

PLATTSMOUTH HERALD.

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PLATTSMOUTH CASS COUNTY, NEBRASKA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 1893.

\$1.50 A YEAR.

GROUNSE INAUGURATED.

Tom Majors Presides and the Voice Was Canvassed.

LEGISLATURE AT WORK.

Speaker Gaffin Announces the Standing Committees—Governor Crouse Inaugural—Other News.

Majors Presides.

At 11 o'clock last Friday morning the sergeant at arms of the senate came marching down the center aisle of the house and announced the presence of the honorable senate. Behind him was Lieutenant Governor Majors and President pro tem Correll, then the members filed in. Lieutenant Governor Majors stepped briskly up to the speaker's desk and gave the speaker one of those hearty hand shakes so peculiar to the Nemaha county statesmen.

The lieutenant governor and the speaker held a whispered consultation then the speaker was handed one of those leather bottomed chairs and took a seat at the right hand of the blue shirt.

It was evident by this time that none of the trouble that some of the rumor mongers had predicted would take place during the joint session.

The lieutenant governor had been handed a gavel by Walt Seeley and tapped the desk gently to advise the members that he was present to preside.

After the joint session had been called to order the presiding officer stated the object of the joint session, and the body settled down to the business that might have been done in a week now gone.

The speaker of the house proceeded to open and publish the vote from each county reading the results on state officers in full. After the last county had received its proper attention at the hands of the speaker, the senator from Cass moved to take a recess until 2 o'clock. The presiding officer thought this improper and it was changed to an adjournment sine die.

Inaugural Exercises.

After a recess the house was called to order by Speaker Gaffin. Immediately after the calling of the roll, Howe moved to suspend the rules and allow the courtesies of the house to the public. Carried.

A communication was read from Chancellor Canfield inviting the members of the house to attend the monthly drill of the university cadets. The invitation was accepted.

Oakley moved that a committee be appointed to notify the outgoing and incoming governors that the house was ready to hear any message or communication they might have.

Sheridan and Oakley from the house and Pope and North of the senate were appointed to notify the governors and state officers.

McKessen of the house and Smith of the senate were appointed to escort the chief justice in to administer the oath of office to the officers elect.

The senate came in at 2:25 as if such a thing as a dead lock had never been known.

The committee came in a few moments later followed by Governor Boyd and Governor elect Crouse. They were followed by the state officers and state officers elect and took their places upon the speakers stand.

Governor Crouse arose and with uplifted hand bowed assent to the solemn official oath as read by the chief justice. Lieutenant Governor Majors then rapped for order and as Governor Boyd arose and stepped forward to the railing said "Gentlemen your Governor."

The governor took a large manuscript from the table and in a plain clear voice read his message to the joint session. The greatest attention was manifested throughout the reading and was greeted with applause at the close.

Address of Governor Crouse. Governor Crouse arose after Governor Boyd had finished the reading of his message and delivered his inaugural address. The plain, dignified appearance of the incoming governor attracted the attention of his auditors from the first. His reading was plain and distinct and the address was received with tremendous applause.

The address although brief was to the point and evidently elicited as follows:

Fellow citizens of the senate and house of representatives; The will of the people expressed in the mode prescribed by the constitution, has summoned me to assume the duties and responsibilities of the chief magistracy of Nebraska, and in your presence I have taken upon myself the solemn obligation of an oath to perform them faithfully.

What the demands of the office may call upon me to do I cannot at this time foretell. But while mindful that he "that girdeth on his business should not boast himself as he that putteth it off." I may say, it shall be my constant endeavor or promote the highest interests of the state, and as far as possible justify the confidence of the people as expressed by my election.

The conditions which attend your assembling at this time are much better than those which prevailed when the last legislature met. Two years ago the meeting of the legislature followed a season of severe drought which brought distress to a portion of the state, and for the relief of which private and legislative aid was invoked. It succeeded also an election wherein the vote among the several parties was so close as to furnish the occasion for a somewhat bitter contest over the count and over the eligibility of one of its candidates. Its settlement consumed valuable time and created a feeling unfavorable to dispassionate legislation, besides giving the state an advertisement it could better have done without.

Your meeting today finds the state enjoying a prosperity rarely equaled in its history. Business in general is good. The labors of the farmer have been rewarded with bountiful harvests for which the prices received in the main, have been fairly satisfactory. Even the drought-stricken districts have been especially favored and from their overflowing granaries they in turn have generously contributed to alleviate the distress of other lands.

The result of the recent election was so decisive and emphatic in the choice of state officers as to invite no dispute. Four respective bodies have been organized with a fair degree of harmony, and all the conditions attending the opening of this session conspire to favor good work. Incidentally I may remark that I should be better pleased if the legislature had been organized in political harmony with the executive branch of the state government. Not for partizan advantage, however, but I think it more advisable to have a united, rather than a divided responsibility. One party feeling the full responsibility for its action, and being credited or condemned in the judgment of the people for what it does or fails to do, acts under a restraint calculated to insure better legislation. As it is, however, the party that has secured the advantage of organization should feel the responsibility which attaches to it.

Beyond the election of a senator who shall represent the state in the senate for the United States for the coming six years, there is little, if anything, involving political difference likely to arise. It is to those matters which immediately concern the welfare of the state that you are expected to address yourselves and it should be done in a prompt business like way and governed by that spirit of economy which has a proper regard for the people you represent.

Nebraskans, in the main are a plain people. With most of them life is a perpetual struggle. Hard work, frugality and economy are their constant companions. They indulge in little extravagance themselves and they may reasonably expect their representatives to govern themselves in like manner.

The tendency of the day is toward extravagance and it nowhere manifests itself more than in the conduct of public affairs. Extravagance begets extravagance. An unwarranted or too liberal appropriation of today forms the precedent for tomorrow, and I submit to you whether your predecessors have not already passed the high watermark. Such is my opinion, and in my judgment the aggregate of appropriations made by the last legislature should be cut down fully three-quarters of a million of dollars notwithstanding the growth of the state in the meantime.

To this amount your own bodies might contribute some fifty thousands of dollars by giving no place on your pay roll to unnecessary employes and by the exercise of that economy which would naturally govern you if you were conducting your own affairs rather than of the state. Such an exhibition on your part would furnish a wholesome object lesson to those who would expend money you appropriate and would be appreciated by those who, through the tax gatherer, supply the money appropriated.

The state has generously provided itself with charitable and educational institutions. These should be neither multiplied nor enlarged unless the demand for the same be clearly shown. All estimates for the maintenance should be rigidly scrutinized and cut down to the minimum. A close appropriation enjoins the practice of economy. A too liberal one invites extravagance and permits fraud and dishonesty.

Recent developments have raised the question whether irregularities and fraud have not already found their way into the conduct of the affairs of some of these institutions. Whether further investigation shall establish their existence or not, the fact that the charge is made should serve as an additional warning that a too rigid scrutiny can not be exercised over the management of these institutions.

Through its committees and by the aid of experts if necessary the legislature should thoroughly examine into their management and if wrongs are found let the guilty be exposed and brought to justice. Corrupt men may be found in any party but the party may not be responsible for them unless it undertakes to shield them.

The geographical position of Nebraska—remote from the markets—the cheap character and immense tonnage of its products, make the question of cheap railway transportation one of first importance to the state. No other question has agitated the people more. Old parties have divided into factions and new ones have been formed largely on account of it. It has, for years been a constantly recurring subject for consideration at every political convention and at the meeting of every legislature, and it is to be regretted that the proposed amendment to the constitution providing for a board of railway commissioners to be elected by the people, submitted at the election, failed to receive the requisite vote. To such a board, chosen with reference to their fitness, invested with sufficient authority directly representing, and responsible to the people all matters relating to railway regulation might have been referred with a reasonable assurance as to the justice of their conclusions. Having failed, the subject returns to you. Your authority to control these public highways is undisputed and you will stop short of your duty if you fail to do so if occasion demands it.

Complaint has been widely expressed that freight rates are unjustly high. The press has repeatedly declared it and it was proclaimed from the rostrum in nearly every precinct in the state. One of the leading political parties said in its platform that "the great railway corporations do now take and have taken by unjust freight rates from the people of Nebraska millions of dollars annually" and nearly seventy thousand, or about one-third, of the voters who attended the polls last fall, in a measure, expressed their belief in the charge by voting for the candidates standing on the platform.

So grave a declaration thus deliberately proclaimed, should only be made upon a proper understanding of the facts and those who made it may be reasonably called upon to supply the proofs in support of it. I need not say to you that these corporations not only had no right to unjustly take millions, but should not be allowed to take an unjust dollar from the people.

On the other hand railroad property deserves the same consideration as that accorded to any other. While the roads should not be permitted to confiscate the citizen's property, neither are you warranted in confiscating the roads. We have already in this young state between five and six thousand miles of railroad, and we must have many more. We have invited and encour-

aged them in the past and should encourage them in the future. More than anything else, they have contributed to the wealth and development of Nebraska. The many millions of dollars thus added to our taxable property have been placed here, under the implied understanding that it would be justly dealt with. Let that faith be respected. Disregarding the opportunity of self-interest on the one side and the nations of extremity on the other, you let your treatment of the subject of railroad regulation be such as to commend it to that great body of fair minded people who constitute the great majority of our state.

But it is not my purpose, nor is this the occasion for me to discuss or refer to the several matters which may properly become the subjects for your consideration. The law requires of my predecessor that he submit to you a statement of the condition of affairs of the state together with such suggestions as he thinks appropriate. His message is before you. If deemed sufficiently important by me to emphasize anything he has said, or to call attention to other matters, I will do so by special message.

In concluding these brief remarks gentlemen I desire to express the hope that the most cordial relation may mark our intercourse. Although representing several political organizations, for the term of our service together let us be Nebraskans, inspired by a common desire to advance the welfare and glory of the state in which we all have such a just pride.

ARRESTED FOR MURDER.

HASTINGS, Neb., Jan. 16.—The Cole murder mystery has been the all absorbing theme since the arrest of Mrs. Anna Mason as the principal, and interest in the case was intensified this afternoon when it was learned that Edward W. Mason, the husband had been arrested as an accessory before the fact in the murder of Cole. Mason was taken before Judge Rohrer and entered a plea of not guilty. His preliminary examination was fixed for Wednesday at one o'clock, at which time sensational developments will no doubt materialize. The officers say that the case has closed as far as further arrests are concerned. Mason is charged with aiding and abetting in the crime.

W. H. Dearing, clerk of the district court was in Lincoln Tuesday watching the legislature.

The new school building will be opened the first Monday in February. Miss Alice Wilson has been elected principal and the scholars from the west Fourth ward will be transferred to the new building and the old one will be closed. Harry Dickinson was elected for janitor. Two new teachers have to be elected yet. One to fill Miss Wilson's place in the central building and one for the new building.

TORTURING ECZEMA

Editor Iowa Plain Dealer Cured of Insufferable Itching and Pain by the Cuticura Remedies.

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I am sixty-six years old. In August, 1889, was troubled with the peculiar skin disease to which people of my age are subject, known among medical men as eczema. Its first appearance was near the ankles. It rapidly extended over the lower extremities until my legs were nearly one raw sore; from legs the trouble extended across the hips, shoulders and the entire length of the arms, the legs and arms greatly swollen with an itching, burning pain, without cessation. Although the best medical advice obtainable was employed, no less than five physicians of the place being consulted and the prescriptions being the result of their combined wisdom, the disease, though apparently checked, would recur in a few days as fast as ever; during its progress my weight fell away about twenty-five pounds. At an experiment I began the use of CUTICURA, following the simple and plain instructions given with the Remedies, and in four weeks found myself well, with skin soft and natural in color, the itching and pain entirely relieved. W. R. MEAD, Editor Iowa Plain Dealer, Cresco, Ia.

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