The Frontier

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THE LEGISLATURE.

the Frontier.-With the week ending is to provide places at the pie counter on Feb. 13th, the present session of the legislature is half dead-that is, party in the future. Among the it has consumed now one-half of the sixty-day session, and, if it is to accomplish anything of real value to the past week may be cited the bill the state, the work must be done in the thirty days to come, or the mem- \$50,000 for a "seed wheat commisbers remain without pay and serve sion," to handle which commissioners the state for glory.

That there is little hope for legislation of importance is indicated by several unmistakable signs, among which, perhaps the most important. is that in addition to the failure to accomplish anything in the time already passed, the democratic majority shows signs of internal division to the serious extent that during the past week on the floor of the house in open debate, the accusation of "liar" has been passed between leaders of the majority party.

This serious rupture, which ex- State Printing Board, replacing the hibits to the public wounds that state treasurer, with the governor, may not be healed during the present and giving him authority to appoint session, took place between Taylor of the secaetary of the board, another Custer and Clark of Richardson, both salaried job for a waiting democrat. of whom were unsuccessful candidates Mr. Bates is himself a printer in his for the speakership and both of whom private capacity and in order to overhave been leaders of a certain section look nothing, while the opportunity of the party in the house. Taylor of offers has quietly dropped in a little Custer was engaged in opposing an bill requiring the treasurer of every amendment to the Sink bill, which school district in the state to print by Taylor was made by the railroads the number of school districts is large, committee and proposed to place the this in itself will provide a piece of whole subject under the jurisdiction democratic patronage of no small of the state railway commission, giving dimension. it the right to prescribe the length of trains and the size of train crews. week to week, and if the people do Olark of Richardson favored the not obtain legislation which they deamendment and was opposed to Taysire and need, they may find satislor's proposition for a flat fifty-car faction in knowing that a large crowd law, and asserted that the railway of democratic office-seekers are being operatives of the state did not favor carefully provided for in the laws that the law as supported by Taylor and are on the road to enactment. desired other legislation, the bills for which the railway men's organizations had drawn and placed in Clark's hands. This drew fire from Taylor, corporations of the state looked with a friendly eye on the candidacy of Mr. who launched into a scathing review of the attitude of Clark on measures Shallenberger, and that their valiant cess of his political aspirations. If serted that Clark's course before the motives were questionable. Clark in- that these obligations are in process rived at by the classification of prop. in the house and Fuller in the senate terrupted the speaker on a question of being discharged, but straws show impassioned oratory characterized all be guessed from whence they come. that Taylor had said as "a d- lie." It may be a mere coincidence, but The house was immediately in an up- during the past week a bill has been roar and cries of "sit down" filled the introduced in the House by Reprechamber. The presiding officer restored order and Taylor continued, his Harlan, from whence comes also Mr. only apology being to say that he had Shallenberger. This bill proposes to only been speaking of his observation repeal the terminal tax law passed by of events and that if his observations were mistaken he begged a hundred pardons. The incident practically property within the corporate limits closed with this and Taylor had the satisfaction of seeing his contentions for the purpose of levying thereon win over Clark's opposition, but the municipal taxes. This law added fact remains that the little outburst millions of dollars to the valuation of discloses a deep-seated division among the majority members of the House, which will not be adjusted during this session, and its influence on legislation will no doubt be seen in the final result which will show that the railways in those towns, the total legislation of real importance has been neglected, while minor matters and personal ambitions for leadership have been fought out to the detriment of the people.

no means being neglected by the best, the rough draft of the bill, as democratic patriots who own and prepared by him has not been satisoperate this session of the legislature, factory to either the governor or the is the matter of increasing the num- sub committee, charged with its ber of state offices and commissions framing, and the apparently intermwhereby additional members of their inable labor of framing this bill still party may be hooked onto the pub- proceeds. Sections of this measure. lic pay-roll. Every legislative week which have been given newspaper so far has shown numerous proposals publicity during the past week are of this kind, and the past week is no not authentic and are the guesses of exception to the rule. Of course, the the correspondent. It may positively proposal to increase the offices is albe stated that at the end of the week the measure had not received the apways hooked on to some proposition that looks fairly good on the surface, proval of those having it in charge. and is thereby calculated to receive It is possible, however, that in dessome public approval, but the fact reperation the subcommittee still offer mains that the prime object and insome sort of a bill during the early Lincoln, Neb., Feb. 15 .- (Special to tent of 90 per cent of these measures days of the coming week and thereby get off their hands a most disagreein the hope of strengthening the able duty.

Neither house of the legislature measures of this character dropped has so far shown any disposition to into the legislative hopper during favorably consider proposed legislation for the restriction of the liquor by Bowman of Nuckolls, appropriating traffic in any degree, or for the advancment of Woman's Suffrage. In every instance, where legislation, are provided at a salary of \$3 per day. bearing on these items, has as yet Wilson of Polk has an innocent little come before the House, it has been measure for an assistant dairy comsummarily dealt with and extinguishmissioner at a good salary, which ed. During the week, the Senate practically means a division of the killed Miller's constitutional amendpure food bureau which has heretoment providing women with the balfore been successfully and easily lot on the same terms as men and handled by one man. Fogarty of then went farther and also killed Greeley provides for a state live stock Randall's bill to give women the balcommission, of which the governor lot in municipal affairs and school shall be state veterinarian, and shall election. It has been asserted and appoint three assistants who are innot denied, and in support of the asterested in live stock. Of course, the sertion, a senator, himself a member commissioners draw pay. Bates of of the Constitutional Amendments Cass offered a bill reorganizing the committee of the Senate, has been quoted as admitting that the Constitutional Amendments committee had been selected for the purpose of heading off and killing all anti-liquor legislation and all that relating to the extension of the suffrage to women. Under these circumstances, the chances for progressive legislation along either of the lines named seem very small indeed, and should anything of this character, by the merest limits freight trains to a length of once a year a financial statement of chance, pass in the House, it would fifty cars. The amendment opposed all the transactions of his office. As apparently with certainty receive its death blow in the Senate.

Nebraska will be represented at the Alaska-Yukon exposition, but in a rather meager way. The appropria-So the dance goes merrily on from tion for this purpose passed the House during the week and carries a total sum \$15,000. \$3,000 of this sum is set aside to pay premiums on Nebraska exhibit at the exposition. This feature was put into the bill at the request of some Nebraska cattle breeders, who desire to exhibit their stock and feel that Nebraska should It was freely charged in the last arrange a premium list, which would political campaign that the railway in some degree assist in defraying the expenses of their long trip to Seattle. Senator Ollis and Miller have inof the character under debate. He as- support had much to do with the suc- troduced a bill which presents a new idea of taxation in Nebraska. It proways and means, railroads and judi- this was true, it might be reasonably poses a constitutional amendment ciary committee had not been in line concluded that some return favors which will permit the raising of all with what Clark had advocated when might be expected from the neighbor- taxes for state purposes by levies aphe was running for election, and hood close in and about the democratic plying exclusively to the corporations broadly intimated that all of Clark's governor. No one can say positively of the state. This result will be ar-



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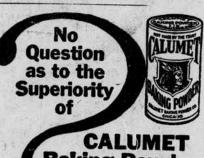


JOHN SKIRVING

ment of an existing statute. This killed the bill to give the farmers free leads to a multiplicity of trivial bills cholera-serum for the prevention of and about the third or fourth week of hog cholera: a bill to prevent Japs and the session they begin to fall by the and Chinese working beside citizens wayside from the frost of indefinite is in the house; one-fifth of the bills postponement.

A trick of the "peanut" of variety politics was tried in both senate and house during the week when Scheele

relate to new jobs for democrats on the state pay-roll; county stock inspection by brands to prevent "rust ling" passed the house; the law to subtract the mortgage from the value



One item of legislation that is by

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sentative Snyder, of the county of the last legislature, which permits local assessors to assess all railway of the cities and villages of this state Nebraska railways for taxation and has been highly objectionable to the railway corporations for that reason. While in some of the smaller towns, it reduced the village taxes paid by municipal taxes paid under this law last year were vastly in excess of the taxes paid by the roads for these purposes at any time in the past. This is the law and these are the results which Representative Snyder's bill seeks to repeal. The question is per-

tinent-are the railway corporations about to get some valuable recognition for their work in the last campaign?

The guarantee of bank deposits is grating on the nerves of the democratic legislators, and they are beginning to realize that it is a ghost that will not down. During the campaign democratic orators told the people how easy it would be to guarantee deposits without injury to any other business or interests. They are reaching the conclusion that the solution of this problem is at least extremely difficult if at all possible as a practical working business measure. Judge Albert of Columbus was employed for \$300 of state money to draft a guarantee bill after the democrats of both House and Senate had fallen down in the effort, has been working on the measure, and rumor says it is completed, but for some good reason the bill has not been introduced up to the end of the week. The rumors that abound explain this in some degree, and are to the effect that, while Judge Albert has done his

erty by kind and character instead of of personal privilege, denied the impu- which way the wind blows, and the by valuation as heretofore. It is not tations of Taylor, and in a burst of reasons for some proposed laws may to be presumed that the railway corporations will look with favor on this legislation. A good index of the disposition of the senate on corporation questions may be determined from its eventual treatment of this measure. It may be interesting for all people to watch the course of this measure.

Both houses of the legislature have begun to weed out the apparently trivial proposals to enact new laws by the process of indefinite postponement. During the week nearly twenty-five measures were indefinitely postponed in the senate, and almost an equal number were similarly treated by the house. A good many new members come to their first session with a desire to settle some neighborhood contentions by the enactment of a new law, or an amend-

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introduced reports signed by members of the committee on Soldiers' Homes, reflecting seriously on conditions in the homes at Grand Island school and appropriates \$115,000 and Milford, and the treatment al-

living there. The chairman of both Holt: senate and house committee had not seen or signed either report which six members whose name was attachthey heard the report read saying priates \$125,000.

they had signed without reading and under a missaprehension of the contents. The reports were identical in both houses and were based on rumors and gossip alone. The house wiped it off the record when the truth came out and the senate sent the report back to the committee on soldier's homes as did the the report adopted in the house and Fuller the same in the senate, but both were knocked out and the trick failed.

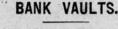
The present legislature bids fair to be the most expensive ever held in the history of Nebraska by over one million dollars. With none of the big appropriation bills yet in sight bills are bofore the house calling for over one and one half million dollars which added to the lowest possible estimates for the general state government, state institutions, salaries, claims, deficiencies, etc., as represented in the regular appropriation bills, will run the total to a sum only a littleshort offive and one-quarter million dollars. The total appropriations of the last legislature were a little more than four and a quarter millions, making the present outlook for spending state money about a million in excess of any previous record-and this was to be an "economical" democratic legislature and save the taxpayers money.

Some little scraps of news from the legislature this week are these: The senate was "frozen out" Tuesday by the blizzard and adjourned for the day: Senator Klein was blown against a tree and severely injured about the head; Lincoln's birthday was observed in the senate by addresses on the life of Lincoln; the democratic house

of the real estate for taxation the house; there is a bill to aid weak school districts to have six months

The following bill was introduced leged to be given the old soldiers during the past week by Henry of

H. R. 527 by Henry of Holt-Provides for the establishment of two had been prepared for political effect additional normal schools, one in the only and in the house four of the Sixth Congressional district, and both located where ten acres of land have ed withdrew their signatures when been donated for the school. Appro-



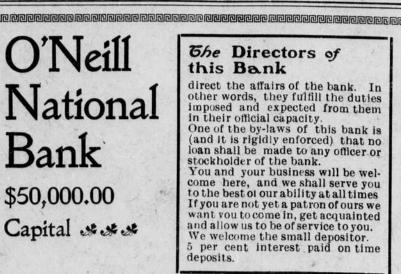
Precautions For the Purpose of Foiling the Cracksmen.

Many banks, especially those in cities, have their vaults protected by an elaborate system of concealed wires connected to a central office not so far away, so that the least tamhouse also. Scheele tried hard to get pering with the combination lock or any attack upon the door or walls will give the alarm at the central office, where men are waiting day and night to run to the rescue. The exact method and devices that are used are kept rather secret, for fear the burglars themselves might learn too much about them, but it may be explained that one part of the apparatus is an the central office. This delicate in**Baking Powder** Received Highest Award World's Pure Foed Expositi Chicago, 1907.

is the slightest disturbance of the hidden wires at and near the vault, so that a gang of burglars could hardly get to work with their drills and their nitroglycerin before the officers of the law would be upon them.

In addition to protecting vaults and safes from the direct attacks of robbers, electricity affords another safeguard by furnishing light which floods the premises with its searching beams. Indeed, many banks, stores and warehouses rely mainly upon the electric light, without which the thickest walls and the strongest and most complicated locks would be useless. They turn it on at night and leave their window shutters wide open, so that the interior may be in full view of the policeman or watchman passing the windows all night. This makes it practically impossible for lawbreakers to work unseen.

To protect the money windows of banks the teller behind the window has a concealed push button at hand, oftentimes placed under the counter where he can touch it unobserved. If any one tries to steal any money, the teller can call an officer instantly in this way. The circuit is sometimes arextremely sensitive relay located at ranged to close the bank doors also by an electrically operated mechanism bestrument closes a local circuit which fore the thief has time to get to them sounds the alarm the moment there and escape.-Harper's Weekly.



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