

WERE THERE BY FRAUD

The Four Illegally Elected Republican Representatives From Douglas County.

ALL FIRED OUT LAST FRIDAY

Republicans Sign a Minority Report That Condemns Their Party Managers.

In the House—Wednesday.

In the afternoon session yesterday S. F. 173, a substitute for a bill taxing state banks on deposits to create a fund for security of depositors, was placed on the general file.

S. F. 14, Ransom's bill to reduce the number of commissioners in Douglas county from five to three and to reduce the salaries from \$1,800 to \$1,500, was re-committed for amendment.

The Ransom resolution to direct Senator Thurston to work for bimetalism was the subject of a protracted and earnest debate during the latter part of the afternoon. Murphy of Gage led the opposition to it. He said its purpose was to humiliate the greatest man ever elected to the United States senate.

Caldwell wanted it amended to include reciprocity and took occasion to criticize Senator Allen for having supported the Wilson bill.

Ransom spoke for the resolutions, reciting against Senator Thurston many utterances and writings in favor of bimetalism.

Talbot and Conway spoke against the resolutions and denounced Ransom for having left the republican party.

At the close of the debate the resolution was adopted by a strict party vote.

In the House—Thursday.

Immediately after the reading of the journal, Pollard of Cass offered a resolution directing the appointment of a committee of three to draft a bill to encourage the establishment of new beet sugar factories in Nebraska.

Soderman moved to lay the resolution on the table. The yeas and nays were demanded, and the motion to table was carried by a vote of 54 to 42.

When the secretary of the senate appeared and announced that the senate had passed the resolution directing Senator Thurston to work for the free and unlimited coinage of gold and silver, the announcement was greeted with a round of applause.

A memorial was read from the citizens of Omaha asking that no legislation be enacted effecting any radical changes in the fire and police commission law of Omaha. It was referred to the whole house, as each member had received a copy thereof.

The committee on engrossed bills reported back H. R. 5 as having been properly engrossed.

Roddy of Otoe took occasion to inveigh loudly against the method of holding up a bill in the rooms of the engrossing committee.

The committee on internal improvements reported for passage H. R. 164, for drainage of swamp lands, and the report was adopted.

H. R. 114, by Eager, to repeal section 12 of the law relating to county agricultural societies, was reported for indefinite postponement, but the author had it recommitted.

The committee on railroads reported for indefinite postponement H. R. 40, by Snyder of Nemaha, to prevent railroad companies from giving passes.

Snyder at once moved non-concurrence and that the bill be passed to the general file. This led to considerable discussion and Zimmerman of the committee said that other better bills on the subject were coming forward.

The yeas and nays were called on Snyder's amendment to place the bill on general file. It was defeated by a vote of 79 to 15. Those voting for the motion were Jones of Nemaha, McGee, Snyder of Nemaha, Morrison, Wooster, Robertson, Sovers, Sheldon, Hull, Snyder of Sherman, Soderman, Welch, Winslow, Cronk and Hamilton.

The same committee reported for indefinite postponement H. R. 41, to require free transportation of state officials by the railroads. The report was adopted.

The same committee reported for indefinite postponement H. R. 46, to reduce the salaries of secretaries of the state board of transportation to \$1,500 each.

Shull moved that the report be non-concurred in. The ensuing discussion brought out the fact that a subcommittee had been appointed to ascertain whether it would be best to abolish the state board or give it more power. At the close of the discussion the bill was ordered to the general file by a vote of 45 to 35.

The committee on fish and game reported for passage H. R. 27, to prohibit for five years the killing or trapping of deer, antelope, prairie chickens, grouse, quail, plover, snipe or curlews.

The committee on claims reported for passage an amended H. R. 66, for the relief of J. M. McMillan, ex-treasurer of Thomas county; and H. R. 15, to reimburse Boyd county for the expense of the trial of the Barrett Scott murder case in the sum of \$4,823.

H. R. 146, to authorize municipal corporations to compromise their indebted-

ness, was passed to the general file. The committee on miscellaneous subjects reported for passage H. R. 81, to punish bicycle stealing; H. R. 99, to punish chicken stealing; H. R. 62, to amend the liquor law; H. R. 23, to amend the law relating to warehousemen. They were passed to the general file. The same committee reported H. R. 56 for indefinite postponement. This was another bicycle theft bill. The committee on accounts and expenditures split on a claim of George H. Holly for work done at the state house before and during the session. It was for 27 days at \$2 a day. The majority favored paying it, the minority being against it. The report of the minority was adopted.

A claim of George Nelson from the same committee was reported for allowance and allowed.

A resolution embodying a memorial from Douglas, asking relief for that county from the inconveniences afforded by the inability of the insane hospital here, to receive the Douglas county insane, was read and the subject referred.

Burkett submitted a resolution to dispense with the services of the proof reader and hold the printer responsible for the correctness of the bills precipitated a discussion. On motion of Sheldon it was referred to the committee on employees.

Jones of Gage offered a resolution to make the proof reader responsible. Burkett opposed this and it was tabled after which the house took a recess until 2 p. m.

Among the new bills introduced was one by Haller, authorizing mutual fire insurance companies in cities and villages; by Muffy, to amend the usury law; by Beal, to provide against pitfalls into which stock may fall; by Beal, to provide for the formation of new counties; by Beal, to create a state board of agriculture; by Canaday, to require railroads to maintain union depots in cities and villages.

The chair ruled that a bill may be indefinitely postponed upon first reading. This was a disputed point involved in disposing of one of Spencer's concurrent resolutions the previous day, upon which the chair withheld his ruling pending investigation.

Ransom at once moved to indefinitely postpone Spencer's resolution commending Senator Allen for his defense of the credit of Nebraska, and demanding that the state fulfill its beet sugar bounty obligation.

Talbot's motion to make the resolution a special order for 2 p. m. tomorrow was defeated on roll call by a vote of 14 to 17.

Talbot then spoke in favor of the resolution and against the senate placing itself on record as in favor of repudiation of contracts of the state and a refusal to pay the state's honest debts. He read the statement of Senator Allen in the United States senate, wherein he said that aid would not be withheld where necessary to encourage the development of the sugar industry of Nebraska.

Senators Mutz and Beal spoke in opposition to the resolution and Senator Conway in favor of it. Pending Senator Ransom's closing argument against the resolution the senate adjourned until 10 a. m. tomorrow.

In the senate—Thursday.

In the senate Sykes presented a petition from Adams county for the payment of the beet sugar bounty accrued.

The judiciary committee reported back S. F. 25 with the recommendation that it be indefinitely postponed. This bill relates to foreclosure of tax liens. Under the rule the report lays over one day.

The same committee reported back for passage S. F. 17, to amend the time in which steps may be taken to review final orders of the district court.

Also S. F. 11, defining duties of county attorneys.

Also S. F. 14, to reduce the number and salary of commissioners in Douglas county.

Also S. F. 14, Talbot's bill to facilitate completion of mortgage foreclosures, requiring the mortgagor to give security for rent upon carrying foreclosure into the supreme court.

Senator Graham offered a resolution directing the secretary of the senate to make up the journal as to have as few pages printed as possible. On objection by Ransom it went over under the rule.

On motion of Sykes the committee on soldiers home was excused Friday and Saturday to permit them to visit the institutions.

The object of the republicans was to hold the house to the regular order. Under the regular order the house must soon reach the order of third reading of bills. The first bill on the general file, which must then be necessarily taken up, was house roll 5, which provides for a canvass of the vote for the amendment to increase the number of supreme justices. The majority, owing to the absence of two of its members, whose votes are necessary to the passage of the bill, were not ready to act on this measure, and therefore proposed to go into committee of the whole to work on other measures. This the minority did not want them to do. Hence the objection of Paul Clark that to go into committee of the whole would be a suspension of the regular order and would require a two-thirds vote.

Of course Speaker Gaffin overruled the point, and the house went into committee of the whole with Gerdes in the chair.

H. R. 29, by Phelps, to repeal the Russian thistle law, was reported back for third reading.

H. R. 89, by Soderman, to reduce the salary of the superintendent of the Geneva industrial school, was also reported back for passage.

So was H. R. 165, by VanHorn, regulating drainage of swamp lands.

So was H. R. 146, to authorize and enable municipal corporations to compromise their indebtedness.

H. R. 15, to restore to Boyd county the expense of the Barrett Scott murder trial, was also recommended for passage. The following bills were recommitted to the committee:

H. R. 46, to reduce salaries of the secretaries of the state board of transportation.

H. R. 27, for the protection of game for five years.

When the committee arose and reported back its report was adopted and the house adjourned.

In the House—Friday.

In the absence of Chaplain Mailley, who had been called home to David City Phelps moved to amend to include turkeys, geese or ducks and to make the maximum penalty two years.

Liddell offered an amendment including dogs, which the chair declined to en-

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Shull said that he had heard it stated that the republican party in the south since the war had stolen 1,500,000,000 chickens. He was not in favor of the bill, as the penalty is too severe.

After discussion Phelps withdrew the part of his amendment relating to the penalty.

Clark of Richardson moved to insert the word watermelon. It was declared out of order.

The amendment including turkeys, ducks and geese was adopted, and on motion of Paul Clark the bill was reported back for passage.

H. R. 26 by Rich, to authorize publication of notices of application for liquor licenses of any paper of general circulation, the old war between the World-Herald and the Bee was taken up. It also authorizes the same power that grants a license to authorize a transfer of the same to another place or person. Clark of Lancaster opposed this, and pending the controversy the committee arose and the house took a recess until 2 p. m.

Senator Ransom resumed his remarks on Senator Spencer's resolutions favoring the payment of the sugar bounty in the senate this morning. While he was still willing to endorse Senator Allen, he was not ready to extend his endorsement to include the sugar bounty. He declared that the minority was not honest in the matter and had no sincere intention of endorsing Senator Allen except for the purpose of countenancing and endorsing the sugar bounty.

At the close of the debate the resolution was indefinitely postponed by a vote of 24 to 8.

Those voting in the affirmative were Beal, Canaday, Dearing, Dundas, Farrell, Feltz, Fritz, Godinger, Graham, Grothman, Healy, Howell, Johnson and Lee, Miller, Muffy, Mutz, Osborn, Ransom, Ritchie, Schaal, Sykes, Watson, Weller—24.

Those voting nay were Caldwell, Conway, Evans, Haller, Murphy, Spencer, Steele and Talbot—8.

Absent—McGann.

Several senators explained their votes. In explaining his, Spencer set up an explanation saying that he had no aim or desire by the resolution to commit the senate to any future policy or bias on any proposed measure. There is no hidden sting or concealed venom in its construction. Its adoption simply means that it is the sense of a majority of the senate that Senator Allen is a broad-minded, level-headed, public-spirited Nebraskan, who is willing to throw aside petty party prejudices for the good of the commonwealth he represents.

Spencer said he saw no reason why any democrat or populist should oppose the resolution, although there was a reason why Ransom should not, as he was neither democrat, republican or populist. He is a political what-is-it.

Senator Howell objected, saying that Spencer's explanation was lacking in due courtesy to Ransom, and asked that it be expunged.

After an exchange of left-handed courtesies between Ransom and Spencer the explanation was withdrawn.

S. F. 25, relating to revenues, and S. F. 64, to cut down the salaries of secretaries of the board of transportation were indefinitely postponed on reports of committees.

In the house Friday afternoon the bill by Clark of Lancaster to make chicken stealing a penal offense was indefinitely postponed.

H. R. 5, for recounting the vote on the amendment was on motion of Hull of Harlan recommitted for the correction of an error in its engrossment, against strong republican protests, by a vote of 61 to 34.

Jenkins' motion to go at once into committee of the whole to correct the bill was lost by a vote of 62 to 32.

The effort of the republicans to get this bill disposed of before the republican contest from Douglas county could be unseated had failed, and the committee on elections at once submitted majority reports on the contest.

The majority report set out the evidence at length and the findings of the signers to the effect that the naturalization of voters as done in Douglas county in the late campaign was bribery, and that when all votes of voters thus bribed were thrown out on both sides, the contestants had received the largest number of legal votes and were therefore elected.

The minority report, signed by Sheldon and Eager, populists, and Rouse and Byram, republicans, held that it was admitted that a \$30,000 corruption fund had been spent by the republican managers, a large portion of which remains unaccounted for, and that the man charged with the management of the republican campaign, notably the chairman of the county committee, when on the witness stand, had committed downright perjury, as shown by their own evidence and the evidence of their associates, in trying to keep the actual conduct from the light of public scrutiny. This report denounced in unmeasured terms republican

methods in Omaha, but concluded that the evidence did not positively show that the contestants had profited by it, and was not sufficient to justify unseating them. This report was written by Sheldon.

Consideration of the report was made a special order for 10:30 a. m. today.

In the House—Saturday.

In the house this morning a number of new bills were introduced and read prior to the arrival of the hour when the Douglas county contest was scheduled to come up as a special order.

Hull of Harlan moved the adoption of the majority report on the contest case, and Fekler moved as a substitute that the minority report be adopted.

The yeas and nays vote showed 41 voting for the measure and 56 against it.

Those voting aye were Alderman Bernard, Blake, Burkett, Burman, Butler, Byram, Casbeer, Chittenden, Clark of Lancaster, Cox, Crow, Curtis, Eager, Eighmy, Endorf, Felker, Fouke, Goshorn, Henderson, Holbrook, Jenkins, Jones of Gage, McGee, McLeod, Mann, Mills, Nesbit, Pollard, Prince, Rich, Roddy, Rouse, Sheldon, Snyder of Sherman, Soderman, Sutton, Van Horn, Waite, Wimberley, Wooster, Young—41.

Those voting nay were, Ankeny, Billings, Bower, Campbell, Clark of Richardson, Cole, Cronk, Dobson, Eastman, Fernow, Gaylord, Gerdes, Givens, Grandstaff, Grell, Grimes, Grosvener, Hamilton, Hile, Hill, Holland, Horner, Hull, Hyatt, Jones of Nemaha, Jones of Wayne, Kapp, Keister, Lemar, Liddell, Loomis, McCarthy, McCracken, Marshall, Moran, Morrison, Phelps, Robertson, Sovers, Shull, Smith of Douglas, Smith of Richardson, Snyder of Johnson, Stebbins, Straub, Taylor, Terling, Webb, Welch, Wheeler, Wiebe, Winslow, Woodard, Wright, Zimmerman, Mr. Speaker—56.

Not voting—Mitchell, Schram.

Snyder of Sherman moved that the votes of the contested members be not counted, but the motion was not entertained.

Immediately Clark of Lancaster asked that his vote be changed from aye to no. The other members from Lancaster did likewise. The reason for this move was because the minority did not wish to remain on record as having voted for a report that showed republican corruption unless there was something to gain by it.

When the changes were all announced there were 11 ayes and 87 nays.

Jenkins at once moved that the majority report be indefinitely postponed, and spoke to the motion some fifteen minutes, denouncing the proposition to unseat the republicans as part of a partisan scheme to pass H. R. 5 to seat contingent supreme justices elect.

Loomis responded for the majority of the committee briefly and Clark of Lancaster followed him. He also denounced the movement as a partisan measure designed to enable the majority to carry

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house roll No. 5, and said that the evidence showed that the election in Douglas county was simply a contest to see which could buy the most votes.

Dobson of Fillmore declared the movement to be one in the interest of purity of the ballot. His vehement and pointed remarks brought repeated rounds of cheers from the gallery and the lobby.

Burman of Douglas, one of the contestants, charged that overtures had been made to him that if he would vote for the judicial amendment bill he would not be unseated and charged that Clark of Richardson had so informed him. He also said that he had not sought the office, that a friend had induced him to run by an offer to pay his assessment and that he had not spent any money to secure his election.

Clark of Richardson at once declared that the overtures came from Burman. The latter had stopped him at the door of the house and inquired about the contest. Clark had replied that there was a rumor that unless they would agree to vote for H. R. No. 5 they would be unseated. Burman had expressed a willingness to vote for H. R. 5, and Clark suggested that the rumor said he had made a similar promise before and failed to keep it, and that he would probably be unseated unless he was willing to make a written promise. Later Burman had written a note to him calling him out of a caucus, and had offered at that time to vote himself for the measure, and that Alderman would also do so. Alderman was present at the time. Burman wanted Clark to work for the deal, but the latter declined. Burman desired to know if the speaker could effect such a deal, and Clark referred him to Gaffin, who was standing near. Clark called on the speaker to make a statement.

Speaker Gaffin said the only proposition he had heard of came from Burman, which was that he and another man would vote for H. R. 5 if he was not unseated.

Alderman said that the conversation he had heard between Clark and Burman indicated that Clark had first proposed the deal, and when summoned from the caucus had said that it was too late for him to deliver the goods.

Burket spoke at considerable length. He said that Clark of Richardson had for a long time labored earnestly to keep the Douglas county republicans in their seats, and his sudden change indicated that he had been subjected to the party lash. He also said that Clark intimated to him that if seven or eight of the minority could be secured for H. R. 5 the republicans would not be unseated.

After a few remarks by Sheldon, who characterized the majority report as a measure of retaliation, the house took a recess until 2 p. m.

In the Senate—Saturday.

In the senate a petition from residents of Dundy county asking assistance in securing seed wheat was referred.

A petition from Brownville for an appropriation to make a state exhibit at the trans-Mississippi exposition was also referred.

Bills were introduced by Dearing, to provide for reorganization of the banking department; by Howell, to amend the law of attachment; by Conway, to cede to the government certain lots in York.

Beal moved a reconsideration of S. F. 14. He had yesterday decided a tie vote on this measure and desired to change his vote.