

TWO CENT RIDES

The Bill is Scheduled to Take Effect at once

THE EMERGENCY CLAUSE ADDED

Railroads Will Fight the Two Cent Rate and the Legislature Will Take Part

From our Correspondent Geo. W. Kline

The two cent fare bill has been approved by both houses and hurried to the governor. The measure won out, emergency clause and all. Governor Sheldon.

The presidents of railroads, it was announced from Chicago, had decided to fight 2-cent fare bills in all western states. For the purpose of bringing on the fight before the legislature adjourns it is said a majority of the members decided to rush the bill through with the emergency clause so that the contest may begin as soon as possible, and perhaps permit the legislature to take a hand in the fight.

In the minds of many members the railroads will certainly attack the 2-cent fare bill and the railroad commission bill. The fight on the latter may be deferred for months or years, but it is confidently looked for.

"We want to know," declared a number of legislators, "whether the railroads mean to fight the two cent fare or not. If they do we will get busy at something else. It is time for them to be good."

In the senate there was an effort to defeat the emergency clause but it failed. Senator Burns, Senator Gibson, Senator Glover, Senator Hanna and Senator Gould voted in the negative opposing the emergency clause. Senator Saunders voted in the negative and changed his vote after it was apparent that the emergency clause had survived. The first vote was 24 to 7. Latta and O'Connell being absent. The final vote, after the changing of the Douglas county delegation, was 27 to 4.

Those who voted in the affirmative were:

Aldrich, Ashton, Buck, Byrnes, Clarke, Dodson, Epperson, Goodrich, Holbrook, King, Luce, McKesson, Patrick, Phillips, Randall, Root, Sackett, Sibley, Thomson, Thorne, Wilcox, Wiltse, Wilsey, Wilson.

Slight amendments by the senate were concurred to in the house and the bill was hurried to the governor.

Senator Randall has taken up the cause of the critics of the state university. In his own language he means to "muck rake" the institution. This muck raking took the form of a resolution to compel the regents to outline a report giving all the facts and figures about the institution. The regents have intimated that the figures shall be forthcoming. On the other hand they insist that the only requirement for success of the state university is more cash and more facilities to instruct the students. Since 1900 there has been an increase of 100 per cent in every department, attendance and all. The regents insist that it is time to increase the appropriations to correspond with this rapid growth.

The railway commission bill has attracted considerable attention in the house. Two bills have been introduced to reduce Pullman rates and tax that corporation in proportion to the benefits received. So far, it is claimed that the Pullman representatives have succeeded in eluding just taxation. The railway commission bill places all the corporations in the public service under the jurisdiction of the railway commission.

Insurance has been thoroughly debated in the Nebraska senate. The rights of foreign and domestic companies have been ventilated and aired and interrogated. There seemed to be a well defined opinion that the foreign life insurance companies were dabbling in the matters of the home concerns. As a result a bill designed to wipe out the surplus funds was defeated while a bill directing that the policy holders be notified each year of the premiums earned, a bill forbidding campaign contributions by the companies, a bill forbidding waste of funds and several other corrective measures, were recommended for passage.

Senator King has taken possession of the bill designed to wipe out the lumbermen's lien law and his committee has recommended it for passage. The bill does not lessen the protection for material men but gives the builders of the state a square deal. A builder must be notified of all material delivered and the bills the contractors owe. If this is not done he cannot be held responsible under the lien laws. Lumber dealers who came to the city to answer the suit of the state took a hand in the matter and attempted to kill the bill.

A well organized fight by patent medicine firms has been directed against the anti-alcohol clause of the pure food bill. The druggists declare that the bill will render many stocks valueless unless it conforms more to the national law. Grocers, also, have some objections. The grocers desire an exemption clause allowing the

dealers a given time in which to dispose of certain wares.

The child labor law, the pure food bill, the anti-pass question, the railway commission bill and the primary bill are yet to be considered. So far about one thousand measures are to be scanned by the legislature. The final limit for the introduction of bills drew out a number of measures. The rush to feed bills into the hopper was headlong, and in some cases, indiscriminate.

The senate has passed the following bills: To make it unlawful to hunt or kill deer, antelope or beaver at any time; providing for a public library in every school district; a bill providing for the purchase of books for libraries; a bill to authorize the abolishing of school districts when voters in the district number but two; providing for a library fund at the Kearney normal; a bill providing for statements from life insurance companies; a bill providing for the lapse of judgments unless revived at the end of ten years; authorizing the licensing of saloons in townships; S. F. 173, relating to the issuing of school bonds.

The judiciary committee introduced a bill increasing fees for filing articles of incorporation, making minimum filing fee \$10 for corporations of \$10,000 capital or less. The present law makes filing fee \$10 for any company having capital stock up to \$10,000. For company with capital of from \$10,000 to \$25,000 new fee \$20; \$25,000 to \$100,000, \$50; if over \$100,000 additional fee for each \$1,000 in excess, 50 cents; and increasing certain other fees. The committee also introduced a bill providing that a railroad may increase its capital stock after filing notice of the desired increase with the secretary of state and publishing the same for sixty days in a newspaper.

Representative Dodge of Douglas county introduced a bill to establish a hospital for crippled, ruptured and deformed children and those suffering from diseases from which they are likely to become deformed, in the city of Omaha, and to provide for their education and government of the hospital, and to appropriate the sum of sixty thousand dollars for the erection of a suitable building, and to appropriate the sum of thirty thousand dollars for the establishment and operation of the hospital for the biennium.

Among the new bills introduced in the Nebraska legislature is an act by Representative Doran of Garfield county which seeks to abolish the office of county superintendent of public schools and create that of district superintendent. The state board of education is authorized to divide the state into districts for this purpose. The people of each division thus designated are to elect the superintendent who will have general authority over the schools of all the counties it contains.

The senate passed senate file No. 262, by Thomas, providing that a married man who deserts his family and fails to provide for same shall not be exempt from having his wages garnished. Also senate file No. 272, by Wiltse, providing that persons found guilty of intoxication or assault may be placed at hard labor any place in the county. This is aimed principally at the Indians in Mr. Wiltse's district, who enjoy laying in jail. It is proposed to make them work on the streets and county roads.

Governor Sheldon signed H. R. No. 98, a bill by the fish and game committee of the house, which prevents the sale of game during the open season or at any time of the year. The bill applies to all wild game, fish and birds now protected by the Nebraska game law. He also signed a bill to make the place of delivery of intoxicating liquors the place of sale, which is contrary to past decisions of the supreme court of Nebraska, and an act to permit villages and cities of the second class to sell light and heat and power.

People interested in the development of electric railroads say that senate file No. 198, now pending before the legislature, would greatly depreciate the ability of these roads to earn dividends. The bill referred to is short, and some argue that it is intended to apply to steam roads only, but as some electric railroads are organized as railroad companies it is believed the bill would apply to them if it becomes law.

Among the new bills in the senate, S. F. No. 366, by Thomas of Douglas, to establish a bacteriological laboratory under the direction of the state board of health, appropriating \$5,000 for maintenance during the biennium and \$7,000 for salaries and expenses.

A bill by Senator Patrick permitting county boards to license saloons in precincts only when the petitioners are residents of the precinct and not of cities or villages in the precinct, and to prevent the licensing of saloons within three miles of any United States army post, was ordered engrossed for a third reading.

Representative Raper, by request, introduced a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution of the state to prohibit the manufacture, sale and keeping for sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage.

House roll 453 increases the penalty for failure to bury dead carcasses from \$10 to \$50 and \$200.

ROADS LOSE OUT

State Wins Tax Collection Fight From Railroads

WILL NOW COMPEL FULL PAYMENT

The Arbiters of Politics Unable to Cope With an Awakened Public Sentiment

Nebraska has won its fight to compel the payment of three years' taxes by the Burlington and Union Pacific railroads.

The last hope of these corporations to defeat the collection of a million dollars in revenue due the state and its municipal divisions vanished when the following telegram from Washington was received in all the principal towns of the state:

"Railroad tax cases from Nebraska decided adversely to the railroads. Opinion of Justice Holmes."

The message was signed by the clerk of the United States supreme court of Washington. What the decision means is that the state of Nebraska and each county where the Burlington or Union Pacific taxes are owing for 1904, 1905 or 1906 may proceed to collect them by the means usually employed where a property owner is delinquent. State and county officers may levy upon the rolling stock, the cash receipts or any other form of railroad property if payment is longer withheld. All the injunctions that the railroads have been able to secure now fall to the ground.

Coming on the heels of the state legislature's action in passing two cent fare bills, the supreme court decision is a hard jolt to the railroads. The total of the interest penalty which the Burlington and Union Pacific railroads will have to pay to the county treasurers of Nebraska has been estimated at \$124,203.24 and it is increasing at the enormous rate of \$280 per day. Once the arbiters of politics in Nebraska, their utter impotence to cope with awakened public sentiment for just transportation rates and with public officials unafraid to perform their duty has received an ample demonstration.

One of the sharpest debates of the session occurred in the senate over a couple of the bills introduced by Aldrich at the request of the insurance department. The measures are senate file No. 203, requiring the annual apportionment and accounting of all surplus by life insurance companies and eliminating deferred dividend policies, and senate file No. 207, prohibiting misrepresentations by agents as to the terms and provisions of policies.

An appropriation of \$15,000 is asked for building an officers' flat at the Milford home.

Harrison of Otoe introduced a constitutional amendment bill in the house. It provides \$5,000 a year salary and free use of mansion for governor.

The bill introduced by Representative Baker of York to prohibit the selling or giving away of liquor to minors under twenty-one years of age was recommended by the house committee of the whole for passage. Some opposition was manifested, but the vote was 43 to 22 in favor of passage.

S. F. No. 198, by Latta of Burt, provides that railroads shall not run express, baggage or freight cars in front of passenger cars, on pain of a penalty of a fine of from \$10 to \$1,000.

Senator Sibley of Lincoln introduced a bill making maximum express charges 75 per cent of those in force January 1, 1907, and providing that nothing in the act shall be construed to reduce the charges of packages of four pounds or less and providing that no charge shall be less than twenty-five cents.

S. F. No. 358, introduced by Thomas of Douglas county, makes it unlawful to operate traction or steam engines for power in operating threshing machines without having same equipped with appliances to prevent the escape of fire.

Upon request Representative Thieszen of Jefferson county introduced a bill relating to telegraph operators and train dispatchers in the state of Nebraska and providing an eight hour day for such labor.

S. F. No. 143, by Sibley, the assessors' bill that has been committed to the committee of the whole, was indefinitely postponed, nearly every member of the senate taking the opportunity to jump onto it with both feet. In contrast to their previous action when all were in favor of the bill.

Senator Patrick has introduced a bill to make railroad tickets good in the hands of the bearer, regardless of date.

Senator C. G. Sibley of Lincoln stirred up the senate by introducing a bill establishing the maximum rates for wheat, corn and other grain products. His bill provides for a reduction of about 15 per cent over the

present rates and on some of the products it is a reduction of 15 or 20 per cent over the rates in the 1893 maximum rate law. He has introduced two other bills, one for a maximum rate on lumber and coal and a third on hay, potatoes and apples.

Representative Blystone of Lancaster introduced a bill appropriating \$10,000 for a statue of Abraham Lincoln to be made out of the Tennessee marble on the capitol grounds.

A bill has been introduced by Senator Saunders defining the legal holidays for the state as New Year's day, Washington's birthday, Arbor day, Decoration day, Fourth of July, Labor day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

S. F. 371 provides a twenty-five cent bounty for adult gophers.

Senator Phillips has introduced a bill fixing maximum freight rates on hay, potatoes and apples in carload lots, adopting the low rates.

S. F. 378, introduced by Patrick of Sarpy, limits the hours of service of telephone and telegraph operators to twelve hours per day.

S. F. 117, as approved by the senate, permits the game wardens of the state demand the right to inspect a fish and game license held by any person in whose possession game is found.

The house passed a bill permitting the spearing of carp, buffalo fish and suckers during the open season.

The house committee on finance, ways and means has decided not to appropriate any money for the expense of the state board of health, the members believing that the \$10,000 appropriated two years ago for the support of the board was illegally appropriated.

A bill has been introduced in the house by Representative Raper of Pawnee providing for the appropriation of \$1,250 for a monument upon the grave of General Thayer.

Killed a Few Bills.

A bill to repeal the law preventing a county treasurer from being eligible to more than two successive terms in office, was indefinitely postponed on recommendation of the committee on judiciary. The same fate met S. F. 310, to give the railway commission power to cause wires of any kind that may be found hanging too low over railroad crossings removed. The same action was taken on a bill relating to the perfection of titles to real estate.

Limits Guaranty Company Charges.

Senator Clarke of Adams has introduced a bill to limit the premiums charged by guaranty bond companies who sign bonds given by depositories keeping state, county or municipal funds. The premium is limited to one-half of one per cent. In case a personal bond is required in addition to a guaranty bond, the premium to be charged by the guaranty bond is limited to one-fourth of one per cent. The state auditor is permitted to revoke the license of any guaranty bond company that exceeds these limits.

Signed by Governor.

Governor Sheldon has signed S. F. 26, by Saunders of Douglas, making it unlawful for any porter, waiter, servant or employe to solicit or accept a tip or gift of value, or for any person to offer or to give any waiter, porter or employe any tip or gift of value, or for any employer to knowingly permit any waiter, porter, servant or employe to solicit or accept any gift or tip.

Anti-Saloon League.

That the anti-saloon league people are not disheartened by their failure to secure the enactment of a county option law is evidenced by the introduction in the house of a joint resolution providing for the submission of a state prohibition amendment. Those who are back of the movement are going about the matter in a practical manner, and as preliminary are endeavoring to find out just what legislators will favor submission. In order to secure this information letters were mailed to all members of the senate asking them to commit themselves.

\$25,000 for Historians.

The finance, ways and means committee of the house introduced a bill appropriating \$25,000 for a new state historical society building to be erected upon haymarket square in the city of Lincoln provided the right to the use of this property is ceded back to the historical society by the city. The bill carries out the cherished plans of the society that have before been presented to the legislature, when, however, a larger appropriation than is now asked was requested. The house committee has canvassed the situation carefully and will report the bill favorably since it bears its name.

Anti-Cigarette Bill.

Youths under eighteen years of age are to be prohibited from smoking cigarettes in public places in accordance with the provisions of a measure which has passed the lower branch of the Nebraska legislature. The vote on the bill stood seventy-seven to two. The measure fixes a fine for all violations of the provisions of the act by youthful devotees of the "coffin nail" habit.

A new church at Theford, county seat of Thomas county, was recently dedicated. As this is the only church building ever erected in that county, more than ordinary interest centers about the completion of the enterprise.

MUNGER THE MAN

Lincoln Legal Light Lands Judicial Judgeship

THE WINNER BACKED BY BURKETT

President Roosevelt Pleased With Munger's Endorsements and Appoints Him

Thomas C. Munger of Lincoln has been appointed and confirmed as United States federal district judge for Nebraska. The manner in which the naming of Mr. Munger for this high position was brought about is if anything, interesting. As soon as the bill providing for a new judge was announced, prominent lawyers from all parts of the state commenced to pull wires and telegrams by the score were hurried to Washington and among them of course were the strong endorsements of Mr. Thomas C. Munger of Lancaster county. The Nebraska delegation in Washington got busy and it was manifest from the beginning that Senator Burkett had a thumb in the pudding and he at once began a vigorous campaign for his old friend and fellow townsman. Mr. Burkett does things, and before others had an opportunity to show their fighting faculties the senator from Lancaster had everything fixed and his man endorsed by a sufficient force to land the place for him. In presenting Mr. Munger's name Senator Burkett laid before the president a bundle of letters and telegrams endorsing the Lincoln man for the appointment. After making careful examination of the papers the president expressed his wonderment that any man could receive such a big endorsement as given to Mr. Munger. The president is reported as saying:

"It is seldom that a candidate for high office is brought before me for appointment so universally endorsed as Munger. Therefore, I will take great pleasure in appointing him."

Mr. Munger's private life is beyond reproach. He has a comfortable home and a delightful family. He is a member of the First Presbyterian church. Thomas C. Munger was born at Fletcher, Ohio, July 7, 1861. He resided in the state of Ohio until he was sixteen years of age, when his parents removed to New Sharon, Iowa, where he attended the public school. Afterwards he attended a preparatory school located at Nebraska City and called Nebraska college during the two years 1879-1880. He was a student at Iowa college, at Grinnell, Iowa, for two years. The year following he was a student at the Union college of law, in Chicago, whence he came to Nebraska and was admitted to the bar at Lincoln on March 5, 1885.

WHAT IT WILL COST.

Fixing the State Capitol Building Will Entail Quite an Expense.

The committee consisting of Representatives Marsh, White and Besse, which on a resolution of Representative Dodge of Douglas has been requested to secure figures as to the cost of repairing the capitol building and grounds, submitted the following report:

Painting and varnishing inside and outside of capitol, total, wood and metal	\$10,750.00
Repairing plaster	1,250.00
Repairing all walls and ceilings	5,000.00
Kalsomining basement	700.00
Iron ceilings for corridors, first, second and third floors	6,000.00
Gliding dome, gold leaf	8,000.00
Changing heating plant, governor's mansion	1,500.00
Macadamizing roadways	2,500.00
Re-establishing elevators in perfect running order by electricity	3,000.00
Putting cement walks about grounds	16,500.00
Furnishing governor's mansion	3,000.00
Repairing south wall	20,000.00
	\$79,206.00

PRISON COMMITTEE REPORTS.

Sanitary Conditions are Found to be Excellent.

The state prison committee comprising Luce of Webster, Root of Cass, Phillips of Holt, Dodson of Saline and Holbrook of Dodge, reported that they had visited the penitentiary and found the sanitary conditions excellent, only one prisoner having been in the hospital in the past two years. The work of Chaplain P. X. Johnson was commended. The committee reported that it believed released prisoners should not be turned loose in the city of Lincoln, as this practice was bad in results for the prisoners, and instead the released men should be given transportation to their homes or to the counties in which they were convicted. The committee recommended the purchase of 160 acres of land east of the penitentiary which is now leased by the state. The committee said the discipline and management could not be too highly commended. While discipline was maintained the prisoners are treated in a manner to inspire hope for complete reformation and a better life after they are liberated.