

NEBRASKA SENATE

PROCEEDINGS OF UPPER LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

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

Thursday, January 12.

The senate was called to order at 10 o'clock yesterday.

Prout of Gage moved that reading of the journal be dispensed with, but withdrew motion to allow Fowler to introduce this resolution:

"That the journal be so corrected that all bills read yesterday be shown as read for the first time and that the reference of bills from No. 1 to 9 inclusive be stricken from the record."

This carried by a viva voce vote and a little later Prout renewed his motion and the reading of the journal was discontinued.

Currie of Custer asked unanimous consent to substitute a bill for one he had introduced. Talbot of Lancaster moved that substitute be reported by committee instead of the original bill.

It was decided to introduce the substitute as an original bill, being a bill to provide for free attendance at the high schools of non-resident pupils.

Senator Crow of Douglas, by unanimous consent, offered the resolution asking for Colonel Stotsenburg's removal as colonel of the First Nebraska at Manila. The summary of the resolution will be found in the house proceedings.

The rules were suspended and the resolutions were adopted by viva voce vote, Hall of Madison voting no.

The resolution referring the question of the legality of Treasurer Meeker's bond to the judiciary committee was adopted.

Files to the number 47 were introduced, nearly all of them aiming to correct the Compiled Statutes of 1897.

The afternoon session of the senate lasted but half an hour. Legislative manuals of 1899 were ordered, five bills were introduced and the senate adjourned.

Friday, January 13.

After preliminaries in the senate yesterday morning, a joint resolution was introduced by request asking congress to take immediate action on the bill now in congress contemplating extension of the privilege of franchise without distinction to sex so that the amendment may come before the several state legislatures for action.

Under the rules the resolution went over. The incident of the morning was a motion by Prout of Gage that the action adopting the resolution condemning of Colonel Stotsenburg be reconsidered. He did this in behalf of persons who did not have the privilege of the floor and who felt that an injustice had been done to a man who had heretofore borne a good reputation.

Crow of Douglas could see no use in reconsidering the resolutions because of the unanimity of the sentiment against "this autocrat."

After some debate the motion to reconsider carried, the vote being 25 to 6. Senators Crow of Douglas, Knepper, Morgan, Owens and Smith voting no. The idea seemed to prevail that the action of the day previous was too hasty; that it smacked of China, where they cut a man's head off and investigated afterward.

On motion of Talbot of Lancaster the resolution was referred to the committee on military affairs for investigation after an hours debate, and after being amended that the committee report to-day.

On motion of Canada of Kearney 2,500 copies each of the messages of Governor Holcomb and Governor Fowler were ordered printed.

Rollbook of the committee on rules governing joint session submitted a set of rules. The committee amended rule 17 to read: "A call of the house may be made in joint session on motion seconded by five members and the proceedings under the call shall not be suspended except by a majority of the members elect."

At the afternoon session Prout of Gage of the committee to assign rooms for standing committees recommended that the secretary of state be instructed to prepare a part of the lieutenant-governor's larger room for use as a bill room. The report was adopted.

Bills on second reading occupied considerable time. Senate file Nos. 2 and 3, also Nos. 28 to 47, inclusive, were read the second time and referred to standing committee. A large number of bills came up for reading, senate file No. 84 being the last.

S. F. 48, by Reynolds by request—Joint resolution relating to an amendment to the federal constitution to prohibit the states from franchising citizens on account of sex.

S. F. 51 to 54, by Talbot—Amendatory of Compiled Statutes.

S. F. 55, by Talbot, by request—To authorize state board of health to appoint a board of examiners of embalming.

S. F. 57, by Prout—To enable counties and precincts to borrow money on bonds, issue bonds to aid in internal improvements, and to legalize those already issued for such purposes.

Saturday, January 14.

Oratory burst forth in the senate yesterday morning as a result of a report from the committee on military affairs touching charges made by some against Colonel Stotsenburg of the First Nebraska. The committee on military affairs comprises Barton of Johnson, Steele of Jefferson, Alexander of Adams, Roelke of Lancaster and Hale of Madison.

The committee submitted a modified resolution.

Crow of Douglas offered as a substitute the original resolutions toned down somewhat.

Miller of Furnas did not want to take any action that would reflect on the administration. He introduced a resolution that the matter be left to the president and secretary of war.

Hannibal of Howard made another speech, saying the boys had a government behind them that would protect them, but no officer ought to be condemned without good cause.

Farrell of Merrick spoke in favor of the idea evolved by Miller of Buffalo.

Currie of Custer took the ground that an innocent man always courts investigation. He said he did not hesitate to say that Colonel Stotsenburg was an autocrat. Senator Currie said many of the soldiers had been pupils of his and he knew charges coming from those young men must be well founded. He favored the substitute for the committee report.

Barton of Johnson, chairman of the

committee on military affairs, explained that the committee resolution, if carried into effect, would result in the suspension of the colonel, because under military rules accused officers were suspended pending trial by court-martial.

Talbot of Lancaster spoke earnestly and eloquently in favor of modification.

The substitute for the substitute was lost, and the Crow resolution adopted.

Senators continue to introduce many bills to correct defective acts. The supreme court has held that a bill to repeal an act must contain a repealing clause. Many bills were introduced yesterday to remedy errors of this kind in bills passed at previous sessions. Bills introduced yesterday reached to 103.

Senate file No. 88, by Owens is a bill to make it unlawful for a railroad company to permit a trainman or telegraph operator who has worked 18 consecutive hours to again go on duty until he has had at least eight hours of rest.

Tuesday, January 17.

Senate met yesterday afternoon. In his prayer Chaplain Cressman touchingly referred to Congressman Dingley's death. He expressed the hope that all citizens might have the same love of home and nation as the departed statesman.

A petition or memorial from the G. A. R. post and W. R. C. of Alma, thanking the legislature for its stand on the Stotsenburg matter, was read and placed on file.

Currie of Custer presented the following list of employees and the same was adopted: Everett Milks, engraving clerk; Willard Weedon, clerk of the committee on public lands and buildings; W. R. Stewart, copy holder; John Shierel, clerk of the committee on agriculture; E. M. Havens, clerk of the enrolling and engraving committee; S. C. Hamley, clerk of the engraving committee; L. C. Wright, clerk of the committee on military affairs.

A communication from the national live stock association was referred to the committee on live stock and grazing.

Reynolds of Dawes introduced a resolution declaring the bill files furnished to the senate unsuitable, inferior and inconvenient. The resolution directed the secretary of state to return the files and secure the Keystone brand of files.

Farrell of Merrick and Schaaf of Sarpy, both fusionists, opposed the resolution. O'Neill of Holt, fusionist, favored the resolution because of the superiority of the Keystone file. Talbot of Lancaster explained that there was no way to securely fasten the inferior file. He moved that the rules be suspended and the resolution be adopted. His motion carried by a vote of 27 to 3.

Schaaf of Sarpy presented the following:

Resolved, By the senate and house that we as representatives of Nebraska, do, in justice to and defense of the ancestral bequest of liberty we now enjoy, ask our congress at Washington not to contract or deprecate the pride and glory of our national freedom by forming any foreign alliance with a nation such as Great Britain, whose only evidence of power is the starvation and robbery of her own subjects and the oppression, plundering and murdering of the weak and unwarlike, who by bribery, betrayal and invasion unfortunately come in her power.

The fusionists wanted this resolution pushed to a vote, and Canada of Gage called attention to the nature of the resolution when the fusionists wanted the rules suspended. He said it was a joint resolution and would have to take the course of a bill. Lieutenant-governor Gilbert sustained the point of order.

On motion of Senator Talbot the senate decided to take up the matter of voting for a United States senator as a special order at 11 a. m. today.

The afternoon was spent with bills on first and second reading.

Among the bills introduced was one by Newell to prohibit any person from holding office who shall have defaulted in payment of taxes; one by Barton to provide for taxation of insurance and guarantee companies not organized under the laws of the state, and one by Barton to amend Section 4 of the act relating to free public libraries and reading rooms.

Wednesday, January 18.

After preliminaries in the senate, Halderman of Pawnee of special committee to inspect inventory of property turned over by secretary of state, reported all ok except one typewriter replaced by one of another brand, and one upholstered settee out of building for repairs.

Schaaf of Sarpy, finding the regular course too slow, introduced, as a straight resolution, the same resolution he had introduced the day previous in relation to alliance with England. It was promptly tabled by 20 to 12.

The regular joint resolution was read a second time and referred to the committee on mines and mining, composed wholly of fusionists.

Bills on first and second reading occupied the time until 11 o'clock, when the special order for the day, voting for United States Senator, was reached. The voting was soon ended, and the regular order was taken up.

The vote in detail in the senate is as follows:

M. L. Hayward—Alexander, Arends, Currie, Hannibal, Holbrook, Newell, Owens, Reynolds—8.

W. V. Allen—Canada, Dunn, Farrell, Hale, Howard, Knepper, Miller, Morgan, O'Neill, Schaaf, Smith, Spohn—12.

A. W. Field—Allen—1.

G. M. Lambertson—Fowler—1.

John L. Webster—Crow, Noyes, Van Dusen—3.

J. B. Weston—Prout—1.

A. J. Cornish—McCarly—1.

S. P. Davidson—Barton—1.

E. K. Valentine—Giffert—1.

John R. Little—Halderman—1.

D. E. Thompson—Roelke, Talbot—2.

E. H. Hinshaw—Steele—1.

At the afternoon session, Halderman of printing committee, submitted a report recommending reconsideration of resolution passed on the previous day in relation to bill files. The committee believed the price of the Keystone file was too exorbitant. The report was adopted, reconsideration had, and the recommendation of committee that the cheaper brand be used was adopted.

Van Dusen, chairman of the judiciary committee, submitted the first report on a bill. The committee recommended that senate file No. 23, by Talbot, be passed. This bill will require a bond in appeal cases for the value of the use and occupation of the property, the value to be paid in case judgment be affirmed. The bill was placed on general file.

Senator Talbot introduced a resolution, on request of Lieutenant Governor Gilbert, expressing the sense of the Nebraska senate favorable to the bill now before congress granting Hon. John M. Palmer, late gold democratic candidate for president, a pension. Rules suspended and resolution adopted.

At the request of Prout of Gage the senate decided to place the printing committee in charge of senate supplies and that all supplies for the senate be secured through the committee.

Bills numbered from 130 to 158, all amendatory of statutes, were introduced and read first time.

NEBRASKA HOUSE

PROCEEDINGS OF LOWER LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

A Condensed Resume of the Work Accomplished During the Past Week—Action on Bills, Etc.

Thursday, January 12.

The house convened at 10 o'clock. Roll call showed Easterling, Tanner and Woodford absent on account of sickness. Reading of journal was dispensed with.

Burns of Lancaster offered a resolution placing officers and employees of house under direction of chief clerk, explaining his reason for so doing by saying many did not know what their duties were and that they ought to be placed under some one who could tell them.

Among the bills introduced were:

H. R. 1206 to 1209, by Harrison—Amending sections of Compiled Statutes.

H. R. 1210, by Fretz—Prohibiting killing of wild turkey and quail for five years.

H. R. 1211 to 1216, by Lane—Amending Compiled Statutes.

H. R. 1217, by Pollard—To provide a system of revenue.

H. R. 1218, by Olin—For the use of the label of the allied printing trades council of international typographical union on state printing.

H. R. 1219, by Wynant—To constitute omission to vote at general election a misdemeanor and providing penalty for failure to do so.

Bills to the number of 172 have been introduced, many of them purposing changes in compiled statutes, repealing obsolete, unconstitutional, and useless sections.

Friday, January 13.

After preliminaries in the house yesterday, Fisher of Dawes called for the special order at 11 o'clock, the consideration of the Stotsenburg resolution. They were read and a long debate started.

Jansen of Jefferson said he was not in favor of condemning a man unheard, and moved the resolution be referred to the commander-in-chief of the army and navy with power to act.

Burns of Lancaster spoke earnestly in favor of the resolution. He said the colonel had no respect for the ordinary man.

Haller of Washington spoke against hasty action, and was opposed to anything in the nature of a secret trial.

Hardy of Polk and Easterling of Buffalo believed investigation ought to precede action, and spoke against the resolution.

Evans of Douglas called attention to the fact that the charges were made by responsible parties in Omaha.

Allen G. Fisher of Dawes grew indignant. He said a man in Stotsenburg's position could be a despot and so manipulate his men that they would be afraid to testify. He said the resolution was not intended to cast aspersions upon Colonel Stotsenburg. They simply give the truth a chance to come out.

Wilcox of Lincoln and Sturgess of Douglas favored it. Weaver of Richardson and Wheeler of Furnas opposed it.

In the afternoon Prince of Hall offered a resolution, as an amendment, asking the secretary of war to make an investigation. Lost.

The previous question was called for and debate ceased. The resolution was adopted, 72 to 28.

The committee on privileges and elections reported that it could not proceed with the Fillmore county contest without the ballots of three precincts withheld by Sheriff Ogg. The sergeant-at-arms was instructed to bring the body of Sheriff Ogg, with pollbooks, ballots, etc., before the house at once.

Haller of Washington introduced a resolution calling the attention of the state's representatives in congress that it was the sense of the legislature that that congress at once declare by resolution the purpose of the United States government to observe in dealing with the Philippine question the same course marked out for Cuba, and that the legislature holds the views expressed by Washington, and is opposed to entangling alliances with England or any other European country.

Referred to federal relations committee.

Five hundred copies of the two messages were ordered printed.

Bills numbered from 173 to 200 were introduced, among them being one by Armstrong for the establishment of a "bird day" by Weaver for the creation of a state insurance department; by Fisher for amendment to federal constitution to prohibit states from desfranchising citizens on account of sex; and by Weaver providing for resident agents for fire insurance companies.

Saturday, January 14.

The house proceedings yesterday morning did not furnish a great amount of exhilarating entertainment to the gallery gods whose numbers soon diminished as the session dragged along. The chaplain, after the speaker called for order, invoked the indulgence of Providence upon the business as transacted by finite beings, and Cawthra of Gosper had himself excused on account of the sickness of his family.

The proceedings were tame from the start. Those whose attention had become listless were partially aroused when Armstrong moved that when the house adjourn it be until 2 o'clock Monday p. m. A vote of viva voce

failed to satisfy the speaker as to the wishes of the house and a standing vote was called for. Those favoring adjournment hustled in the struggling members who were looting in the lobby, and the result was a vote of 49 in favor as against 20 against adjournment.

Bills were introduced up to number 225.

Tuesday, January 17.

The house was ready for business promptly at 2 o'clock yesterday, and after preliminaries Chittenden of Gage offered a resolution providing that the bill files furnished by the secretary of state be returned and that 250 Keystone files be ordered.

Motion was lost.

Easterling (fusion) of Buffalo, offered the following resolution:

Whereas, Section 4 of article III of the constitution of the state of Nebraska provides that member of the legislature shall be allowed 10 cents per mile for each mile traveled in going and returning from each session of the legislature; and

Whereas, Said mileage is intended for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the members,

Therefore, be it resolved by this house that all members hereof who use free transportation over railroads and the lines of other public carriers in attending this session be not allowed mileage, and that each member file a statement with the clerk of this house showing number of miles traveled for which he paid and the number of miles traveled that he used transportation.

Burns of Lancaster said that as he was one of the members who did not get passes, he moved that the matter be indefinitely postponed.

Motion carried, 34 to 39.

Jansen of Jefferson offered a resolution relating to Congressman Dingley's death. Adopted.

Sturgess of Douglas moved the appointment of a committee of three to investigate charges that state officers and state employees were riding on passes and collecting mileage for the same. The charges had come from the majority and he wanted an investigation. The vote on a motion to postpone the matter indefinitely stood 37 to 55 and was declared lost. It was adopted by a vote of 72 to 19.

Burns of Lancaster wanted to give this committee a stenographer to take evidence. This was amended that the committee use one of the committee clerks already appointed. Messrs. Prince, Smithberger and Sturgess were appointed.

The committee on privileges and elections reported that County Judge Skipton of Fillmore had refused to appear at noon in response to a subpoena with ballots in the contest. As he was in contempt of the house, it was ordered that the sergeant-at-arms go after him with a warrant and bring Judge Skipton and the ballots to the capitol.

A motion of Beverly of Douglas that a committee of five on resolutions be appointed was tabled.

Bills were introduced and read for the first time and also for the second time.

On motion of Prince of Hall, voting for United States senator was made a special order for today at noon.

Among the bills introduced were two by Fisher to provide for taxation of telegraph and telephone companies of 3 per cent of gross earnings; by Pollard to prohibit office holding by persons in default of payment of taxes; by Mann to appropriate \$5,000 each year for two years to investigate causes and provide methods and means to prevent swine plague and hog cholera.

H. R. 361 is a joint resolution in regard to alliance with England. It is identical with the one introduced in the senate by Schaaf of Sarpy.

Wednesday, January 18.

When the house was through with the regular routine work yesterday morning Harris of Otoe offered a resolution providing that the jurisdiction of the standing committee on other asylums include the deaf and dumb institute, the institute for the blind and for the feeble minded and the institutes at Geneva and Kearney. This passed.

Taylor of Custer moved that the scope of the pass investigating committee be extended to include members of the supreme court and members of the house.

On motion of Burns of Lancaster motion was tabled.

After this the special order of a vote on United States senator was advanced and the vote was taken.

The vote in detail in the house was as follows:

W. V. Allen—Anderson of Fillmore, Benjamin, Boulter, Bover, Carton, Cawthra, Cosgrove, Crockett, Cunningham, Dobry, Easterling, Eastman, Elwood, Endicott, Flynn, Fretz, Fuller, Grandstaff, Grell, Grosvenor, Hardy, Johnson, Klester, Lemar, McCracken, McGinley, Memminger, Moran, Morrison, Murray, Peck, Sleske, Shore, Smith of Butler, Sturgess, Swan, Tanner, Taylor of Custer, Taylor of Fillmore, Thompson of Clay, Vandergriff, Weaver, Wheeler, Woodard, Wright, Wynant—46.

M. L. Hayward—Blake, Broderick, Chambers, Dittmar, Evans, Hall Halter, Harris, Hastings, Hathorn, Hilbert, Nesbit, Prince, Roush, Sandall, Smith of Richardson, Walling, Wilcox, Young, Zellers—30.

D. E. Thompson—Anderson, Burns, Harrison, Lane, Clark—5.

Allen W. Field—Chittenden, Pollard, Wenzel—3.

G. M. Lambertson—Jansen, Scott—2.

E. H. Hinshaw—Biesner—1.

E. J. Hainer—Tucker—1.

C. E. Adams—Hicks, Milbourn—2.

T. J. Majors—Armstrong, Berlet—2.

J. B. Weston—Jones—1.

J. L. Webster—Beverly, Burman, Cox, Detweiler, Honck, Myers, Olmsted.

M. B. Reese—McCarthy, Thompson of Merrick—2.

P. I. Foss—Mann, Grafton—2.

E. K. Valentine—Fisher, Smithberger—2.

Frank Martin—Shaible—1.

J. H. Van Dusen—Smith of Saline—1. Absent and not voting—Loomis and Watson.

At the afternoon session Thompson of Merrick submitted a resolution requesting the printing committee to investigate whether the parties having the contract to print the bills were able to do the work without inconveniencing the work of the house. The resolution was unanimously adopted.

A TRUST IN COPPER MINES.

Standard Oil and Other Interests Said to Be in a Big Ore Deal.

\$50,000,000 PROFITS IN 1898.

The Recent Rise in Prices and Vast Profits in the Metal Responsible for the Syndicate—A Copper Stock Craze is On in Michigan.

New York, Jan. 17.—Negotiations looking to the consolidation of the copper mining interests of the United States have been in progress in this city for a week.

With reputed backing no less powerful than that of the Standard Oil interests, the American Copper Mining company, in its combination of six plants, expects to revolutionize the copper mining industry of the world, in which the United States already figures as the chief factor. The Boston and Montana and the Butte and Boston Mining companies, the Old Dominion Copper company of Arizona, and the Arcadian, Tamarack and Osceola Mining companies of Michigan are named as the component parts of the new organization.

It is understood that the American company will reach into Canada and absorb important mines there, thus making the combination into an international affair. The Calumet and Hecla company, the largest producer in the Lake Superior region, has so far refused to enter the combination.

Men who have watched transactions in copper mining stocks for 1898 declare that a small coterie of men have added \$50,000,000 to their wealth through this channel.

The combination springs from the recent upheaval in copper. Prices have soared to the highest figures known, in face of unprecedented consumption. The increased employment of electrical energy has caused an enormous demand for copper. European countries alone, last year, used \$56,789,750 pounds, and when it is considered that American miners supply most of the foreign requirements, in addition to home demands, the possibilities in the copper situation become apparent.

The Montana mines are the second most important in the state which heads the list of copper producing states, being exceeded in importance only by the Anaconda mine, owned by Marcus Daly and J. B. Haggin. The Arcadian, Tamarack and Osceola properties are in the Hancock-Houghton copper belt in the Northern Michigan peninsula. The Arcadian mine has not been worked to any great extent, although its shares advanced at mention of the consolidation scheme from 25 to 70 points.

The Portage lake district where the Michigan mines involved are located, is in the throes of a copper craze that approximates the Kaffir mania in South Africa. Brokers from Boston, which is the American copper exchange, are doing a rushing business at branch offices opened on the ground, and people are buying mining shares as fast as stock certificates can be issued.

Leviashin Bros. of this city are credited with being the principal factors in inspiring new investments in American copper mines. They have agents in London and Paris, and have encouraged the export trade.

CLAIM BLACKMAIL.

A Spotter Said to Have Tried to Get Money From Discharged Santa Fe Conductors.

TOPEKA, Kan. Jan. 17.—Seventeen conductors were called on the "carpet" in the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe office in Topeka Saturday. Of this number thirteen were dismissed because of reported "knocking down" from fares they received on their trains. The stealing was said to have been discovered through traveling men, who reported to the general offices that they had not received receipts for fares they had paid. An investigation showed that these collections had never been turned in with the conductors' reports.

Trainmen on the east end of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railway believe that the thirteen conductors on the west end who have been let out or are to be let out on evidence furnished by a spotter will be reinstated. They have received no assurance of this kind from the management; on the contrary, the officials are still acting on the spotter's report, but the conductors have a letter written by the spotter in which he offered to suppress his report if they would put up \$300 apiece.

In Beecher's Palpa.

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—There was an actual crush before the opening of the doors of Plymouth church, Brooklyn, yesterday morning, of people determined to hear Dr. Newell Dwight Hillis, formerly of Chicago, deliver his first Sunday sermon in the edifice. The gathering in its different phases brought forcibly to mind the days of Henry Ward Beecher, and Dr. Hillis' more ardent friends were delighted beyond expression.

More Crime at Paas.

PANA, Ill., Jan. 17.—Yesterday afternoon Ike Inglis shot and instantly killed Dave Evans, a fellow negro miner at the Springside mine. The trouble arose over dividing their wages. Inglis was captured and placed in jail.

A Montreal Banker \$60,000 Short.

MONTREAL, Jan. 17.—Albert E. Mussen, teller of the savings department of the Merchant's bank, has been arrested. There is a shortage in his accounts which, it is said, will amount to \$60,000. His relatives are wealthy.

CHINESE SOLD AS SLAVES.

Large Number Shipped From Hong Kong to Tampico, Mex.

VANCOUVER, B. C., Jan. 17.—A story of alleged Chinese slavery has come to light here since the arrival of the steamship Empress of Japan from the Orient. She brought from Hong Kong 406 Chinese, of which 191 were reported to be destined for Tampico, Mexico, to work on plantations.

They were under the care of a Chinaman named Ma Chop, who stated that 1,300 more are to follow. While herding the Chinese from the dock to a special train a stampede ensued. In their frenzy a number rushed toward the edge of the dock. They would have fallen into the bay had it not been for a police officer who stopped the mad rush by knocking a score of them down. When they were finally rounded up it was found that eight were missing. After several minor stampedes the Chinese were persuaded to get on the train.

The cause of the frenzy and stampede was the arrival of a Chinaman from San Francisco who told them they had been sold as slaves by Hong Kong men and that they would never go back to China. Local Chinese here are helping the men still in hiding in every possible way, as all are convinced that