

EPITOME OF EVENTS

GENERAL NEWS AND NOTES FRESH FROM THE WIRE.

THE STORY IN A NUTSHELL

Embracing a Condensation of Events in Which Readers Generally Are More or Less Concerned.

Washington. At this writing it looks as if there is no escape from an extra session of congress.

Democrats look for an extra session of congress and are making preparations accordingly.

The text of a new treaty with Japan designed to replace that of 1894, and drawn with the special design of eliminating the restrictions upon immigration contained in the treaty, was laid before the senate by President Taft.

The ocean mail subsidy bill, which already had passed the senate, was ordered favorably reported by the house committee on postoffices by a vote of 7 to 6. It was amended so as to omit trans-Pacific lines, making it apply only to South America.

Only one-quarter of the cargo of supplies to be sent to China on the army transport Buford, for the relief of the famine sufferers, has been received, and the Red Cross has issued an urgent appeal for provisions and money to complete the cargo.

The president sent to the senate the nomination of Cadet Taylor for collector of customs at Omaha upon recommendation of the secretary of the treasury after careful examination into the charges against him by Victor Rosewater of Omaha. The senate may not confirm.

The action of the house in stipulating that the vessels of war authorized in the building program of the navy bill shall be constructed under the eight hour law brought representatives of the ship yards on the Atlantic coast before Secretary Meyer to ascertain the exact extent and meaning of the labor situation.

Representative Alfred F. Dawson of Davenport, Ia., to whom was offered the post of secretary to the president, called on President Taft and told him that he did not care to be considered in connection with that office. Mr. Dawson is to become president of the First National bank of Davenport, with a salary considerably larger than he gets in congress, and he told the president that he preferred to return to Iowa.

General.

Railroads affected by the interstate commerce ruling may carry the case higher.

The ocean mail subsidy bill was ordered favorably reported by a house committee.

Two new battleships and some smaller craft are provided for in the naval appropriation bill.

The French chamber of deputies has ordered the construction of two battleships at private yards.

The national house will finish its work, so as not to be held responsible for an extraordinary session.

The monetary loss to the state of New York from deaths by tuberculosis in 1910 is placed at \$64,000,000.

A bill providing for the gradual abolishment of convict contract labor system in Missouri was passed by the state senate.

There has been much speculation as to what will happen to the Gould group of railroads when the new management takes hold.

Blowing out one side of the building and wrecking the safe, robbers stole between \$4,000 and \$5,000 from the First State bank at Barry, Tex.

The Illinois house committee on elections has reported out the bill granting votes to women without making any recommendation on it.

The government of Hayti has advised the American state department that the revolution in that country is ended and the lives of foreigners are secure.

Biplane of Aviator Purvis, of Chicago, was wrecked and he was slightly injured when he fell 100 feet during an exhibition flight at Baton Rouge, La.

Briefs in the pleas in abatement and the motions to quash the indictment against the meat packers were filed in the United States district court at Chicago.

Fire swept through the business section of Donaldsonville, La., destroying practically all buildings on one side of the main street and attacked residences in outlying sections. The loss is about \$250,000.

President Taft signed an executive order removing the land office from Aberdeen to Timber Lake, S. D.

A. M. Greenfall, son-in-law of Governor General Earl Grey, says Canada has a good bargain in the reciprocity agreement.

The Colorado senate adopted a resolution requesting President Taft to call an extra session to correct "the known inequalities" of the tariff law.

Mrs. Caroline Durkee, 88 years old, widow of Charles Durkee, third United States senator from Wisconsin, and formerly territorial governor of Utah, died at Kenosha, Wis.

The senate added \$72,000 to the house pension bill.

The senate failed to ratify the new Japanese trade and commerce treaty. Senate and house conferees reached an agreement on the rivers and harbors bill.

A new rule was adopted in the house which stopped the filibuster in short order.

Assurance is given that Mexico will not take snap judgment on alleged American rebel spies.

Senator La Follette wants an investigation of the charge that secrets of the navy have been disclosed.

Convicted officers of the Naval Stores company have been granted a rehearing by the supreme court.

The British army estimates for 1911-12 issued by War Secretary Haldane show a total of \$138,450,000.

The supreme court of the United States ruled that advertising could not be exchanged for transportation.

The commerce commission has ordered a reduction in refrigerating charges on citrus fruits from the west.

Word from New York states that negotiations between the Bell and independent telephone companies have reopened.

St. Louis was selected as the next meeting place of the National Education association, department of superintendents.

The senate committee on foreign relations decided to recommend to the senate the ratification of the new treaty with Japan.

Eight prisoners in the St. Augustine, Fla., jail, Friday overpowered the jailer while he was giving them dinner and escaped.

Rumors of the bubonic plague spreading into the coast cities of Russia caused wheat prices in the Chicago market to go a half cent higher.

Andrew Carnegie has offered to establish a hero fund of \$100,000 in Denmark. The foreign office already has expressed its gratitude for the proposed gift.

The King Lumber company, of Charlottesville, Va., has been awarded the contract for the construction of the public building at Holdrege, Neb., at \$68,325.

The Mark Twain library, built as a memorial to Jean L. Clemens, daughter of the humorist, who was drowned at Stormfield, Dec. 24, 1909, was formally dedicated.

Pleny Stokes, the 20-year-old Texas boy convicted of the murder of Deputy Sheriff Wood, was sentenced to be hanged at the Florence (Arizona) prison on April 26.

The supreme court of the United States granted to Arkansas the privilege of filing a suit against Tennessee to determine the exact boundary between those two states.

After a lively debate, the Iowa house, by a vote of 69 to 33, vote to postpone the attempt to pass the Oregon primary plan bill over the governor's veto until March 8.

The committee having charge of raising the share of Washington, D. C., toward the \$2,500,000 memorial convention hall to George Washington reports \$524,950 already subscribed.

A joint resolution authorizing the secretary of war to receive for instruction at the West Point military academy, two Chinese to be designated by that government, was passed by the house.

Two hundred and forty-eight railway mail clerks at Syracuse, N. Y., took a revolutionary step for government employes by affiliating with the American Federation of Labor, receiving a charter and electing and installing officers.

Marconi's patent covering the tuning of both transmitters and receivers used in wireless telegraphy was sustained by the British courts in a suit brought by the Marconi Wireless Telegraph company of London against the British Radio-Telegraph and Telephone company.

An attempt to obtain consideration for the bill to make Robert E. Peary a rear admiral, failed. The house was considering private bills when Representative Butler of Pennsylvania, proposed that the Peary bill be taken up. Representative Mann blocked the attempt by a parliamentary motion.

Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, in the last of his formal speeches in Chicago before the Union League club banquet, warmly advocated the proposed reciprocity trade agreement with Canada and scored congressmen who, he said, were responsible for hindering the confirmation of the agreement by means of an "annexation scare."

Personal.

Samuel Gompers says a progressive labor party must soon make its advent.

Miss Helen Taft, daughter of the president, attended the last german of the season at Baltimore.

In addresses at Chicago Theodore Roosevelt declared anew his adherence to progressive legislation.

Senator Lorimer made a long speech defending the legality of his election by the Illinois legislature.

Secretary to the President Norton says there is a lot of extravagance and needless waste at Washington.

Radical French deputies severely attacked Premier Briand for alleged laxity in enforcing the religious congregations law.

Crown Prince Frederick William and the crown princess of Germany have abandoned their visit to China.

William Jennings Bryan, of Lincoln, Neb., and A. B. T. Moore, of Cedar Rapids, Ia., have been added to the executive committee of the Presbyterian Brotherhood of America.

A DECISION IS MADE

INITIATIVE MEASUREMENT SETTLED IN LOWER HOUSE.

SENATE ALSO HAS A BILL

Ten Per Cent Petition in Each, With a Five Per Cent Referring All Laws to the People.

The initiative and referendum law went one more step toward its final ratification in the house of representatives on Thursday when the house version of it was recommended for passage. This action was accomplished without a dissenting vote and the house will pass it as it stands within a few days.

The senate bill is now in the hands of the judiciary committee and must be disposed of. An effort will be made to send the house bill to the governor for signing.

When the bills started out they were alike, coming from the same source, Representative Hatfield and the Direct Legislation league, but now that the house has decided to pass a bill that differs in some essential particulars from the senate bill already passed, it becomes a question what form the measure will take as it finally passes.

The house bill differs from the senate bill in two provisions. Both bills have a 10 per cent petition evenly distributed as a basis for initiating legislation and a 5 per cent petition for referring. The house bill has a provision that bills initiating constitutional amendments shall have a 15 per cent petition, a provision lacking in the senate bill. The senate bill has the Skiles amendment, which provides that the majority of votes cast in favor of a bill must be not only a majority of the votes cast upon the measure, but must be also 35 per cent or more of the total number of a similar provision in the bill which it will pass, but the restriction refers only to constitutional amendments.

The house has now the advantage in settling the fate of the two bills, as it has its own bill for passage and the senate bill is in the hands of the house committee on judiciary. This committee can kill the senate bill by indefinite postponement and then try to get its own bill through the upper house.

Stock Yards Bill Put Over.

The settlement of the stock yards fight in the senate, scheduled for Friday, failed to take place, and the bill over which the senate has fought and scrambled went over until this week. At the present time the bill is ready for passage, but the friends of the original measure, Senators Ollis and Kemp and a few of their backers, do not want it passed until it can be materially changed. The Albert amendment passed on Thursday takes away all penalty for violation, which practically nullifies the bill.

Levy for Bridge Building.

The house recommended for passage Cronin's bill to provide for a one-fifth mill levy to support county boards in building bridges. The county boards are allowed to apply to the state board of irrigation for help in building any bridge over a stream more than 175 feet in length.

The Measure Postponed.

Robert Smith, clerk of the district court in Douglas county, appeared before the house committee on judiciary and succeeded in getting postponed indefinitely a bill changing the fee system for court clerks.

The Fremont Normal.

The house finance, ways and means committee returned from Fremont, where it went to investigate the proposal of the proprietors of the Fremont normal to sell that institution to the state. A bill appropriating \$130,000 for this purpose has been introduced. The committee is not ready yet to announce its decision in the matter.

Lincoln Charter Bill.

The Lincoln city charter, S. F. 110, by Selleck and Lancaster, was read a third time and passed without a dissenting vote. The bill makes no radical change in the city government of Lincoln.

Will Draft Roads Bill.

The joint committee on good roads held a brief session at the committee rooms of the Lincoln hotel. The bills pending in both houses were gone over informally and some points of the most important ones were discussed.

Bartos' Bucket Shop Bill.

A sweeping bill against bucket shops, which might make regular board of trade transactions illegal if it passed, was offered in the senate Friday by Senator Bartos of Saline. The principal amendment to the act prohibiting bucket shops, as it now stands on the statute books, is that a definition is given including "an office, store, or board of trade room" wherein commodities, such as stocks, grain or provisions, shall be dealt in without an actual delivery being contemplated and accomplished.

STOCK YARDS BILL

Ollis Measure Debated in the Upper House.

Discussion of the Ollis stock yards bill took up the entire day Tuesday in the senate. Senators Ollis and Hoagland spoke for the bill and Senators Bartos and Morehead against the measure.

Senator Ollis, author of the bill, spoke at length, detailing his reasons for introducing the measure and declaring that the main feature of the bill is to put the stock yards under the control of the state railway commission and to provide for the physical valuation of the yards in South Omaha and elsewhere.

He argued that the stock yards are public service corporations, the same as the railways, and that the state should have the power to regulate them just as the railroads are regulated.

Senator Bartos charged that the Ollis bill is an attempt to destroy the South Omaha stock yards; that such a measure will result in great loss to the yards and that the charges made are not exorbitant in any degree.

Senator Hoagland was in favor of putting the South Omaha yards under the control of the state railway commission so as to eliminate the stock yards "lobby" from politics.

In the discussion Wednesday advocates of the Ollis bill, ostensibly designed for the protection and convenience of the shipper, described the corporation as a cormorant of more or less greedy nature which had long fattened upon the shipper and should now come forward and be "regulated."

Senator Jansen of Gage, who is one of the chief shippers of sheep in this state and probably in control of more sheep than any other man in this part of the country, is against the bill. He asserted that he had never had any complaints to make and was entirely satisfied with the service rendered by the company.

Senator Ollis, who is himself a shipper of cattle and the author of the bill, remarked later in the discussion that it was probably the fact that Senator Jansen is so important a shipper that he had no complaints to make.

Senator Kemp in his argument for the bill sought to establish only the one point that the stock yards are a public service corporation and are for that reason subject to just the same regulatory laws as are applied to railroads and telephone companies. He declared that the attorneys of the companies have in fact defied the legislature to undertake any regulation because the yards are a private enterprise.

Scheele Gets Bouquet. Representative Henry Scheele received the following telegram of congratulation from fifty-one business men of Utica, his home town: "Congratulations on your splendid victory. We believe the man most capable to represent the people of Seward county has won."

Telephone Bill. A bill will shortly be introduced in the legislature allowing the consolidation of telephone companies under supervision of the state railway commission. It is understood that both Bell and independent interests have agreed on this bill.

Students Votes Under Ban. A bill to disfranchise students living in Lincoln and other university towns was recommended for passage by the senate after a hard fight against it.

Goes to General File. The appropriation bill for a \$20,000 memorial army in Otoe county, introduced by Representative Anness and recommended by the committee for indefinite postponement, finally went upon general file after a fight by its author.

The Referendum Bill. Slowly the house is amending the initiative and referendum bill into passable shape. That body celebrated Washington's birthday by spending practically the entire day upon the bill. The net result of the day's work was the adopting of one amendment which recognizes the fact that there is a difference between amending the constitution and adopting statutory legislation. The amendment was introduced by Speaker Kuhl and was the only one of three voted upon during the day to receive the sanction of the house. It provides that a petition of 15 per cent of the legal voters of the state shall be necessary to initiate a constitutional amendment, but leaves the percentage required to initiate a statute at 10. The amendment was carried by a vote of 49 to 41.

County Option Reported. The house heard the report of the committee on miscellaneous subjects and its recommendation to pass the county option bill to third reading without any debate in the committee of the whole was accepted without discussion.

Scheele is Seated. Scheele was seated as a member of the house of representatives by a vote of 54 to 43 and the case of Charles Wertman, the republican contestant, was denied.

House Working Overtime. The house has come to the conclusion that if it is to get through by spring plowing time it will have to work faster. In consequence it has adopted the policy of working an hour and a half longer each day than hitherto.

TO FORTIFY CANAL

HOUSE VOTES FAVORABLY BY LARGE MAJORITY.

THREE MILLIONS FOR WORK

This Action Practically Settles the Question, as the Senate is for Fortification.

Washington. — After nearly five hours of debate, the house of representatives shortly before 10 o'clock Saturday night voted overwhelmingly for fortifying the Panama canal and appropriated \$3,000,000 to begin work, the total cost of which has been estimated at \$12,000,000.

The action of the house practically settles the question of fortification, for the sentiment in the senate is said to be more than two to one in favor of protecting the isthmian waterway by sea-coast batteries.

The real test came on an amendment proposed by Representative Tawney of Minnesota, chairman of the committee on appropriations. The amendment provided that no part of the money set aside for fortifications should be used until the president had attempted to negotiate treaties with all of the leading maritime nations guaranteeing the neutrality and international protection of the canal.

Representative Sherley of Kentucky attacked this amendment and warned members that it had been introduced for the sole purpose of defeating the appropriation. The Tawney amendment was then voted down, 130 to 63. A motion by Representative Keifer of Ohio to strike out all provision for the fortification of the canal was lost by a vote of 135 to 51.

The real interest in the debate seemed to center in the Tawney amendment and the speeches made for and against it by Mr. Tawney and Mr. Sherley.

Mr. Tawney, a stalwart republican looked to the democratic side for sympathy and applause and received both.

Mr. Sherley, one of the democratic leaders of the house, was accorded an ovation by the republican members. When it came to voting the republicans generally supported the fortification of the canal and the democrats opposed it.

The defection of about twenty republicans from the general policy of fortification was offset by a similar defection on the democratic side in favor of fortification.

The fortification of the canal was provided for in the sundry civil bill, but was considered in the house practically as a separate measure and after all of the other features of the sundry civil bill had been disposed of.

Norris Resolution Reported Favorably. Washington.—The house committee on judiciary ordered favorably reported the Norris resolution instructing the attorney general to send to the house any information he has regarding the alleged monopoly of the coffee trade. The committee amended the bill by omitting references to Brazil.

Hears His Funeral Songs. Owosso, Mich.—A phonograph will furnish sacred music at the funeral Monday in the Methodist Episcopal church of William Henry Faxon, a nonagenarian who lived near here. The records to be used were made for the funeral by Mr. Faxon when he was 88 years old.

Americans Meet the Pope. Rome.—The pope Sunday received in audience Monsignor Kennedy, rector of the American college, who has returned from a vacation in the United States. Monsignor Kennedy found the pope looking quite well and bright, notwithstanding his recent attack of influenza.

Railroads Are Retrenching. Chicago.—Following the recent rate decision of the Interstate Commerce commission, E. W. McKenna, vice president of the Chicago, Milwaukee & Puget Sound railroad, ordered that retrenchment be begun and that extension work be "forgotten" for the present.

Out of Senatorial Race. New York.—Edward M. Shepard in a letter to Montgomery Hare announced his retirement from the fight for the United States senatorship to succeed Chauncey M. Depew. He adds that in his opinion William F. Sheehan's retirement is imminent.

Forestry Has Come to Stay. New Haven, Conn.—"The national fight has been won for us, and forestry has come to stay," said National Forester Henry S. Graves in his address at the closing exercises of the Yale forest school.

Roosevelt on Long Trip. New York.—Next Saturday Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, Mrs. Roosevelt and their daughter, Miss Ethel, will start on a long trip throughout the west. The Roosevelts will go by the southern route, among the important stops being Atlanta, New Orleans and thence to southern Arizona. Colonel Roosevelt will deliver a series of lectures at the University of California during their stay of about a month on the coast. Leaving there about April 1, the colonel expects to tour the northwestern states.

NEBRASKA IN BRIEF.

News Notes of Interest from Various Sections.

An airship company has been organized at Fairbury. A party of educators left Nebraska for Mobile and will be away ten days. An epidemic of weddings has struck Holdrege and cupid is working overtime.

The Young Men's Christian association of Fremont is making an effort to clear up an old indebtedness. At the election held in Chappell to vote on waterworks and electric light bonds, the proposition was carried by 75 for, 29 against.

An Austrian employe of the Union Pacific railroad, Nick Rastick, was struck by No. 2 in the yards at Columbus and instantly killed.

William R. Kelly, formerly general solicitor of the Union Pacific road and now holding a like place with the San Pedro road, is critically ill at his home at Los Angeles.

The insurance rate book for Greenwood, just issued by an Omaha firm, shows a big increase in the rates, amounting in most cases to nearly 100 per cent greater than last year's rating.

The preliminary hearing of Willie Moore, charged with arson in connection with the burning of the courthouse at Broken Bow, terminated in county court when Judge Hilcomb bound the defendant over to the next term of the district court.

Rev. R. C. Moodie, pastor of the Congregational church at Wisner, who graduated from Yale with President Taft in 1878, has accepted a call from the church at Blair. He has received an invitation from the president to attend the class reunion at the White house next month.

The board of public lands and buildings has awarded a contract to the Baker Ice Machine company of Omaha to install for \$3,170 an ice and refrigeration machine at the Norfolk asylum. The machine will cool three or four storage rooms and will turn out 1,000 pounds of ice per day.

Acting upon a request of David Fairchild, agricultural explorer of the United States Department of Agriculture, William Ernst of Tecumseh has forwarded to Washington fifteen good ears of his Nebraska White Prize seed corn. The corn is to go to the Transvaal department of agriculture, Pretoria, South Africa, for experimental purposes.

The widely advertised wolf hunt was pulled off in the northwest portion of Rock county. The territory covered was about 175 square miles. Only a few wolves were captured. A feature of the hunt was the number of women present on horseback, some of them riding through canyons, draws and over tracts of country where even old time cowboys hesitated to follow.

Gus Lumbar and Floyd and Fred another were rescued from an island in the Platte river three miles below Fremont by County Attorney Cook, who went to their aid in a boat. The boys were hunting on the island when the ice broke up. They had been there three days when County Attorney Cook, who himself had gone out to hunt ducks, heard their cries for help. The boys had killed rabbits as a means of satisfying their appetites and had not suffered great hardships.

Prof. Wilcox, department of agricultural botany, University of Nebraska, has issued this notice: "The Nebraska Seed Laboratory which was established three years ago in co-operation with the United States Department of Agriculture is maintained for the purpose of making purity and germination tests of samples of seed which may be sent in from seedsmen and farmers of Nebraska and adjacent states. We are preparing to add to the services we can render Nebraska farmers the work of testing seed corn." Address the Nebraska Seed Corn Laboratory, Lincoln, and learn of steps necessary to be taken in the matter.

George E. Townsend, found guilty of conspiracy to defraud the government out of many acres of Deuel county lands, fled a motion for a new trial in the United States district court in Omaha.

At a meeting of the city council of Grand Island steps were taken to pass the necessary ordinance placing the salaries of mayor and council back to \$500 and \$250, where they were before the hard times in 1895 and 1896.

Milwaukee (Wis.) dispatch: Koen regret was felt at the emergency hospital when Mrs. W. T. Scott, with the twins, resumed her stork-interrupted journey to her parents' home in Michigan. At the hospital the twins were big favorites. Last December Mr. and Mrs. Scott left Dawson county, Nebraska, in a prairie schooner. Arrived in Milwaukee, the stock which had been following the little family all the way from the west halted the journey in the Northwestern depot and the hospital ambulance was not speedy enough. One babe was born in the ambulance on the down town streets and the other as the ambulance reached the hospital.

George Townsend, a well known farmer and feeder who lives west of Tecumseh, shipped twelve carloads of fat cattle to Kansas City, the Burlington giving him a special train for the conveyance of the herd. The cattle had been eating \$60 worth of corn per day.

An advertisement has been placed in North Platte papers by the Nebraska Central & Western railway asking for bids on 690,000 cubic yards of earth work out on Broken Bow, Arnold, Gandy and Tryon on the new proposed railroad. It is stated that the grading is to begin in ninety days.