

THE PROHIBITION BILL

DRASTIC BUT NOT BONE DRY MEASURE APPROVED.

Items of General Interest Gathered from Reliable Sources Around the State House

Western Newspaper Union News Service. Following the conference between Governor Neville and the prohibition committees from both houses last week it became known that the two committees had decided to respect the wishes of the governor and that a drastic but not bone dry bill would be framed. It also became known that his request for a special commission to enforce the new law would be granted. Since then interest has been centered on how much liquor the law will allow a man to import for his own use and how much authority the special commission will be given. The preliminary draft provides that a man

EUGENE O. MAYFIELD
(New member of the State Board of Control.)



Eugene O. Mayfield of Omaha, who was appointed by Governor Neville as republican member of the board to succeed Judge Howard Kennedy, also of Omaha, for the six-year term, beginning July 1. After the confirmation, Judge Kennedy resigned, effective March 1, to engage in law business in Omaha. Governor Neville then appointed Mr. Mayfield to fill the vacancy.

Mr. Mayfield is Sunday editor of the World-Herald; has been in the newspaper business for forty years; was connected with the Western Newspaper Union for several years in the capacity of manager at Kansas City, St. Louis and Cleveland.

man import per month one quart of whisky and twelve quarts of beer, and no more. That is about the same amount as is allowed in Kansas. Unless that provision is altered in the final draft, which is not regarded as probable, those amounts will stand until the bill goes before the legislature for adoption or rejection.

For Physical Examinations

Under the terms of a bill introduced in the lower house by Lambert of Saunders, all bridegrooms-to-be will be compelled to undergo physical examinations before they receive their marriage licenses. The measure provides that "all male persons making application for license to marry shall at any time within fifteen days prior to such application be examined as to the existence or non-existence in such person of any venereal disease, and it shall be unlawful for the county clerk of any county to issue a license to any person who fails to present and file with such county clerk a certificate setting forth that such person is free from venereal disease as nearly as can be determined."

Bill for State Printing Plant

Among the new bills before the legislature is one by Bates and others creating a state printing commission and appropriating \$100,000 for a state printing plant. It is provided that the plant shall be located in one of Lancaster county's state institutions, the exact place to be determined by the state board of control. All the state printing in addition to any other public printing authorized by the proper authorities, will be turned out by this plant. The state commission will consist of the governor, the secretary of the state and the state printer, the last named to draw a salary of \$2,000 a year.

Land Commissioner Shumway is not sure that the state owns the fair grounds, for which \$18,000 was paid to the Nebraska Exposition Co., a private corporation of Lincoln citizens, back in 1901. The question was suggested at a committee meeting of the house when the proposed \$100,000 appropriation for hog barns was discussed. Mr. Shumway, looking up the abstract, finds articles of incorporation contained therein which give the corporation power "to purchase, hold and improve." He does not find them entitled to sell.

To make the state of Nebraska a purchasing agent for all its counties in the buying of structural steel, iron and timber for public bridges, and thus obtain the advantage of prices uniformly as low as the railroad companies and other large users of these materials pay for them, is the object of a bill which Representative Auten, of Boone county, has introduced. Mr. Auten's measure will leave it with each county board to contract, as it does now, for small wooden or concrete bridges and culverts, or to buy material and build them itself;

VARIED AND MANY

Changes Suggested in New Election Laws of State.

Changes in the primary and general election laws of the state are likely to be many and varied in this session, at least they will be if bills now in go through in their present shape.

The most radical change is in the primary law. As suggested by Representative Conley of Jefferson county the state conventions will be given the power of nominating all elective state officers below the governorship. Even the railway commission candidates will be so chosen.

Delegates to the state gathering will be chosen at county nominating elections, the same primaries at which county officers are to be nominated by the various parties. This, according to Mr. Conley, will give the people a chance to speak their minds through carefully chosen delegates.

National Guard Budget

General Hall believes that upward of \$125,000 will be necessary to run the state national guard during the coming two years. That is an increase of \$60,000, made necessary because of a number of changes in the guard, not the least of which is its increase to a peace footing, or several notches higher than it was June 20, when it was called into federal service.

Two years ago the guard obtained \$68,000, after the house had made an effort, in the face of the European war and constantly darkening clouds on the United States foreign relations horizon, to reduce the amount to about half that size. The senate saved the day, and a house conference committee later recommended the increase, and it was adopted.

State Nurses Attack the Bill

Members of the State Nurses' association are up in arms over the introduction of House Bill No. 230, by Representative Dr. Reneker of Richardson, cutting down the standard of qualifications necessary for registry by a nurse in Nebraska. The present law provides that a graduate nurse must have had at least one year's high school education; three years of active training in a hospital, and must have taken a state board examination. Reneker's proposed law, which has already had a reading, provides only for six months' training in a hospital and two and one-half years' practical experience before taking a state examination for registered nurses.

To Put Catfish in Game Class.

Nebraska's standard fish—the cat—will be promoted to the game class with the trout and the bass, and will have the mantle of the law thrown about it for its protection, if Game Warden Koster has his way. The catfish is now in the category with the carp, squawfish and buffalo, in the catching of which the law does not interfere. Warden Koster says the cat is one of the best eating fishes and should not be one caught and sold for general purposes. His proposed change in the law has been introduced in the senate by Adams of Dawes and in the house by Anderson of Boyd.

New Course at University

A new course, "Psychology and Efficiency," has been added to the curriculum of the University of Nebraska. This course is designed to aid students who are to take up law, the ministry, medicine, journalism, social service and other professions. The psychology of buying and selling and methods of estimating the efficiency of individual workmen also will be considered in the instruction.

Blue Sky Exemption

Representative Ollis has a bill to exempt farmers' co-operative associations from the blue sky law. Under this law, they are compelled to pay the railway commission a \$15 fee and meet the requirements of the law, among which is a proviso that shares of stock shall be for \$100 each. These associations desire to issue stock in denominations of \$10, \$25 and \$50.

Dry Member Issues Warning

Strong arguments by a number of speakers in favor of a bone dry proposition and a warning by Senator Bushee, dry republican, that such a procedure would never get by the senate, marked the second and final hearing before the prohibition committees of the two houses, held in the house chamber Wednesday evening.

Favor Four-Year Term

By a vote of 87 to 7, the house has gone on record in favor of the enactment of a law fixing a four-year term for elective county officers, it being understood that such a law was not to affect the terms of the present incumbents. The action was taken upon motion of Dufoe of Johnson. It was explained that it was done to ward off the horde of lobbyists such as swooped down upon the legislature two years ago to secure a four-year term law to become effective at once.

Making the state the common school unit instead of the school district, by the state paying the salaries of the 12,643 Nebraska teachers rural and city, is the plan of Senator John A. Robertson of Holt, in his bill, S. F. 63. It is designed to dispose of the question of state aid for weak districts. The idea, which has never before been reduced to actual statute in any state, Mr. Robertson says, will balance the inequalities between districts, encourage rural school consolidation and will bring about the teaching of more grades in common schools.

CONDENSED NEWS

OF INTEREST TO ALL.

DATES FOR COMING EVENTS.

- February 15—State Volleyball Contest at York.
- February 20-21—Nebraska Clothiers Association Meeting at Omaha.
- Feb. 21—Annual Meeting of State Opticians at Omaha.
- Feb. 22-23—Nebraska Jewelers' association Meeting at Omaha.
- Feb. 26 to March 3—Omaha Automobile Show.
- March 5 to 10—First Annual Auto Show at Lincoln.
- March 6 to 10—Mid-West Cement Show and Convention at Omaha.
- March 7-8-9-10—State Basketball Tournament at Lincoln.
- March 12-17—Annual Merchants' Market Week at Omaha.
- March 18—District Meeting of Odd Fellows at North Platte.

Growth of the boy scout movement in Omaha was emphasized when Scout Executive C. H. English reported to scout-masters that there are ten troops with a membership of 268 registered scouts in the city.

The Beatrice city commissioners have instructed Mayor J. P. Saunders to enter into a contract with the Harrington Incinerator company for the lease of a plant in the city for a period of eight months.

A. Well, Custer county stockman, recently sold a bunch of twenty-one white face cattle for \$1,885. This is one of the highest prices paid for that quality of cattle in the county for some time.

Early this spring the Burlington will build at Gibson a 2,000,000-bushel grain elevator, and make other improvements which will entail an expenditure of more than \$1,500,000.

A proposed bond issue to raise \$40,000 for a new school building in College View, a suburb of Lincoln, was defeated at a special election by the narrow margin of 265 to 260.

At an election held in Springfield electors authorized the village board to build a new tank for the water works on the site of the old one, which was destroyed recently.

The Valley schools, which were closed a week ago on account of an exposure to scarlet fever, have reopened. There has only been four cases of scarlet fever.

The Northwestern railroad has announced that a new depot will be built at Swedeburg this spring, work to commence as soon as the weather is favorable.

It is announced that appointment of the directors and other officials of the Omaha farm loan bank probably will take place within the next few days.

J. F. Frye, who has just returned to Hastings from a hunting trip in the Ozark mountains, brought with him a hornet's nest two feet in diameter.

Two Hastings saloons are to be converted into soft drink establishments after May 1, when state-wide prohibition becomes effective.

Obin, 7-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Jones of Geneva, while playing with a gun, shot himself, tearing his head and killing himself instantly.

Three banks in York and Butler counties, at Surprise, Gresham and Ulysses have been taken over by a syndicate of Fremont capitalists.

Nearly all the breweries of the state, eleven in number, are said to be preparing to engage in the manufacture of "near beer."

The village of Snyder, through its commercial club, has asked the Northwestern to build a new depot at that station this year.

Dentists of northwestern Nebraska will meet in Alliance February 14 at the call of the Nebraska State Dental society.

Fire destroyed several frame buildings at Odell, causing a loss of about \$5,000. The town hall was among the structures burned.

Hogs sold for \$11.50 per hundred weight at the South Omaha market a few days ago, the highest price on record.

A special election will be held at Beatrice March 6 for the purpose of voting \$40,000 intersection paving bonds.

A factory for the manufacture of hay stackers has just been put in operation at Norfolk.

York is to have a community building to cost \$50,000. The building will be planned for the purpose of housing all agricultural products during the county fair and be used for conventions, etc., other times during the year.

The Chadron city council has just passed a white way ordinance and extended an electric light franchise into bondage to the Intermountain Railway Light and Power Co. and thus soon Chadron will beam as bright as the noonday sun.

Forty-four head of pure bred Duroc Jersey sows were sold at an average of \$97.05 at a hog sale held by Jess Golder near Oakland. The top price of the sale was \$250, paid by Willard Robbins of Lyons.

Nebraska's portion of the federal good roads fund for the year beginning July 30, 1917, is \$213,541. This is to be paid on condition that the state will appropriate a like amount.

Fifty citizens of Brule have signed their names to a protest against teaching the life of Lincoln in the public schools of Nebraska.

Over one hundred high schools have already asked for entry blanks to participate in the seventh annual Nebraska basketball tournament to be held at Lincoln, under the auspices of the State University, March 7, 8, 9 and 10 are the dates set for the gathering. To make sure that the high school visitors will enjoy the days of the tournament, University authorities have scheduled some Cornhusker intercollegiate contests. The Ames wrestling tournament has been scheduled again. The Missouri Valley championship basketball games between Ames and Nebraska have been changed to March 9 and 10 and will be put on for the better entertainment of the visitors. Prizes to be awarded this year are more elaborate than ever before offered.

Some 2,222 Nebraska boys and girls took part in home-school garden clubs conducted by the agricultural extension service of the University of Nebraska in co-operation with the United States Department of Agriculture, with schools, and with the children's own parents. This work was carried on in twenty-five towns in 1916, and resulted in 1,252 back yards and 345 vacant lots in the state being turned into garden spots.

Congressmen Shallenberger, Stevens, Reasby, Sloan and Kinkaid voted to override President Wilson's veto of the immigration bill, which was rejected because of the literacy test. Congressman Lobeck voted to sustain the president. The house had twenty-five more than the necessary two-thirds majority to carry the measure over the president's head.

The Nebraska Telephone company has just completed a survey of the territory between Alliance and Broken Bow, in determining the possibility of establishing a toll line joining the two cities, there to connect with all points east. An expenditure of \$100,000 is recommended by P. D. Gleason, who made the survey.

Historical pageant representing the growth of the Sunday schools from the Hebrew period through all the stages of development until the present day, will be given at the fiftieth anniversary of the Nebraska Sunday School association meeting at Omaha in June. The pageant requires 500 participants.

A state-wide spelling bee will be staged as one of the educational attractions of the Nebraska state fair at Lincoln this fall. The competition will be for both rural and city schools, with state championship awards in both classes and sweepstakes in a joint contest.

E. L. Dodder, grand treasurer of the A. O. U. W. of Nebraska, whose suicide caused a shortage of \$16,000 in his accounts to come to light, left mining and oil stocks of a face value of \$218,066, according to an inventory of his estate filed in Douglas county court.

While the congregation sang the doxology a note of \$2,400 against the Methodist church of Fairmont was burned in the pulpit, thus making the property free from debt. The amount was raised through a campaign inaugurated by J. P. Yost, pastor.

G. D. Davis of Laurel bought a bunch of cattle at the South Omaha market in October that weighed 1,086 pounds each, and cost \$6.85 per cwt. Last week he disposed of the herd at the same market, receiving \$11.00 per cwt. They weighed 1,400 each.

Dr. C. A. Oaks, second assistant physician at the Ingleside hospital for the insane at Hastings, died after two days' illness from pneumonia. He was a son-in-law of E. O. Mayfield, newly appointed member of the Board of Control.

A new automobile road from Missouri Valley, Ia., to Fremont by way of Blair, Kennard and Arlington, is being boomed by citizens of the towns concerned and will be officially marked in the near future.

Columbus is going to have a new bank capitalized at \$50,000. William Blucher, Fred Boehm and A. D. Becker are incorporators. The institution will be known as the Farmers' State bank.

Derryberry and Forbes of North Platte, hardware and implement dealers, have made the announcement that hereafter its employees will share in all profits made by the company.

Mercier, a Percheron horse owned by the Woods Bros., Slio company of Lincoln, won first prize and grand championship honors in the international live stock show, at Denver.

Nebraska League of Municipalities selected Fremont for the 1918 convention at the closing session of this year's meeting at Hastings. R. S. Ireland of Crete was elected president of the league; A. P. Moran, Nebraska City, vice president; C. A. Sorenson, Lincoln, secretary-treasurer.

It is expected the new Burlington depot in Tecumseh will be ready for occupancy within the next two or three weeks. The Commercial club is back of a demonstration to be held at the time of dedication.

Directors of the Omaha-Lincoln-Denver highway agreed at a meeting in Lincoln to change the name of the route to the "Buffalo Bill Trail," in honor of the late Colonel Cody.

The congregation of Holy Trinity Catholic church of Hartington has inaugurated a campaign for the purpose of raising funds for the erection of a new church building.

Seventy-two conventions, national, district or state, were held last year in Omaha. Conventions already booked for the metropolis for 1917 number thirty.

YOUNG MEN NEEDED

WANTED BY STATE DEPARTMENT FOR POSITIONS IN DIPLOMATIC SERVICE.

WORK IS VERY ATTRACTIVE

Good Education and One Foreign Language Required—Promotion, However, Usually Stops Short of the Rank of Minister.

By GEORGE CLINTON.

Washington.—Uncle Sam needs young men for the diplomatic service. The positions open to young Americans are, of course, in the lower ranks of the foreign service, but there is a chance for promotion and if the desire is to make the diplomatic service a life employment, the man who takes a place in it may know that if he makes good he can work for his great and good uncle as long as he wishes.

The other day William Phillips of Massachusetts was promoted to be assistant secretary of state. One of his first acts in taking up his new duties was to issue an appeal to young Americans to try to enter the diplomatic service. Mr. Phillips said:

"I appeal to the young men of the country who have the necessary educational and linguistic qualities and who are interested in international affairs to consider seriously the honorable career which the diplomatic service now offers them. The department of state is endeavoring to enlist for its foreign work the highest type of American men, and there never has been a more auspicious moment in our history in which to enter upon such a career."

The young American who may wish to enter the diplomatic service and who succeeds in passing the examination must not take it for granted that he is to be an actual diplomat, for diplomatic service includes our foreign officers who look after trade relations and business opportunities for American firms seeking outlets.

What is Required.

In order to enter the service the young American must be well educated and be able to speak at least one language beside his own, and the second language must be one which is in use among many people. For instance, knowledge of English and Welsh would not be sufficient, for Welsh is an exceedingly limited use, French, German, Spanish or Italian are the languages usually to be understood, in addition to English, by the young men who succeed in getting positions in our foreign offices.

Promotion comes in the foreign service of the United States up to a certain point, and it would go beyond that point perhaps in some cases were it not for the fact that the government does not pay its ministers and ambassadors enough money "to sustain their positions." This means, of course, that nobody but a rich man can afford to take the post of ambassador to Great Britain, to France, to Germany, to Italy, or to any other great country. Some of our ambassadors spend three or four times the amounts of their salaries in "keeping up" their position.

No Freaks in Inaugural Parade.

Word has gone out that there must be no "freak exhibits" in the big inaugural parade of men and women who are to march and show themselves on Pennsylvania avenue on March 5, the day this year on which Woodrow Wilson will take the oath of office for the second time as president of the United States.

The managers of the big events count it curious that so many Americans of supposed sense have shown a disposition to believe that a certain amount of buffoonery is all right on an occasion like the high one of inducting a president into office. All kinds of things were suggested to the committee which it was supposed by the suggesters would add enjoyment to the occasion. The answer has been that crowds are all right in a circus and end men in a minstrel show, but that grease, paint, dicos and antics are not fitting for an occasion like the coming one.

Washington is going to be a city of light on the nights that the inaugural visitors are here. Inasmuch as March 4 falls on Sunday this year it is expected that the visitors attracted by the inaugural ceremonies will come on Saturday and therefore have one more day than usual to spend "in our midst." Therefore the nights are to be made like the days in the eyes of the assembled multitudes.

City a Blaze of Light.

Pennsylvania avenue and all the streets shooting down into it are to be illuminated to the limit possible by the lighting powers now held by the electric companies of the district. Gas, of course, will add its glare. Business houses are not the only ones which will blaze. The broad avenues of the residence districts will be shot with light from the windows of the houses. Everybody has been asked to light up and it has been virtually promised that, irrespective of political affiliations or of administration or anti-administration views, the populace will comply with the request.

In this part of the country there are a good many hunt clubs. Over in Virginia and even on the edge of the district the wily and elusive fox frequently is hunted by men and women in pink riding clothes, who take ditches and occasionally stone walls with the abandonment of the old-time fox hunters of Galway, Ireland. The hunt clubs are to form a part

of the inaugural day parade. One of them will be marshaled by a woman, a young and good-looking woman who daintily rides to hounds across country on every occasion when the dogs are let loose and the fox breaks from cover. These hunt clubs cannot be included in the freak class. The horses are thoroughbreds and every man and woman is a fine rider. Moreover, they are all undergoing a little preliminary military drill which will enable them to keep the line perfect and to depart not from the order of formation unless perchance some luckless hound in the street crowd should start its hue and cry, and habit, stronger than the check rein, make the horses momentarily forget themselves.

Wilson Again Does Unexpected.

President Wilson's appearance in the senate wing of the capitol as a personal proponent of the legislation which he desires the majority party in congress to pass, was not the astounding surprise to senators and members that the country generally seems to think that it was.

Ever since he has come into office the president has been doing the unexpected along a dozen different lines of endeavor. The result of this has been that when something new comes surprise, if not minimized, is, so to speak, ameliorated.

The determination of the president to address congress at the opening of each session instead of sending a written message, as had been the custom for years upon years, was a sort of a bombshell of surprise in itself. There was an immense amount of discussion over the president's action at that time. He was criticized severely by a good many senators and members irrespective of party, although, of course, the severest criticism came from the Republicans, while such of the Democrats as objected to the proceeding said sharp things in the cloak-room and reserved milder words of reproof for the open.

Now that the addressing of congress in person has become a fixed presidential habit, most people seemingly have forgotten the approach to a turmoil with which the first announcement of intention was received. On one or two occasions prior to the time that Mr. Wilson announced he would go to the capitol almost daily to consult with the senators about legislation in which he is interested, he had gone to the capitol to advise with the leaders of his party.

Others Have Broken Precedents.

The direct address to congress at the opening of a session and the appearance of the president at the capitol at a few other times to talk over legislation acted as something of a shock absorber when the recent declaration of intention to make frequent visits to the capitol was announced.

During every administration something is sure to happen which surprises the lawmakers and perhaps the public with them, and gives the critics ample opportunity to talk their sharp words. Roosevelt smashed a few precedents and Mr. Taft did so likewise. Mr. Wilson has followed suit, but has done it "a little more so."

Precedent breaking by a president and the consequent and instant criticism are not confined to supposed interference with the legislative independence of congress. This breaking away from the conventions of the years sometimes concerns itself with social matters, but whether the departures are legislative, political or social, the tongues all go wagging for a week. Then Washington gets accustomed to the new order, stops taking and forgets all about the cause for the talk.

Arthur Dined Often With a Friend.

In the old days presidents were chary about breaking any kind of precedents and if they did break them, they tried to keep the breaking quiet. There has been an unwritten rule in Washington since the days of Madison that a president should not make personal or social calls on friends, and should not attend any social functions unless they were virtually of national size, or were intended to forward some great charitable cause.

President Chester A. Arthur was a socially inclined man. He wanted to leave the White House to dine with friends whenever he felt the inclination so to do. He checked his desires along this line because he did not want to give offense to the precedent worshippers, but he indulged his desires nevertheless about once a week. After he had left office it was found that unknown either to the gossips or the non-gossips of Washington he had dined regularly once a week with an old friend who had a "corking good cook."

Mr. Roosevelt, when he was president kept pretty close to the lines of established social precedence, but he was independent enough of gossip to dine once in a while with some close personal friend, like Henry Cabot Lodge. Mr. Taft was more of a visitor to private houses perhaps than any of his predecessors. He had some old-time Ohio friends here, and into their houses he used to drop for afternoon tea, occasionally to Sunday supper, and certainly once or twice a month to partake of a family dinner.

President Wilson has broken comparatively few social precedents, but as Washington unquestionably would say about it, he has kept the record for precedent smashing in other directions.

The Silver Lining.

It was after the domestic tiff. "I have nothing to live for," complained the wife, bitterly. "You seem to forget my life insurance," replied the husband, who was of course a brute.—Judge.