DEATH FOR KIDNAPING

Numerous Measures are Being Introduced in the Legislature.

EXTREME PENALTY IN MOST CASES

Other Degrees of Kidnaping Will Bring Life Imprisonment—A Saloon Keeper at Snyder Shot and Instantly Killed —Other Matters in Nebraska.

The legislative wheels are again in motion. The buttons to start the machinery were pressed at noon January 1, according to the constitutional mandate, by Secretary of State Porter, in the house, and Lieutenant Governor Gilbert, in the senate.

The program agreed upon by the two party caucuses the previous night were carried out without visible hitch in the organization of both houses, after which adjournment was taken for the day, to prepare for the canvass of the vote in joint session on Wednesday, when perhaps a few more steps will be taken in further perfecting the official roster, the messages of the outgoing and incoming governors being reserved for Thursday.

As usual chief interest centered in the house to which was attracted a good attendance of spectators, who, however, soon tired of the lack of excitement in the proceedings and gradually stole away. There were no flowers and little applause, except for two neat speeches of the temporary and permanent speakers.

The senate organized along lines agreed upon in caucus and adjourned to meet at 10 o'clock Wednesday. Senators were called to order by Lieutenant Governor Gilbert. Alpha Morgan, secretary of the last senate, was present, and had prepared a temporary roll, which was called. Rev. Mr. Cressman asked divine blessing to rest on those present and to guide their every act.

Senators Currie of Custer, Edgar of Gage county, were appointed a committee on credentials. After a ten-minute recess, during which time they prepared their findings, they reported that all, with the exception of two, whose names were on the list read by Mr. Morgan, had presented duly accredited credentials, appearing valid and conclusive on their face, and should therefore be entitled to seats. Lyman of Adams and Campbell of Holt had mislaid their credentials, but were recommended to seats. This report was adopted, thus seating, temporarily at least, Oleson of Cuming and Liddell and Ransom of Douglas, all of whom have contests confronting them.

The republican nominees were as as follows: Calvin F. Steele of Fairbury for president pro tem; John C. Fremont McKesson of Lancaster for secretary, and A. H. Keim of Falls City for assistant secretary. Clark Robinson, sergeant-at-arms, John Patrick of Washington county for doorkeeper, W. H. Pool of Cass for enrolling and engrossing clerk, A. A. Cressman of Crete for chaplain and Harry Beebe of Stanton for custodian of the cloak room.

It was five minutes of the noon hour when the house was called to order by Secretary of State Porter. Rev. George W. Porter of the Methodist Episcopal church of Palmyra led in prayer. Members arose to their feet and remained standing while the divine blessing was invoked. The roll was called by Theodore Mahn, bookkeeper in the secretary of state's office. Boulier of Saunders was the only member failing to respond to his name.

Laffin of Gage placed in nomination for temporary speaker J. W. Armstrong of Nemaha county, the choice of the republican caucus. Claus Greii of Sarpy, on behalf of the minority, placed in nomination the name of John C. Sprecher of Colfax county. Roll call resulted in Armstrong's election by a strict party vote of 53 to 46 Boulier, fusion of Saunders, absent and not voting.

John Wall of Arcadia was made temporary clerk. The speaker, on motion of Cain of Richardson, appointed a committee of five on credentials, as follows: Cain of Richardson, Andrews of Frontier, Mead of Douglas, Taylor of Custer, Tanner of Nance. On motion of Lane of Lancaster the rules of the twenty-sixth session were adopted pending further action. A recess of ten minutes was taken to give the credentials committee an opportunity to report. Their report was adopted, and Chief Justice Norval of the supreme court administering the oath of office.

In permanent organization of the house W. G. Sears of Burt county was elected speaker. He appeared and expressed thanks.

The house then proceeded to elect, as the remainder of its officers, the nominees of the republican caucus, by a vive voce vote as follows: Chief clerk, John Wall, Arcadia; first assistant clerk, A. D. Gilmore, Auburn; second assistant clerk, C. H. Barnard, Table Rock; third assistant clerk, C. E. Sandall, York; fourth assistant clerk, H. S. Wetherell, Alma; sergeant-at-arms, A. Wilsey, Frontier county; chaplain, J. H. Presson, Milford; doorkeeper, F. L. Miller, Beatrice, postmaster, E. D. Preston, Hamilton county. Adjournment followed until 10 o'clock Wednesday.

SENATE.—In the senate on the 2d the following list of employes was reported by Senator Currie and elected unanimously in a bunch: Second assistant clerk, Ralph Johnson; stenographer, Miss Nettie Darth; messenger, Alex Porter; private page to lieutenant governor, Charles Perin; clerk of committee on claims, W. H. Van Cleve; janitors, Albert Wahig and Edgar McCrea. The senate authorized the hiring of nine employes, heard five of the seventeen bills introduced read for the first time, attempted to select a standing committee on privileges and elections, held a joint session with the house for canvassing the vote cast at the last election and then adjourned until 3 o'clock. During the brief recess of the senate preliminary to the joint meeting with the house the republican senators caucused and agreed on their committee on privileges and elections. A number of bills were introduced, among them being: To provide for the appointment of supreme court referees. Empowers the court to appoint by unanimous vote nine referees, with necessary stenographers, to hold office for two years as a salary of 2,500 annually. Emergency clause attached. Senator Ransom's kidnapping bill: To amend section 207 of the criminal code. Removes age limit of 18 years in crime of seduction. Providing penalties for the abduction or kidnaping of infants, children or adults. To amend section 75 and section 78 of the criminal code relating to allowing domestic animals with contagious diseases to run at large. Emergency clause attached.

HOUSE—In the house on the 2d, Lane, Fowler and Gishwiller were appointed, with a senate committee, to notify the governor that the legislature is ready to receive communications. Hibbert, Beisner and Schinstock were appointed a committee to arrange with a senate committee for a joint session for the purpose of canvassing the vote. The speaker announced the appointment of the committee on privileges and elections, as follows: Whitmore of Hamilton, chairman; Mullen of Douglas, Beisner of Thayer, Hibbert of Gage, Armstrong of Nemaha, Warner of Lancaster, Brown of Furnas (republicans) and Loomis of Dodge, Hamilton of Buller and Tanner of Nance (fusionists). At 11:30 both houses convened in joint session for the purpose of canvassing the vote of the last general election. The members of the house arose and remained standing while the senators entered representative hall, escorted by their sergeant-at-arms. Lieutenant Governor Gilbert and President (pro tem) Steele led the procession. The lieutenant governor called the joint session to order and announced its purpose. The house and senate rolls were called. The secretary of state not showing up to transmit the returns, Representatives Crockett and Fowler and Senator Arends were sent out to apprehend him. After an interval, Mr. Porter was produced, who handed to the speaker the original abstracts of the vote. The speaker canvassed the vote, and announced the result of the election on presidential electors, state officers and congressmen. Immediately thereafter the joint session, Tanner of Nance moved the appointment of a committee of three, to report at the next session, to ascertain the cost of printing the journal each day in sufficient numbers for each member. Uhl of Douglas amended to include the cost of typewritten and mimeograph copies. The motion as amended was agreed to. The chair appointed Tanner, Uhl and Crockett. Tanner next moved that the clerk be instructed to furnish each member daily ten 2-cent stamps, ten 1-cent stamps, five 1-cent wrappers and four daily papers. Taylor of Custer amended to strike out the daily papers, and Marshall of Otoe amended to strike out the 1-cent wrappers. Both amendments were adopted, and the motion thus mutilated was agreed to.

SENATE—The work in the senate on the 3d was principally devoted to discussion of the pending contest cases, and resulted in the papers and documents purporting to be evidence being delivered to the presiding officer, who opened the packages in the presence of the senate. A resolution by Baldrige of Douglas, directing the sergeant-at-arms to summon D. M. Haverly, clerk of Douglas county, to bring the ballots and poll books of all the wards of South Omaha, the subpoena to be signed by the presiding officer and countersigned by the clerk of the senate, was passed at the morning session. A motion by Crounse of Washington prevailed, directing the presiding officer to turn over to the committee on privileges and elections all the papers and documents relating to contest cases in the senate. The committee on standing committees gave out the following additional chairmen: Highways, bridges and surveys, Trompen; counties and county boundaries, Van Boskirk; internal improvements, Berlet; school lands and funds, Crounse; labor, Steele; educational, Allen; library, Young; live stock and grazing, Van Boskirk; manufactures and commerce, McCarger; public charities, Martin; miscellaneous subjects, Oleson; corporations, Berlet; constitutional amendments and federal relations, Young; medical societies, Newell; immigration, Currie; insurance, O'Neill; irrigation, Owens; reform schools and home for the friendless, Harlan; insane hospitals, Arends; deaf, dumb and blind asylums, Baldrige; mines and mining, Ransom; apportionment, Van Boskirk. Among the bills introduced were the following: An act to amend section 77a of chapter xviii, article 1, entitled "Register of Deeds," of the Compiled Statutes of 1899, and to repeal said section. A bill to amend sections 18, 20 and 21 of chapter iv of the Criminal Code of the state of Nebraska and repeal sections 18, 20 and 21, Compiled Statutes of 1897. An act to amend section 140 of chapter xxvi, Compiled Statutes of Nebraska for 1899, entitled "Elections."

JOINT SESSION.—The senate and house committees on privileges and elections met in joint session on the 4th in the lieutenant governor's office and began consideration of the election contest cases from Douglas county. The four cases were combined and will be tried jointly before both committees. During the morning session William A. Redick of Omaha made the opening statement for the contestants and in the afternoon Edward P. Smith performed a similar duty for the contestees. According to the plan agreed upon by the committees and the attorneys the ballots cast in the South Omaha voting districts will be counted before any testimony or evidence is produced. At the conclusion of Mr. Smith's statement the ballots cast in the Second district of the Second ward were opened and the count begun. It is the intention of the committee to push the hearing of the Douglas county cases as rapidly as possible and with this object in view night sessions will probably be held next week. At the evening session the committee completed the recount of all ballots cast in the Fourth ward and in the First and Second districts of the Second ward. Twenty-nine ballots that were rejected by the election board in the Second district of the Second ward because they were marked with lead pencil were accepted and counted by the committee. The addition of these votes changed the figures somewhat, but did not maaterially alter the relative standing of the nominees. The recount so far shows the following gains: Rohwer, republican, 12; Johnson, fusion, 10; Hunt, fusion, 13; Youngs, republican, 10; Liddell, fusion, 15; Schultz, republican, 10; Ransom, fusion, 18; Colson, republican, 10. Among the first bills that will be introduced in the legislature will be one relating to negotiable instruments, which will be similar in text to a bill that has become a law in sixteen states. The measure is endorsed by the American Bankers' association and several of the most prominent and influential members of the State Bankers' Association of Nebraska. The proposed bill is different in only a few respects from the existing statutes relating to negotiable instruments. It abolishes days of grace and makes the endorser of a note liable for its full amount.

JOINT SESSION—The two branches of the legislature met in joint session in representative hall on the 3d for the inauguration of the new state officials. The large hall was crowded throughout the entire ceremony. Lieutenant Governor Gilbert presided until the joint session adjourned, when he was succeeded in office by Edward P. Savage, who occupied the president's chair in the senate chamber during the following session of the upper house. After the roll call the presiding officer appointed a committee consisting of Representatives Lane of Lancaster, Sprecher of Colfax, Diers of York and Currie of Custer to notify the retiring governor that the joint convention was duly organized and ready to receive his message, and to escort him to the hall. On motion of Senator Baldrige of Douglas the committee was instructed to invite the governor-elect and other retiring and incoming state officers and escort them to the hall. A few minutes later the inaugural procession appeared and Governor Poynter, Governor-elect Dietrich, his staff, state officers and state officers-elect were announced by Chairman Lane of the escort committee. The senators and representatives arose and remained standing while the line of officials, staff officers, etc., moved forward. All members of the military staff were clad in full military dress uniforms. Governor Poynter, Governor-elect Dietrich and Lieutenant Governor-elect Savage were ushered to chairs immediately in front of the speaker's desk. The retinue of staff officers and their successors sat in a row in front of representatives' desks, facing the presiding officer and the retiring and incoming chief executives. As soon as all had found their places the legislators again resumed their seats and without further ceremony Governor Poynter was introduced by the retiring lieutenant governor. He at once began the reading of his farewell message. At its conclusion Governor-elect Dietrich was inaugurated and presented his message. The inaugural ball took place in the evening.

The governor's reception at the state house and the ball immediately following in the Auditorium were the final events of the inauguration of the new administration. Both were of surpassing brilliancy. The reception continued from 9 to 10:30 o'clock, when the governor's party was taken to the Auditorium for the inaugural ball, which was tendered by the Commercial club.

This is the new administration: Governor, Charles H. Dietrich; lieutenant governor, E. P. Savage; secretary of state, George W. Marsh; auditor, Charles Weston; treasurer, William Steufer; attorney general, F. N. Prout; commissioner of public lands and buildings, G. D. Follmer; superintendent of schools, W. K. Fowler.

The following additional appointments have been announced: House, P. H. Wintersteen, custodian of cloak room; W. M. Wheeler, chief clerk of engrossing room; Ella M. Piper, stenographer chief clerk's room; Robert Houghton, bill clerk; Edward Morris, chief clerk bill room; H. Gleason, timekeeper.

THE NEW STATE OFFICERS.

Following is a complete list of the newly-installed state officers, together with names and postoffice address of employees:

Governor—Charles H. Dietrich, Hastings; private secretary, H. C. Lindsay, Pawnee City; chief clerk, Robert J. Clancy, Omaha; recording clerk, Miss Nellie Purcell, Lincoln; stenographer, Miss Lena Meyer, Hastings; messenger, M. F. Singleton (colored), Omaha.

Lieuteant governor—Ezra P. Savage, Sargent; secretary, Miss Emma Miller, Sargent; messenger, Earl Perin, Lincoln.

Secretary of State—George W. Marsh, Falls City; deputy, Frank McCartney, Nebraska City; bookkeeper, Fred W. Miller, Falls City; recorder, J. J. Roberts, Lincoln; clerk, Miss Gertrude Dean, Lincoln; stenographer, Miss Harriet Fletcher, Lincoln.

Auditor of Public Accounts—Charles Weston, Hay Springs; deputy, George Anthes, Omaha; insurance deputy, H. A. Babcock, Lincoln; recorder, J. F. Fanning, Clearwater; stenographers, Miss Nellie Kepler, Lincoln; Miss Anna Grissinger, Bellwood; bookkeeper, J. M. Gilchrist (temporary.)

Treasurer—William Stuefer, West Point; deputy, E. G. Hellman, Norfolk; chief clerk, Nathan Fodrea, Grand Island; clerk, H. W. Bauman, West Point; stenographer, Miss Mary T. Watson, Grand Island.

Superintendent of Public Instruction—W. K. Fowler, Blair; deputy, J. L. McBrien, Crab Orchard; stenographer, Miss Jennie B. Adams, Superior.

Attorney General—F. N. Prout, Beatrice; deputy, Norris Brown, Kearney; assistant, W. G. Rose, Lincoln; stenographer, Miss Nannie Canning, Beatrice.

Commissioner of Public Lands and Buildings—George D. Follmer, Oak; deputy, H. M. Eaton, Fremont; chief clerk, Brad P. Coox, Lincoln; draughtsman, A. K. Gift, Lincoln (temporary); first bookkeeper, H. G. Meyers, Humphrey; second bookkeeper, C. J. Fitle, South Omaha; assignment clerks, Miss Cora Garber, Red Cloud; Mrs. Jeanette Rehlander, Lincoln; lease contractor, Miss Maggie Kroese, Lincoln.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES.

Fusionists will probably establish quarters at the Grand hotel, where they caucused.

The senate will expend less money for official work than any senate in recent years," said Senator Currie of the apportionment committee. "We are going to keep expenses down and establish a new record."

John C. Sprecher, senator from Colfax, is going to take his pick between deputy oil inspector and the position to which he was elected this fall. He thinks that the oil inspectorship will not last long after the new administration gets to work, so he will pick upon the senatorship. His resignation is expected to be in the hands of the oil inspector in time to assume legislative work.

Mr. Sears, speaker of the house, is of good form and voice and creates a favorable impression. In taking the chair he said that, so far as he honestly and consistently could, as speaker, he would strive to aid each member in advancing the interests he was sent here to represent. He wanted to assure the members of the minority party that, in the progress of the business of the house, he would accord them absolutely fair and impartial treatment. To the majority, "charged with the real responsibility of the session," he promised to make every effort to so discharge the duties of his position as to win the approbation of the voters of the state.

In the senatorial arena the lines are being drawn, but the work is chiefly of the quiet order in making closer acquaintnce with the members. The candidates for the senate are all in evidence, the principal ones maintaining headquarters where they are at home to their friends. Delegations are in from various sections of the state in the interest of their special favorites.

Quite a joke was sprung when it transpired that Armstrong of Nemaha, who had been chosen to set the legislative ball a-rolling as temporary speaker, is scheduled in the biographical table as by occupation a funeral director. "A funeral director in charge of the house may prove to be a grave matter," suggested Sears of Burt. "I should rather say that it looks decidedly Sear-ious," chimed in Laflin of Gage. And the procession moved on.

The State Bar association met in the rooms of the supreme court and indorsed a bill for introduction in the legislature which provides for the appointment of nine supreme court commissioners, to be appointed by unanimous vote of the three judges. The proposed bill was prepared by the legislation committee of the association, and was presented at the meeting by Judge McHugh of Omaha.

When he retires from office State Treasurer J. B. Meserve will have to account to his successor, William Stuefer, for $4,774,743.99 of state funds. Of this amount $300,242.55 must be in the form of actual money or bank certificates and the balance in national, state or county bonds or securities. All of the permanent educational funds, money that is not invested in such securities, must be turned over in actual cash, but the money of other funds may be accounted for by depository bank certificates.

Auditor Cornell has his office force at work preparing the last statement of the state's funds. This statement shows the money and securities, etc., that the treasurer must turn over, and is as follows: General, $19,893.96; sinking, $62,622.44; permanent school, $44,260.83; temporary school, $81,155.43; permanent university, $3,072.31; agricultural endowment, $15,222.62; temporary university, $7.87; university cash, $15,178.48; hospital for insane, $140.90; normal interest, $963.54; normal library, $4,969.61; normal endowment, $29,083.12; state library, $6,052.56; penitentiary special labor, $1,102.84; agricultural and mechanical arts, $13,036.68; agricultural experiment station, $860.76; penitentiary land, $2,618. Total, $300,242.55.

The senate committee on privileges and elections met and decided to begin hearing evidence in the contest cases next Monday. The Douglas county contests will be the first ones brought up. The attorney for the contesting members in these cases met with the committee. The ballots in these cases, which are now under the jurisdiction of the court, will be delivered to the committee Thursday of next week. Many documents and articles which will be used in evidence were turned over the senate by Secretary of State Porter.

The Preacher Alderman.

Rev. Dr. Washington Gladden's activity in Columbus municipal affairs continues. He is just now deep in a controversy over the street railway franchise, and, as may be imagined, Dr. Gladden wants the public to have all that it is entitled to. He advocates seven or eight tickets for a quarter, all night cars, and the payment of a considerable cash compensation to the city by the street railway company.

Young Pettigrew Was With the Boers.

It is not generally known, perhaps, that Senator Pettigrew, of South Dakota, has a son who has been fighting with the Boers. He arrived in Savannah a few days ago, and at once went to Washington. He is a lad of 20 years of age, who joined some 400 volunteers for service in the Transvaal. They were driven into the Portugese territory and three disarmed and the Dutch government paid their passage home. Young Pettigrew says that the Boers will make it interesting for the British for some time to come, and he is anxious to again join their cause.

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