

## THE SEMI-WEEKLY TRIBUNE

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NORTH PLATTE, • • NEBRASKA

### EPITOME OF EVENTS

PARAGRAPHS THAT PERTAIN TO MANY SUBJECTS.

### ARE SHORT BUT INTERESTING

Brief Mention of What is Transpiring in Various Sections of Our Own and Foreign Countries.

Congress.

Senator Bacon introduced a resolution for recognition of the republic of China.

The secretary of the navy asked for a \$100,000 appropriation for Pearl Harbor (Hawaii) naval hospital.

Representative Cox of Indiana introduced bills to transfer boots, shoes and all other leather to the free list.

The war department recommended a 1,000-foot channel of approach to Baltimore harbor at a cost of \$305,250.

The senate interstate commerce committee ordered favorable report on appointment of Interstate commerce Commissioner E. E. Clark.

The house republicans of interior department expenditure committee filed a minority report, condemning charges against former Indian Commissioner Valentine.

The house soon after convening at noon on the 2d, adjourned out of respect to the memory of the late Representative John G. McHenry of Pennsylvania.

Chairman Pujo of the house "money trust" investigating committee called a meeting for Saturday to consider the question of getting William Rockefeller before the committee.

In the house Representative Luther introduced a bill for a special commission to investigate the cause of railroad accidents and recommended preventive measures.

The senate adopted Senator Gore's resolution to request the president for any information American officers have obtained about the newly discovered German tuberculosis cure.

### General.

Mrs. Betsey Johnson, aged 104, the oldest resident of Henry county, Illinois, died.

Allies of the Balkan states have delivered to Turkey what may be regarded as an ultimatum.

According to an anti-administration leader, the revolution in Mexico will continue for years.

Seven members of the Osage tribal council have been removed by Secretary of the Interior Fisher.

Governor-Elect Eulzer of New York walked to the state capitol at Albany to take the oath of office.

The resignation of Manuel Calero, Mexican ambassador to the United States, was received at Mexico City.

Stenographers throughout the country observed the centenary of the birth of Isaac Pittman, inventor of modern shorthand.

The Chicago board of trade petitioned the interstate commerce commission to reduce to 7½ cents the rate on grain for export from Omaha.

The emperor of Russia has accepted the resignation of M. Makaroff as minister of the interior. The cause assigned for M. Makaroff's resignation is ill health.

Arthur Fallier, the aviator, exceeded by five seconds the world's record for a duration flight in a biplane carrying five passengers. His time was one hour, six minutes and five seconds.

James Ferriss, editor of the Joliet (Ill.) News, was assaulted by Ben E. Moore, a local garage proprietor, who was recently the subject of an attack in the News. The editor lost several teeth.

Cabled instructions from the Philippine general assembly to work for the passage of the Jones bill to provide for Philippine independence were received by Delegate Quezon of the Philippines.

Self supporting women require at least \$8 a week in Philadelphia for the barest necessities, according to a warning issued by the commission of social service of the Inter-Church federation of Philadelphia.

Discussion of plans to place Bibles in every hotel in the country was the chief topic of discussion at the first of a three days' session of the northwestern Gideons, an organization of traveling men at Minneapolis.

Criticism of the course of Attorney General Wickersham in the Southern Pacific oil land litigation is made by counsel for the Southern Pacific Railroad company in a brief filed in the supreme court in defense of its claim to millions of dollars' worth of western oil lands.

Hamilton Lewis suggested to Governor Wilson that promise of patronage might help him get a senate seat.

Finally showing her hand in the peace negotiations, Turkey in a guarded way suggests mediation by the powers.

Great interest attached to the meeting in Paris between Premier Poincare and ex-Premier Ribot, two of the candidates for the presidency of France.

An inspection of the Prince line steamer Austrian Prince, which on Friday sank the steamer Amasis in Montevideo harbor, shows that it was not damaged.

A dangerous five dollar counterfeit has been discovered by the treasury department.

At Carrington, N. D., firemen stood helpless while an entire city block burned. The city water supply was exhausted soon after the fire started.

Denial is made by the insular bureau of any revolutionary plot in the Philippine islands.

A great military, naval and civic display is planned in connection with Mr. Wilson's inauguration.

Ortie McManigal and Frank K. Painter may be tried in Omaha for explosions in Douglas county.

Alaska has had a prosperous year, but is handicapped by lack of transportation facilities and fuel.

Albert McCabe, United States district judge in the Philippines, died at Rochester, Minn.

Postmaster General Hitchcock at midnight in Washington formally inaugurated the parcels post system.

During the year 1912 the live stock receipts at South Omaha were the largest in the history of that market.

General Luis Fernandez, who was prominent in General Orozco's army, surrendered with 200 of his men at Parral, according to official reports received here.

Mrs. Elmira Keeler Spencer, a veteran army nurse, known to civil war veterans everywhere as the Florence Nightingale of the rebellion, is dead at Oswego, N. T., aged 94.

Edward E. Wagner of Mitchell, S. D., United States attorney for that state, and Charles Boynton, U. S. attorney at Waco, Texas, have resigned. President Taft accepted both resignations.

As a tragic sequel to marital troubles, Henry C. Edey, a retired broker of Bellport, L. I., shot and killed his wife and then committed suicide. The double tragedy took place in the Edey's bedroom.

During the year ending December 31, 1912, there were 1,345 applicants for enlistment in the United States navy at the Omaha recruiting station.

Of these there were 282 enlisted, about 21 per cent of the applicants.

United States Senator Jeff Davis died suddenly at his home in Little Rock, Ark., as the result of an attack of apoplexy. He was the only man enjoying the distinction of having been governor of Arkansas for three terms.

In New Haven, Conn., it was announced that President Taft has leased the Parmelee mansion here for a term of two years with the privilege of purchasing. The president is expected to take up his residence there soon after leaving the White House.

Mrs. Adelaida Otero Luna, widow of Former Republican National Committee man Solomon Luna, New Mexico sheep baron, distributed cash and gifts to the poor people of Los Lunas, Albuquerque and Santa Fe, her benefactions aggregating upwards of \$10,000.

The lowest death rate in the history of New York City is recorded in the annual report of the health department, just made public. With 73,000 deaths for the year, the rate per 1,000 went down to 14.11, as against 15.13 in 1911, 15.98 in 1910 and sixteen in 1909.

Senator Bradley of Kentucky and several other republicans threatened openly that if the democrats persist in opposing president Taft's appointments, the republicans will start a bitter contest against President Wilson's appointees in the special session that meets after March 4.

The treasury department issued a notice to the public that a concern known as "the United States Treasury Gold Mining company," said to be sending out literature from Chicago, has no connection with the treasury and that the use of the name was not authorized by the treasury.

Congressman Lobeck introduced in the house a bill appropriating \$100,000 for the construction of a paved road between Fort Crook and the south limit of South Omaha. The bill is identical with that introduced in the senate before the holidays by Senator Hitchcock.

The Italian supreme court has reversed the decision of the court of appeals at Palermo, which held that Nunzio Nasi, former minister of public instruction, was ineligible to sit in the Chamber of Deputies. The decision ordered a new trial of the case by the appeal court at Catania.

Representative William W. Wade-meyer of Ann Arbor, Mich., who suddenly went insane at Colon, Panama, at the time of President Taft's recent visit to the isthmus, jumped overboard from a ship on which he had been taken at Colon, according to a dispatch received in Washington. His body has not been recovered.

### Personal.

Congressman, Dan V. Stephens is in favor of election of postmasters.

Attorney General Wickersham was scored by counsel for the Southern Pacific.

General Castro has decided to make a fight to remain for a time in the United States.

An Oklahoma man, a former classmate of Governor Wilson, has been suggested for secretary of the interior.

The names of two women have been suggested for places in the cabinet of Woodrow Wilson.

Friends of Governor Norris of Montana are booming him for a place in the Wilson cabinet.

Castro says when he departs he will pray for the prosperity of the people of the United States.

Women suffragists will garb themselves in mediaeval costume when they parade at Washington, March 3.

Through his attorney, William Rockefeller consented to accept service of subpoena from a house committee.

Washington.—The first stage in the program for downward revision of the tariff, promised by the democratic party, will be entered upon Monday, when the house representatives, through its committee on ways and means, will formally open the doors to the American public for the discussion of tariff rates, protection to industries and concessions to the "ultimate consumer."

The work will be preparatory to the first change of tariff duties since 1908, when the Payne-Aldrich law was enacted by a republican congress and approved by a republican president.

Fortified by the election of a democratic president and congress, the adoption of a tariff reduction plank at the Baltimore convention and the pronouncement of President-elect Wilson that tariff revision is to be the first big achievement of the new administration, democratic leaders will open the hearings confident that they will lead to an early change in many, if not all, of the schedules of the existing tariff law.

## TARIFF TO BE FIRST

IMPORTANT MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED AT ONCE.

### TO MAKE PARTY PLEDGES GOOD

Drugs, Chemicals, Paints, etc., Will Form Subject for the Opening Hearing.

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### Methods Not Decided.

The method of the approaching revision and the extent of the changes to be made in the present duties are points not fully settled by the democratic leaders in congress and President-elect Wilson. It is known that reduced duties on chemical, metal, cotton and woolen goods will follow closely the standard fixed by the bills which have passed the democratic house during the last two years, none of which has become law.

### Output of Stamps Doubled.

Washington.—By direction of Postmaster Hitchcock the bureau of engraving and printing today increased its daily output of parcel post stamps from 5,000,000 to 10,000,000.

From practically every section of the country requisitions by mail and by telegram are being made for more parcel stamps. Postoffice officials are positive that no danger of a tieup of the service exists on account of the exhaustion of the supply of stamps, as a sufficient reserve is on hand here.

Reports received from postmasters in various parts of the United States indicate a tremendous increase in business on account of parcel post, but no serious congestion is reported, and the department has not been requested to furnish any additional assistance. Fragmentary reports indicate that the success of the new service has exceeded all expectations.

### Cured of a Broken Back.

Omaha.—The free use of his limbs, perfect health and his discharge from St. Joseph's hospital was the birthday gift of Police Surgeon T. T. Harris, and the kindly sisters to Frank Murray, a railroad blacksmith, whose home is in Perry, Ia. On July 27, last year, Murray was brought into the hospital with his back broken, his body marred and his limbs bleeding and torn, the result of being struck down by an engine in the railroad yards near Fourteenth and Burt streets.

Last night he left the hospital bundled up warmly in an overcoat given him by the surgeon and he walked all the way down town without the aid of crutches or companions. Sunday he celebrated his thirty-first birthday, and some time this week he will go to his home in Perry to see loved ones whom six months ago he thought he would never look upon again. The recovery is looked upon by physicians all over the country as marvelous.

### Deadlock in Peace Conference.

London.—Unless Turkey or the Balkan states can be prevailed upon to recede from their present stiff-necked attitude the peace negotiations have arrived at an absolute deadlock and Monday's meeting will be the last of the conference. The Turkish delegates strongly affirm that they have offered all they can concede. The Balkan delegates protest with equal vehemence that the Ottoman empire must surrender to them what they consider to be the spoils of war.

### The Horse Comes Back.

Chicago, Ill.—The horse has come back into his own here. The automobile bus line running between department stores and railroad stations has been abandoned.

### Reports Are Unfounded.

Vienna.—The alarming reports in circulation abroad concerning the health of Emperor Francis Joseph, are untrue. His majesty promenaded for half an hour on the gallery of Schoenbrunn castle, receiving some court dignitaries.

### Senator Bailey Resigns.

Washington.—Senator Joseph W. Bailey sent his resignation as senator from Texas to Senator Gallinger to take effect immediately. R. M. Johnston will succeed him.

## NEBRASKA IN BRIEF.

Owing to fine weather and absence of snow, cattle on the range in Nebraska are doing fine.

Mr. and Mrs. Dickinson of Custer county began the new year by celebrating their golden wedding.

Thus far there has not been much cold weather. Still many points in Nebraska are reporting good ice.

Omaha has a preacher that has married 2,665 couples up to January, 1913. He started the new year by hitching up three additional couples.

While running into Nebraska City from Falls City a few days ago a train crew on the Burlington saw a deer, full grown, running along the right-of-way. The animal ran between the rails for several hundred yards.

The wolf hunt held west of Beatrice was attended by about 800 men and boys and one lone gray wolf was shot. At the close of the hunt a hot lunch was served, followed by several enjoyable athletic contests.

Mr. and Mrs. Kearns, of Omaha, having no confidence in banks, boarded their savings in the house until it had reached \$1,500. Then they went to a neighbors to welcome in the new year, and while thus engaged a thief entered the house and took the savings of twenty years.

At Beatrice George Wilkinson, proprietor of the Wilkinson meat markets, was brought before County Judge Walden and pleaded guilty to the charge of having on hand with intent to sell, two gallons of oysters adulterated with water, contrary to the pure food law. He was fined \$50 and costs, which he paid.

The terms of the district court for the Sixteenth judicial district, for the year 1912, have been fixed by Judge Westover to be held the following dates: Brown county, March 17, September 15; Box Butte county, March 24, October 20; Cherry county, April 7, September 29; Dawes county, May 19, November 10; Sioux county, May 12, October 13; Sheridan county, April 21, October 6.

Only thirty-seven miles of actually new trackage was built by the railroads in Nebraska in 1912, according to the latest figures. New railroad mileage built during the past year is but 2,997 miles in the entire country, the smallest in fifteen years, and seventy miles less than in 1911. New locomotives built numbered 4,403, compared with 2,530 in 1911, and the largest number since 1906.

John Frazier, jr., of Roseland and Clifford Poulson, of near Trumbull were awarded first and second prizes in the Adams county boys' corn contest. They were the only two who stayed in the contest to the end of the season. Frazier, who is about 16 years old, raised thirty-three bushels and twenty pounds on his acre in spite of the fact that it was badly damaged by hail in the middle of the summer.

The three judges of the district court of Lancaster county announced the calling of a grand jury to be held the latter part of the month. The inquisitorial body will be asked to investigate prevailing high prices for necessities, alleged to be the result of combinations in restraint of trade on the part of retail dealers. An alleged combine among coal dealers, evidence of which, it is claimed, was brought out at a recent damage suit, is expected to form one of the features of the investigation by the grand jury.

Men at the head of the Public Service league of Lincoln are drafting a bill for submission at the coming session which provides that water power concerns likely to be operated in this state within the near future shall pay a 2 per cent occupation tax to the state, the tax to be levied on each concern's gross receipts. Those supporting the measure argue that the state is not prepared to develop its own resources at the present time and that the most feasible plan is to allow private capital to make the initial ventures in water power development.

During the fiscal year that closed June 30 the Union Pacific increased its already heavy holdings in Grand Island stock by nearly \$400,000. The total stock issues of the St. Joseph & Grand Island railway, including common, first preferred and second preferred, amounts to \$13,600,000. Of this amount the Union Pacific owned at the end of the fiscal year \$9,427,490, leaving \$4,172,510 in the hands of outside parties. This amount is \$322,550 less than it was June 30, 1911.

Washington dispatch: Nebraska ranks thirty-second among the states of the union with respect to the ratio of the number of men in the national guard to the number of males available for military service, according to the annual report of the division of military affairs, war department, which was made public today. The strength of the Nebraska militia is given as 1,459 men and officers. According to national guard reports there are only 131,459 men in the state available for military duty, of which 1.11 per cent are in the national guard, whereas the census bureau found 267,497 men in the state capable of bearing arms.

The failure of a consignment of steel to arrive has delayed building operations on the new High school at Fremont. The contractors are bewailing the loss of time during the mild weather.

Those in charge of the state tuberculosis hospital at Kearney have announced that they have effected their first cure at the institution, and have sent the patient home. He was a prominent banker in the western part of the state. He was treated in seclusion, his townspeople thinking him to be in a sanitarium in the east undergoing treatment for nervous troubles.

## WATER USERS FIGHT

W. L. MINOR TAKES UP THE CUDGEL IN THEIR DEFENSE.

### SENDS A LETTER TO KINKAID

Urges New Rule Giving More Leeway to Those Who Are Unable to Meet Obligations.

There has been considerable controversy between users of water under the government ditch in Scotts Bluff county and the government over the cancellation of water rights held by those who became delinquent to the government for two years and before coming to Lincoln to accept the deputyship in the state auditor's office, W. L. Minor took up the matter with the department in behalf of the users of water on the Belle Fourche project, taking exception to the ruling of the department, which was that "a failure to make any two payments when due shall render the entry subject to cancellation with forfeiture of all rights under the act and of money already paid in."

Mr. Minor contends that the government is wrong in its construction of the act cited above, which he says comes under the head of "Construction" and does not deal at all with the section under the head of "Operation and Maintenance." According to a letter received by Mr. Minor from Congressman Kinkaid, enclosing the opinion of Samuel Adams, first assistant secretary of the interior, if parties are delinquent on their 1911 and 1912 payments on December 31 of this year steps will be taken to cancel their contracts.

Mr. Minor in his letter to Congressman Kinkaid says: "Section 6 of the act of June, 1912, authorizes the secretary of the interior to use the reclamation fund for the operation and maintenance of all reservoirs and irrigation works constructed under the provisions of the act. To me this seems explicit and that no direct charge for operation and maintenance should ever have been made on the settlers."

"Immediately following the quotation above from Section 6, I find the following: 'Provided, that when the payments required by this act are made for a portion of the lands irrigated from the waters of any of the works provided for them the management and operation of such irrigation works shall pass to the owners of the lands irrigated thereby, to be maintained at their expense.' This implies that no operation and maintenance charges were contemplated by this act until the construction charges were paid out and the canal turned over to the settlers."

"It seems to me that the government should be satisfied with its power to shut off a man's water supply to enforce collection of operation and maintenance expenses and that is all that is necessary, and that power to cancel should not be claimed."

"Immediately connected with this subject is another that the government now requires the advance payment on operation and maintenance, December 1, before they begin to deliver the water the following May, five months before the water is delivered and eleven months before the completion of the delivery. I believe the principle wrong, for I know of no private enterprise which expects this. The government ought not to cancel entries because of the non-payment of a charge for water that they have never delivered and which they cannot complete delivering for almost eleven months." If, indeed, they are able to do so then.

Makes Claim for Salary.

C. E. O'Malley, appointed by Governor Shallenberger, but who was prevented from serving by reason of an injunction of the federal court, has put in a claim for a salary which that injunction prevented him from receiving. He wants \$3,000, covering the period of two years for which he was appointed.

Defacing Oregon Trail Monuments.

According to word received by the Oregon Trail commission some of the monuments erected along the trail in Nuckolls' county have been defaced by vandals who have used them for target practice. George D. Follmer and G. G. Scroggin of Oak, representing the local committee, have offered a reward of \$25 for information which will lead to the arrest of the guilty parties. The state law provides that anyone convicted of defacing these monuments shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$5 nor more than \$100, or by imprisonment in the county jail for a period of not less than thirty or more than ninety days, or both.

The Claim of Chief Briggs.

The claim of Chief John Briggs of South Omaha for \$1,800 due him as he claims for capturing the escaped convict last spring, will likely be put up to the legislature for settlement, the auditor refusing to draw a warrant for the claim.

New German Corporation.

Articles of incorporation of the Press Publishing company of Lincoln were filed with the secretary of state. The company is incorporated for \$50,000.

## FIRES IN NEBRASKA.

State Commissioner Speaks of Them in Annual Report.

In his report to the governor Fire Commissioner Charles L. Randall pays considerable attention to the loss sustained by fires and the falling off of the number since he took control of the office. He pays the volunteer firemen a strong tribute and urges that a law be passed at the coming session of the legislature which will enable towns and villages to equip their local departments with up-to-date fire fighting apparatus.

In the interest of carrying on a campaign of education, the report shows that Commissioner Randall has delivered addresses to over 70,000 school children and 30,000 business men over the state. He has sent out over 500,000 bulletins and cards and over 100,000 of his recent "Nebraska Fire Scout" enrollment cards.

He pays a tribute to the press of the state, which has assisted in the campaign of education for fire precaution by publishing his monthly bulletins. He says that the legislature should provide a suitable amount so that these papers could be paid for the space taken in the work.

Last year the loss of property on account of Fourth of July conflagrations was \$235,000, but this year the loss was only \$7,100.

He calls attention to the great danger from gasoline, not only from its fire-starting qualities, but from the danger to those who may be called to fight a fire where gasoline is burning. He says that he has known the fumes of burning gasoline to penetrate through the air fifty feet and do great damage, not only to property, but to life. Some of the most severe cases of burning has been from the inhaling of gasoline from a fire. This can be communicated fifty feet or more under conditions which are apt to exist at most any fire where gasoline is burning.

During the last year 1,234 fires were reported to the fire commissioner. Last year there were 1,348. The value of the buildings on fire was \$11,373,284.38. The fire loss was \$869,068.40, about 7.23 per cent of value. The value of the contents of these buildings was \$6,168,397.54. The loss was \$1,314,556.93, about 21½ per cent. The difference between the value of the buildings and their contents and the damage was \$15,358,056.59, and volunteer firemen of the state should be given credit for the saving of this vast amount of wealth.

Following is a showing of the value, loss and insurance on property during the last three years:

Value of buildings	\$27,721,873.39
Value of contents	19,954,373.54
Insurance on buildings	14,467,860.50
Insurance on contents	12,947,650.75
Loss to buildings	2,982,683.05
Loss to contents	3,159,123.55

The Dairymen Meet This Month.

The twenty-eighth annual meeting of the Nebraska dairymen's association will be held in Lincoln Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, January 22 to 24. The sessions will be held in connection with the organized agricultural meetings which will take place at the same time. Addresses will be given by Food Commissioner Hansen and Professors Burnett and Prandsen of the state university farm. A feature of the convention will be the cow judging contest to be held Friday afternoon. A purse of \$200 will be divided among those contestants who score seventy-five or more points out of a possible 100.

Phone Company Bonds.

The Platte Valley Telephone company has made application to the railway commission for permission to issue and sell \$30,000 refunding bonds and the same has been granted by the commission. The company is located at Scotts Bluff, and desires to pay off its present indebtedness and extend its lines.

Talk of New State House.

A. P. Foster, secretary of the Nashville industrial bureau, has written Secretary of State Wait that the state of Tennessee has outgrown its historical capitol building and proposes to build an annex. He asks whether the state of Nebraska has built an annex or is contemplating building one, and if it has he desires to get the name of the architect, information in regard to the cost and how the annex compares with the main capitol building. In reply Mr. Wait has written that Nebraska is in search of just such information as Tennessee desires because there is talk of a new capitol or an annex in this state.

County Sues for Cash.

An echo of the Capital National bank failure of many years ago was heard in the Lancaster county district court when arguments were heard on the demurrer of the state to the petition of the county of Lancaster to recover from the state money belonging to the state which the county had in the bank at the time of the failure. The amount sued for is \$6,331.72, and interest from January 21, 1893.

A \$15,000 Observatory.

Unless the legislature refuses to accept and act on the advice of the board of regents of the university, the state school will soon be provided with a \$15,000 observatory in which will be housed the new twelve-inch telescope and other astronomical instruments. Professor G. D. Swezey, head of the department, made the request, it was given the approval of Chancellor Avery, and the regents acted favorably in their biennial report to the governor.