

NEWS BRIEFLY TOLD

INTELLIGENCE HERE GATHERED COVERS WIDE AREA.

GREATER OR LESSER IMPORT

Includes What is Going On at Washington and in Other Sections of the Country.

Washington.

The name of J. C. Wharton will be sent to the president for postmaster at Omaha.

Representative Sherley (Ky.) before interstate commerce committee urged his bill against patent medicines claiming fraudulent curative properties.

The resolution introduced by Senator Hitchcock (Nebraska) directing the foreign relations committee to report what authority existed for sending American troops into China was agreed to.

There are serious defects in the general mining laws of the United States as applied to Alaska and these defects are becoming more apparent in the opinion of Governor Clark, expressed in his annual report to Secretary of the Interior Fisher.

The Interstate Commerce commission dismissed the complaint of the Fairmont (Neb.) Creamery company against the Burlington. The creamery company complained of a rate of 32 cents per ten gallon can of cream from Concordia, Kas., to Crete, Neb.

The resentment of Colorado citizens' organizations and beet sugar growers at the testimony of three Colorado witnesses before the house sugar investigation committee was shown today when five representative citizens of the state appeared to refute the former testimony.

Andrew Carnegie is having trouble collecting from the government \$28.70 in witness fees for his recent testimony before the house steel trust committee. The notary in New York who witnessed the voucher for Mr. Carnegie failed to affix his seal. Not until this defect is remedied will Uncle Sam give up the money.

General.

Congress this week is giving more attention to the matter of tolls for the Panama canal.

Senator Cummins of Iowa declined to discuss reports that he would be a presidential candidate.

William J. Bryan was honor guest at a banquet given by the Woodrow Wilson club at Tampa, Fla.

Mr. Sulzer of New York is drafting bills for the American embassy buildings at Mexico City, Berns Tokio and Hankow.

The special commission of the Turkish senate has accepted a petition for the dissolution of the Chamber of Deputies.

At St. Joseph, Thomas Marshall, 7 years old, coasted down a steep hill into the side of a street car and was killed.

James Speyer, the banker, has received from the German emperor the decoration of the Red Eagle of the second class.

Tuskegee's annual negro conference adopted the slogan, "Remain on the soil." Booker Washington presided over the conference.

The senate committee favorably reported Gamble bills to open 2,340,880 acres of unallotted Cheyenne River Standing Rock Indian lands in the Dakotas.

Secretary MacVeagh urged an appropriation for printing more currency paper to meet the shortage of small bills and provide "clean money."

John T. Bartenstein, manager of the wholesale department of a local coal company, Memphis, Tenn., was shot and instantly killed by W. T. Avery, formerly a real estate dealer.

In the senate the industrial expositions committee postponed until next Monday the hearing of California on measures for government participation in San Diego and San Francisco exposition in 1915.

Resolutions urging Nebraska's representatives in congress to support any measure to enable the United States bureau of immigration to more practically distribute alien immigrants, were passed by the Commercial club executive committee of Omaha.

Congressman Kinkaid (Neb.) introduced a bill providing for the issuance of land patents, subject to the government lien, to entrymen before the whole required period of residence has been completed. The object of the bill is to afford homesteaders a chance to employ their equity as collateral.

The Rev. R. C. Mellwain, rector emeritus of St. John's Episcopal church at Keokuk, Iowa, and for forty years a pastor, was sued for \$50,000 in a breach of promise action by Mrs. Rosa Hags, 60 years old, now of Tulsa, Okla., but formerly of Keokuk.

The house labor committee approved the bill to create a children's bureau in the Commerce and Labor department.

Alvin W. Kreech, president of the Equitable Trust company, New York, has submitted an offer to purchase all the stock of the Trust company of America at \$375 a share.

James K. Vardaman has been chosen United States senator by the Mississippi legislature.

The New York state convention to elect delegates to the national republican convention will be held in Rochester on April 9.

At Duisburg, Germany, eight ironworkers were killed and two others seriously injured by the bursting of a blast furnace.

The administration building at the Massachusetts leper colony on Penikese Island, at the entrance of Buzzard's bay, was burned.

The democratic iron and steel tariff schedule to amend the Payne-Aldrich law will be placed before the house full ways and means committee.

Shortages aggregating \$9,000 have been found in the accounts of Ward Spellman, teller of the Merchants National bank of Topeka, Kas., who was arrested.

Ambassadors and ministers of the foreign countries represented in Washington were entertained at a dinner at the White House by President and Mrs. Taft.

Congressman Norris (Neb.) proposes to amend his bill for placing the postal department under civil service by adding the postmaster general to those affected.

The republican city committee of St. Louis adopted a highly laudatory resolution endorsing Colonel Theodore Roosevelt for candidacy for the president in 1912.

The Equitable Life Assurance company has purchased the \$2,518 mortgage on the home of the late battalion Chief William J. Walsh and presented it to his widow.

The will of Mme. Caroline Leroy Bonaparte, widow of Jerome Napoleon Bonaparte, grand nephew of Emperor Napoleon, disposes of an estate valued at \$600,000.

The Henry bill for changing the date of inauguration and assembling of congress was favorably reported by the house judiciary committee, with prospect of early debate.

Fire destroyed the four-story building occupied by the St. Louis Bag and Burlap company, St. Louis, causing a loss of \$50,000. Adjoining buildings were damaged by water.

Armour and company's annual statement gives the net earnings for the year ending November 4, 1911, as \$2,519,053, or about 2 1/2 per cent on the net capital investment which is listed as \$94,493,366.

Secretary Meyer before the Interstate Commerce commission advocated government construction of twenty-two supply vessels for the Panama canal, through which the fleet will be sent regularly as a part of the drill exercises.

Contracts for the construction of two 27,000 ton superdreadnaughts, authorized at the last session of congress, will be awarded to the New York Ship Building company of Camden, N. J., and the Fore River Ship Building company of Quincy, Mass.

The movement for a fitting celebration in 1913 of the fiftieth anniversary of the battle of Gettysburg took definite form when the Pennsylvania commission having the matter in charge appeared before the joint congressional committee and made public its plans.

The kaiser's third son, Prince Adalbert, is to visit the United States some time this year. He was born July 14, 1884, and is unmarried. The prince probably will follow in the footsteps of his uncle, Prince Henry of Prussia, as commander-in-chief of the imperial fleet.

Whether Senator Albert J. Cummins of Iowa will be a candidate for the presidency will be discussed and probably determined at a meeting of the Iowa delegation in congress which will be called immediately upon the return of Senator Kenyon from Chicago.

An order was issued by the secretary of war detaching Brigadier General William W. Witherspoon from duty in Washington as president of the war college and assigning him to duty as commander in chief of the department of the gulf at Atlanta.

The late Associate Justice John Marshall Harlan of the supreme court of the United States left an estate of \$13,000, of which \$7,200 was in life insurance. Letters of administration were granted to his son, Interstate Commerce Commissioner James Harlan.

An issue of \$20,000,000 5 per cent gold debenture bonds has been sold to a New York banking house, it was announced by the Chicago Rock Island Railroad company. The proceeds will be used for terminal additions and betterments to the system and for refunding purposes.

Cheridah Simpson, the musical comedy singer, filed suit in the superior court at Seattle, Wash., against Frank M. Stetson, a wealthy machinery dealer of Seattle, asking \$35,000 damages for breach of promise. The complaint alleges that Stetson, in 1909, promised to wed the plaintiff, but in July, 1911, married Miss Bessie Franklin.

Bishop Rowe of Alaska before the territories committee recommended a public health commission in Alaska.

Mrs. Roosevelt is in poor health and may take a sea voyage.

Cuban veterans have promised they will stay out of politics.

The Armour Packing company earned \$2,510,000 in 1911.

Rev. P. A. McGovern has been appointed bishop of Cheyenne.

President Taft's name has been signed for the Nebraska primaries.

Samuel Gompers discussed injunctive legislation before the house judiciary committee.

Andrew Carnegie earned \$28.70 witness fees by appearing before the house steel trust committee.

TAXATION THE TALK

COUNTY OFFICIALS HOLD MEETING AND EXCHANGE VIEWS.

DEALING WITH THE PROBLEMS

Attorney General Martin Gives Explanation in Reference to Recently Enacted Taxation Law.

County assessors, several county clerks and a number of county commissioners, totaling upwards of 120, attended a meeting held at the state house at Lincoln at which taxation was the principal theme under discussion. O. E. Bernicker of Seward was chairman of the gathering and R. C. Miller of that city acted as secretary. Problems under the terminal taxation act and the recently enacted taxation law were given a great deal of attention by those present. Attorney General Martin gave an explanation of the latter piece of legislation and answered scores of questions directed at him by the assessors.

The law passed by the legislature providing for the taxation of the mortgage against the holder was subjected to the scrutiny of the meeting and the interesting question of whether or not mortgages held by banks would be held to its provisions, in consideration of the fact that they are already taxed, was brought out.

The railroads' obedience to the taxation laws, particularly the terminal tax, disclosed a multitude of opinions, limited only by the number in attendance at the conference. L. O. Genoways of Aurora declared he had cognizance of an instance where the stockyards facilities of the company were valued at the rate of \$1,300 in their returns to the assessor, while he had absolute evidence that the property in question had cost slightly over \$6,500 in construction. C. A. Just of Boyd county declared that railroads were assessed in his county five times what other folks were, and they never complained, but paid the bill.

Saluting the Flag.

Urging the adoption of the regulation flag salute in the various schools of the state, S. C. Bassett of Gibbon opened the sessions of the county superintendents' gathering in Lincoln with a demonstration of how the ceremony could be most effectively and impressively given by the children of the state. The salute is designed as a part of the school duties and is given the first Monday morning of every month, according to the rule in places where it has been adopted. The salute proper is followed by the reading of the lines, "I pledge allegiance to the flag and the republic for which it stands, one country, one language, one flag." The ceremony concludes with the singing of "America." No action was taken as to the adoption of the matter, county superintendents being free to use their own prerogative in regard to accepting it as a part of their school duties.

National Populist Convention.

There is prospect that the 1912 national convention of the populist party may be held in Lincoln. J. H. Ferris, Joliet, Ill., chairman of the national committee, was in communication with the state committee on the subject and indications are that Lincoln will get the convention.

Lawmakers Invited to Banquet.

Former and present state lawmakers of Nebraska, regardless of present residence, occupation or previous condition of servitude are invited to a big banquet in Lincoln about the middle of February.

Meeting of Superintendents.

Fifty county superintendents of public instruction answered to roll call in the senate chamber at Lincoln when the state convention was called to order. Just half of the number were women, but later a couple more men came in and gave them a majority. It is said there is one more woman than male superintendent in the state.

State Superintendent Upheld.

The attorney general in an opinion given by State Superintendents Delzell, sustains the contention of that official regarding payments to the board of examiners of life certificates for examinations of the state normal schools. Under the law this board is charged with the duty of inspecting and passing on the qualifications of twelve denominational and private schools to ascertain if they are keeping up to the standard set by law which entitles their graduates to life certificates. This standard is supposed to be that of the state's normal schools.

Farmers Not So Rich.

That the farmers of the state are not making 5 per cent on the money they have invested in this state was the assertion made by Prof. C. W. Pugsley of the state agricultural school in an address before the Nebraska Corn Improvers' association, in session in Lincoln. He declared that the farmer, despite the glowing accounts that have been scattered broadcast about him and his fertile acres and untold wealth, is "the laughing stock of the commercial world," because of business methods.

STATE BOND BUYING.

Amount Bought and Sold Under Investment Law.

State Treasurer George has issued a statement which shows the amount of bonds bought and sold by the state during the year 1911. Under the provision of the Potts reinvestment law, which was enacted at the last session of the state legislature, a total of \$1,017,000 of the bonds of other states have been disposed of and all but \$764 have been reinvested in the bonds of various divisions of this state. Not all of the deals have been made through the regular channels and in the way proscribed by law, but several have been negotiated largely through the assistance of former State Treasurer L. G. Brain.

In his report the state treasurer lists only the bonds dealt in under the new law, the money in the permanent school fund which was invested also in the state securities being set out in a separate report to be issued later. On all the bonds of the states sold, the state received a total premium of \$8,418. The average rate of interest on the bonds sold was .0368, while the average rate of interest on bonds bought was .0461, the difference in the rates being \$9,450 per year according to State Treasurer George.

The record of bonds sold out of the \$4,300,000 on hand at the time of the passage of the Potts law is as follows: April 25, 1911—Alabama...\$100,000.00 April 27—California...500,000.00 June 26—Maryland...150,000.00 June 26—North Carolina...50,000.00 August 1—California...25,000.00 September 2—Tennessee...66,000.00 Sept. 2—Massachusetts...25,000.00 October 11—Idaho...6,000.00 January 8, 1912—Tennessee...5,000.00 Total...\$1,017,000.00

Feeble Minded Institute.

J. A. Piper, who visited the feeble minded institute at Beatrice, is confident the epidemic of typhoid fever is at an end but deems it advisable to send no more to that institution until the repairs now being made to the plumbing and heating plant are completed. There are now thirty or more applicants on the waiting list. There are 235 male and 222 female inmates.

Governor Names Delegates.

The governor's office was busy sending out credentials to more than 100 persons named as delegates to the convention of Charities and Corrections, which meets in Omaha January 28 to 30.

Requisition for Morland.

A requisition has been issued on the governor of Iowa at the request of County Attorney English of Douglas county for the return from Sioux City of Bert Morland, wanted on a charge of wife and child abandonment.

Nine Trust Companies.

Up to the present time nine trust companies have filed the necessary papers with the state auditor to entitle them to conduct a trust business in Nebraska.

Life Insurance Question.

Auditor Barton has asked the attorney general to tell him which of two plans is the correct one under the law for fixing the value of policies in stock life insurance companies. There is a difference in method, one favored by the younger companies and the other by those longer in business.

Endowment for Wesleyan.

A conference of Methodist ministers and friends of Wesleyan university was held at the Young Men's Christian association rooms and it was decided to open the campaign for a \$500,000 endowment for the Methodist university. The movement will be launched formally at a banquet at the Auditorium January 23.

Taxes Pay Off Warrants.

Up to this time thirty-two counties have made their January settlements with the state treasurer, the amount of money remitted being \$275,377.50. Enough of this belongs to the general fund to take up the call for \$150,000 of outstanding warrants and as soon as these are disposed of it is hoped enough money will be on hand to take care of the remainder.

Document is Nullified.

The withdrawal of the names of five men who signed a petition asking that the name of Colonel Charles Fanning of Omaha be placed upon the primary ballot as candidate for vice president of the United States, has nullified that document in the opinion of Secretary of State Wait.

Fruit Men Name Officers.

The horticulturists of Nebraska elected the following officers: President, J. J. Brown of Geneva; vice president, C. H. Barnard, Table Rock; second vice president, L. Henderson, Omaha; secretary, Peter Youngers, Geneva; Roy Duncan, Peru, to fill vacancy on board of directors.

Files as Populist.

C. M. Skiles of David City has filed his petition as populist candidate for congress in the Fifth district. He had already filed as a democratic candidate for the same office.

Nebraska Fifth Dairy State.

Only a few years ago Nebraska was rated as the tenth dairy state in the union. Now we hold the distinction as being the fifth dairy state in the union, and some equally conservative authorities place us as the fourth dairy state.

DEAD IN A WRECK

HIGH RAILROAD MEN LOSE THEIR LIVES.

HARRAHAN AMONG THE LOST

Vice President Melcher of the Rock Island Also a Victim of Wreck on Illinois Central.

Centuria, Ill. — Five persons are known to be dead and more than a score injured as a result of a rear end collision at Kinmundy, Ill., at 1 o'clock Monday morning between Seminoles Limited No. 3 and No. 25, also a fast passenger train on the Illinois Central railroad. The private car of F. O. Melcher, second vice president of the Rock Island railroad attached to train No. 25, was telescoped and the four occupants killed.

The dead are: F. O. Melcher, vice president of the Rock Island railroad, Winnetka, Ill. J. T. Harahan, Sr., former president of the Illinois Central, Chicago. E. E. Wright, an attorney of Memphis, Tenn., son of Luke Wright. E. B. Peirce, general solicitor of the Rock Island, Chicago.

Payne, engineer of train No. 3, Champaign, Ill. The fireman of No. 3 escaped by jumping.

The responsibility for the accident has not yet been ascertained.

Chicago.—James T. Harahan was born at Lowell, Mass., in 1843. He worked his way in the railroad world from waterboy to president. His first employment was with the Orange & Alexandria railroad at Alexandria, Va. Subsequently he was with the Nashville & Decatur railroad at Nashville, Tenn., with which he held various positions. He then became superintendent of the Louisiana & Northern railroad with headquarters at New Orleans.

For many years he was general manager of the Illinois Central railroad, being made its president in November, 1906, after the late E. H. Hariman had secured control, succeeding Stayvesant Fish. He was retired by the Illinois Central on a pension a few months ago.

E. B. Pierce was general solicitor of the Rock Island with offices in the Rock Island station in this city.

Frank Otis Melcher, who was born in Maine in 1864 and graduated from Tift's college in 1887, entered the railway service as an assistant in the engineers' corps of the Pittsburgh railway.

IOWA'S HEROINE IS DEAD.

Kate Shelly, Who Saved Northwestern Train, Expires at Home.

Moltingo, Ia.—Miss Catherine Carroll Shelly, known to country over as Kate Shelly, Iowa's heroine, died of Bright's disease at her home here Sunday morning.

Miss Shelly was 47 years old. She became famous the night of July 6, 1881, when she saved a Chicago & Northwestern passenger train from going into Honey creek. The stream had swollen out of its banks and washed away the railroad bridge. She averted disaster.

Frauders Out of Business.

Washington.—Promoters of fraudulent schemes who had obtained \$77,000,000 from the public, were put out of business during the fiscal year ending June 30, last, according to the annual report of Robert S. Sharp, chief inspector of the postoffice department, issued today.

Bombarded by Italians.

Constantinople.—The town of Khan Yunus, on the Syrian coast, has been bombarded by an Italian warship, according to advices reaching here. There is considerable talk of collective intervention by the powers to end the war, but it meets with nothing but derision in Constantinople.

To Build Brigade Post.

Denver, Colo.—W. F. Noot, constructing engineer of the United States army post at Fort Logan, received a telegram from the quartermaster general at Washington, ordering him to sail for Honolulu and there build a brigade post.

Inclined to Name Hook.

Washington.—Among friends of President Taft it was generally understood that the nomination of United States Circuit Judge Hook of Kansas to the supreme court, succeeding the late Justice Harlan, would be sent to the senate during the present week.

Russian Peasants Starving.

London.—The terrible condition prevailing among the peasantry in south-eastern Russia are depicted in a telegram from a doctor in Orenburg, published here.

Seizure of a French Liner.

Paris.—Seizure of the French liner steamer, Manoubia by Italian destroyers has aroused intense feeling in political and commercial circles. Premier Poincare has instructed the French ambassador at Rome to protest against the seizure.

May Be Peace Pacts Soon.

Washington.—The general arbitration treaties with Great Britain and France may receive early ratification, as a plan for amending the resolution of ratification.

NEBRASKA IN BRIEF.

News Notes of Interest from Various Sections.

Congressman Kinkaid has filed as a candidate for renomination.

Fairbury capitalists will rebuild the flouring mill in that city recently destroyed by fire.

Inated for president he would be elected. The money was quickly covered.

The late cold weather was hard on live stock. Some losses are reported here and there by freezing.

The meeting for the organization of the Nebraska Peace society will be held in Lincoln February 5th.

Adolf Heyde, a tailor by trade, hanged himself in the county jail at York. He had been a steady drinker of alcohol.

During 1911 there were 253 farm mortgages filed in Thayer county, amounting to \$854,030.10; there were 260 releases amounting to \$658,297.46.

The Burlington depot at Dalton, eighteen miles north of Sidney, was totally destroyed by fire and the agent barely escaped with his wife and child.

Albert Raabe was adjudged insane by the Board of Insanity Commissioners of Clay county and sent to Hastings. His residence is in South Dakota.

The council of administration of the Grand Army of the Republic held a meeting at Beatrice and decided to hold the state encampment there on May 21, 22 and 23.

S. R. McKelvie of Lincoln, a member of the lower house at the last session of the state legislature, has filed as a candidate for the republican nomination for lieutenant governor.

Although the matter has been kept quiet it has been known for some time that the rifle range for the practice of the Fort Crook troops was to be located at the Plattsmouth.

Congressman George W. Norris of McCook has entered the fight for the United States senatorship with Norris Brown by filing an application for a place on the republican primary ballot.

The name of William H. Taft has been filed with the secretary of state to be placed on the Nebraska primary ballot as a progressive republican candidate for president. The petition bears the names of fifty Omaha voters.

Allie W. Thompson of Humboldt filed a petition in voluntary bankruptcy in the federal court. He has been in the grocery business in the Richardson county town. His total indebtedness is listed at \$2,939 and his assets at \$1,442.

David Graf, a farmer living northeast of Beatrice, slipped and fell while trying to drive some of his hogs into the feed yards and broke his left leg near the hip joint. He lay on the ice and snow for nearly an hour before he was found by his son.

Attorney General Martin intends to appeal from the decision of Judge Troup in Burt county, holding that the Farmers and Merchants' bank of Oakland need not report its average deposits for the years 1909 and 1910 as the basis of a guaranty fund assessment for the time prior to its changing from a state to a national bank.

A list of teachers who have been engaged in their profession for more than twenty years in this state has been prepared by Superintendent Delzell following in the wake of a banquet given to the veterans in Lincoln. The oldest in the profession is J. A. Beattie, who began teaching in 1857 in Ohio and who came to this state in 1863.

Washington dispatch: President Taft today signed an order reserving 14,000 acres of the Niohara reservation, which has been abandoned for military purposes, is open for entry. The preserve may later be used for blson and elk. Congressman Kinkaid at first opposed the proposition, but after submitting the proposal to the people of Valentine, submitted to their wishes and supported the measure.

Frank W. Bartos of Wilber has filed his application to enter the race for the democratic nomination for state senator from Saline county.

The branch house managers, salesmen and department managers of the Dempster Mill Manufacturing company at Beatrice were tendered a banquet at the Paddock hotel by the officers of the company. The annual family gathering of the Dempster selling force is looked forward to with a great deal of pleasure by the men and this year's event eclipsed all former efforts.

Three railroads of the state for the fiscal year of 1911 used over 2,000,000 tons of coal, according to reports filed with the state railway commission. Counting two tons to the wagon load, this means 1,000,000 wagon loads, or twenty tons to the car, a total of 20,000 carloads of coal. Cars of this capacity, strung one after another and meted out in sixty-car trains, would mean a total of 1,066 trains. At the counting of 365 days in the year, it would mean an average daily coal consumption on the three roads of 5,756 tons, or 115 fifty-ton carloads.

Banks, railroads, creameries and implement companies of Omaha and the newspapers of the state have rallied to the support of the publicity bureau of the Omaha Commercial club in its campaign for the testing of seed corn by farmers.

Prof. Pugsley in an address at Lincoln to the corngrowers predicted a famine in really good seed corn and asked all farmers and others who had corn which they really thought would germinate to send it to the state farm authorities that it might be tested and all seed that was really good thus made available to farmers.