama, making a total of thirty-nine recovered. It is now believed by the inspectors that there are no more bodies in the mine.

The Burlington sustained a loss estimated at \$100,000 in a fire in the Lincoln yards at Lincoln, Nebr.

Official announcement was made at Baltimore of the authorization of a mortgage on the Baltimore & Ohio Chicago terminal property to secure an issue of \$50,000,000 of 50-year 4 1/2 per cent bonds.

There was general expression of regret all over the country over the death of Mark Twain.

Senator McCumber of North Dakota, though still very ill, will, it is said recover.

The revenue cutter, Tahoma sailed from Seattle for Alaska carrying the Portland Mazama expedition of four men who will attempt the ascent of Mount McKinley from the seaward side.

Henry Willington Smith, millionaire paper manufacturer of Lee, Mass., was crushed to death in a folding bed.

The Erie railway wage difficulties with its firemen has been adjusted. The men get an advance of 8 per cent.

The president will name a New York man for the supreme bench to succeed Julius Brewer.

Congressman Pollard of Nebraska says he will not be a candidate for reelection.

## Washington.

A daughter was born to Senator and Mrs. Beveridge. This is the second birth in the senator's family since his second marriage. The first child is a son, 20 months old.

President Taft sent to the senate the nomination of Carl Rasch of Montana to be United States district judge in that state. Mr. Rasch has been acting as assistant counsel for Secretary of the Interior Ballinger before the Ballinger-Pinchot investigation committee.

Three young West Point cadets will have a fair chance to break PeDESTRIAN Weston's record, as the penalty for hazing fourth-class men, under the terms of an order issued by the superintendent of the military academy. Had it not been for the special act of congress, authorizing the secretary of war to dispose of their cases in accordance with the new regulations, they would have been expelled from the academy.

Why pork chops and pork roasts cost more now than two, three and four years ago was the subject of expert testimony given in the senate food probe by Peter W. Peterson of Clay county, South Dakota. Mr. Peterson said he sold hogs at prices ranging from \$4.50 a hundred pounds in 1909 to \$6.53 in 1909. The price then jumped to \$9.30 as the average from January 1 to this week.

President Taft informed Senators Brown and Burkett that he would have to defer his decision about accepting their invitation to visit the Commercial club at Lincoln some time between October 6 and 11.

## Personal.

A French aviator gave an exhibition in a gale to please Mr. Roosevelt.

An expert from Washington is to demonstrate a supposed hog cholera cure in Nebraska.

The Bryan boom is creating considerable worry among other members of the democratic party.

Senator Burkett celebrated Arbor day in the United States senate by introducing a bill providing for the establishment at Nebraska City of a national school of forestry.

W. J. Bryan criticised the appointment of Governor Hughes.

In a speech at St. Louis Vice President Sherman defended the tariff law.

A resolution favoring the election of United States senators by popular vote was passed by the house of representatives of Massachusetts by a vote of 109 to 98.

Senator Burkett introduced a bill to establish a school of forestry at Nebraska City.

Tom Taggart claims converts to his opposition to a convention nomi-

# CONGRESS IS SLOW

ADMINISTRATION MEASURES MAKE LITTLE PROGRESS.

# MEMBERS ANXIOUS TO LEAVE

Apprehension of Congress Quitting Without Passing Measures Desired by President.

Washington.—Administration leaders in congress are beginning to feel a good deal of concern over the chances of putting through the several measures on which President Taft has set his heart. Hot weather already has settled down upon the city and stifling days in the executive halls are sure to create general desire among members of congress to get away.

Many who have hard political battles in prospect even now are making their plans to go to their states or districts. Nearly all of the Taft bills are suspended by more or less uncertain threads. The railroad bill, which is pending in both branches, is not out of danger. The bills were adopted in the senate and house and a number of bills which are almost certain to be adopted in one branch or another, will produce measures so widely different that harmony in conference threatens to be utterly out of the question.

The house has adopted an amendment making provision for ascertaining the physical valuation of railroads, and this is sure to meet with determined opposition in the senate. It is said also that on the final vote the house is likely to strike out the provision for the creation of a commerce court, which feature is certain to be retained by the senate.

By the time the bill reaches conference President Taft will have returned to Washington and it is hoped he may bring the conference together by commanding each side to grant concessions. Nothing but the most determined pressure from the White house, it is admitted, could accomplish a result.

Chairman Mann of the house committee and Chairman Elkins of the senate committee both hope to bring the bills to their final vote this week. There is but little doubt that Mr. Mann will stand, but in the senate there is no way in which debate can be shut off, and it would not be surprising if the bill took ten days or more in this body.

That the administration senators will put the bill through in about the same form in which it now appears on the calendar is indicated by the vote last week on the Cummins amendment relating to traffic agreements.

Supporters of the long and short haul amendment, which was introduced by Senator Dixon, claim they have votes enough to incorporate it in the bill. Party lines will be broken in this amendment, in all probability, and the outcome generally is thought to be uncertain.

## MRS. LEAVITT'S WEDDING.

Guests Will Be Limited to Family and a Dozen Intimate Friends.

Lincoln.—Mrs. Ruth Bryan Leavitt reached Lincoln Sunday after an absence of several months spent in Germany. She was preceded by Lieutenant Reginald Altham Owen, to whom she will be married Tuesday at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Bryan. All the members of the Bryan family are now at Fairview except William J. Bryan, Jr., who was unable to leave his home at Tucson, Ariz. The wedding will be a very quiet affair, with guests limited to the family and less than a dozen intimate friends.

## A MAY DAY STRIKE.

Missouri Pacific Workmen Likely to Go Out.

Sedalia, Mo.—All the machinists in the employ of the Missouri-Pacific railroad will go on strike Monday morning at 10 o'clock on an issue involving a wage increase of 1 cent an hour, unless there is an unexpected turn in the situation. This is the information received at the shops here, the largest on the Missouri Pacific system. The men demand 40 cents an hour, an increase of 4 cents in the present scale.

## To Buy Twain Home.

New York.—Sentiment among the rich men in the east who were friends of the late Samuel L. Clemens, to furnish the bulk of the funds necessary to purchase the humorist's old home in Missouri, rehabilitating it into a museum, will soon take tangible form.

## Want Mr. Bryan's Help.

Indianapolis.—Chairman Jackson of the democratic state central committee will write to William Jennings Bryan, asking him what time he can devote to the Indiana campaign and if it will be possible for him to stay in the state one month.

## Famous Sculptor Dead.

New York.—John Quincy Adams Ward, one of America's greatest sculptors, died Sunday at his home here in his eightieth year. He had been ill for three months.

## NEBRASKA IN BRIEF.

News Notes of Interest From Various Parts of State.

A freight train, No. 29, from Plattsmouth to Lincoln, ran over and killed the 10-year-old son of C. E. Schurman, the foreman of the extra bridge gang at Cedar creek.

At a special election held in Columbus—city and township—to vote bonds to build a new steel bridge across the Platte, the provision was carried almost unanimously.

Leman Weddle, who lives three miles west of Stella, has a pig 3 weeks old that has five well developed ears. Two of the extra ears are growing from the regular ears, and the other one is near one of the others. The pig is in a healthy condition.

John Just, and C. P. Johnson, of Battle Creek were before the Commission on Dipomania and were adjudged fit subjects for detention and treatment, and were taken to Lincoln.

Rev. Lou Wallace Cade has accepted a call to the pastorate of the First Presbyterian church in Plattsmouth to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Rev. J. H. Salisbury, now of Auburn.

The body of Mrs. D. C. Wallace, who died in Los Angeles, arrived in Tekamah for interment in Tekamah cemetery. Mrs. Wallace was for many years a resident of Tekamah and removed to California, but two years ago.

A Washington dispatch says: Secretary Wilson today detailed an expert from the department of agriculture to make experiments in Nebraska with a view to preventing and curing hog cholera. The bureau of animal industry has been working for nearly ten years in an effort to discover a serum which would check the spread of this disease, and it is now believed that they have been successful, and Secretary Wilson has expressed his willingness to send a veterinary surgeon to Nebraska.

As a result of the vote of the citizens of Fairbury in a special election that city will construct a water works system and also erect an electric light plant, both of which will be municipally owned.

The printed plans and specifications of the new Odd Fellows' home for which contract has been let are on exhibition in York. It promises to be one of the largest, best built, most commodious and sanitary fireproof buildings of its kind in the west. The Odd Fellows will expend the coming year nearly \$90,000 in improvements.

Mrs. A. Marquardt, a widow living about five and a half miles southwest of Pilger, committed suicide by hanging in a small grove near her house. She had been ill for some years and it is supposed that temporary aberration was caused by her continued illness.

Anna Zook, a German woman whose home is in the south part of York county, filed complaint against Joseph Weiss for attempt to kill. Last summer Weiss went to Germany and induced Anna Zook to come to America with him under promise of marriage, but has refused to carry out the marriage ceremony.

The Burlington has been granted authority to put into effect a rule against receiving sheep for shipment until twenty-four hours after they have been dipped. Dipping seems to make the sheep and render them more liable to injury when shipped. The rule is adopted, it is said, for the mutual protection of the shipper and the railroad.

Alex Lyon, a real estate dealer, of Central City, was killed when his auto skidded over an embankment about seven miles east of town in Hamilton county and turned over in a ditch. There was about a foot and a half of water and soft mud in the ditch and Lyon was pinned down by the steering wheel and death resulted apparently from drowning. The dead man was a prominent farmer.

A hen belonging to Mrs. H. T. Wilson, who lives four miles north of town, laid an egg weighing four ounces. The egg was eight inches in circumference and inside the shell of the large egg was another egg perfect in every way.

The body of Porter Bidwell, a man 72 years old, who has lived alone in a cottage near Watson's ranch for several years, was found in a path near the cottage where it is evident that he fell and died alone. His daughter, Mrs. N. B. Hiselet, is a resident of Kearney.

Tilton Webber of Randolph, who had been at Osmond on business, on returning home, lost control of his automobile and paid the penalty with his life. The automobile is a complete wreck.

The grand lodge of Eagles are making elaborate preparations for the next grand lodge session at Chadron.

The State Railway commission telegraphed both President Taft and Governor Hughes its congratulations over the appointment of Governor Hughes to the supreme bench of the United States.

Engineer McLaughlin has arrived in Superior from Kansas City to work on the \$1,000,000 cement plant, claimed to be the largest single industry of the state outside of Omaha.

Victor L. Fried, county treasurer of Burt county, died at his home in Oakland after an illness of two weeks of muscular paralysis at the age of 48 years.

A disastrous pasture fire occurred at the old Buckeye ranch and some adjoining farms about twelve miles southeast of Broken Bow. About 3,000 acres of fine pasture land and many fence posts were destroyed.

# A SPECIAL SESSION

MR. BRYAN SEES WORK FOR NEBRASKA LEGISLATORS.

# INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM

Letter to Democratic Members Asking Their Views in Reference to the Proposed Extra Session.

Hon. W. J. Bryan has mailed a letter to all democratic members of the last legislature asking them if they will support an initiative and referendum resolution for the submission of a constitutional amendment to that effect at the general election this fall.

He has also asked J. H. Mockett, Jr., president of the Nebraska Direct Legislation league to get a poll of the republican members. The letter for most part follows:

My Dear Sir: The failure of the legislature to submit the initiative and referendum at its regular session has brought county option—which is direct legislation—into the present campaign, and this question is drawing attention from national issues. It is unfortunate that this should be the case at this time when six congressmen are to be elected, and when a senator is to be chosen by the next legislature.

Unless the mistake made by the legislature can be remedied, our party will be confronted by a very serious situation. It might promise in its platform to submit the initiative and referendum at the next session, but it could hardly expect to be trusted to submit the measure next time if with a democratic governor, senate and house it is unable to do so now, unless it declares its independence of special interests.

In my opinion the best way to meet the situation is by the submission of the initiative and referendum by a called session of the legislature and I have no doubt that Governor Shallenberger will call such a special session if assured that a majority of both houses will support the initiative and referendum resolution, which will give to the people the legislative machinery through which they could legislate upon any question in which they are interested. A called session would also doubtless ratify the income tax amendment.

If it is not possible to submit the initiative and referendum for ratification at the election this fall, nothing is left for our party to do but to declare for the initiative and referendum and county option in its state platform this summer. In order to ascertain whether an initiative and referendum resolution would pass in case of a special session being called, I take the liberty of submitting the question to you and to the other democratic members of the senate and house. Please wire me at once, at my expense, whether you would be willing to support such a resolution at a special session.

In a written statement regarding his letter to democratic members, Mr. Bryan says: "I hope that the democratic and republican papers that favor the initiative and referendum will take the matter up and urge the passage of the initiative and referendum resolution. It might be well for the committeemen and all others, both democrats and republicans, who are interested in the present campaign, to see these senators and members who didn't support the measure at the last session and point out to them the importance of the special session."

## Hughes is Appreciative.

In reply to its telegram of congratulations over his appointment as a member of the United States supreme court, the State Railway commission has received the following message from Governor Hughes:

Albany, N. Y., April 27.—Nebraska State Railway Commission, Lincoln, Neb.: "I cordially appreciate your telegram."  
"CHARLES E. HUGHES."

## Ruling on Bleached Flour.

State Food Commissioner S. L. Mains has returned from Portland, Ore., and Boise City, Idaho. At the latter place western food commissioners met and asked for a speedy hearing of the suits in federal court to test the ruling of the national food department against bleached flour.

## Must Quit Business.

Clubs that do business merely to serve drinks to members were warned that they must quit business in Lincoln. The Phoenix club and the Eagles were raided, a few arrests made and the booze found on the premises was hauled to the station.

## Can Increase Stock.

The railway commission gave permission to the Grand Island Telephone company to increase its capital stock from \$75,000 to \$100,000. The proceeds from the sale of the stock will be used for improvements and extensions.

Lincoln, Neb.—Ernest M. Pollard of Nebraska will not be a candidate for congress in the First district. He will issue a statement to this effect and will thank his friends for the favors shown him in the past.

## STATE FIRE WARDEN

Seeks to Have Instruction in the Schools.

A. V. Johnson, state fire warden, has written a letter to State Superintendent Bishop suggesting that a day or an hour of some day each month be set aside for the teachers to instruct their pupils about how to prevent fires and what to do in some emergencies. It is Mr. Johnson's idea that if the children are taught the dangerous use of gasoline and kerosene and what to do in case of explosion, as well as how to prevent fires by keeping refuse burned and the danger of permitting old papers to be stacked in an attic or closet that the lessons now learned will remain with them always.

Mr. Johnson gave out the following statement:

The Nebraska Fire commission, whose business it is to do everything possible for the prevention of fire waste desires to direct public attention to the necessity of a general cleanup during the spring time. Debris that has accumulated during the winter months should be thoroughly cleared away. The reasons for this are obvious, one which might be mentioned is that this debris is often responsible for spontaneous combustion, which, more prevalent during the hot summer months than during the colder period, is generally regarded by experienced fire fighters as one of the chief causes of what are called "unknown fires."

Too often houses are built without giving proper consideration to attic ventilation; the hot summer sun beats on the roof, the heat in the attic becomes intense and with the attic filled with rubbish, dust, oily rags, highly varnished pieces of furniture or other accumulations spontaneous combustion is a natural result.

Closets are often used for storing away greasy overalls, old clothes and oily rags, such closets should be thoroughly cleaned and this is particularly true of the closet under the stairway, which is too often permitted to become a fire trap immediately under the only way of escape from the upper stories of the building.

This is the season for varnishing and painting, hence old rags used for wiping greasy wood and varnished surfaces should be burned; if they must be saved for future use they should be kept in an iron receptacle substantially covered and set away from the wood buildings.

Paint and oily rags, varnish and waste, used to wipe machinery are particularly liable to spontaneous combustion.

We desire to suggest that when people are removing their stoves for the summer months, if they would be careful to see that the hole in the chimney was stopped with a metal thimble and not with paper or rags it would prevent a great many fires.

## New Fraternal Organization.

The Clansmen of America, of Omaha, a new fraternal organization, has been licensed to do business in this state. The rates of the new company are not up to the fraternal congress standard and consequently did not meet with the approval of the auditor. Nevertheless, under the insurance law a license must be issued when 250 applications have been signed, no matter what the rates may be.

## Money for Soldiers' Homes.

Governor Shallenberger received from the government warrants for \$9,175 for the use of the two soldiers' homes. The money is apportioned at the rate of \$100 for each member of the home. At Grand Island there are 255 members and at Milford 112.

## Missouri Pacific Loses.

Maggie Wollenburg, who won a damage suit against the Missouri Pacific in the district court of Douglas county, after having been tossed some sixty-five feet by an engine, won out also in the supreme court.

## Cost of Life Insurance.

Figured on the basis of the vote cast in 1908, every man in Nebraska who has attained his majority spent \$13.70 for life insurance last year. This represents an increase over the preceding year.

## New Lieutenant.

The adjutant general's office has authorized the election of a second lieutenant in the Gatling gun section at Beatrice, that section having recently increased its strength to thirty men.

## Go to Fort Riley.

There will be no state camp for the Nebraska national guard this year, excepting the rifle teams. All the rest of the guard will be taken to Fort Riley. Adjutant General Hartigan has refigured the expense of taking the guard, amounting in all to about 1,100 men, and believes that he can send all of the boys to Fort Riley on the \$20,000 that is available for the purpose. Some of the companies may, however, be left behind unless they are able to show a strength of at least forty-three men.

## Not Like Sample.

Superintendent Percival of the Norfolk asylum has notified the state board of public lands and buildings that the coffee delivered to his institution by the H. P. Lau company does not conform to the sample which was submitted to the board when the contract was let. Dr. Percival sent a sample of the coffee to the board and according to Secretary of State Junkin it is not like the coffee that was bought. The superintendent will be notified to reject the shipment as soon as the board can get together.