

THE LEGISLATURE

The 28th session, closed last week, will go down in history as famous for just three things: (a) An overwhelming republican majority most of whom patiently, and often proudly, wore the corporation yoke; (b) the heaviest appropriations ever made in the history of the state—\$775,000 greater than two years ago; \$1,058,000 greater than four years ago, and \$1,315,000 greater than six years ago; and (c) for the enactment of practically an entire new revenue law, drawn up under the corporation eye in double-quick time and passed under the party lash at the railroads' behest.

In a measure the republican majority is to be complimented for substantially carrying out the party platform of last year—it meant heavier taxation for the farmer and business man, and relatively if not absolutely lighter taxation for the railroads. But being artfully drawn, it is doubtful if the enthusiastic farmers and business men who supported the alliance of church and breweries ticket, really understood the beautifully worded sentences which promised such strict enforcement of the revenue law. The only objection one can rightfully make is that support for the republican ticket was secured under the false pretence that the platform meant equitable taxation.

False pretences, however, are seldom lacking in a republican campaign. The church-brewery combination worked so well last fall that the saloon men of Lincoln copied it in the city campaign just closed. A Methodist was selected by them for mayor, with the understanding that he should be "protected" by having two \$1,000 excisemen run with him. This encountered some opposition from a few republicans, but with a \$2,000 corruption fund raised by assessing the saloonkeepers, the combination combined—and won. The democrats, adopting opportunist tactics, sought to win by making a flat-footed platform declaration pledging \$1,500 license fee and strict enforcement. They got a few, very few republican votes, but lost scandalously in democratic wards. The republican excisemen played a double game and were for \$1,500 license in \$1,500 districts and for a "wide-open" town in the lowlands. Since election they have fixed the license at \$1,000 and the Star is smoothing things over by telling that the fee doesn't cut so very much figure—but it's the "control" that counts!

But this is digression. The people of Nebraska will discover that psychological waves don't pay for tax receipts. The state general fund levy will be about 40 per cent higher than last year on the same assessed valuation. That will mean about \$360,000 additional taxes for 1903—of which the farmers will pay more than half. Then next year it is expected that the grand assessment roll will at least be doubled under the operation of the new law—and 5 mills general and 1 mill university and an average of about 1 for state school may be levied. Thus the 1904 levy can be almost double that of last year and 50 per cent heavier than this year. And it can't be paid with wind.

Some of the state officers believe they can cut down the state debt \$200,000 in the next two years. If they do, let us see what it means: \$3,650,000 of appropriations to spend, \$150,000 for interest on the floating debt, and \$200,000 of debt to pay off make a total of \$4,000,000. Then four million dollars in taxes must be paid in the next two years to accomplish it. It may be done—but it will take some scratching to do it.

As a general thing the fusion minority stood right on the questions as they came up. One or two members showed collar-marks where the railroad harness had rubbed. Way and Brady in the senate, Loomis, Kennedy, Vic Anderson, Hoy, Thorp, Eggenberger, Fries, and a number of others in the house, could always be found standing firmly upon the Grand Island platform.

By no means the smallest item to be charged against this legislature is the Ramsey bill. The republican papers are trying to crawl out by saying, "That was the bill the farmers wanted—and we had to pass it." In a way this is true, but the farmers would have accepted the Brady bill. The Ramsey bill was drawn on the wrong theory and its backing from the farmers' association was cleverly secured against the protests of men who understood the futility of ordering a railroad company to give up its private property without due compensation, yet who believed the association must act as a unit.

Barring the stoop-shoulderedness of the republican members caused by wearing the corporation yoke, the members of the 28th session were a well-behaved, intelligent-looking set of

men, fully up to the average of legislative bodies—in fact, much above a great many. And although the state could do better, it could do worse in choosing legislators.

A SOP

While Lincoln people are rejoicing over the Rockefeller gift and forming plans for a vigorous campaign to secure the necessary one-third of that "Temple" fund, it might be well to consider the following dispatch which appeared in the dailies the next day after the gift was announced:

New York, April 13.—It was stated on Wall street today that the Standard Oil company has completed the plans for the extensive system of electric railroads to run from Sioux City to Kansas City and the feeders along the Missouri river from Kansas City northward. The new line to be constructed from Omaha to Sioux City will run on the Iowa side of the river.

Through the national packing merger the Standard Oil company already has secured control of the street car systems of Sioux City, St. Joseph and Council Bluffs and Kuhn, Loeb & Co. of this city, represented the Rockefellers in the acquisition of the Council Bluffs and Omaha system.

New work is to be pushed and experts of the Standard Oil company are now scouring the territory investigating good openings for new lines.

May not the "Temple" turn out to be a mess of potatoe for which Nebraska's Esaus will sell their birth-right?

THE GRAFTERS

The words "graft" and "grafters" may be slang, but they have come into general use especially in the eastern cities. As originally used it was a thief's term signifying the line of operation of different thieves. Then it was applied to the police, who for the money paid them allowed gambling dens and houses of prostitution to run unmolested, and similar things of that nature. Then the word was used in a wider sense, "tariff grafters," "trust grafters," "franchise grafters" and others were included.

Prosecuting Attorney Jerome of New York city recently delivered an address to a large assembly of organized labor in Cooper Institute. The speech was frank and fair. That it was received by the audience with approbation shows that the membership of organized labor in that city is composed of sensible men. Among other things, Mr. Jerome, as reported in the New York Herald, said:

"I want to say a few words about graft. It underlies our whole economic fabric. You can't have bribery unless there is someone ready to offer bribes. I know you think there is nothing the Pennsylvania cannot get in Pennsylvania and the New York Central in this state and the New Haven road in Connecticut, but police officers, too, have been known to take 'graft' and perhaps liquor dealers know something about the giving of it, but don't you think the labor unions are the only impeccable thing in this world. I don't think so.

"I said at an east side meeting not long ago that there were many labor leaders who could be bought, boots and breeches. That's what I said and that's what I stand by. If I am in error, I am ready to change when I am convinced. Accusations like that have been bandied about at federation meetings. Now, I don't care a continental for your votes. I am perfectly able to go on earning a fair living in this town when I go out of office. I have kept my self-respect and have told the truth on all occasions, or at least, told the truth as far as I knew it, and nobody has any string on me, nor ever has had, nor, I hope, ever will have."

Again the audience applauded vigorously and then Mr. Jerome went on: "But I do want your sympathy and your support. I do want every decent man to stand back of me in every decent effort for bettering this community. All my life I have devoted to trying to better municipal conditions. I may not be able always to give a good reason for doing this, that or the other, but I have been trying to do the right, the honest and the decent thing. I want you to think with me that we should set our faces against 'grafters' wherever they are, in your ranks, among the ministers, or wherever they may be. For that end I do want your votes and I need your support. If I understand you, you can't get away from the honest

IAMS PRICES

Are sensations to his buyers, his horses are "warm propositions" to his competitors. Iams will show you MORE stallions of big size, quality and finish than ALL IMPORTERS IN NEBRASKA, and horses you will wish to buy or pay your fare to see him—you the judge. If you will pay cash or give bankable note, you will sure buy a stallion of IAMS. In October, 1902, he imported 63 black and bay stallions. Iams has just brought from his farm to his sale barns 30 stallions, not seen by public before. They are:

HERD HEADERS

Visitors and buyers through his barns and say: Hello, Bill! I'm from Illinois; I'm Ikey from Missouri; Iams has the good ones; he shows us horses better than he advertises. See that 1,900 lb 2-year-old, "a hummer," I bought him at \$1,200. Couldn't duplicate him in Illinois, Ohio, or Iowa at \$2,000. See that 2,150-lb 3-year-old, "a ripper." Say, Ikey! see those six black 2,300-lb 4-year-olds he is showing to those Ohio men. They are the BEST I EVER SAW. Say boys! look at this 3,100-lb pair of beauties; they are worth going from Maine to California to see (better than the pictures). Say, Ikey, you couldn't go wrong here. They are all "crackerjacks." If you open your mouth and your pocketbooks, you will do business. Iams sells them. He has on hand imported and home bred.

80—BLACK PERCHERONS, BELGIANS AND COACHERS—80

2 to 6 years old, weight 1,600 to 2,500 lbs, all "approved and stamped by the European government, 95 per cent BLACKS, 50 per cent TON HORSES. Iams speaks French and German, buys direct from the breeders. PAYS NO INTERPRETERS, NO BUYERS, NO SALESMEN, HAS NO TWO TO TEN MEN AS PARTNERS TO SHARE PROFITS WITH; his buyers get middlemen's profits. These six facts and his 21 years of successful business at St. Paul makes him sell first-class stallions at fifty cents on the dollar, and saves his buyers \$500 to \$1,000 on each stallion. FARMERS: Form your own stock company, why pay slick salesmen \$2,500 to \$3,000 for third rate stallion when you can buy a better one of Iams at \$1,000 or \$1,200. First-class stallions are NEVER PEDDLED to be sold. IT COSTS \$800 TO \$1,000 TO HAVE A COMPANY FORMED BY SALESMAN; IAMS pays horses' freight and his buyers' fare. Write for finest horse catalogue in United States, showing 40 illustrations of his horses. It is an eye opener. References, St. Paul State bank, First State bank and Citizens' National bank. Barns in town.

FRANK IAMS

ST. PAUL, HOWARD CO., NEB.

ON U. P. and B & M. RYS.

DRAFT STALLIONS, SHIRES, PERCHERONS, BELGIANS.

60 Head to select from—all imported by us and guaranteed. 60

\$1,000 buys a good one from us this fall. We down all

competitors by selling more quality for less money than the small importers can possibly do. We do not advertise 100 and only have 20, but have just what we claim. 60 good ones now on hand. Barns just across from B. & M. depot. On September 9 we landed 40 head, which is our 34th import.

Watson, Woods Bros. & Kelley Co., - - - Lincoln, Neb.

A KITCHEN TABLE



A first-class kitchen cabinet poplar top and hardwood base. Extra heavy and well made. Mouse proof. Size of top 27x42 inches. 2 Flour bins, 1 Breadboard, 1 Drawer. Castered.

OUR SPECIAL OFFER

\$4.50 Buys this kitchen cabinet and we will pay the freight anywhere within 400 miles of Lincoln.

Send Your Order at Once.

HARDY FURNITURE CO.

1124 O Street, Lincoln, Neb.

and decent thing when it is put right up to you."

Cries of "Good!" "That's right!" and loud applause made Mr. Jerome smile slightly, though he kept his lips firmly compressed most of the time.

This is the first time that it has been charged openly in New York city that there were "grafters" among the clergy there, though every man of common intelligence knew it. To what other conclusion could any honest man come when he sees the most notorious Wall street gamblers, trust promoters and railroad mergers occupying the offices and highest seats in the fashionable churches?

Small wonder the cream tartar baking powder trust is spending so much money publishing interviews with Lieutenant Governor John A. Lee of Missouri—the investigation at Jefferson City brings out the fact that the members of the legislature who got thousand-dollar bills changed at the saloons and banks were those who voted against the repeal of the anti-alum law. Royal Baking powder may be "absolutely pure," but its makers' political deals will bear watching.

DR. M. U. THOMAS

Special Attention Given to Diseases of the RECTUM and DIGESTIVE TRACT

1319 O STREET, LINCOLN, NEB.

To make cows pay, use Sharples Cream Separators Book "Business Dairying" & Cat. 270 free W. Chester, Pa.

Live Stock Commission

Nye & Buchanan Co.,

SOUTH OMAHA, NEBRASKA.

Best possible service in all departments. Write or wire us for markets or other information.

Long distance Telephone 2305

Patronize our advertisers.