

FOR A 2-CENT RATE.

GOVERNOR PINGREP WINS HIS FIGHT.

Michigan Central Loses—State Has the Right to Regulate Railroad Fares by Reason of Its Police Powers—Railways Cannot Fix Rates.

Detroit, Mich., Feb. 7.—Judge Donovan of the circuit court today ordered issuance of a mandamus against the Michigan Central railway in the suit brought by Governor Pingree to compel the railway company to sell him a 1,000 mileage book good, not only for himself, but for any member of his family, for \$20.

In his opinion Judge Donovan reviewed the railroad company's contention. He held that under its special charter the company was granted the privilege of fixing its own rates of fares. This privilege, however, was claimed by the state to be indefinite, as the road's charter merely gave the company power to fix fares by by-laws. In that case, under police power only reasonable rates could be fixed, as under such power all rules touching the welfare and duty of citizens, their property, comfort and happiness can be regulated by law, this being true of hackmen, millers, toll roads, common carriers, liquor dealers and all others doing public business.

"It is also," said the court, "claimed for the state that the Michigan Central secured control of various branches and reported to the state vast holdings with these roads, amounting in fact to a consolidation with some six or eight lesser lines. That these branch lines were built by the Michigan Central, or are held by stock or mortgages in various ways by the company, is not clearly designated in their state reports."

Judge Donovan recited a recent New Jersey case, in which it was held that similar acts mean a consolidation, and pointed out the fact that the federal courts have held in a case from Georgia, bearing on exclusive rights by charter to charge a five cent fare, that the legislature still has power to govern the rate. He also quoted Chief Justice Waite as having said that when one devotes property to a public use he must be controlled by the public laws.

Alluding to a section of the company's charter under which the state reserved the right to buy the road, after thirty years, the court said counsel for defendant had not shown a way out of a situation where by vastly enlarged holdings in other roads the Michigan Central had placed the state in a powerless condition to alter its bargain by way of a purchase of the defendant company and to pay damages therefor.

The railroad's counsel had not explained the impossible part of now revising the charter, which is urged to be perpetual, made so by the very conditions it has brought about by new franchises and changed relations with the state.

Judge Donovan quoted several decisions of the United States supreme court, under which the right to regulate fares and charges was reserved to the state. He concluded that the Michigan Central is still under police power reserved to the state, and that "the company cannot fix rates by by-laws repugnant to the laws of the state."

"The company cannot even tender to this state what it purchased in 1846 and which the state could buy back in 1897. The holdings are so vast that eventually either the company will control the state railway system or that function must remain in the state. In case of doubt the state is entitled to the doubt."

"The mandamus will issue."

BAD BILLS FROM CANADA

A Clue as to the Origin of the \$100 Silver Certificates.

New York, Feb. 7.—There is strong reason to believe the counterfeit \$100 silver certificates recently discovered were made in Canada. Secret service agents, aided by Canadian police, are now searching through that region, their efforts being principally directed to the province of Quebec.

It is understood that every engraver who has been employed in government offices both here and in Canada, and who is known to be of sufficient ability to have done the work, is now under constant surveillance. It is believed another counterfeit will soon follow, unless the criminals shall be run down and arrested.

About \$9,000,000 of the \$25,000,000 of \$100 certificates originally outstanding have been turned into the treasury for redemption and nineteen counterfeits have been found.

Reindeer on the Way.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—A cablegram received at the war department from Dr. Jackson at Alten, Norway, announces that the steamship Manitoban, chartered by Lieutenant Devore for the government, has just sailed from that port for New York with 530 reindeer and eighty-seven Lapland men and women to care for the animals and drive them on the government relief expedition when they arrive in Alaska.

SIX FIREMEN PERISH.

Struck by the Collapse of a Burning Factory Building.

BOSTON, Feb. 7.—The bodies of six firemen have been taken from the ruins of the Bent building, which took fire at 4 o'clock this morning. The dead are: John E. Egan, district chief; James Victory, captain; George J. Gotwald, lieutenant; Patrick H. Disken, hoseman; John J. Mulhern, fireman; W. J. Walsh, hoseman.

Four other firemen were buried in the ruins, but they escaped with more or less serious injuries.

KANSAS PACIFIC DEBATE.

Mr. Fleming of Georgia Preempted a Discussion—Senator Harris' Figures.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—In the House yesterday an interesting discussion of the approaching sale of the Kansas Pacific road, set for February 17, was preempted by Mr. Fleming, Democrat, of Georgia, who, with his Democratic colleagues, desire legislation to require the president to bid the full amount of the debt, principal and interest.

Mr. Fleming, Democrat, of Georgia, during the consideration of one of the pension bills, took advantage of the latitude allowed for debate, to discuss the question of protecting the government's interest at the approaching sale of the Kansas Pacific road. The claim of the government, he said, was over \$13,000,000, and, while it was claimed that the road could be paralleled for \$3,000,000, he said that the engineer who built the road, Senator Harris, of Kansas, estimated its value at from \$25,000,000 to \$30,000,000. The average earnings of the road for the past ten years, \$1,355,675, were 4 per cent interest on \$30,000,000.

Mr. Shattuck, Republican, of Ohio said that, while Senator Harris might be a very competent civil engineer, he knew no more about computing the earnings or value of a railroad than the portrait alongside of the Speaker's chair.

"Did you hear his speech on the Pacific roads?" asked Mr. Shafer, silver Republican, of Colorado.

"I read it," replied Mr. Shattuck, "and there is nothing in it. It was wild, nothing more."

Mr. Fleming said Senator Harris, by the facts he had furnished the government, had saved the treasury \$27,000,000 on the sale of the Union Pacific. "The press of the country built a fire under the administration," said he, "and forced it to act."

Mr. Fleming said he had appealed to the speaker and to Mr. Powers, the chairman of the Pacific railroad committee to aid the consideration of the measure reported by the committee. "They were both courteous," said Mr. Fleming, "but I failed to get the speaker to use his influence with Mr. Powers, or Mr. Powers to use his influence with the speaker. Yesterday I tried to get recognition from the speaker. To-day when I did get recognition it availed nothing, because the chairman of the committee, Mr. Powers, said he would object."

Mr. Powers, Republican, of Vermont, chairman of the Pacific railroad committee, denied that he had stated earlier in the day that the administration desired no further legislation. He alleged that the whole purpose of those who were opposing the sale was the government ownership and operation of railroads.

CHILDERS "SEES THINGS."

The Awful Objects of a New Mexico Secret Organization.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—Wyllie R. Childers, United States attorney for the territory of New Mexico, has just written the Department of Justice the details of what he considers a dangerous conspiracy.

He relates in precise official form that a secret agent of one of the big railroad corporations has just informed him with every particular that a secret organization, known as the American Patriotic league, is gaining headway in the towns of Raton and Blossburg, N. M., and in the surrounding country.

This organization has for its motto, "Liberty, Land and Leisure." In the district represented by the towns mentioned there are about 10,000 miners and small farmers. During the American Railway union strike it was one of the most turbulent portions of the country. Regular troops were sent there. The strikers were reduced to submission, but they bitterly resented the invasion of the troops and have always threatened that when the next strike should come they would teach the soldiers a lesson.

Mr. Childers represented that the oath taken by the members of the American Patriotic league provides that each member shall, within sixty days of his swearing allegiance, equip himself with a 45-caliber rifle and be ready for an emergency.

The oath also contemplates, says Mr. Childers, a struggle with the national government, as each member is pledged to proceed on orders to accomplish the death of the President and his cabinet by the use of dynamite. As part of their program, the members of the New Mexican contingent have applied to the adjutant general of the territory to be enlisted in the national guard of New Mexico, to be supplied with arms and ammunition, and one or two gatling guns. The adjutant general has replied that until the various companies are fully enrolled and organized no arms can be issued.

Mr. Childers informs the department that the threats of these men, high down they be, are not to be treated lightly.

England's Influence and Menace.

LONDON, Feb. 7.—Influenza and measles are epidemic in England. The former is so severe in Cornwall that business is seriously interrupted and many schools are closed.

Dun's Trade Review.

New York, Feb. 7.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says: "Actual payments through clearing houses in January made a remarkable showing, being much larger than in any previous month, 36.3 per cent larger than the same month last year, and 7.1 per cent larger than in 1902. The failures in January were smaller than in any previous year of which there is record, and were probably smaller than in any other January since 1881. The statement by branches of business given this week shows a surprising gain in most departments of trade."

CONGRESSIONAL CHAT.

WEEK'S DOINGS OF NATIONAL LAWMAKERS.

A General Resume of the Most Important Labors of the House and Senate—Executive and Departmental Actions Noted Briefly.

In a four-hour speech Monday, Senator Teller talked for Hawaiian annexation.

C. A. Atkinson of Lincoln has secured a \$3,500 position in the department of justice.

The house committee on labor has reported favorably the bill for a commission to inquire into the conditions of labor, agriculture, etc.

The attention of the senate this week will be divided between the Hawaiian annexation treaty appropriation bills and the right of Hon. H. W. Corbett to a seat in the senate from Oregon.

Mrs. Lane, the daughter of ex-Senator Blackburn of Kentucky, who was accidentally shot some time ago, is much worse. She recently suffered a setback, from which she barely rallied. She takes practically no nourishment, and it is feared never will recover.

The populists in congress have completed an organization with Representative Bell of Colorado as chairman of the joint caucus. Representative Shuford of North Carolina as secretary and Senator Harris of Kansas as chairman of the congressional committee.

The president has formerly tendered to W. J. Calhoun of Danville, Ill., the position of interstate commerce commissioner made vacant by the expiration of the term of Judge Morrison, and Mr. Calhoun has notified the president of his willingness to accept.

The house committee on public lands has submitted a favorable report on the bill known as the "free homes" bill, which opens to free homestead settlement lands acquired from the Indians. An amendment is made omitting military reservations from the operations of the bill.

Mrs. Frederic Emory, chief of the bureau of foreign commerce department of state, has been temporarily designated as director of the bureau of American republics and took charge of the bureau recently. She will hold the position until a successor to the late director Joseph P. Smith is named.

The United States supreme court has adjourned until February 21. The anxiously awaited decision upon the Nebraska maximum freight rate case was not handed down before the recess was taken. If it is not given out at the next meeting of the court, the chances are decidedly in favor of an even division of the court and that another hearing will be called for.

Senator Meron, the Argentine minister, and Mr. Hoshi, the minister from Japan, the other day in Washington signed a treaty of amity commerce and navigation in behalf of their respective governments. The signing of the treaty is significant, inasmuch as it probably will result in the establishment of diplomatic relations through ministers to each country.

Judge Strode visited the interior department and made a request that the government cause a resurvey to be made of a strip of land in Frontier county, Nebraska, said to be ninety-one rods wide and six miles long either because it was never properly surveyed or if so the corners had been lost. Judge Strode was promised that an investigation would be made to ascertain the facts in the case.

The most elaborate entertainment of the present official season marked the welcome of President Dole of Hawaii at the White House Tuesday evening. The decorations were extremely beautiful and in the most perfect artistic taste. In the east room the president and Mrs. McKinley, the vice president and Mrs. Hobart, the guest of honor, President and Mrs. Dole, and the members of the cabinet, received the other guests for a short time before repairing to the table.

Ambassador White of Berlin, by cable to the state department, has confirmed the press reports of the modification of the decree of the German government relative to the importation into Germany of American fresh fruits. It is said that there is now nothing to do on our part but to watch the workings of the decree as a means of testing the spirit in which it was conceived; whether it was framed with the single purpose of keeping out diseased fruit or whether it was not a mere pretext to prevent the competition of our fruit with that of German production.

The monthly statement of the public debt, issued February 1, shows that the debt, less cash in the treasury, at the close of business January 31, amounted to \$1,011,701,338, an increase for the month of \$12,589,771. This increase is accounted for by the decrease in the amount of cash on hand. The debt is recapitulated as follows: Interest-bearing debt, \$847,365,810; debt on which interest has ceased since maturity, \$1,328,540; debt bearing no interest, \$386,878,774. Total, \$1,335,573,124. This amount, however, does not include \$581,213,933 in certificates and treasury notes outstanding, which are offset by an equal amount of cash in the treasury. The treasury cash is classified as follows: Gold \$200,371,551; silver, \$510,315,100; paper, \$100,452,090; bonds, deposits in national banks, disbursing officers' balances, etc., \$41,338,190; total, \$862,198,008, against which there are demand liabilities outstanding amounting to \$629,329,322, leaving a net cash balance, including the gold reserve, of \$232,871,788.

Attorney-General Griggs, late governor of New Jersey, took charge of his new office Tuesday morning. Later he attended the cabinet meeting.

A majority of the members of the senate committee on interstate commerce oppose the creation of a new cabinet department to be designated as department of industry and commerce.

The monthly statement of the directors of the mint shows the total coinage of the United States mints during January, 1898, was \$5,129,610. The coinage of standard silver dollars during the month amounted to \$1,250,000.

The house committee on interstate and foreign commerce gave an extended hearing on the Hepburn bill to create a department of commerce and industries. Prominent men were heard in favor of its establishment.

It is stated in congressional circles that the prospects of ratification of the Hawaiian annexation treaty have greatly improved. It is believed that sixty senators whose votes are needed for a two-thirds majority will vote for the treaty.

Senator White of California concluded his three days' speech in opposition to the annexation of Hawaii in the executive session of the senate Friday. He made some additional points against the availability of Hawaii for defensive purposes.

Lester A. Beardslee, rear admiral, U. S. N., has retired on account of age. He was the second ranking officer in the navy and at the time of his retirement was stationed in Washington as president of the examining and retiring boards. His last sea service was at Honolulu when the crisis came in the island government.

Secretary Wilson of the agricultural department will leave Washington in a week or ten days for a visit to the south, his objective points being North and South Carolina and Florida. Probably most of his time will be spent in the latter state, where he wants to look personally into the question of the raising of high grade tobacco.

The postoffice department has authorized the removal of the postoffice at Tecumseh, Neb., to the building owned by Allen & Fundage at an annual rental of \$210. The office has been in the old site owned by democrats and occupied in part by the democratic newspaper. The new building is said to be the best in the city and is occupied in part by the Tecumseh Chief.

The consideration of the naval appropriation bill before the sub-committee now framing it has drawn attention to the dissimilarity of arms used by the army and navy, and Representative Hilburn of California, a member of the committee, feels that steps should be taken to bring about uniformity in the arms of the various branches of the government service.

Senator Allen has presented in the senate a petition numerously signed by the residents of Grand Island praying for the ratification of the Hawaiian annexation treaty and urging the two Nebraska senators to do all in their power to secure annexation. This petition, however, will not succeed in turning the two Nebraska senators from their determined course. Both oppose annexation.

A rumor has reached Washington from Lincoln that Attorney-General William Leese has been appointed to a bank examinership in one of the southern states by Comptroller of the Currency Dawes. Inquiry at the treasury department shows that the information is not true. Mr. Leese has not been appointed to any position, and Comptroller Dawes stated that he was not contemplating giving him an appointment.

The president has sent to the senate the name of "John" W. Johnson to be register of the land office at Lincoln. This is, of course, "Jo" Johnson whose peculiar way of writing his name has given the error in making up the papers. Mr. Johnson has known for some time that his name would go into the senate as the president's choice for this office, as he was assured by Senator Thurston months ago that he would name him.

It is understood that the Union Pacific committee has qualified as a bidder for the road at the sale of the Kansas Pacific February 15, and at the conference recently, it is understood, an effort will be made to secure a modification of the purpose of the government to bid at the sale, at least up to the full amount of the principal of the road's indebtedness to the government, which amounts to about \$6,303,000.

The state department has not yet been informed by Ambassador White of the decree against the importation of American fresh fruits into Germany and the official statement of the matter is awaited with anxiety at the department, which desires to know just how far the German government is willing to yield to the wishes of the agrarian party, which insists upon the exclusion of all American farm products when they enter into competition with the German farmer.

The number of public building bills has been added to by Senator Thurston, providing for the purchase of a site and erection of a building at Hastings. There is a bill pending in the house for a building at Hastings, but it was evidently decided that owing to the impossibility of getting it through the house, it would be well to let the senate pass it and then have it go over to the other end of the capitol as a senate bill.

Speaking to a question of a personal privilege in the senate Mr. Lindsay (dem. Ky.) commented sharply on the motives of the author and promoters of the resolution recently passed by the legislature of Kentucky demanding his resignation as senator. Mr. Lindsay, after defining his position upon the financial question, made it clear that he was the representative of the whole people of Kentucky and not in any sense the agent of the Kentucky legislature.

The state banking board has received official notice from Examiner Wilson who was sent to take charge of the State Bank of Crawford. Examiner Wilson took charge of the bank on his arrival at Crawford. The bank did not open for business Friday morning, February 4. F. C. Grable, the now noted western boomer, was at the head of the bank. His brother, Charles J. Grable, was cashier, and A. E. Hobson was assistant cashier. When the bank made its last quarterly report on November 30, the deposits were \$33,874.

Favorable reports in the senate were made upon Senator Allen's proposed amendments to the Indian appropriation bill looking to the assembling of the Indians at the trans-Mississippi exposition and for the repayment to the Santee Sioux Indians of the annuities taken from them by act of congress. The senate will doubtless pass the amendment for the Indian exhibit at the exposition, and Representative Mercer is confident that he will be able, despite the opposition on the floor, to slip it through when the bill comes over to the house. Its only chance is as a rider in the appropriation bill.

NEBRASKA IN BRIEF.

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM OVER THE STATE.

A Complete Review of the Past Week's Happenings in the Tree Planters' State—Succinct Summary of the Most Important News.

Henry Olson, of Nebraska City, on his way home Wednesday evening quite late, was relieved of some \$23 in cash. The thugs were not recognized by Mr. Olson.

Christ Lionberger, a farmer near Humboldt was caught in the machinery of a horse power wood saw and was badly bruised. One finger will have to be amputated.

John McPherson of Nebraska City was trying to drive a wild boar, when the hog turned and attacked him, cutting a deep gash in his side six inches long, which required twelve stitches to close.

I. U. Hudson, a B. & M. brakeman living at Nebraska City, while coupling cars at Rulo recently had his right arm caught between the bumpers and so badly crushed as to necessitate amputation.

The better element of the republican party in Lincoln has formed the Hamilton club, the main purpose of which is to aid the "Lexow" committee in its investigation of the municipal administration.

Deputy United States Marshal Allen has placed under arrest William Phillips, William Brown, Harry Rasdall and a fourth man giving his name as "Dutchy," all of Homer, charged with selling liquor to Indians.

Governor Holecmb has issued a requisition on the governor of Illinois for the arrest of William Grates, who will be brought back to Hebron to answer to the charge of forgery and obtaining money under false pretenses.

It has been decided by the Seventh Day Adventists to erect a national and non-sectarian industrial home for the blind at Dunbar, in Otoe county. The people of Dunbar have raised a bonus of \$4,000 to aid the institution.

Phillip Ott and Samuel Schipper, two prosperous German farmers, of Harlan county, were caught the other day in a lightning rod swindle. Two rascals agreed to rod the house for \$3.75 but when settlement came the contract they had signed turned out to be for \$145.

Lee Pool, a boy seventeen years old, living some miles west of Rising City, was severely injured by being kicked in the face by a horse which he was leading. He was insensible when picked up, his nose broken and face horribly disfigured.

William Hanlon, the young man who took \$45 in money and a gold watch from the residence of Fred Stahlhut, the Nebraska City milkman, pleaded guilty to the charge in district court and was sentenced to one year in the penitentiary.

The other day E. S. McCormick, living a mile south of Nelson, discovered a baby, wrapped up in an old horse blanket, in his door yard. The child was apparently only a few hours old. Mr. McCormick turned the child over to the authorities. Developments are expected.

James O'Brien, William Redman and James Peel, three of the five men arrested at Wahoo on suspicion that they robbed the Rising City postoffice Thursday night, were bound over by Commissioner Billingsley. Unable to give \$1,000 bail each, they are in the care of John Thompson and assistants.

The citizens of Wahoo met recently at the call of Mayor Wilde to devise ways and means for assisting Congressman Stark in carrying through his public building measure. A committee was appointed to collect whatever information required to assist Mr. Stark in making his fight for the measure.

Mrs. Della Conklin of Nebraska City was arrested on complaint of William Steele, charging her with stealing \$18.25 from a trunk owned by him, to which she had access. She pleaded not guilty and was sent to jail. Later she confessed to the theft and some \$15 of the money was found on her person.

The state university authorities are preparing to celebrate charter day on the fourteenth and fifteenth of this month in a manner worthy of the day and the institution. For several years charter day has been a much more prominent university holiday than formerly. This year will be no exception. The exercises will begin on Monday evening and will then be in charge of the society of the electrical engineers. Charter day proper will be fully occupied. In the morning there will be an address by Dean Sherman, president of the Phi Beta Kappa society, at a meeting for the initiation of new members and invited guests alone. The regular reception at the various departments will be given in the afternoon. A review of the cadet regiment will also be held in the afternoon and in the evening, A. S. Draper, president of the university of Illinois will deliver the annual address.

Fire, which started shortly before midnight Sunday, threatens to destroy much of the business portion of the town of Exeter. The west side of Main street is on fire. Beardsley Sisters' store, Castello's barber shop, Wilson's store, Gee & Son's store and Kelly's meat market are gone. W. H. Taylor's store and Wallace & Co.'s bank are sure to go. Exeter has no adequate fire-fighting apparatus, and although the bucket brigade worked well it has been unable to cope with the flames. No estimate of loss or insurance can yet be given.

Frank B. Johnson, Wm. H. Johnson and A. E. Sharp, manager, ensnared and president of the defunct Midland State bank of Omaha, have been held for trial in the district court on a charge of fraudulent banking. They gave bail in \$2,000 each for appearance.

Dennis Welsh, an aged gentleman living twenty-five miles northwest of Sidney, was struck by the engine of an incoming passenger train here and received injuries from which he died. The cause of the accident is not known, but as Mr. Welsh is somewhat deaf, it is supposed he did not hear the train and attempted to cross the track in front of it.

William Hanlon, the young man who the other day robbed Stahlhut, the Nebraska City milkman, of \$45, a gold watch and ring, and who was caught at Hamburg, when arraigned before Judge Leigh, waived examination and was held to the district court in the sum of \$500 bonds. It is thought he will plead guilty and be sent to the penitentiary at the term of court now in session.

The postoffice at Rising City was recently looted. The burglars secured over \$300 in money and stamps. They left not a stamp behind them. The safe was blown open by dynamite and completely wrecked. Five men giving their names as Clyde Daily, C. Clark, James O'Brian, Bill Redmond and Jim Peel and having the look of hardened criminals, were arrested at Wahoo and are held as the probable looters of the postoffice.

The supreme court has handed down an opinion upholding the validity of \$100,000 exposition bonds voted by the county of Douglas. Auditor Cornell had refused to register the bonds and had refused also to register \$180,000 of Douglas county funding bonds. The authorities of Douglas county commenced mandamus proceedings to compel the auditor to register the bonds. The suit was a friendly one brought for the purpose of having the validity of the bonds decided by the court of last resort.

Shipments of grain on the Burlington from interior Nebraska points have become so brisk of late that considerable difficulty is being experienced in securing sufficient box cars to handle the traffic. The demand for cars is so urgent that it was found necessary in the Lincoln yards to unload over a hundred box cars filled with coal and dump the contents on the ground near the ice houses, the storage capacity of the coal sheds having already been overtaxed. Practically all of the grain is destined for Chicago and St. Louis, the division between those markets being about equal.

Fremont's citizens held a mass meeting recently to take up the matter of growing beets for the proposed beet sugar factory. The factory subject came in for discussion, and a contract was read which was drawn up by the Fremont Beet Sugar company, provision being made for its assignee. The price named in the contract was \$4 per ton, 50 cents of that amount to be donated to go towards the \$50,000 factory bonus. Eight hundred acres were contracted for at that rate. The eastern parties to the beet factory project have been heard from recently, and they are ready to carry out their part, and there is but little doubt that the factory will be erected and be ready for business next year.

Arrangements have been made by the committee of the Nebraska press association for an excursion to New Orleans and Port Arthur, Tex., this month. The trip will be made via the following railroads: Burlington & Missouri River, Kansas City, Pittsburg & Gulf and Southern Pacific, leaving Lincoln via the B. & M. on Saturday, February 12 at 1:10 p. m. The intention is to go direct to Port Arthur, and after one or two days at this point go to New Orleans, where two or three days will be spent, returning direct from New Orleans, making the whole trip and returning to Lincoln in ten days. One or more Pullman sleeping cars will be chartered, and may be used during the entire trip. The estimated expense for the trip is \$30 for each person.

G. M. Hitchcock, editor of the World Herald has won in his celebrated contempt case, and Judge Keyser has handed down a decision freeing the publisher of the World Herald for having published the resolutions of the fire and police commission in relation to the relative circulation of the two Omaha dailies after the court had made an order prohibiting the paper from referring to them or seeking to obtain the publication of liquor notices in the World Herald by reason of them. In an opinion covering six columns of a paper which prints it in full, Judge Keyser decided that the injunction issued by him was void and that Hitchcock cannot therefore be punished for contempt in violating it because under the constitution of this state no court has power to exercise a censorship over the press or to limit its right to publish, and for the further reason that the World-Herald was not a party to the suit in which the order was issued and no indemnifying bond had been given to cover possible loss to it.

Finding the opera house at Osceola a non-paying investment, the manager, A. O. Monson, has concluded to quit. Citizens who had subscribed for its erection five years ago were paid back their money, and Mr. Monson will utilize the building for a clothing store.

Lincoln has a Lexow investigating committee composed of members of the council. Officer Snell, a policeman, testified to having paid \$50 for his job, and was promptly fired by the excise board. The end is not yet. Citizens are indignant.