

LEGISLATURE of NEBRASKA

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

SENATE—Aside from the debate on the Mockett divorce law in the senate and the report of a few committees little business was transacted on the 27th. The judiciary committee, which had been instructed to prepare a bill defining what property is exempt from taxation, reported that a legislative definition of exemptions would be of no value, the interpretation both of the constitution and legislative enactments being within the province of the supreme court. The committee, quoting the constitution, reports that portions of the section are self-acting and it is not within the legislative power to add to or detract therefrom. The following portion of the constitution, in the judgment of the committee, is not self-acting, but finds expression only by the aid of legislative enactment: "And such other property as may be used exclusively for agricultural and horticultural societies, for schools, religious, cemetery and charitable purposes may be exempt from taxation, but such exemptions shall be only by general law." Senate file No. 17 was reported by the judiciary committee for indefinite postponement, but upon the request of Gibson of Douglas it was again referred to the committee for further consideration. The bill defines child dependency and provides relief. It was the idea of the committee that it conflicted with the juvenile court bill. Bills introduced included: Providing for suspended sentences in wife desertion cases when offender gives bonds to provide for maintenance of family. Making life insurance companies deposit securities with the auditor. Providing punishment for those who by committing perjury secure conviction in certain criminal cases, and abolishing capital punishment.

HOUSE—H. R. 17, by Casebeer of Gage, to turn over to the university the Morrill and university cash fund of \$200,000 from the government was passed in the house on the 27th, with the emergency clause. It required a call of the house and lively skirmishing to get the necessary two-thirds, not because of opposition to the bill, but small attendance. H. R. 31, by Douglas, providing bounties for killing wolves, wild cats and coyotes, was recommended for passage after a strong appeal by Douglas. H. R. 104, by Lee of Douglas, to require a physician's certificate for the purchase of cocaine or morphine was recommended for passage as was H. R. 60, by Bartoo, requiring dentists to be licensed the same as physicians. The house went into committee of the whole and recommended for passage: H. R. 82, by Saddler of Adams, giving as compensation to soldiers' relief commissions in counties 5 per cent of the money distributed; H. R. 61, by Saddler, allowing counties to spend \$60 for the burial of a civil war veteran instead of \$35, and prohibiting their burial in paupers' graves. Bills read for first time: An act to amend section 58, article IV, chapter xviii, of the Compiled Statutes of Nebraska, entitled "Taxes." Providing for the number of mills to be levied for township purposes. Also providing for the method and manner of how the road work shall be performed in counties under township organization, and repealing said original section. Provides a rate of town tax on roads of 4 mills; bridges, 2 mills, and other purposes, 3 mills. An act to provide a more equitable distribution of the state common school fund to pay tuition in high schools of pupils not living in districts having high schools. A memorial and joint resolution in relation to the Nebraska territorial militia, asking congress for an act entitling members of such militia to pension. An act requiring school trustees to submit to voters estimate of school expenses prior to annual school meeting.

SENATE—The senate in committee of the whole on the 30th recommended for passage senate file 28, by Jennings, controlling the operation of automobiles and traction engines on the public highways. The bill was amended so that the driver of an automobile need not get out of his machine and secure permission to pass people driving in the roads. Senate file 21, by Vore, was referred back to the committee. This bill provides that the drivers of traction engines should lay planks across bridges and culverts before passing over them. After another heated debate the senate in committee of the whole, by a vote of 16 to 8, recommended that S. F. 4, the Mockett divorce bill, be indefinitely postponed. S. F. 6, the juvenile court bill, though declared unconstitutional by members of the judiciary committee and representatives of the Omaha Woman's club and other organizations, was passed unanimously. The following bills were introduced and read the first time: S. F. 133—Allows appeals from county boards of equalization. S. F. 134—Repeals state bank examiner law. S. F. 135—An act to declare the place of delivery of intoxicating liquors to be the place of sale. S. F. 136—An act to amend section 812 of the Code of Civil Procedure and to repeal said section as it now exists. A creative measure. S. F. 137—An act to amend sections 3 and 4 of chapter 79 of the laws of Nebraska of 1897 and repealing said sections as they now

exist. Creative measure. S. F. 138—An act to quiet and perfect the title to land which has been platted and laid out into lots and blocks. S. F. 139—An act to regulate the sale of flour, meal and other ground cereals to prevent short weights in the sale of such commodities. H. R. 17—An act to appropriate to the use and benefit of the University of Nebraska the moneys known as "the agricultural experiment station fund;" also the fund arising under the act of congress of August 30, 1890, commonly known as "the Morrill fund," and also the fund known as "the university cash fund." S. F. 140—An act to regulate the execution of the death penalty. Makes governor set day of execution and order execution.

HOUSE—The house was not in session on the 30th.

SENATE—Employees appeared pleased when the resolution of Senator Wall was approved, on the 31st, allowing all the subordinates pay for six days each week, whether labor was performed or not. The senate when into committee of the whole, with Bechtel in the chair. Senate file No. 9, by Thomas, was recommended for passage. This measure defines the crime of embezzlement and makes the use of money by agents come within the definition of the act. Schrecks' bill to limit the speed of automobiles to twelve miles an hour was recommended to the committee for revision. Senate file No. 14, by Jennings, was recommended for passage. This allows school districts with 150 pupils to erect school houses not exceeding \$5,000 in value. At present there must be 200 pupils in the school district before this can be done. Senate file No. 57, by Cady, was indorsed for passage. This measure is to allow Daniel L. Johnson the privilege of buying in his school land under the old form of lease. Owing to an error he was compelled to surrender his lease.

HOUSE—Kaley of Webster introduced a resolution which the house passed on the 31st, authorizing the State Board of Public Lands and Buildings not to sell the moving views of Nebraska exhibited at the World's fair as allowed by law, but to retain them. In committee of the whole the house killed H. R. 74, by Zuelow of Colfax, to attach a penalty to the law providing that all abstractors of title shall give a bond of \$10,000. Bills introduced included: An act to add to the penalty of bribery a one-year term in the penitentiary. An act to require incorporated telephone companies doing business in this state to compel them to connect the lines of other companies. An act to make false swearing as to age in procuring a marriage license punishable by a penitentiary sentence of from one to five years. An act to provide a license for book agents, solicitors for books, magazines or charts and members of organizations, lodges, etc. The license is made payable to the county clerk for a fee of \$5. An act to require the securing of the expenses when application is made for the admission of any insane persons to any insane asylum. An act to allow construction of tiled as well as open ditches for the drainage of land. An act to give a purchaser the right to recover money paid on contracts of conditional sale of personal property after waiver of forfeiture by vendor.

In Earnest on Bounties.
"The people of northwest Nebraska are in earnest when they ask for the re-enactment of the law providing for bounties on wild animals," said Representative J. A. Douglas of Rock county on the 30th. "They have suffered a great deal from the ravages of the wolves and coyotes and feel that it is only proper that some inducement be offered for the destruction of the pests. The inhabitants of Eastern Nebraska probably feel that the law is a joke. They do not have the same conditions that we have and fail to understand the need. With our herds are not safe over night because of the danger from these animals. They do not stop at sheep and cattle on the ranges, but come into the corrals and small pigs and calves are dragged down and killed."

"In my bill I have provided a bounty of \$2 on wolves. A bounty of \$1 is scarcely large enough to make an inducement to people to hunt the animals. This sum will be sufficient. It has introduced safeguards so that all the scalps presented for bounty shall be secured in a legitimate way."

"The measure is something the people demand. They ask me about the possibility of securing such a law continually and I feel myself that it is just. Nebraska has never spent a great sum in this way. The state is in slightly better condition than formerly and can afford to do this little for a large class of its population."

SENATE—The senate on the 1st ratified the work of the caucus and formally placed H. H. Guiding on the pay roll, as well as Peter Carter and Sam Grant. This swells the list to sixty-one. Upon the recommendation of the revenue committee S. F. 113, by Sheldon of Cass, was indefinitely postponed. This bill provided that taxes on personal property

should be a lien on the property for two years after due. S. F. 9, by Thomas of Douglas, and S. F. 14, by Jennings of Thayer, were passed. The former provides that when an agent collects money on commission and misappropriates it he shall be guilty of embezzlement. S. F. 14 provides for the issuance of school district bonds in cities of the first class. The senate then resolved into a committee of the whole, with Thomas in the chair, and reported the following bills for engrossment and third reading: S. F. 47, by Tucker of Richardson, defining the duties of county judges in certain cases. S. F. 46, by Shreck of York, providing that railroad companies shall furnish transportation to shippers of live stock to accompany the stock. S. F. 58, by Giffin of Dawson, providing for the establishment of drainage districts. S. F. 34, by Giffin of Dawson, providing for printing the report of the irrigation board. S. F. 34, to provide for the printing of the irrigation board report, brought on considerable discussion, it being the sentiment of many of the members to kill the bill. It apparently being their idea there was no way to distribute the reports after they were printed. The bill was recommended to pass.

HOUSE—The house on the 1st passed senate file No. 43, authorizing the governor to enter into and sign a compact with the governor of South Dakota, as agreed upon by a commission appointed by the two governors, to fix boundaries between the states at certain points. In committee of the whole, with Casebeer in the chair, the house spent considerable time in debate on house roll No. 69, by Horton of Keya Paha, to allow physicians in communities where there is no registered pharmacist within five miles to dispense his own medicine. By motion the bill was indefinitely postponed. Bills were introduced: An act providing for the payment out of the state treasury of the premium on the state treasurer's bond when such bond is executed by a surety company. An act providing that bona fide owners of contracts for lease of educational lands which were in full force and effect prior to May 26, 1879, may perfect their title according to the terms and provisions of the laws which were in force and effect prior to May 26, 1879. An act to provide for the construction and maintenance of bridges, culverts and approaches thereto on public highways in the state of Nebraska. An act to prohibit printers and others from printing or publishing more copies of books, pamphlets, circulars or other publications than ordered by the author. An act disclaiming and relinquishing all claim of ownership or title on the part of the state of Nebraska to any and all lands now being within the boundaries of the state of Iowa which shall hereafter be or become within the boundaries of the state of Nebraska by virtue of the action of any commissions appointed by the said states, and the ratification thereof by said states and the sanction thereof by the congress of the United States, or otherwise; provided, however, that said land or lands have been for ten years or more past in the possession or occupation of any person or persons co-partnership or corporation claiming ownership or title thereto, and those so in possession or occupation have for said period of ten years or longer paid taxes claimed by state or county authorities or officers to have been levied upon said land or lands. An act providing for the payment by counties of the premium on the bonds of the county treasurers where such bonds are executed by a surety company. An act to permit surety companies to be security for public officials for more than two successive terms. An act providing for the payment of premiums in surety company bonds when given by persons acting in a judicial capacity. An act in relation to instruments of writing recorded, copied or noted in the books of the office of county clerk. Makes them competent evidence when the originals are lost or parties wishing to use them cannot get possession of them.

Benefit in Two Meals a Day.
Persons who are the victims of chronic complaints, and whose digestion is slow and feeble, are often greatly benefited by taking but two meals a day, if they are careful to eat as much in the two meals as would ordinarily be comprised in three. The neuralgic, in particular, will do well to adopt this course, but the first meal should be somewhat late and the second reasonably early.

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Grandmother's Rules.
Always look at the person to whom you speak. When you are addressed, look straight at the person who speaks to you. Do not forget this. Speak your words plainly; do not mutter or mumble. If words are worth saying, they are worth pronouncing distinctly and clearly. Do not say disagreeable things. If you have nothing pleasant to say, keep silent. Think three times before you speak once. Have you something to do that you find hard and would prefer not to do? Do the hard thing first, and get it over with. If you have done wrong, go and confess it. If your lesson is tough, master it. If the garden is to be weeded, weed it first and play afterwards. Do first the thing you don't like to do, and then, with a clear conscience, try the rest.

The Commercial Aspect.
The story is vouched for by an architect high in authority at West Point, whose name is not known in the world of literature. All West Pointers will readily identify him. A cadet was showing a party through the historic building. "It was in this room," said the future officer, "that General Grant received his first commission." "His first commission?" queried a visitor of frankly commercial appearance. "Is it possible? What percentage of commission did he get?"

COL. BECKWITH SAYS:

"I Take Pleasure in Commending Pe-ru-na For Coughs and Colds."



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