

NEBRASKA SENATE

PROCEEDINGS OF UPPER LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

A Select Summary of the Doings of a Week—A Mass of Bills, Resolutions, Etc., Acted Upon.

Thursday, March 2.

The senate yesterday killed a bill that makes the state auditor the insurance commissioner. The bill provided for a tax upon the gross receipts of insurance companies, also, but this fact was kept in the background during the discussion. Representative Weaver's anti-charivari bill was also slaughtered.

Holbrook's senate file 35, to require mutual benefit insurance companies of other states to have a capital stock of \$25,000, was recommitted for amendment. Some of the Nebraska companies wanted the \$25,000 section stricken out, as they claimed if allowed to go through other states would relate.

The Wayne and Minden state normal school bills went glimmering, the senators feeling that in these days of good high schools, normal schools were not needed.

Among the bills passed by the senate yesterday was senate file 15, by Van Dusen of Douglas, a bill requiring registration at primary elections. The bill applies to Douglas county, but its provision may be adopted by political committee in any city or village in the state.

At a meeting of the railroad committee of the senate yesterday evening it was decided to recommend Lieutenant Governor Gilbert's anti-pass bill for indefinite postponement. Several sessions of the committee were held yesterday and an attempt was made to amend the bill, but the lieutenant governor wanted it to go before the senate just as he had drawn it. Some desired to make some provision for permitting railroads to give favors for charitable purposes, such as the transportation of poor persons who may have orders from county boards, or to ministers of the gospel, or to members of the legislature. As drawn by the lieutenant governor the bill made it a misdemeanor for any person to give or accept a railroad pass, the only exception being railroad employees who might accept free passes.

The railroad committee decided to recommend senate file 264, by Smith, for indefinite postponement. The bill amends the railroad law so that in any suit brought to recover unjust charges the burden of proof that the charges are just shall rest upon the railroad.

Friday, March 3.

The railroad committee reported adversely on senate file 379, an anti-pass bill introduced by the lieutenant governor through the courtesy of the senate. The report was rejected and the bill was placed on the general file by a vote of 18 to 12. Six republicans and twelve fusionists voted to place the bill on file. Whether it will ever see light is another question. Before this action was taken, however, the fusionists had to run the gauntlet of republican criticism for their failure to pass such a law two years ago.

Senate file 18, by Talbot, providing for the organization of mutual guarantee bond companies to insure the fidelity of persons holding places of trust in the state, in any county, city or corporation, was read the third time and passed without opposition.

Senate file 189, by Reynolds, was recommended for passage. The bill provides for the general management of school lands. There is a provision in the bill that permits the land commissioner to offer school lands for lease at less than the appraised valuation and lease it to persons who will pay 6 per cent on the highest valuation, as annual rental, if in his judgment, it is to the best interests of the state to accept such bid. The provision is intended to cover poor land that cannot be leased to bidders under the present law on account of the high price. It is estimated that this land that is not now leased will bring in \$30,000 a year to the state if permitted to be leased for what it will bring. Much of it is suitable only for grazing purposes.

Saturday, March 4.

The senate yesterday considered Senator Prout's bill providing for the appointment of a commission to revise the statutes. While there was little discussion on this measure, there were some important amendments offered and the bill as amended was recommended for passage. It is believed that the expense contemplated by the bill will amount to about \$10,000. The bill at first contained the names of ex-Governor Holcomb, J. E. Cobley and Charles S. Lobingier as the proposed commissioners to revise the statutes. These names were stricken out by an amendment offered by Canaday of Kearney. Mr. Canaday said he had no objection to the personnel of the commission, but he believed the naming of a commission in the bill might render it unconstitutional. His amendment provided for the appointment of a non-partisan commission, the governor to have the appointing power. An amendment by Owens of Dawson reduced the salary of each commissioner from \$2,500 to \$2,000, and cut out all allowances for expenses, except \$50 a month for a clerk for each commissioner for time actually employed.

The senate passed the following bills yesterday: House roll 24, providing punishment for guardians who fail to carry out orders of court; house roll 21, relating to the modification of judgments; house roll 22, providing for legal proceedings against guardians in certain cases; house roll 27, enlarging the scope of the law against obtaining money under false pretense.

Adjourning to Monday.

Monday, March 6.

The senate was not in session Saturday.

Tuesday, March 7.

A number of petitions were received in the senate yesterday. The Pollard revenue bill from the house was read the first time.

The following bills were read the third time and passed: Senate file 66, by Prout, repealing section 1, chapter 28, that exempts from taxation tools and machinery used in working any coal mine in this state.

Senate file 138, by Prout, repealing sections 39, 40 and 41 chapter 28, compiled statutes of 1897, relating to the disposition of unclaimed witness fees. Senate file 691, by Prout, repealing section 13, chapter 86, compiled statutes, providing that all actions relating to the penitentiary shall be brought in the name of the warden, and that he may sue and be sued.

Speaker Clark's insurance bill, house roll 106, providing that fire insurance policies might be transferred without notice to the company issuing them, was indefinitely postponed on recommendation of the insurance committee. It was claimed that the bill had some bad features. A later motion to recommend this bill failed to obtain.

A great deal of useless debate was indulged in over Schaal's resolution against an alliance with Great Britain. It was finally indefinitely postponed.

House roll 157, requiring those who pay municipal bonds to report the fact to the state auditor, was indefinitely postponed. House roll 118, a similar bill relating to county bonds, was in danger of the same fate, but action was deferred. A little further along in the session the recommendation of the committee of the whole in regard to these bills was changed so as to show that the committee had reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Wednesday, March 8.

The senate finally received a report yesterday from the military committee on Adjutant General Barry's bill, senate file 249, for the reorganization of the Nebraska national guard. The bill provides for the addition of one corps of engineers, one hospital corps and one signal corps. The bill is so constructed that there may be three regiments if the number in each is reduced, but in the house the appropriation bill was drawn on a basis of two regiments. It is the intention of the adjutant general to make the number of men in the guard conform to the size of the appropriation. The military committee reported favorably on the reorganization bill and also on senate file 281, a bill by Senator Prout, authorizing the governor to secure 4,016 medals for presentation to the Nebraska soldiers who participated in the war with Spain. This number includes troop K of Milford that served with the Third United States cavalry.

Among the bills passed yesterday was senate file 23, abolishing the county commissioner district system in Douglas county and providing that the county commissioners in that county shall be elected by the vote of the entire county. Senate file 203, by Newell of Cass, making the offices of city attorney and marshal elective offices, was passed. The bill was introduced to apply to Plattsmouth and cities of that class. Senate file 110, by Noyes, giving the county superintendent added discretionary powers in the matter of the organization and consolidation of school districts, was passed. Senate file 127, by Talbot of Lancaster, was reported ready for passage, but on motion of its introducer it was recommitted and amended so as to provide that paving material may be selected by the owners of a plurality of abutting front feet. The bill contains several amendments to the Lincoln city charter, that applies only to the city of Lincoln.

Thursday, March 9.

The house passed several bills yesterday morning. In committee of the whole the house considered Weaver's insurance bill. The bills that were passed were: The barber's bill, making it necessary for a barber to pass an examination before entering upon his profession, and the residence agency insurance law.

An effort was made to have the free attendance high school bill and the compulsory education bill made a special order in committee of the whole, but it failed.

Jensen of Jefferson moved to appropriate \$250 for the soldiers of the First regiment to be taken to them by Mrs. Angie F. Newman, who is about to go there. This provoked considerable discussion and ended in a committee being appointed to get the views of Governor Poynter in the matter. Later a special message of the governor was received recommending the appropriation of \$3,000 to use for the First and Third regiments. The finance, ways and means committee was instructed to draw up a bill in conformity with the governor's recommendation.

Friday, March 3.

In the house the chief business yesterday was the consideration of house roll No. 191, Weaver's insurance bill, placing the insurance department of the state in the control of the governor. It had been considered one day in committee of the whole without being finished and was finished yesterday afternoon, the entire time being consumed in the discussion of the wisdom of placing a 3 per cent tax upon the gross premiums of European insurance companies as against a tax of only 2 per cent on companies doing business in Nebraska from other states. It was contended that the discrimination was not unjust and that the foreign companies were well able to bear it; that the end would result in revenue to the state without imposing a burden of taxation and would not be against the interests of other insurance organizations established under the laws of the United States. The arguments were quite long and energetic at times. The tax was finally placed at 3 per cent after a movement to make it 2 1/2 per cent was voted down. The committee then rose and made the bill a special order again for this afternoon.

Governor Poynter announced that he had signed the bill authorizing the state board of health to appoint a state board of examiners in embalming.

The house passed house roll No. 7, providing for the submission to the electors of the state a proposition to hold a constitutional convention.

Clerk of the Supreme Court D. A. Campbell, in response to the request of the house that he furnish amount of fees received by him since beginning of his term reported the total amount of fees received from July 1, 1898, to January 1, 1899, as \$63,954.50. Of the above amount he expended for clerk hire and assistance in office, \$17,155.35; net receipts for period named in resolution, about nine years, \$46,799.15.

Saturday, March 4.

The house yesterday passed Pollard's revenue bill and reported favorably upon Weaver's insurance bill, after the third day of consideration in committee of the whole. Pollard's bill received 51 votes, exactly the number necessary to pass it, after three calls of the house. Some of the members who at first voted against the measure changed and voted for it or it would have been killed. Ten members were absent on the roll call. Weaver's insurance bill was recommended for passage from the committee of the whole by a unanimous vote.

The vote on Pollard's revenue bill was as follows: THOSE VOTING AYE—51. Anderson, Lan. Harris, Schable, Armstrong, Hicks, Scott, Berlet, Jansen, Slocke, Blomer, Johnson, Swan, Flynn, Lamm, Tanner, Broderick, Lemar, Thompson of Burman, Memminger, Merrick, Burns, Myer, Tucker, Chittenden, McCarthy, Vandegriff, Cosgrove, McGinley, Walling, Cunningham, Nesbit, Weaver, Eastman, Gustaf, Wilson, Evans, Pollard, Wilcox, Fisher, Peck, Woodward, Groell, Prince, Young, Grovesnor, House, Zellers, Harrison, Sandall, Mr. Speaker, Israel.

THOSE VOTING NAY—39. Beverly, Grafton, Murray, Bouler, Grandstaff, McCracken, Bower, Haller, Shore, Hinkle, Hardy, Smith, Butler, Cawthra, Hastings, Sturgess, Chambers, Hathorn, Taylor, (Cust) Crockett, Hibbert, Taylor, Fill, Dobry, Kierste, Thompson of Easterling, Loomis, Clay, Edwood, Mann, Watson, Enlcott, Milbourn, Wheeler, Pritz, Morrison, Wymann, Fuller.

ABSENT AND NOT VOTING—10. Conwell, Hall, Smith, Saline, Cox, Houck, Smith, Rich, Detweiler, Jones, Smithberger, Dittmar.

Hibbert and Mann voted aye first, but changed to no, while Burns, Fisher and Limar changed from the negative side to the affirmative.

Monday, March 6.

The house was not in session Saturday.

Tuesday, March 7.

The house yesterday spent the greater portion of the session in committee of the whole discussing bills on general file. In the morning the bill which has been so thoroughly lobbied by a number of county officers of the state, lengthening the terms of office of all county officers except the members of the judiciary, to four years and providing that the incumbents shall hold their term one year longer, was killed after quite a little discussion, principally on provisions of the bill other than those most apparent. The consideration of the measure ceased just before the joint convention and in the hurry of the moment, the members were in no mood for a long debate.

Senate file No. 23, Senator Talbot's bill providing that in appeals in foreclosure proceedings, a bond shall be given to cover the rental value of the property in litigation, was killed, the house not even discussing it. The bill was discussed for two days in the senate. A similar bill was killed two years ago.

The afternoon session in the house was spent in committee of the whole discussing the salary appropriation bill. Very few changes were made from those the committee reported and the members after trying to create havoc with the committee recommendations for the supreme court and the assistants in that department were forced to leave it as it was, with the exception of raising the salaries of bailiffs which were raised to \$1,000 from \$750 in the bill. When it came to the matter of the salaries of the members of the board of transportation, Easterling of Buffalo moved to provide for the three members. The committee had recommended appropriating salary for only one member and this went through after a long and somewhat heated debate.

Wednesday, March 8.

The house tackled the university appropriation for salaries yesterday and had a tussle all day. The matter came up in the morning when the salary bill, house roll No. 444, was being considered in committee of the whole. Easterling of Buffalo county moved to strike out the provision for \$242,000 for salaries and he succeeded in getting his amendment adopted. In place of that sum of \$200,000 was inserted, or less than the amount appropriated for salaries at the last session of the legislature. This was naturally very displeasing to some of the members and when the bill was reported from the committee for passage, Pollard of Cass moved an amendment to a motion of similar effect by Jansen of Jefferson that the bill be recommitted to the committee of the whole for additional consideration on the appropriation for the state university alone. Roll call on this motion showed forty-five members in favor and forty-three members opposed and it was declared carried. The debate when the question came up each time was very warm and especially when Finley Cunningham and Taylor of Custer opposed the field. It is believed that the bill received the treatment largely because of some misleading figures, which were sprung and to refute which the friends of the bill did not have data at hand.

The house, while in the appropriation business, agreed to give \$35,000 to the Peru normal school for a new chapel and library building. An attempt was made to lower the salary of the secretary of the governor from \$5,000, where the committee placed it, to \$1,500, where the standing committee recommended it should stand. The friends of the secretary seemed to be in evidence to their fullest extent and the motion did not prevail.

See Hacking. There are several rules which one should keep in mind with regard to bathing at the seashore. A strong and vigorous person may bathe early in the morning before breakfast, but young children and those not strong should not bathe until more than two hours after eating. Avoid bathing when the body is cooling after perspiration. Leave the water immediately if the slightest feeling of chilliness is observed. Persons whose hands and feet have feeling of numbness and cold after being in the water a short time should not bathe in the open air. Do not bathe when tired.

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All departments offer values such as have never been offered to a Lincoln public before. Every line of merchandise is priced as low as it is possible for us to reduce it, in fact, nothing has been neglected or overlooked in the preparations for this, the most important event in our history.

This week's selling has indeed been most gratifying, the vast armies of buyers that filled the store proved conclusively that people fully appreciate our offerings and realize what a saving an event of this kind means to them. Our object is to raise a large sum of money as speedily as possible and to accomplish this we spare nothing; profit and price are alike sacrificed.

THE GREATEST CARE AND ATTENTION GIVEN TO MAIL ORDERS.

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HARDY'S COLUMN.

(Continued From Fifth Page.)

These camels were landed at Galveston, loaded with military supplies and started on their mission of distribution among the new military posts. It was soon discovered that water was plenty and that pack mules could do the work much better than camels. As the work increased horses and mules increased and the camels so frightened the other stock they had to be turned loose to shirk for themselves or be eaten by the Indians. Small bands of them are still often seen roaming the desert, some far down in Mexico.

The first work of building a city was the locating and erection of a strong log store house, on a clear plot of ground, with not a bush or rock in its row shot distance behind which an Indian could lay in ambush. They had no fears of an open field attack and went about their work as unconcerned as though there was not an Indian in a thousand miles. The house built and their goods stored, the next thing was a ferry boat to cross the river with. This completed they commenced prospecting for gold. They found several mining camps but no rich placer diggings. They found several leads of silver but not very profitable to smelt.

Their trade did not amount to much. They sold mining tools, blasting powder, flour, coffee and sugar. There was little call for broadcloth and dress goods for most of their neighbors wore no clothes at all. Blankets and skirts for the women reaching from waist to knees were full party dress suits. Their houses were built of barks, brush and sometimes covered with skins.

The Mohaves were their nearest neighbors and their headquarters were on the river just below. They were generally peaceable and trusty. Food was not plenty. Large game scarce. They had no means of transportation beside the canoe, pack pony, and squaw, so they moved themselves to the food instead of bringing their food to a permanent home. The river bank was more of a permanent home than any other spot. They spend their winters here. Wild fowls, ducks, geese and other birds flocked, spent the winter here by the thousands. These were shot with arrows and caught with baited hooks. During the winter fish, too, were more plentiful than in any other season of the year, and great quantities were caught in various ways.

Along the river valley was the only ground on which corn could be grown and the winter was the corn season. The squaws planted and tended the corn, but most of it was eaten in the roasting ear, so the harvest was light. We are glad to see that a bill is before our legislature to reduce the salary of district court clerks to two thousand a year. Some of them have been receiving twelve to eighteen thousand. It was a poor excuse, that one of the members urged, that such a salary was some two much, for the Quaker clerk spent four thousand corrupting the ballot box, or he never would have been elected. We are not in favor of election money. The Amherst people know how they want to vote excepting those who want money for it.

About the Indians next week.

MAYOR JONES

Mayor Jones has come to his senses before Pingle has been able to arrive at that point. He has given up all hope of returning to the republican party, and has come out in opposition to it and will run as an independent candidate. In his

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- Will sell a fine, high grade, spring wheat Flour for.....80c Cheap at \$1.
- All Straight Patent.....80c
- A fine bread Flour.....75c Every sack warranted.
- 4 cans Sugar corn.....25c
- 5 cans first quality Peas.....25c
- 20 lbs No. 2 Granulated Sugar.....\$1.00
- 20 lbs C Sugar.....\$1.00
- 4 cans best Lye for.....25c
- Good Coffee.....95c

J. W. HARTLEY, MG'R.

first sentence he adopts the war cry of the populist party as the slogan to rally his followers. It is a good old war cry and has sustained the populists in every fight that they have ever made against plutocracy. In declaring himself a candidate, Mayor Jones says:

"The republican convention of this city has today repudiated the administration of the Mayor's office for the last two years. The principles that have guided me and upon which I will go before the people as an independent candidate are: Equal opportunities for all and special privileges to none; public ownership of all public utilities; the wealth created by the people should be for the people's benefit rather than for the private profit of the few; no grant of new or extension of existing franchises; the abolition of the private contract system of doing city work, a source of corruption equally as great as that occasioned by the granting of franchises, and the substitution thereof of the day labor plan with a minimum wage of \$1.50 a day of eight hours for common labor, organized labor to be employed on all public work."

"As no criticism has been entered against the administration of the mayor's office it follows that my defeat for re-nomination in the convention today is a repudiation of these principles. In the convention today I made the battle of my life to sustain the support of the republican party for these principles but the enacting of the manipulators won the day, and, I believe, stifled the will of a majority of the republicans. Asking for the support of all who believe that the people and not the machine should rule, I announce myself as an independent candidate for the office of mayor."

The B. L. Paine Clothing Store is removed to 1217 O St., near the Miller & Paine Dry Goods Store.

THE DIFFERENCE. The first bill passed by the legisla-ture of two years ago was that to enable the members to secure their pay. The republican press made a great ado over it, as if it were something unusual. The first bill passed by the pres-

ent legislature was for an exactly similar purpose, but nobody has seen a single reference to the subject in a republican newspaper. It makes a good deal of difference who does a thing, you see.—Plattsmouth Journal.

WE MANUFACTURE

Carriages, Phaetons, and Wagons of all kinds; put on Rubber Tops, Cushions, and Backs, wholesale or retail. Put on Rubber Tires and warrant every set. Painting and repairing not excelled in the west. 20 years in business in Lincoln. 301-305 South Tenth street, corner M streets.

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