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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY.

WEDNESDAY. **The House.**

House called to order as per adjournment and after the opening exercises and adopting the journal as read, a petition was presented from Dixon county, asking that all money in the county sinking fund be loaned on good security. Referred to the committee on expenditures and accounts. Reports of standing committees were then made.

H. R. 85 indefinitely postponed as was also H. R. 73. Concurrent resolution No. 6 was recommended to be adopted and was so ordered. H. R. 81 indefinitely postponed.

Mr. White then moved that a committee of two be appointed to act with the committee appointed by the senate to wait on Governor James E. Boyd in regard to the delivery of his message to this legislature.

After some lively discussion the motion was lost.

Mr. Stevens of Fillmore then offered the following resolution which was tabled: Be it

Resolved, By the house of representatives of the state of Nebraska, that on behalf of the tolling millions of earth, we most heartily congratulate Kansas on the defeat of the "iridescent ingalls" of that state, nameless there forevermore.

Mr. Shappel offered the following resolution and moved its adoption.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this house that the United States senators should be elected by a direct vote of the people, and our representatives in congress are hereby requested to take such steps as may be to bring this matter to the attention of congress, and use their best efforts to secure the submission of an amendment to the national constitution, providing for the election of senators by the popular vote.

The resolution was adopted. A resolution was offered to the effect that S. M. Elder be appointed on the relief commission instead of J. M. Thayer, resigned. Also a similar one that the chaplain of the house be appointed.

They were deferred until the bills came up for discussion and amendment. The written opinion of the supreme court was secured and a copy ordered for each member.

A motion made and carried that all bills in reference to the Australian ballot system be referred to the committee on privileges and elections.

The following bills were then introduced, after which the house adjourned till 4 p. m.

By Mr. Waldron: A bill to authorize school boards to furnish text books free to pupils, and to provide for the proper care of said books.

By Mr. Matheson: A bill that the county surveyor of the county in which land is situated survey the same where the corner land mark of the section or sections have been defaced so that a survey is required to ascertain the boundaries of individual owners.

By Mr. Storms: A joint resolution to amend section one of chapter seven of the constitution of the state of Nebraska.

By Mr. Modie: A bill to fix the maximum rate of charges for the use, occupancy and fare for upper and lower berths in palace sleeping cars in their transportation in or through the state.

By Mr. Vandevanter: A bill for the relief of J. E. Anderson, sheriff of Richardson county, Nebraska.

By Mr. Harman: A bill to amend section 60 of title 4 of the code of civil procedure, and to repeal said original sections.

By Mr. Modie: A bill to amend sections 847 and 851 of the code of civil procedure, compiled statutes of Nebraska of 1887, and to repeal said original sections.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

After roll call came bills for second reading.

H. R. 79, the relief bill, was read for the third time.

The house then went into committee of the whole to consider bills 79 and 81. Taylor acted as chairman by request. After discussing the matter at length bill 79 was amended so as to read \$200,000 instead of \$100,000, and S. M. Elder elected to relief commission instead of J. M. Thayer, who sent in his resignation yesterday. In order to get time for consultation as to the constitutionality of the bill, a motion was carried that the committee report progress and rise for the present.

The house then adjourned till 10 o'clock to-day after receiving and adopting the report of the committee to the effect that the relief bill be engrossed, and that it be recommended for passage as amended.

The Senate.

Yesterday morning after the usual opening exercises Mr. Majors presented the following memorial from the state board of agriculture:

Resolved, That we, the members of the state board of agriculture, in regular annual meeting assembled, would most respectfully but earnestly petition your honorable body to appropriate a sufficient sum from the funds of the state university, now in the state treasury and not otherwise appropriated, for the erection and equipping of a building in connection with the university of Nebraska, to be located upon the grounds belonging to and constituting the experimental farm of the Agricultural and Industrial college of said university, the said building to be designated and known as the Patho-Biological Laboratory of the University of Nebraska. With this end in view we most heartily endorse house roll No. 1, and would earnestly ask its passage.

Mr. Majors also presented a resolution regarding the Louisiana state lottery which was placed on file.

The judiciary committee reported a number of bills.

S. F. 2—To amend the attachment laws was indefinitely postponed.

S. F. 4—On same subject was served in the same way.

S. F. 24—Senator Moore's bill to provide for three commissioners in counties under 125,000 inhabitants was recommended to pass and was placed on the general file.

S. F. 10—Relating to executions was indefinitely postponed.

S. F. 28 and 29 were referred to the committee on appointment.

S. F. 38 was referred to the committee on currency.

S. F. 13 was referred to the committee on county and county boundaries.

The committee on miscellaneous corporation recommended S. F. 30 for pas-

sage. It relates to the power of corporations to hold real estate and issue bonds.

Senator Stevens offered the following resolution which was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed by the president to investigate and report to the senate at the earliest convenience as to the advisability of a reduction of the fees and salaries of public officers.

Senator Keifer's resolution in opposition to the force bill was then called up.

Senator Moore moved to lay on the table. This motion was defeated by a vote of 23 to 7.

Senator Keifer spoke in support of his resolution which was finally adopted.

A motion was then made and carried to take a recess till 2:30.

THURSDAY. **The House.**

Yesterday morning after opening exercises the clerk read a small portion of the journal when McKeon moved that further reading be dispensed with, which was carried.

A resolution was offered limiting the number of employees to 75 which was declared out of order.

Committee on privileges and elections reported on H. R. 27 that it be indefinitely postponed and on H. R. 51 that it be recommended for passage.

The following communication was received from the senate and a similar resolution introduced in the house, but was not adopted:

WHEREAS, The people of western central Nebraska have called a delegate irrigation meeting to be held at the city of Ogallala, Nebraska, on February 10, 1891, and have asked that a committee of one from the senate, and a like committee from the house be delegated to attend said meeting, therefore be it

Resolved, That the president appoint a committee of one to attend said meeting.

Mr. Stevens appointed.

The following resolution was then adopted:

Resolved, That the use of the representative hall be granted to the state relief commission to-morrow evening, January 30, for the purpose of holding a session of said commission, and that we accept their invitation to be present at that time.

The following bills were then introduced:

By Mr. Carpenter: A bill to amend section 77, chapter 77, revised statutes of 1889, entitled "revenues."

By Mr. Carpenter: A bill to amend section 18, article 18, of the constitution of Nebraska, entitled "elections—when held."

By Mr. Carpenter: A bill to amend section 84, article 4, compiled statutes of Nebraska, relative to taxation for town purposes in counties under township organization.

By Mr. Carpenter: A bill to amend section 7, chapter 10, revised statutes, entitled "bonds and oaths—official."

By Mr. Schappel: A bill to govern county treasurers in the deposit of county and other public moneys.

By Mr. Gardner: A bill to provide for the appointment of Veterinarian and assistants, to regulate their powers and duties, and to provide for their compensation.

By Mr. Schappel: A bill to regulate the practice of veterinary medicine and surgery in the state of Nebraska.

By Mr. Waldron: A bill to recount the ballots cast for and against the amendment prohibiting the manufacture, sale and keeping for sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, for and against the amendment, "that the manufacture, sale and keeping for sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage in this state shall be licensed and regulated by law," for and against the amendment, "relating to the number of supreme judges," and for and against the amendment, "relating to the salary of judges of the supreme and district court," on the 4th day of November, 1890, and to declare the result.

A motion was carried that the house resolve itself into a committee of the whole to consider H. R. 79. J. B. Watson moved that where the figures \$200,000 occur, they be changed to \$100,000. Carried.

A motion was made that the committee of the whole rise and report bill back recommended for passage.

Adjourned till 10 o'clock to-day.

The Senate.

After roll call, the journal was read and approved, after which the following resolution was offered by Mr. Brown, and adopted:

Resolved, That the secretary of state be requested to furnish, as early as possible, each member of the senate with one copy of the compiled statutes of Nebraska for 1889.

House resolution in reference to Force bill was called up.

Mr. Stevens then offered a resolution in reference to the irrigation board, which was adopted.

The following bills were then introduced:

By Mr. Christofferson, S. F. 87: A bill to regulate the liability of employees in certain cases, and to provide for the recovery of damages for persons injured or killed.

By Mr. Randall, S. F. 88: A bill to submit to the electors of the state of Nebraska, for approval or rejection, an amendment to the constitution of the state, providing for the enactment or repeal of laws by petition of 49,000 electors.

By Mr. Collins, S. F. 89: A bill to amend section seven of chapter twenty-six of the compiled statutes of 1889, entitled "elections," and to repeal said section seven.

By Mr. Moore, S. F. 90: A bill to amend sections 165 and 166 of chapter 16 of the compiled statutes of Nebraska, entitled "Corporations," and to repeal said original sections.

By Mr. Stevens, S. F. 91: A bill to amend section one, subdivision nine, chapter seventy-nine, of the compiled statutes of Nebraska, 1887, relating to the qualifications of teachers, and to provide for granting teaching privileges to certain graduates of the university of Nebraska.

By Mr. Horn, S. F. 92: A bill to provide for the depositing of state and county funds in banks.

The president gave notice that he was served with notice of three contests.

Mr. Mattes then moved that the package relating to contest be referred to the committee on privileges and elections.

The senate then adjourned till 10 o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY.

The House.

Yesterday morning after opening prayer and roll call, a motion made to disperse with reading of journal. Mr. McKeon then moved that the house go into committee of the whole for the consideration of resolution No. 6 and other bills on general file. Concurrent resolution No. 6 was recommended for passage. H. R. 81 was also recommended for passage. H. R. 3 in reference to usury laws was finally recommended for passage. The committee then rose and the house adopted the report and passed H. R. 79 unanimously.

The following resolution was then adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of two be appointed by the speaker to make arrangements for carrying into effect the resolution whereby the members of this house are to be supplied with ten cent stamps and five one cent stamps per day until an appropriation for said purpose can be made.

A motion was made and carried that the speaker request all employees to remain in the building until the house adjourns, each session.

House adjourned till 4 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

House called to order promptly on time and roll call showed 39 members present.

Bills on second reading were the first order of business.

A motion made and carried that H. R. 234 in reference to the reopening of ballots on the prohibitory amendment be indefinitely postponed.

A petition was read asking that a law be passed ordering a recount of the ballot, which was ruled out of order.

H. R. 11 was reported on by committee by request. This is a bill in reference to seed wheat, etc., being furnished to western sufferers. Bill recommended for passage. Bill put on general file on motion.

Bills on third reading were then taken up.

Joint resolution No. 6 was read for the third time and put upon its passage. The resolution was adopted.

Reports of standing committees were then called.

A petition was then presented by Mr. Gale in relation to the unorganized territory north of Holt county being organized into a county and named Boyd county. Referred to committee on county boundaries.

H. R. 81 was read for the third time and put upon its passage. Bill passed.

A motion made that we go into committee of the whole for the consideration of H. R. 80 in reference to the \$75,000 appropriation for the purpose of paying the expenses of the present session of the legislature.

The committee of the whole recommended that the bill pass.

Adjourned till 10 o'clock to-morrow.

The Senate.

Yesterday morning the senate called to order, and after roll call the president announced that an invitation had been secured from the speaker of the house inviting the senate to be present at a meeting of the relief commission to be held in the evening in Representative hall.

The following resolution was offered by Senator Dyart:

Resolved, That the chairman of committee on employees be instructed to disburse from service the number of page boys down to the number of four pages in the senate.

The president announced the following committee on fees: Stevens, Hill, Eggleston, Woods and Mattes.

The committee on judiciary recommended that S. F. 68, to fix the salaries of county officers, be placed on the senate file.

S. F. 63—Relating to securing the signatures of responsible parties to documents in writing and converting them into negotiable instruments, be indefinitely postponed.

S. F. 40—To amend the criminal code, be indefinitely postponed.

S. F. 65—Authorizing county boards to divide precincts into two or more voting precincts, to be passed as amended.

S. F. 61—Referred to the committee on banks and currency.

S. F. 46—Relating to the undervaluation of property by assessors, was indefinitely postponed.

S. F. 30—Referred to the committee on banks and currency.

S. F. 48—Relating to relocation of county seats, was indefinitely postponed.

S. F. 36—Providing for the examination of accounts of county treasurers, was placed on general file.

S. F. 67—To require railway companies to construct crossings, was favorably reported and placed on the general file.

The following bills were read a third time and passed:

S. F. 2—To amend the law relating to opinions of the supreme court.

S. F. 7—Joint resolution asking congress for an appropriation for relief of western sufferers.

S. F. 13—To amend the law in reference to fee of county officers. It provides that all fees shall be entered upon the books and accounted for.

S. F. 93—Was introduced by Senator Poynter, and read a first time. It amends the law in relation to a relocation of county seats.

The senate took a recess until 2 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

After the senate was called to order a motion was made to go into committee of the whole for the consideration of S. F. 20 introduced by Mr. Dyart, who was called on for an explanation of the bill. Also other bills on general file.

S. F. 20—Recommended for passage.

S. F. 36—Deferred for the present, as the amendments were not on the desks.

Concurrent resolution No. 2 postponed until to-day.

S. F. 67—Recommended for passage.

S. F. 65—Recommended for passage.

S. F. 69—Postponed on account of amendments not being printed.

S. F. 30—A motion made that we report progress on the bill and ask permission to sit again.

Moved that the committee of the whole do arise. Carried.

The report was then made and adopted as signified above.

A communication was then read from the secretary of state to the effect that there are not copies of the compiled

statutes on hand but will be furnished in about two weeks.

Moved by Mr. Switzer that the secretary inquire of the secretary of state as to what will be the probable cost of the compiled statutes as ordered by the senate, and if the order is already out for the same.

A motion was then made that the senate adjourn till 10 o'clock to-day.

SATURDAY.

The House.

House called to order yesterday morning as per adjournment and after opening exercises and roll call a resolution was introduced by Mr. Heath and tabled.

Committee on revenue reported on H. R. 19, which was indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Stebbins introduced the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Doubts have arisen as to the validity, expediency and policy of the contract entered into by the state of Nebraska and one C. W. Mosher, of the city of Lincoln, relative to the maintenance of convicts confined in the state penitentiary, and the labor of said convicts, and

WHEREAS, Doubts have arisen as to the power of the state to farm out convict labor and convict maintenance, and as to the means by which said contract was procured, therefore be it

Resolved, That the speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint a special committee of five members of the house to inquire and report to the house with all convenient speed on the following subjects:

First—Full and complete information as to the terms of such contract, when it began, and when it expired.

Second—Whether the convicts now confined in the state penitentiary are being subsisted and maintained under said contract, and whether they are performing labor under said contract.

Third—What profit per annum, if any, is being made or realized by said C. W. Mosher under said contract.

Fourth—Whether there is any other feasible way of maintaining said convicts cheaper than under said contract, taking into account their labor to be performed for the state direct.

Fifth—Whether any improper means were used by Mr. C. W. Mosher, or any one for him in the procurement of said contract.

Sixth—Whether said convict labor as now performed in any manner conflicts with or cheapens private labor.

Seventh—Whether said contract is valid and binding on the state or not, and if not, whether it is advisable to annul the same.

Said committee shall have power to send for persons and papers, hear witnesses, take and report evidence, and employ counsel, if deemed necessary. It shall hold its sessions at such times and places as may be deemed necessary and its report shall be accompanied with its recommendations.