LEGISLATURE of NEBRASKA

A Synopsis of Proceedings of the Twenty-Ninth General Session.

In the capitol building shortly after noon on the 3rd, 132 citizens stood with uncovered heads and with right hands uplifted, before Chief Justice Holcomb, and repeated after him a solemn oath of office. The men who invoked God to attest that they swore truly were the members of the twenty-ninth session of the legislature, and this is what they swore:

"I do solemnly swear that I will support the constitution of the United States and the constitution of the state of Nebraska, and will faithfully discharge the duties of member of the legislature according to the best of my ability, and that, at the election at which I was chosen to fill the said office, I have not improperly influenced any vote of an elector; that I have not accepted nor will I accept, either directly or indirectly, money or other valuable things from any corporation, company or person, or any promise of office for any official act or influence, for any vote I may give or withhold on any bill, resolution or appropriation, so help me God."

The business to be transacted was that of organization only, and was carried out strictly along the lines determined on in the republican caucuses.

The house was called to order by Secretary of State Marsh. The roll was called by C. H. Barnard of Pawnee county, who was later made first assistant clerk of the house.

R. B. Windham of Cass county was unanimously elected speaker pro tem., and John Wall was made temporary chief clerk.

For the election of permanent speaker, the vote stood: Rouse, 91; Hunker, 9; and on motion of the latter, the election of Mr. Rouse was made unanimous.

The oath was administered by Chief Justice Holcomb, and was repeated by the members standing with right hands uplifted and afterwards was signed by them.

The house then proceeded to permanent organization, electing George L. Rouse of Hall, speaker; John Wall, chief clerk, and the other officers and employes as agreed on in caucus last night.

The nine fusion members supported for speaker F. D. Hunker of Cuming county.

The speakers and officers were sworn by the chief justice.

Mr. Rouse was escorted to the speaker's chair by Burgess of Lancaster, Caseberr of Gage and Perry of Furnas. He addressed the house briefly, informally and in a very general way.

A committee of five was ordered appointed on legislative supplies. The rules of the twenty-eighth session were adopted as the rules of the present session.

Windham of Cass, Anderson of Douglas and Burns of Lancaster were appointed to act with a senate committee to wait upon the governor and inform him the legislature is ready to hear from him.

Casebeer of Gage moved that the clerk be instructed to furnish requisition blanks, which should be exclusively used by the members in calling for supplies, and that such requisitions be permanent preserved in the record. The resolution was voted down.

Windham of Cass, chairman of the committee to confer with the governor, reported that his excellency had fixed 2 o'clock Thursday as the hour when he would convey his wishes to the legislature in the form of a message.

The house thereupon adjourned.

In the senate work began at noon. Lieut. Governor McGillon called the body to order.

Rev. J. H. Presson led in prayer. He invoked the divine blessing on the legislators and asked for harmony and peace throughout the session.

A roll call showed that all the senators were present except Hart of Adams county. He was detained by illness.

Senator Wall moved that Senators Begthol of Lancaster, Saunders of Douglas and Jackson of Gage be appointed a committee on credentials. They reported there were no contests.

Senator Saunders of Douglas moved that the 1903 rules be adopted until new regulations were formulated and the motion prevailed.

Senator Haller of Washington moved that Senator Jennings be elected president pro tem. Senator Wall of Sherman moved as a substitute that all the senate caucus nominees be declared elected. The latter motion prevailed. Wall then moved that Senators Epperson of Clay, Tucker of Richardson and Sheldon of Cass wait on the secretary of state and ask him to swear in the senate employes. This was carried. Secretary of State Marsh could not be found, and Senator Mockett of Lancaster moved that the lieutenant governor administer the oath. This was adopted and the employes were sworn in.

Begthol of Lancaster moved that the committee on standing committees and the committee on employes, selected by the caucus, be chosen by the senate. The selections were approved.

Senator Jones of Otoe asked that the pay of the enrolling and engrossing clerks be fixed at $4 a day. This was done. Senator Wall of Sherman moved that Senator Cady of Howard, Fries of Valley and Nielson of Douglas compose a committee to notify the house that the senate had organized. The motion carried, and the committee notified the house.

Without transacting further business of importance the senate adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 4.

The senate held a short session. The body was called to order by Lieutenant Governor McGilton. A committee composed of Beghtol of Lancaster, Fries of Valley and Shreck of York, was appointed to confer with a house committee to set a time for a joint session to canvass the vote on executive officers and fixed the time at 11:30. Mockett of Lancaster moved a resolution, that was unanimously carried, to furnish representatives of the newspapers in the senate copies of the Cobbey statutes for use during the session. The board of secretaries of the state board of health sent in a communication requesting the favorable action of the senate in the matter of providing a home for the epileptics. An invitation was read and placed on file from the National Live Stock association for the legislature to attend the meeting of the association in Denver, January 10, or to send a committee. Adjourned until Thursday, when joint inaugural ceremonies will take place.

In the house complaint was entered against the railroads for the length of time they take to get lumber into Nebraska and the way in which they treat the dealer. Lumber is sometimes on the road a month, with the dealer unable to locate it. When it does arrive, unless it is unloaded within forty-eight hours the purchaser has to pay $1 a day demurrage. Frequently the cars stack up on the dealer and in many cases shippers have been unable to unload the cars within the prescribed time, and have had to pay the demurrage charges when it is all the fault of the railroads. Should a measure be introduced to regulate this evil it will have the support of the lumber dealers, who two years ago were tied up with the railroads. The following members were excused from attendance for the remainder of the week: Jouvenat of Boone, Jackson of Antelope, Bacon of Dawson, Peabody of Nemaha, Livingood of Franklin, McAllister of Deuel, Richardson of Madison and Smelser of Sherman. Roberts of Dodge offered a resolution, directing the chief clerk to furnish to the reporters of daily newspapers regularly represented in the house a copy each of the compiled statutes for use during the session, the resolution being seconded by Perry of Furnas. The question was put to a viva voce vote, and the speaker was in doubt as to the result. Burns of Lancaster then explained to the members the necessity for furnishing statutes to the newspaper men, after which the resolution prevailed. Following this adjournment took place until Thursday.

No Sign.

Ethel—Are you sure the count was intoxicated last night?

Edythe—Positive. Why, he couldn't pronounce his own name.

Ethel—But you must remember that he is a Russian count.

It All Depends.

Giles—"How far is it from your house to the nearest saloon?"

Smiles—"Well, it is three minutes' walk from my house to the saloon and about thirty minutes' walk back."

Didn't Want a Change.

Nell—He seems to be devoted to you.

Belle—Yes.

Nell—Why don't you marry him?

Belle—Oh, I like to have him devoted to me.

A Loss Indeed.

Jakey—What makes you so blue today, Ikey?

Ikey—I—I was fired yesterday.

Jakey—Fired? And you had no insurance?

Some Think So.

Willie—Pa, what does "trust" mean?

Pa—Well, "trust" means confidence for one thing.

Willie—Then a "trust magnate" is a condence man, isn't he?—Catholic Standard and Times.

Proof Enough.

"Oh, mamma, I know there's a flea on me," cried little Ethel.

"How do you know it is a flea, dear?" asked mamma.

"Why, because I can't catch it!"

Long-Felt Want.

Customer—"Say, what kind of a crazy novel is this, anyway? It begins with the last chapter and ends with the first."

Bookseller—"Oh, that edition is intended for ladies only."

The Usual Size for Him.

Little Elmer—"Papa, what is a hypochondriac?"

Professor Broadhead—"A hyperconfidence man, isn't he?—Catholic ease, but many complaints.—Puck.

NEWS IN NEBRASKA

MILLIONS FOR IRRIGATION.

Reclamation of Lands in Nebraska Counties.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The valley of the North Platte, in Nebraska, is about to enter upon an era of substantial development which will in time convert it into one of the most populous and prosperous districts in the west. Nearly $4,000,000 will be expended within the next two or three years in western Nebraska and contiguous territory upon irrigation projects. This means labor for thousands of men in the state.

The Nebraska project will reclaim 100,000 acres. Most of it has been surveyed by the geological survey, but it has not yet reached the point where specifications and blue prints can be made. It is an extension of a great Wyoming project contemplating the construction of a gigantic dam between the high perpendicular walls of a rock-bound canyon in the mountains, through which the North Platte river forces its way to the Nebraska prairies, down the eastern slope to the Missouri river.

The dam will create an immense reservoir for storing the water, which is plentiful in early spring, but which, under natural conditions, disappears during the growing season. It presents an engineering problem of immense proportions.

The cash is in the United States treasury with which to do this work. On June 30, 1904, the available fund to Nebraska's credit was $477,937.42, of which sum $243,766.44 must be expended in Nebraska; or, in other words, cannot legally be diverted to apply to irrigation projects in other states.

NEBRASKA'S BIG CORN SHOW.

List of Prizes and Instructions to Exhibitors.

LINCOLN—The Nebraska Corn Improvement association has sent out the following interesting circular, covering point concerning the annual winter corn show which will be held at the state capital this month:

The sum of $150, offered by the state board of agriculture, shall be paid in cash premiums for exhibits scoring over seventy points, on the basis of points scored above seventy.

These special premiums will be awarded:

Best exhibit of white corn—Edge selection drop planter.

Second best exhibit of white corn—Walking cultivator.

Best exhibit of yellow corn—Edge drop planter.

Second best exhibit of yellow corn—Sweep corn grinder.

Best exhibit of calico or red corn—Riding listing plow.

Best exhibit of corn raised with a Tower cultivator—Corn cultivator.

Each exhibit shall consist of ten ears of corn grown by the exhibitor in 1904.

All exhibits must reach the secretary without expense to the association not later than noon of Monday, January 16, 1905.

Farmers Will Lose Cattle.

LINCOLN—The farmers and stockmen of the state will lose considerable stock on account of cornstalk forage, according to the opinion of State Veterarian Thomas. Numerous complaints of losses are made to him. He estimates that the loss due to that source alone was $500,000 last year, 20,000 cattle having died. Because of the very dry fall and the dessicated condition of the stalks, the veterinary believes that the loss will be much greater for the current year, unless the farmers take precautions to keep the animals out of the stalks.

Conferring on Boundary.

LINCOLN—Attorney General Prout has gone to Kansas City to confer with the Missouri officials regarding the boundary line between the two states as fixed by the United States supreme court. The decision was to the effect that the line should be in the middle of the old channel of the river and that monuments should be erected to mark the line. Unless the state officials of the two states can agree a commission will be appointed by the court at the expense of the states to fix the line and arrange all details.

Fast Cornhuskers.

TAYLOR—Loup county is proud of her champion cornhuskers. A number of fast ones recently husked the quantities opposite their names in an eight-hour day: Bert Van Houten, 102 bushels; William Kilwitch, 110; Walter Strohl, 110; Walter Neal, 110; Cliff Robyler, 120, and August Vanderveen, 125.

Ord will buy a $2,000 Methodist church site and remove the present building to a central location.

Keeps His First Wages.

COLUMBUS—William Dawson, a carpenter in this city, has in his possession 100 gold dollars, all bearing the date of 1852 and 1853. They represent the first wages he ever earned at his trade and were paid to him in St. Louis over forty years ago. They are all bright and new and look as if just milled. He has repeatedly refused an offer of $300 for them and thinks that some time either he or his children can get a much larger premium for them.

STATE NOTES.

The new High school building at Tecumseh has been turned over by the contractors as finished.

Catholics of West Point have formed the nucleus of a public library and it will be opened in a short time.

Sidney Dodge has been appointed postmaster at Marion, Red Willow county, vice W. E. White resigned.

Employes of the A. F. Bloomer Lumber company at York presented A. F. Bloomer, the retiring president, with a gold-headed cane.

The Pawnee county farmers' institute will be held in the opera house City February 2 and 3, 1905. Some excellent speakers are on the program.

Frank E. Brown, the man who was shot by Charles C. Reynolds at Tecumseh, died after being a great sufferer for two days. Blood poisoning killed nim.

The coroner's inquest at Hastings held over the remains of William Oliver Erickson, unmarried, 23 years old, resulted in a verdict of death resulting from carbolic acid self-administered with suicidal intent.

The Farmers' association of Newark is having a hard time to get shipping accommodations from the B. & M. railroad, and if they cannot get them any other way, propose to test the law, which, in other instances, has obtained results.

Since the several accidents on Union Pacific crossings in Grand Island, five of the seven crossing watchmen have been let out and older men have been put in their places. Five of the watchmen are on duty in the daytime and two at night.

While tending a cornsheller for Charles Hildebrand, northwest of Ashland, William Duffs' arm was caught in the machinery and before the engine could be stopped the arm was so badly mangled that it was necessary to partly amputate it.

Charles Selton, alias Dudley Brown, an operator for the Union Pacific railroad at Ogalalla, was sentenced to one year in the penitentiary by Judge Grimes. Selton shot at Conductor Moody about a month ago, but his aim was poor. He pleaded guilty.

Seventeen-year-old Thurman Gibbons of Norfolk has confessed to being a burglar and housebreaker. Caught by the police with money in his clothes which corresponded to an amount stolen from the home of Engineer Caldwell, the young man broke down and admitted his guilt. He is in jail at Madison.

Secretary Royse of the state banking board will interview President McGreevy of the wrecked Elkhorn Valley State bank of O'Neill when he stops in Lincoln in charge of Sheriff Hall of Holt county. An early settlement with depositors will be greatly aided if a truthful statement can be obtained from McGreevy by the state banking board.

The South Platte Implement Dealers' association closed its annual convention in Lincoln with a short session. A resolution was adopted extending greeting to the Lancaster association, a Pennsylvania association organized by a Quaker state man who had visited Lincoln and secured a copy of the constitution and by-laws of the South Platte concern. President Shamp and Vice President Maurer made short addresses.

The McCook Irrigation and Water Power company has been making some improvements in its ditch southwest of that city, and is placing its property in the best physical condition it has ever been in, in anticipation of a successful season next year. Among the improvements is a new flume of enlarged proportions, enabling it to carry more head of water. The ditch is an important factor in the sugar beet industry of that section.

An agent has been at work among the members of the Grand Island Soldiers' Home, of whom there have been about 400, securing their applications for homestead entries in the district of the state in which the Kinkaid bill has made such great changes in conditions, the applications being for such number of acres up to 640 to which the members are yet entitled, or for the entire number of acres. That the party is a representative of some land owners is not questioned.

A stranger giving the name of E. Walker and claiming Kansas City as his home, paid Beatrice a visit last week. He claimed to be an optician, and, after visiting the home of F. A. Grell, who lives a few miles southwest of the city, he sold Mr. Grell some spectacles and secured his note for $26. The glasses were found to be of the cheap variety and he believed he had been duped. He reported the matter to the police officers, who located Walker at the Markle hotel. Upon being confronted by the officer and Mr. Grell, Walker promptly turned over the note to Mr. Grell without much ceremony.

Farmers in the vicinity of Barneston have subscribed $2,700 towards building a new elevator. An organization has been perfected, and $5,000 will be secured, if possible, for the construction of the building.

The supreme court has declared valid the act of 1861 forbidding railroad companies to charge more for a short haul than a long haul. The court holds that this act, which is separate and distinct from the act known as the maximum freight rate law, is within legislative discretion and is valid.

TOLD OF THE VETERANS

Flag Song.

Out upon the four winds blow,
Tell the world your story;
Thrice in hearts' blood dipped before,
They called your name Old Glory!
Stream, Old Glory, bear your stars
High among the seven;
Stream a watchfire on the dark,
And make a sign in heaven!

Mighty harvests gild your plains,
Mighty rivers bear them,
Everywhere you fly you bid
All the hungry share them;
Blooms the wilderness for you,
Plenty follows after,
Underneath your shadow go
Peace and love and laughter.

When from sky to sky you float,
Far in wide savannas,
Vast horizons lost in light
Answer with hosannas.
Symbol of unmeasured power,
Blessed promise sealing,
All your hills are hills of God,
And all your founts are healing!

Still to those the wronged of earth
Sanctuary render;
For hope and home and heaven they see
Within your sacred splendor!
Stream, Old Glory, bear your stars
High among the seven;
Stream a watchfire on the dark,
And make a sign in heaven!

—Harriet Prescott Spofford.

At Kenesaw.

"An old diary," said a One Hundred and Twenty-Fifth Illinois man, "reminded me of that mysterious man on horseback at Kenesaw. This is what I recorded in my diary June 19, 1864: 'Again ordered forward, but the Johnnies have gone to higher ground. We follow them up, and at night we are at the foot of a mountain, up the sides of which are skirmish pits, and near the top seems to be breastworks, with here and there embrasures for batteries. We soon know that the batteries are in place all right, and nineteen of our cannon open to reply to the rebs on the top of the mountain. At the same time a furious thunder cloud comes up and joins in the hurly-burly, and such a roaring, shaking, and quaking as ensued is seldom witnessed.' That reads like it was written at the front, under the conditions stated by a soldier present and a participant. He was at the foot of Kenesaw, in Georgia, and belonged to Col. Dan McCook's brigade, all right, but when he made his record he did not know the name of the location.

"History later made the name memorable; incidents of a few days later fixed themselves on my memory, especially the charge of June 27, 1864, on the dead angle of Kenesaw, by Col. McCook's brigade. I belonged to company K, One Hundred and Twenty-Fifth Illinois. Our colonel, Oscar F. Harmon of Danville, Ill., was killed after Col. McCook fell while commanding and leading the brigade in the second effort to rush the works. He was within the twenty-foot line of the enemy's works. My place was on the extreme left, and after we had made the rush and during the confusion which ensued, some calling on us to go forward, others to fall back, I lay down, uncertain just what to do. In the interim I looked just in time to see Gen. Charles G. Harker fall from his horse. He was the only mounted officer or person I saw. I cannot recall the color of the horse, nor could I say as to his leading a charge. He was to my rear and left; that is, beyond the extreme left of McCook's brigade, which was not so close to the rebel works as was the right wing, which was lodged on the outside of the works at a point about twenty feet from the angle to the north. I could see the colors of one of the regiments planted in the loose earth at the foot of the works and our men were lyir flat on the face of the breastworks in support of the colors.

"Just as that scene was before me I had one side of my hat torn out by a rebel bullet. This volley gave us a chance to get the drop on the rebs and the firing slacked. It seemed to me like pot hunting on the river below Danville when I was a boy. The firing got so slack that I got up and looked around. Everybody was gone except the dead and wounded. The brush and undergrowth screened me, and I straightened myself up and deliberately walked back to the rear until I came to the rifle pits evacuated by the rebels some ways down the hill. As I recall it now it seems to me that the Johnnies must have thought that they had killed enough of us for one killing, for when we had pulled ourselves together the soldier instinct resumed the ascendant and officers and men re-formed and pushed up to the brow of the hill, where we fortified within twenty-seven steps of the rebels and made it about the hottest place for the space of the front of the brigade that the rebels held at any time from Chattanooga to Atlanta, and we kept it hot until the rebels evacuated their position July 2 and 3, 1864, when we followed them to the Chattahoochee river."—Chicago Inter Ocean.

Southern Woman's Experience.

Writing in the Raleigh News and Observer Susan Dahmey Smedes gives this fragment of civil war history:

"One of our war experiences was keeping house for two weeks in a box car. We were coming back home from Georgia. The journey consumed two weeks, because our engine always stopped us at night, and also at all the cities for a day or two. The car next ours brought the servants. We bought provisions in the towns and they cooked nice hot meals alongside the track. We had beds, tables, rocking chairs, books, and work baskets. Even the cat had not been left behind, she belonged to the naval branch of the service, and was given me by one of Capt. Eggleston's sailors. She personally had never smelled gunpowder, but all her family, her mother, brothers, and sisters, had gone down to the fight in Mobile bay, and been captured by the Northern fleet, in the gunboat Gaines.

"It seems a strange thing to say, but all that party look back on that trip as the most comfortable ever made by rail. While we were eating and sleeping and talking, and now and then receiving a visitor, our servants were improving the fleeting moments by the most tremendous religious revival. The sound of their prayers, exhortations, and singing overpowered the noise of the engine and train, day and night it seemed to go on.

"A pleasant incident on that journey was a breakfast sent us by a former neighbor as we were lying near Columbus, Ga. I must enumerate the viands all or nearly all were delicacies at that stage of the war. There was real coffee, with real sugar to sweeten it (not sorghum sirup), biscuits of real wheat flour, butter, though it was selling at $4 a pound, broiled chicken, beefsteak and fried potatoes. We did not leave a crumb, and every member of that party maintains to this day that there never was nor ever can be as fine a breakfast as that one.

"It is now forty years since all these scenes were enacted. I feel to this day, and I speak for nearly every Southerner whom I have heard express an opinion, that it is well the war ended as it did. It was always my father's opinion that if the South had succeeded secession would have been but the beginning of many secessions, and we should have been split up into many weak states instead of being the mighty nation that we are.

"May Old Glory float till the end of time over an undivided country!"

The Badge Money Cannot Buy.

The department of Indiana has a bronze badge, the pin bearing each year the name of the place where

INDIANA.

the department of national encampment is held. A cherry ribbon supports a disk containing the state seal, surrounded by the inscription, "Department of Indiana, G. A. R."

Last Casualty in Civil War.

Dr. Clayton Tiffin, a well-known physician and surgeon of Hamilton, Mo., had the distinction of commanding the Union soldiers who fought the last battle of the civil war in which a life was lost. During the struggle he commanded at different times three companies at Richmond, Mo. His last command was composed of veterans of Ray and Carroll counties who had been mustered out but had re-enlisted under him.

It was with a handful of these that he had an encounter on May 23, 1865 with the remaining remnant of Bill Anderson's bushwhackers and guerrillas. Anderson had been killed, and Arch Clemons, who had been his first lieutenant, was in command. The engagement was fought about eight miles from Richmond. Capt. Tiffin had with him only five men. They were fired upon from ambush by the bushwhackers, and Madison Walker was killed. Capt. Tiffin was himself shot through the toe of his boot, the ball not cutting the flesh.

This skirmish occurred about 6:30 o'clock in the evening of the day mentioned. Capt. Tiffin was reinforced and pursued Clemons' command all night, and the guerrillas surrendered the next morning at Lexington. Three days later, May 26, 1865, Kirby Smith surrendered all the Confederate soldiers west of the Mississippi river and all who had opposed the union forces had been disarmed.

Capt. Tiffin is quite sure the last fight was in Ray county and that Madison Walker was the last soldier in that great struggle to give up his life.

Unpatriotic School Teacher.

The Woman's Relief Corps of Toledo, Ohio, recently preferred charges against a school teacher of Wood county. His school was presented with an American flag and when received the teacher was evidently not in a patriotic mood, for instead of unfurling it at the top of the school house staff he buried the emblem upon the dirty floor and invited the scholars to participate in a war dance upon the flag, which invitation seems to have been accepted.

There are a lot of funny things in this world—including patent smoke-consumers.