

THIRTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATIVE BOOY

NEBRASKA LAWMAKERS ORGANIZE FOR BUSINESS

DALBEY OF GAGE IS SPEAKER

And Senator B. K. Bushee of Kimball Was Selected President Pro Tem of the State Senate

The thirty-seventh session of the Nebraska legislature began at noon, December 7, as provided in the state constitution. The senate being provided with a permanent presiding officer in the person of the lieutenant governor, it did not find it necessary to draft any other state officer for the purpose of starting the machinery. Lieutenant Governor Howard welded the gavel in the west end chamber, and after the chaplain had officiated and the roll was called and other details attended to, a permanent organization was effected by the election of a president pro tem and secretary.



S. R. MCKELVIE Editor and Publisher of the Nebraska Farmer, who was inaugurated Governor of Nebraska January Ninth

As the speaker of the house ends his official career with the adjournment of the body over which he presides, the constitution provides that the secretary of state shall call the house to order. Mr. Pool, who was once speaker and therefore fully informed in all matters therewith connected, rapped for order in the house, had the roll called and a prayer said, after which he left the chair. Representative Ellis E. Good of Nemaha was given the honor of temporary speaker for having run second in the race, and he retained the gavel and performed the honors until the formal organization was made.

House Organization

Speaker, Dwight S. Dalbey, Beatrice; chief clerk, W. F. Hitchcock, Sterling; first assistant clerk, Will C. Israel, Havelock; second assistant clerk, A. C. Whitth, Fairbury; sergeant at arms, J. O. Moore, Palmyra; assistant at arms, John Glassman, Omaha; chaplain, Rev. J. G. Stannard, University Place.

Selective committee—M. A. Hostetler, Buffalo county, chairman; First congressional district, J. Reid Green of Lancaster and H. K. Frantz of Cass; Second, R. C. Druessow and John Larsen, both of Douglas; Third, Henry Behrens of Cumming and E. H. Gerhart of Madison; Fourth, J. A. Gestell of Jefferson and M. M. Wildman of York; Fifth, J. F. Fuhs of Furnas and H. J. McLaughlin of Hall; Sixth, George C. Snow of Dawes and J. E. Harris of Buffalo.

Senate Organization

President pro tem, B. K. Bushee, Kimball; secretary, Clyde H. Bernard, Table Rock; first assistant secretary, J. H. Sinclair, Omaha; sergeant at arms, A. D. Havens, Atkinson; chaplain, Rev. A. A. Cressman, Crete; postmaster, P. H. Wintersteen, Fremont.

Selective committee—W. V. Houghland, Lincoln county, chairman; First district, C. Petrus Peterson, Lancaster; Second, J. W. Robbins, Douglas; Third, B. J. Ainlay, Nance; Fourth, Perry Reed, Hamilton; Fifth, J. Hammond, Furnas; Sixth, D. H. Cronin, Holt.

After W. F. Hitchcock had been elected unanimously as chief clerk, a committee on credentials was appointed consisting of Messrs. Fuhs, Jeary, Dyball, Snow and Behrens. The house was "at rest" for ten or fifteen minutes while the members came forward and left their election certificates with the chief clerk. They were inspected by the committee and found to be in legal form.

In tribute to the memory of David C. Mercer, former congressman from the Second district, who died January 7, resolutions were passed expressing the sorrow of the senate in the loss of an honored and valuable citizen. The resolution was introduced by Senator Cooper of Douglas county.

Resolutions introduced in the senate that returned soldiers, wives of soldiers and old soldiers applying for positions in the legislature be given first consideration, were passed without a dissenting vote.

STATE OFFICIALS INSTALLED

Usual Formalities Mark the Beginning of the Gathering and Organization of the Lawmakers

Nebraska's new state officers were formally inducted with the customary ceremonial January ninth, in the presence of the legislature assembled jointly in the house chamber and an overflowing crowd of spectators. Governor Keith Neville's departing message was first delivered, after which Governor Samuel R. McKelvie and the other state officers-elect took the oath prescribed by the constitution and the new executive delivered his inaugural communication. The joint session opened with Lieutenant Governor Howard presiding for the last time. Following the roll call, a committee consisting of senators Cronin and Chappell, Representatives Williams, Windham and Fries, was named to escort the two governors to the chamber. Other committees were delegated to bring in the remaining state officers and the chief justice to administer the oath.

Governors Deliver Messages

Governor Neville and Governor McKelvie were the oratorical stars of the joint convention of the state legislature on January ninth. Governor Neville appeared before the law-making body for the purpose of submitting his recommendations, based upon his experience as governor, while Governor McKelvie presented his ideas and recommendations as he sees them after study and experience as a legislator and lieutenant governor.

Many Choose Same Committee

In the initial sessions of the selective committee for the house, it has developed that more than half of all the members in that chamber want to serve on the roads and bridges committee. This means that four-fifths of those who have specified that committee as a preference will be disappointed.

On the initial roll call, all members responded to their names except Messrs. Lundgren of Douglas, Milroy of Thomas, and Ruddy of Boone. The last named of these three is abroad. His resignation will be filed in a few days and Governor McKelvie will name Mr. Millie in his place. Lundgren came in before the session was over.

More Positions Filled

Governor McKelvie has made the following appointments: Labor Commissioner, Frank A. Kennedy, Omaha; secretary board of equalization and assessment, W. H. Osborne, Jr., Omaha; insurance board examiner, Harold Chapman, Atkinson; examiner, Guy G. Patton, Fremont.



KEITH NEVILLE Who Retired From Office January Ninth and Who Will Be Known to Coming Generations as Nebraska's War Governor

Appointments School Funds

One of State Treasurer George E. Hall's last acts was to certify to the state superintendent that there is \$400,150.17 in the temporary school fund for apportionment to the public schools of Nebraska. This fund is apportioned twice a year. The apportionment is made by the state superintendent on a basis of school population and one-fourth to be divided equally between school districts.

New School at Scottsbluff

A site for the school of irrigation in Scottsbluff has been selected by the university regents as directed by the last legislature. The site consists of ten acres of excellent land immediately adjoining the city on the north west. The regents are now asking that on account of the agricultural importance of the region in which this school is to be located, the legislature make liberal appropriations for buildings and purchase of land here.

Chancellor Avery, Regent E. P. Brown, Dean E. A. Burnett and Prof. H. E. Bradford of the University of Nebraska have gone to Baltimore and Washington to attend meetings of university, college and experiment station directors and officers. Among the meetings they will attend are the following: Society for the Promotion of Agricultural Science, National Association of Agricultural Teachers, American Association of University Presidents, National Association of Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations.

FROM ALL SECTIONS OF THIS MAJESTIC STATE

Reports of Interesting Happenings Throughout Nebraska Condensed to a Few Lines for Quick Perusal.

Secretary Houston of the Department of Agriculture, in a report to congress showing the amounts apportioned to the several states for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918, for the construction and maintenance of roads, etc., shows that for the years 1917 and 1918 there was apportioned to Nebraska \$230,321; allotments to approved projects, \$205,792; unallotted balance, \$114,519.

The Mitchell Community club, which has not been able to hold a meeting in more than three months because of the influenza scourge in the state, met a few days ago with a good attendance. The club is classed as one of the best organizations of its kind in the state.

Gage county's honor roll, just compiled, shows that fourteen boys from the county were killed in action, four have been reported missing and twenty died from various causes. The county's wounded total thirty-one.

The recent cold snap caused considerable trouble in the various potato plants in western Nebraska. The breaking of pipes in which the brine is carried from the lakes to the plants through freezing, was the main difficulty.

Church services were held in Table Rock last Sunday a week for the first time since the establishment of the influenza quarantine by small towns. The house quarantine has caused but few homes to be placarded in the city.

While milk has increased in price 75 per cent in the state, the cost of cattle feed has advanced 200 per cent since the war began. Prof. Frandsen told 200 Nebraska dairymen at a conference at Lincoln recently.

Washington advises state that Nebraska troops of the 127th and 338th field artillery, who recently returned from France, will be mustered out at Camp Dodge, Ia., instead of Fort Crook, this state.

The second annual convention of the Nebraska State Potato Improvement association twice postponed on account of the influenza epidemic, will be held at Lincoln, February 5, 6 and 7.

Ex-Congressman David H. Mercer, prominent in political circles of Nebraska, died at Omaha. He served five terms in congress and was 61 years of age at the time of his death.

Norfolk has made arrangements to present every man of the city who has done a uniform with a service medal immediately upon their return to the city after being mustered out.

Catholics of Kearney have started a movement to raise funds to construct a \$100,000 hospital in the city. It is reported that good progress in the undertaking is being made.

Influenza has taken a heavy toll of lives among the Indians at Santee, Knox county. Up to the first of the year forty deaths had occurred from the malady in the tribe.

The "flu" ban at Norfolk has been lifted after several weeks' duration. All public gatherings are now permitted in the city, with the exception of dancing.

County sheriffs throughout Wyoming are searching for Simon Decker of Kimball, who disappeared from Hillsdale, Wyo., more than six weeks ago.

Richardson county had reached the top record price when Henry Barton sold an eight-acre tract near Falls City for \$355 an acre.

During the period between January 2 and 9 ten persons succumbed to the dreaded influenza and its effects in and around Ord.

The board of supervisors of Gage county has voted \$2,500 for the support of the county agent's work during 1919.

Many Nebraska men will be affected by the order to demobilize half of the Tenth division, now stationed at Camp Funston, Kan.

Burland is without a newspaper, the Times having suspended publication because of lack of patronage. Commissioners of Madison county have organized a health board to combat the influenza epidemic.

The South Omaha stock market boomed in second place again last year among the big parking centers of the world. Only Chicago leads Omaha.

The next war saving stamp campaign is to be launched soon. Stamps are now on sale.

Dr. C. R. Gannaway of Stuart has sold his hospital there, disposed of his practice, and within a month will leave with Mrs. Gannaway, to spend their lives working to save the people of the stricken districts of Armenia and Syria in Europe.

Using an automobile body and the rear wheel and motor from a motorcycle, John and Walter Lauer of Fremont, have built a motor-driven hopped and it is attracting much attention. An electrically operated set of sleighbells serves to give an appropriate reasonable jingle to the outfit.

One of the most disastrous automobile accidents in the history of western Nebraska occurred near Scottsbluff, when a Burlington work train crashed into a touring car containing six persons, killing five of them and seriously injuring the sixth. The dead are: William Nicholas, 48; J. A. Ross, 45; J. Bissell, 55; K. Ono, Japanese, 40; and the 6-months-old baby of Ono, Mrs. Ono, the only survivor, was severely hurt. The men were all prominent farmers of Scotts Bluff county.

A world's record of forty years' standing was broken at the Mousel Brothers' sale of Hereford cattle at Cambridge, when fifty animals brought \$192,250. The top bull brought \$21,000 with a close second bringing \$20,000. No animal brought less than \$1,500. A large percentage of the cattle were sold to Nebraska breeders. The sale was attended by 3,000 people from all parts of the United States as well as buyers from Canada, Argentina and the Hawaiian Islands.

Post M. Tenevold's Protective association of Alliance, has urged every representative and senator in the state to make good roads improvements a stain for 1919. Increased automobile tax to be applied to good roads, similar to the Illinois law, and a section allowing counties to vote bonds where townships and districts will be benefited, similar to the Kansas law, are urged.

Hooper has arranged for a series of celebrations in honor of the victory of American arms and as a welcome to the boys from the vicinity when they return from overseas and the various army camps in this country. A feature of the festivities will be the singing of a community choir in the several churches in the city.

Nebraska is the first state in the union to manufacture potash from sugar beets, according to S. B. Howard, immigration expert for the Burlington railroad. This is being done at a three-acre lake, owned by the Western Sugar Refining company between Scottsbluff and Gering.

The Norfolk city council has decided to ask the citizens to vote bonds for a new city hall, and has named a committee of the council to have preliminary plans drawn and an approximate made. This will be followed by the circulation of a petition asking for the special bond election.

A bill now before congress provides that the secretary of the interior build a canal and reservoir in Dawson and Lincoln counties, Nebraska, on the lower North Platte project, to carry out plans for utilizing flood waters of the Platte already made by reclamation engineers.

The state university department of poultry extension and government poultry officials will be on hand with demonstrations and lectures at the thirty-fourth annual show of the Nebraska State Poultry association at Holdrege January 20-22.

Editor A. A. Muddock, of the De Witt Eagle, is planning to enlarge his plant and install modern equipment. The editor of the Eagle is one of the most popular citizens of the community and is a constant booster for his home town.

The Beaver Valley Telephone company has been permitted to increase its rates from \$1.50 to \$2 on business telephones; from \$1.25 to \$1.50 on farm lines, and from 25 cents to 50 cents per month on switching charges.

The annual state conference of Nebraska Council of Social Service Workers (formerly Nebraska Conference of Charities and Corrections), will be held February 2, 3 and 4 in Lincoln.

Because it smacked too much of German flavor people of Karl township, Burr county, changed it by due process of law to one appealing more to American patriotism. It is now known as Pershing township.

Congressman Kludick has introduced bill in congress for \$800,000 for construction of a dam and reservoir in the North Platte river, near Chenueno, Wyo., as part of the North Platte reclamation project.

To popularize rabbits as meat, the Consolidated Rabbit Breeders' association of Lancaster county has decided to establish a rabbit meat market at Lincoln.

The board of education at Grand Island has decided to enforce the law which requires children below 16 years of age to attend school.

Sixty thousand dollars' worth of water bonds issued by the city of Sidney have been sold to a Denver firm.

The elevator of the Nye-Schneider Powder company in Colon burned to the ground, causing a loss estimated at \$7,000.

"Bill" Barnes, who ended his own life after he had murdered five members of the Wilbur Johnson household, on Holman Island, near Onawa, Ia., and which has stirred the entire district, was well known on the Nebraska side of the river, he having had his arm shot off in a shooting scrape in Washington county twenty years ago.

Nebraska holds first place in the central division for Junior Red Cross with approximately 233,000 members. The number of schools organized is placed at 5,115.

Omaha police are in possession of a signed confession made by J. J. Williams, 21-year-old negro, to the murder of Max White, 17, high school lad, who the negro held up and killed while he attempted to shield his companion, Miss Libby Minkin. The murderer, who is in the hands of the Omaha police, claims the killing was accidental.

GOVERNORS SPEAK TO LEGISLATORS

Nebraska Governors Give to Legislature in Semi-Annual Messages Ideas of Needed Legislation

The recommendations of the incoming and outgoing governors were delivered to the state legislature January ninth. The following is a review of the principal features of the messages:

Both governors recommended the ratification of the national prohibitory amendment. Governor McKelvie suggested that such members of congress from Nebraska who have not yet voted affirmatively upon the question of woman suffrage be memorialized to do so.

Governor Neville urged the building on the state house grounds facing the battlefields of France, of a monument commemorating the services of the Nebraskans who died in the world war, while Governor McKelvie favors beginning a new state house that would be made a fitting monument to these men. Both urge liberal support for good roads and vocational school policies inaugurated by the federal government, which offers to match dollars with the state. Both would have the foreign language banished from the schools.

Governor Neville says there is no longer need for giving the supreme court aid by the continuance of the three commissioners in office. He breaks new ground in asking for four-year terms for state officials.

Recommended by Governor Neville

Briefly summarized the additional recommendations of Governor Neville are as follows:

That no effort be made to maintain a national guard during the next two years. Retention of control by the governor of enforcement of prohibitory law. Banning the teaching of foreign languages in lower grades of all public, private and parochial schools. Refers to the constitutional convention the problem of organizing the state government on a more efficient basis. Suggests four-year terms for state officials, with legislature to meet after new men have had a chance to familiarize themselves with the needs of the state. Conservation of potash resources until a state plant can be erected to manufacture fertilizer to be sold to farmers at actual cost. Vigorous prosecution of work of building new roads. Liberal support of vocational education in state. Legislation to prevent banks from escaping legitimate taxation. Development of system of state hall insurance. Abolition of the supreme court commission.

Recommended by Governor McKelvie

Mr. McKelvie's recommendations are:

The creation of a cabinet form of government, centralizing responsibility and eliminating useless boards and offices. Adoption of an executive budget for the administration of the state revenue. Calling of constitutional convention at the earliest convenient date. Providing that instruction in public and private schools be given in English, and the church used as a medium for its use and encouragement. State support of vocational schools, and teaching of agriculture and illiterates. Greater emphasis in school system of physical training. Prescription by state of essential subjects in elementary school curriculums with department regulations and inspection. Removal of barriers so that farm products may be carried to terminal markets and grain and live stock exchanges where co-operative effort may have an even advantage with all other forms of distribution. Encouragement of cooperative societies. Inspection of grain and vegetables and testing of butter fat and also of scales. Bureau to assist in collection of claims against railroads. Legislation to better control farm animal diseases and to prevent private monopoly of serums. Dog license law to protect sheep. Legislation to facilitate the work of county farm bureaus. Legislation to provide for organization of rural co-operative credit societies. Encouragement to consolidation movement in rural schools. Action to forestall further development of farm tenantry. Revision of taxation system so that taxes should fall heaviest on land owned by non-residents or held for speculative purposes. Declaring each school section a game preserve and barring hunters. Encouragement of manufacture within the state. Pushing good road construction and needed public buildings to meet unemployment problem. Tax upon motor vehicles as substitute for additional property tax to finance good roads project. Use of convict labor in making bricks for road purposes. Co-operation with federal government in reclamation of waste lands. Housing all old soldiers and sailors in one home, using other for Spanish-American and world's war veterans. Development of state parks. Amendment to workmen's compensation law giving speedier relief to injured employees. Reconstruction of national guard and continuation of home guard organization. Creation of state police force to take place of military in preserving peace. Presentation of gold star to each family whose son made the supreme sacrifice.

"That's just it," said the Chameleon delightedly. He had changed to another color for his disposition was much improved.

"It's this way," said the Chameleon. "I am very much like a lizard."

"The lizard wiggled with pleasure. "And I am not so unusual looking at first. I have a tail and my feet can grasp the branches, which makes me a very fine climber. But above all my body is very cold to touch—nice and refreshing and cool I'd say."

"Something like cold lemonade the children drink at the circus," said the Lizard.

"Not at all like that," said the Chameleon crossly. "Because I cannot be used as a drink at a circus. I am cold to the touch—not to the taste!"

"Oh," said the Red Lizard. "I understand now."

"Glad to hear it," said the Chameleon. "And yet of all these things I am not proud because I have something so much better to be proud of. I can change colors. There are little cells in my body—some of them deep, and some not so deep, and they give me different colors when I feel angry or happy or frightened. They also change with the colors about me and the kind of weather we are having. Oh, I'm very interesting."

"That's true," said the Red Lizard, "you are very interesting, and you have a great deal to be proud of. The colors you change to are beautiful and you are lovely because you have so many different costumes."



THE CHAMELEON.

"I consider there is nothing quite like I am," said the Chameleon.

"In that you are quite right," said the Red Lizard. "But that is not so much to boast of. There are other chameleons just like you are—there are other red lizards like myself. But you should not boast. I am not a lion, am I? No, of course I am not. I can answer my own questions, you see. Then why should I brag and boast and say there was nothing quite like myself? Just because I'm not a lion and a lion isn't me, and because I am not a pig and a pig isn't me—just why should I boast?"

"Ah," said the Chameleon, "you don't understand. Of course other creatures who belong to different families are not like you. Of course not. Why should they be? Neither are creatures of other families like me. But that is not my point."

"What is your point then?" asked the Red Lizard, who was growing quite interested. He really was very proud to think that the Chameleon was a distant cousin of his and he liked to talk to him. All the time the Chameleon kept changing colors, for his disposition was changing.

"You see," said the Chameleon, but the Red Lizard interrupted.

"Yes," said the Red Lizard, "I can see and I can hear too. Also I can eat!"

"And you can crawl! You forgot that!"

"So I did," said the Red Lizard.

"What a fine list of accomplishments you have," said the Chameleon. He was really rather amused at the Red Lizard accusing him of boasting and then telling of the things he could do—the easiest, simplest things in the world which were really just his nature to do.

"Thank you," said the Red Lizard, very seriously.

"You're welcome," said the Chameleon.

"But I do believe I interrupted," said the Red Lizard. "What was it you were saying? I am so anxious to hear."

The Chameleon looked at the Red Lizard out of his curious eyes with



their circular eyelids. "I do not think," he commenced, "that one is wonderful simply because one belongs to a different family or hasn't just the same ways as all the creatures under the sun. For naturally all the creatures belonging to the different families have habits and ways that are not like each other's. But I am very, very different."

"I suppose," said the Lizard, "that because you say 'very, very' that it makes all the difference. If you only said you were 'very different' it would not amount to anything. But as you are 'very, very different,' it means a great deal."

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