

The Week in The Legislature.

Senate.

The senate was in session all day on the 25th.

Standing committees reported H. R. 290 to appropriate money belonging to the State Normal School library fund for the purchase of books for the library, to pass, and 418, appropriating \$5,000 to build a standpipe for fire protection and lighting repairs, and to furnish the chapel at the State Normal school, to pass. H. R. 560 was indefinitely postponed.

Steele of Jefferson moved that all appropriation bills be made a special order for Tuesday at 10 o'clock. His motion prevailed.

Canaday of Kearney moved to non-concur in the report of the railroad committee on H. R. 560. The bill provides that the secretaries of the board of transportation may draw up their own complaints against railroads and try the charges made under them, while the present law only gives them power to try complaints that third parties file with them. The motion prevailed.

S. F. 302, fixing the salaries of the deputy state officers beginning with the governor's private secretary, was under consideration when the committee arose at noon. The bill fixes the annual salaries of state officers' deputies as follows:

Governor's private secretary, \$2,000; deputy secretary of state, \$1,600; deputy auditor, \$1,600; deputy treasurer, \$1,700; deputy attorney general, \$1,800; deputy and land commissioner, \$1,600.

Fowler of Fillmore offered an amendment to cut down the governor's secretary to \$1,600 per annum, the deputy treasurer to \$1,600 and the deputy attorney general to \$1,600.

The amendment reducing the secretary's salary was lost. Fowler and Prout alone voting in favor of it. The treasurer amendment was also lost.

The committee was discussing the amendment to cut down the deputy attorney general's salary when the committee arose. Reynolds of Dawes offered an amendment making his salary \$1,700.

S. F. 238, J. Sterling Morton's forestry bill; S. F. 240, relating to the Institute for Feeble Minded at Beatrice, and S. F. 330, to refund precinct bonds, were all recommended to pass.

The clerk of the house announced the passage of S. F. 203, 136, 135, 117, 95, 132, 143, 18, with amendments, 113 and 298; H. R. 254 and 289.

Senator Talbot moved that the senate concur in the house amendments to S. F. 18, which carried.

In the senate on the 27th S. F. 249, the Barry reorganization bill, was recommended to pass with amendments conforming with the national reorganization of the army.

S. F. 266, requiring railroad and telegraph companies to list their property with the auditor for taxation, making slight changes in the present law, was recommended to pass.

H. R. 362, the bill to locate the state fair permanently at Lincoln, was recommended to pass with an amendment making it obligatory upon Lincoln to purchase the site.

H. R. 43, a curative act affecting the adultery law of the state, was recommended to pass.

H. R. 189, relating to the annual levy for school purposes, was recommended to pass.

The senate non-concurred in the report on S. F. 323, and it was indefinitely postponed.

The following bills were passed: H. R. 390, H. R. 418 and S. F. 338.

H. R. 418 provides for the building of a standpipe at the Peru Normal school for lighting extensions and furnishing the new library, the bill to erect which has not yet passed the senate.

S. F. 338 is the Prout revenue commission bill, one member to be appointed by the governor, one by the senate and one by the house of representatives.

In the afternoon the senate reconsidered the passage of H. R. 418, which had been passed without consideration in committee of the whole. It was returned to the general file.

The senate went into committee of the whole with Allen of Furnas in the chair, to consider the special order, H. R. 191, the Weaver insurance bill.

The entire afternoon was spent in the discussion of the bill and amendments. At 5:30 p. m. Prout of Gage moved that when the committee arise it report progress and ask leave to sit again. He thought the senate needed more light on the bill. His motion did not prevail.

Senator Crow offered the following bill in compliance with the governor's special message: S. F. 355, to provide for the settlement and compromise of claims due the state of Nebraska from persons heretofore holding offices of state treasurer and auditor of public accounts and sureties on their official bonds and for moneys due from banks designated as depositories of the current funds of the state and on bonds given as security therefore and to provide for the creation of a board to make such settlements.

When the senate met on the 28th it was decided to take up bills on third reading and passage before the special order.

Prout of Gage offered the following resolution, which was adopted under suspension of the rules:

"Resolved, That the attorney general be and is hereby requested to furnish to this body a full report of the status of all litigation now pending in the courts to recover from the bondsmen of defaulting state officers, together with the names of such bondsmen and the amounts of indebtedness; also the amounts due the state from insolvent depository banks and the names of the sureties on such depository bonds."

The following bills were passed: S. F. 214, 212, 211, 281, 238, 287, 266, 240, 201, 284, 319, 249, 172.

S. F. 211, 212 and 214 are bills to provide better roads and give public authorities power to purchase the necessary tools.

S. F. 231 provides for the purchase of 4,016 medals to decorate the volunteers of the three Nebraska regiments and Troop K.

The clerk of the house announced the passage of H. R. 610, the bill to purchase a residence for the governor by that body. House rolls on first and second reading were read.

H. R. 362, to locate the state fair permanently at Lincoln, passed by a vote of 27 to 0.

Other house rolls passed were: 68, 189, 43, 192 and 271.

H. R. 68 relates to the employment of child labor.

H. R. 189 relates to the annual levy for school district purposes.

H. R. 43 is a curative act legalizing that section of the criminal code relating to adultery by attaching a proper repealing clause.

H. R. 192 prohibits the employment of any female longer than ten hours a day in factories, hotels, etc.

H. R. 271 is the barber bill, providing a barber's commission and requiring examinations.

S. F. 231, the charter bill, affecting cities of the first class having less than 25,000 population, was passed. The most important change is the addition of a tax commissioner to the list of elective officers.

S. F. 176 was passed with the emergency clause. It provides for insurance brokers to write policies in companies not authorized to do business in this state.

S. F. 330, to refund precinct bonds, was passed.

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S. F. 330, to refund precinct bonds, was passed.

S. F. 302, fixing the salaries of all deputy state officers, was likewise approved.

The committee on constitutional amendments reported S. F. 354, the Schaal concurrent resolution providing for the submission of an amendment to the voters again to amend the constitution by increasing the number of supreme court judges, for general file without recommendation. Canaday of Kearney moved that the rule be suspended and the bill ordered engrossed for a third reading. His motion did not prevail, eleven voting in favor and fifteen against.

The morning session of the senate on the 29th was a busy one.

The investigation resolution of Senator Giffert was the first order of business. His motion provided for the appointment of Prout of Gage, Van Dusen of Douglas and Roewe of Lancaster county as a committee to investigate the state officers, including the judges of the supreme court and the secretary of state.

The clerk of the house reported the passage of the following bills by that body: S. F. 127, 151, 93, 97, 144, 145, 150; H. R. 385, 392, 292, 466 and 159.

The committee on revenue recommended S. F. 350, to be engrossed for a third reading. It is Senator Currie's bill relating to the disposal of property upon which taxes are delinquent. The motion carried.

At this juncture Spahn of Nuckolls moved that the sifting committee be requested to advance H. R. 331, the McCarthy anti-trust bill, aiming especially at the live stock exchange of South Omaha, to the head of the general file. His motion prevailed by a vote of 18 to 10.

Noyes of Douglas moved that H. R. 363, the Myers bill providing for compulsory education, be advanced to third reading. His motion prevailed and the bill was passed.

Schaal of Sarpy moved that H. R. 517 be advanced to third reading. He said the members from Douglas and himself had agreed upon this, as the bill related to locating the boundary line between Douglas and Sarpy counties. His motion carried and the bill was passed by a vote of 20 to 0.

The senate then went into committee of the whole to consider the appropriation bills.

H. R. 254, to appropriate \$35,000 to build a library at Peru, was recommended to pass.

H. R. 191, the Weaver insurance bill, was placed upon its third reading and passage. It passed by a vote of 29 to 1. Prout of Gage alone voting "no," explaining his vote as due to his belief that the bill was entirely unconstitutional.

The clerk of the house reported the passage of the following bills by the house: S. F. 125, 126, 129, 153, 155, 151, 156, 58, 80, 79, and H. R. 603, 600 and 599.

H. R. 297, to appropriate \$2,500 for the Horticultural society, was passed by a vote of 27 to 2.

S. F. 350, to provide for the foreclosure of tax liens, was passed by a vote of 26 to 1.

The senate went into committee of the whole on H. R. 444, the salary appropriation bill.

The salary of the stenographer of the governor was raised from \$1,000 to \$1,200 per annum.

The salary of the adjutant general was raised from \$1,200 to 1,500.

That part providing for a chief clerk in the adjutant's office with a salary of \$1,000 per year, was stricken out.

Under commissioner of labor the stenographer was cut out, salary \$500 per annum.

An amendment to raise the salary of the bookkeeper of the secretary of state to \$1,300 was defeated.

The salary of the deputy secretary of state was raised from \$1,500 to \$1,600.

In the auditor's office the office of bond clerk at \$1,000 per year was stricken out, also the office of insurance commissioner and insurance clerk were stricken out, to be placed some other place, owing to the passage of the Weaver bill.

The salary of the deputy auditor was raised from \$1,500 to \$1,600 per year.

The salary of the deputy superintendent of instruction was raised from \$1,500 to \$1,600 per year.

The committee on public lands and buildings reported H. R. 8, appropriating \$30,000 to build a new wing at the Hastings asylum, for indefinite postponement. The same was non-concurred in and the bill was placed on general file.

The senate had an evening session.

In the Senate on the 30th H. R. 418, to appropriate \$5,000 to build a standpipe and repair the heating and lighting apparatus at the Peru Normal, was passed by a vote of 26 to 2.

H. R. 264, appropriating \$35,000 to

build a library building at the Peru Normal, was defeated.

In making up the minutes the secretary of the senate discovered that H. R. 363 and 517, which were passed yesterday, had not been read on three different days, required by the constitution. They were put on their passage again and passed.

The senate went into committee of the whole to consider H. R. 444, with the Owens of Dawson in the chair. The following amendments prevailed:

Girls' industrial school at Geneva, matron's salary raised from \$600 to \$800.

Milford Industrial Home, sewing teacher at \$240 per annum added. A Motion by Talbot of Lancaster raising the salaries of the superintendent from \$800 to \$1,000 carried. His attention was called to the law definitely fixing the salary at \$800, and he was compelled to move a reconsideration. The law prevailed.

New insurance department, deputy commissioner of insurance, \$1,600 per annum; clerk, \$1,200. When this department was under the auditor the insurance deputy got \$1,200 and clerk \$1,000. The motion to add a stenographer at \$800 failed, the senate believing the clerk at \$1,200 could also be a stenographer. It was provided that \$350 be appropriated to pay the insurance deputy in the auditor's office during the three months before the Weaver bill goes into effect, and also \$250 for the clerk.

Milford Soldiers' Home, surgeon's salary raised to \$480 per annum, instead of \$400. Steward and nurse added, \$240.

Beatrice Institute for the Feeble Minded, superintendent's salary raised from \$1,800 to \$2,000; salary of five teachers reduced from \$600 to \$560 each.

The following appropriation bills were recommended for passage:

H. R. 296, Lincoln Asylum addition, \$40,000; H. R. 8, Hastings Asylum addition, \$30,000; H. R. 336, Beatrice Institute, \$48,000; H. R. 538, Institute for Blind, Nebraska City, \$6,000; H. R. 280, Deaf and Dumb Institute, Omaha, \$25,000; H. R. 275, Deaf and Dumb Institute, Omaha, \$7,700; H. R. 421, Jansen pure food bill, \$5,000; H. R. 9, Hastings Asylum, sundry improvements, \$15,000; total, \$176,700.

The closing day's session of the senate on the 31st was called to order at 9:15 by Lieutenant Governor Gilbert. Prayer by the chaplain was preceded by the senate singing a verse of "America."

The consideration of house bill No. 591, the general appropriation bill, was resumed. Appropriation items for the state institutions, as they passed the house, were reduced in the sums named:

Hospital for insane at Norfolk: Fuel and lights, \$14,000 to \$12,000; flues in three boilers, \$1,500 to \$1,000; board and clothing, \$42,500 to \$35,000. Total reduction, \$10,000.

Hospital for the insane at Lincoln: Electric light and dynamo wiring, increased from \$100 to \$300. Total increase, \$300.

Asylum for chronic insane at Hastings: New boilers, \$3,000, and resetting the same \$1,000, stricken out. Total reduction, \$4,000.

The committee was, as Senator Van Dusen said, "slashing in the dark," in making these various reductions, having no committee report or information on which to base their action. There was consequently much calling for "information," and much unsatisfying dispute as to the several items.

Senator Prout moved to reconsider the vote cutting out the items of \$3,000 for boilers and \$1,000 for resetting of same at Hastings. The motion prevailed and the items were restored, as adopted by the house.

House roll No. 421, the Jansen "pure food" bill, establishing a food commission, was passed.

House roll No. 8, appropriating \$30,000 for a new building at the asylum for the chronic insane at Hastings, on roll call received 17 yeas and 9 nays, and so failed of passage with the emergency clause. The emergency clause being stricken out, the bill was passed.

House roll No. 296, appropriating \$40,000 for the erection of a fire-roofing to the hospital for the insane at Lincoln was passed.

House roll No. 61, appropriating \$25,000 to provide for an executive mansion and furnish the same, was passed.

House roll No. 285, to authorize mutual hog insurance companies, was passed with the emergency clause.

House roll No. 621, relating to road taxes, was passed with the emergency clause.

House roll No. 585, authorizing the governor to appoint the superintendent of the boys' reform school at Kearney, was passed with the emergency clause.

House roll No. 385, the Detweiler bill amendatory to the Omaha charter, was passed by a vote of 20 yeas to 5 nays.

At 11:45 p. m. the senate, by unanimous consent, decided to be "at ease" until 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

House.

In the house on the 25th the following bills were taken up under the order of bills on third reading:

S. F. 203, making the offices of city marshal and city attorney elective in cities of over 5,000 inhabitants; passed by a vote of 71 to 6.

S. F. 136, making dogs personal property; passed, 65 to 7.

S. F. 135, an amendment to the mutual fire insurance law; passed, 59 to 15.

H. R. 254, amending section 6, title 2, civil code, and providing that there shall be no limitation to the time within which counties or municipal corporations may begin an action for the recovery of the title of possession of roads or streets; passed, 61 to 10.

H. R. 502, appropriating \$5,000 for the relief of Nebraska City; failed to pass, 42 to 36.

H. R. 289, requiring saloon keepers to furnish surety company bonds; passed, 52 to 28.

S. F. 298, the resolution of thanks to the 1st regiment at Manila; passed 29 to 0.

S. F. 18, authorizing the organization of a national surety bond companies; passed 65 to 12.

S. F. 113, permitting imprisonment at hard labor for fines and costs; passed.

S. F. 119, relating to action against joint tenants; passed.

S. F. 124, to prevent the careless setting out of fires; passed.

education bill, was advanced to a third reading.

The house adjourned to 2 o'clock Monday afternoon.

H. R. 318, by Flynn, an act requiring all buildings four stories or over, except those used as private residences, to be provided with one or more metal or stair fire escapes, ladders or stairs from each story, was passed by a vote of 74 to 2.

H. R. 621, by Detweiler, an act amending the tax law and putting one-half of the road funds in cities of the metropolitan and first-class in the hands of the city council to be used under the direction and control of the board of park commissioners in the improvement of the park roads and boulevards, was passed by a vote of 69 to 8.

H. R. 194, by Tanner, a bill appropriating \$500 for the relief of Cyrus Baker of Nance county, who was injured in the discharge of his duties as sheriff, was passed by a vote of 64 to 9.

H. R. 363, by Myers, an act to require all persons between the ages of 8 and 14 and all persons over the age of 14 and under 16 who cannot read the English language to attend some public or private school or schools in the state, and to provide penalties for the violation, was passed by a vote of 67 to 3.

H. R. 457, by Murray, an act appropriating \$3,214.86 for the relief of Thurston county and further appropriating \$2,584.28 for the relief of Dixon and Cumby counties, was passed by a vote of 58 to 11.

H. R. 517, by Myers, fixing the boundaries of Sarpy county, was passed by a vote of 67 to 3.

H. R. 347, by Fisher, an act creating a state registry of brands and marks, a state brand and marks upon live stock, was passed by a vote of 63 to 9.

A motion to go into the committee of the whole demanded a roll call and was carried by a vote of 57 to 15.

H. R. 303, by Israel of Dundy, an act to provide for the establishment and maintenance of the experimental stations located by act of the legislature of 1891 at Culbertson, Gordon and Ogallala, and appropriating the sum of \$30,000 for the same, the money to be expended under the direction of the state board of agriculture, was recommended for indefinite postponement, with hardly a dissenting vote.

H. R. 421, by Jansen, an act creating a food commission, defining its powers and duties and of the officers and agents thereof; regulating the manufacture and sale of foods, including "imitation butter" and "imitation cheese" and dairy products; providing for a system of reports, inspection and permits, and fixing fees for the same; providing penalties for violations, and making an annual appropriation of \$5,000 for carrying the act into effect, was recommended for passage, sections 5 and 11 being stricken out and many other minor amendments being made.

In the house on the 28th H. R. 366 the Wilcox bill to redistrict the state, was read and the roll was called on the passage of the bill, when the vote was counted it stood 31 for and 64 against.

Bills on third reading were taken up H. R. 421, by Jansen, the food commission bill, a bill creating a food commission, defining its duties and powers and of the officers and agents thereof; regulating the manufacture and sale of food, including "imitation butter" and "imitation cheese" and dairy products; providing for a system of reports, inspection and permits, and fixing fees for the same; providing penalties for violations and making an annual appropriation of \$5,000 for carrying the act into effect, was passed by a vote of 87 to 55.

H. R. 466, by Weaver, an act providing for the repairing of temporary plank and board sidewalks in cities of the second class, was passed by a vote of 71 to 2.

H. R. 159, by Armstrong, an act appropriating \$491.90 for the relief of Josephus W. Bush, was passed by a vote of 66 to 14.

H. R. 600, by the committee on deficiencies, an act making an appropriation for the payment of miscellaneous items of indebtedness owing by the state came up. Committee amendments allowed the Milford Soldiers' home \$1,724.34 for deficiencies to April 1, and \$531.36 "estimated deficiencies" for visiting and examining board. An amendment by Clark of Lancaster struck out the latter item and the other was adopted.

A number of small items of deficiencies for the auditor's office were adopted.

An amendment to the printed bill was presented allowing Mrs. Hoxie \$600 as matron of the Kearney institution, \$466.10 for fuel and \$231.61 for other items. A discussion on this amendment developed the fact that a matron for the institution never was provided for and the item of \$600 was unauthorized. It was stricken out and the other items were allowed.

The committee amendment allowing the secretary of the irrigation board \$1,445.75 was cut to \$500.

The deficiency claims for printing various state reports amounting to \$5,800 were allowed.

A claim for \$2,558.60 for salary of grain inspector was presented as an amendment but was voted down.

Amendments to the printed bill allowing the following amounts were adopted: Omaha Deaf and Dumb Institute, \$1,371.95; Lincoln Hospital for the Insane, \$2,106; Institute for the Blind, \$1,838.39.

Another claim of salary for a grain inspector amounting to \$5,640 was defeated.

The first thing on the 29th the house took up bills on third reading and H. R. 292, by Lane of Lancaster, amending the law regarding the grading of streets, repairs of viaducts and regulation of railway crossings in cities, was passed.

S. F. 127, the amendment to the Lincoln charter, was passed by a vote of 69 to 13. H. R. 392, by Detweiler, providing for the election of police judge in the city of Omaha, passed by a vote of 69 to 6.

S. F. 144, by Prout, to prevent the damaging or cutting down of shade trees, was passed.

S. F. 145, a curative bill relating to receivers of stolen property, was passed by a vote of 71 to 3.

S. F. 93, a curative bill, relating to the amendment of pleadings, was passed.

S. F. 97, 151, 153, 155, 156, 157, 129, 126, 125, 58 and 80, all curative bills, were passed.

H. R. 603, the miscellaneous claims bill, which carries an appropriation of

about \$45,000, came up on third reading and was passed with the emergency stricken out by a vote of 54 to 30. Several members recorded themselves against the bill because of the mixture of meritorious claims with what they termed a "plain steal."

H. R. 599, appropriating the sum of \$914.77 to pay for books and supplies for the state library, was passed with only ten votes against it.

H. R. 600, the deficiency appropriation bill, was passed. The claims provided for amount to \$30,669.41.

A large number of senate bills were read the second time and referred to committees.

H. R. 210, by Burman, providing for the government, regulation, examination, reporting and reorganizing the business of building and loan associations, was passed.

In the house on the 30th standing committees reported to the general file S. F. 249, 201, 213, 216, 284, 287, 330, 275, 277, 257, 187, 199, 137, 170 and 303.

In committee of the whole S. F. 160, Prout's bill to appoint a commission to codify the statutes, was indefinitely postponed without debate, by a vote of 52 to 29.

S. F. 202, requiring county treasurers to deposit funds in the banks of the county on an interest rate agreed upon between the treasurer and the banks, said funds to be subject to check, was indefinitely postponed.

S. F., by Senator Reynolds of Dawes, an act to provide for the registration, leasing, selling and general management of the educational land of the state; to provide for collection of rental, interest and principal payments thereon and for the distribution of funds arising therefrom, was recommended for passage.

S. F. 22, by Senator Noyes