

STATE LEGISLATIVE DOINGS.

As Forthtold in a Condensed Report of the Nebraska Legislature.

SENATE.—In the senate on the 21st there was some discussion of the penitentiary appropriation, but it was finally made as reported from the finance and ways means committee—\$100,000.

Metz's bill, S. F. 47, amending the Slocum law so as to exempt wholesale dealers from its provisions, was read a third time and passed.

H. R. 102, Dorian's memorial and joint resolution to congress, asking the amendment of the homestead and pre-emption laws so as to relieve settlers from the expense of publishing a notice on perfection of title, was passed, whereupon the senate adjourned at 11 o'clock in order to allow members to get out on the noon train. Both houses will reconvene on Monday at 11 o'clock.

HOUSE.—In the house consideration of the general appropriation bill in committee of the whole was finished and the bill reported to pass. Burr's bill providing for an additional judge of the second judicial district was passed.

In Troup offered an amendment to the normal school appropriation, giving the school \$25,000 for a laboratory, library, cabinet, recitation rooms, rooms for practical school, etc., that was defeated. The amendment was defeated by a vote of 28 to 32, and the section was adopted without change, making the appropriation \$40,000. The estimate for the insane asylum, \$1,500, was added for water supply, making the entire appropriation \$185,000.

An evening session was held, but no business of importance was transacted.

SENATE.—In the senate on the 23rd senate file 47 was read a third time and passed. This bill was introduced by Metz and relates to the issuance and regulation of license to sell malt and spirituous liquors by wholesale dealers.

Senate file 102, joint memorial and resolution relative to the penitentiary, was introduced requiring homesteaders and pre-emptors to publish notice of final proof was read a third time and passed.

Senate file 189 was passed. This bill provides for the issuing of county, precinct and city bonds in certain cases.

Senate file 111 was taken up and read a third time. It amends section 1017 of the code of civil procedure, and relates to appeals in certain cases.

HOUSE.—In the house a number of bills were read a second time and passed.

H. R. 219, a bill to prevent railroads running construction trains on Sunday, was recommended for indefinite postponement.

H. R. a bill requiring railroad corporations to make reports to the auditor of state regarding affairs of said corporations was considered and reported back for passage.

H. R. 191, a bill relating to militia, was discussed at length, amended and reported for passage.

SENATE.—In the senate on the 24th bills were passed providing for punishment for the crime of embezzlement committed by agents of insurance companies; providing for the abolition of incorporation of villages in certain cases.

The greater part of the afternoon session of the senate was taken up in discussing and amending the house bill to regulate the sale and management of school lands. It was reported for passage as amended.

Senate file 54, which relates to the management, lease and sale of educational lands, was taken up and discussed, but no definite action taken.

HOUSE.—Many bills passed to second reading and were referred.

House roll 233, relating to legislative appropriations, which passed the house and was amended in the senate, was taken up and passed.

SENATE.—In the senate on the 25th correspondence between Hon. James Laird and the commissioner of agriculture in relation to diseases of swine was read and referred.

The bill relating to railroad companies to furnish double-decked cars was recommended for indefinite postponement by a vote of 22 to 10. Paul explained his vote for postponement by saying that he believed if the bill became a law railway companies would increase freight rates in order to make up the extra expense, and that shippers and sellers would gain nothing by such a law.

In the senate in the afternoon the greater part of the session was taken up in discussing the railway commission bill, and there was a breezy time. The principal fight was over various amendments, but no important amendments were adopted. The bill was reported for passage.

A communication from the secretary of the American exhibition at London was read and referred.

HOUSE.—In the house the bill to amend section 1, chapter 50 of the compiled statutes, relating to the license and sale of spirituous liquors, was reported for passage. The following were also favorably acted upon: A bill relating to civil rights, to prevent the spread of hoax cholera; regulating the admission of foreign surety companies to do business in Nebraska; house roll 195, authorizing the incorporation of a detective association; a bill for the relief of Peter Prebble; compelling insurance companies to repay premiums upon canceling of policies; house roll 402, appropriating moneys for payment of officers and employees of the state government; How's relief bill; the bill providing for issuing of bonds to the second class; a bill concerning cities and villages.

HOUSE.—In the house Rice, of Holt, moved that senate file 14, fixing tariff on railways, be engrossed for third reading.

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form system of text books in public schools; joint resolution thanking R. W. Furnas for effective work done in New Orleans, and authorizing the purchase of a medal to be presented to him.

The senate held a short afternoon session. A number of bills were considered in committee of the whole and submitted for passage, among which was the bill establishing a state board of health.

HOUSE.—In the house the bill to maintain and establish another hospital for the insane was taken up and passed. Among competitors was Norfolk, Grand Island and Columbus. Norfolk received a majority of the votes of the house, and was ordered inserted in the bill as the place of location.

The bill providing for the establishing of a normal school school at Red Cloud was considered. Troup moved that the bill be postponed until it could be printed. The motion prevailed and the bill is practically killed.

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the repeal of these laws. The demand for the repeal came from two sources—railroad corporations and cattle kings. The former because they could not raise the price of their lands when the homestead laws are in force, and the latter wanted the timber culture act repealed in order that their lands might grow the prairie and be sold by the settlers.

The timber culture bill was taken up and the clause relating to an appropriation for the New Orleans exposition discussed, but no final action was taken.

SENATE.—In the senate on the 25th Van Wyck called up the bill providing for the sale of the San and Fox Indian power in Nebraska and Kansas. After a short discussion the bill was passed.

A house message announcing disagreement on the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill was laid before the senate, which insisted on its amendments, and a conference committee was appointed.

The naval bill was passed substantially as reported from the senate committee on appropriation.

Van Wyck obtained unanimous consent that the claims bill be temporarily laid aside to take up the pension bills originating in the senate and favorably reported from the committee. The sundry civil bill was followed by the passage of a number of pensions to widows of officers of the army and navy.

HOUSE.—The house proceeded with consideration of the sundry civil bill.

Horr offered an amendment providing that money appropriated to aid the New Orleans exposition should first be in paying the debts and second in paying the premiums awarded by the exposition. The bill then passed.

Wills moved to suspend the rules and put on his passage the bill appropriating \$100,000 for the construction and completion of the works designated in the river and harbor law. The motion was agreed to and the bill passed, 190 to 83.

THE PACIFIC FUNDING BILL.

Features of the Measure Introduced by Senator Hoar.

The Pacific railroad funding bill introduced in the senate by Hoar differs from the bill on same subject reported from the senate committee on judiciary. It amends the house bill in several important particulars. These differences are substantially as follows: It fixes the date for the ascertainment of the indebtedness of the companies on April, 1888, instead of 1887, and provides that in computing the indebtedness and deducting therefrom the amount in the sinking fund, such amount shall be computed at their market values, and it provides the bonds of redemption are to be delivered to the companies at the expiration of each six months, beginning with October 1, 1888. The committee bill provides that the bonds of redemption are to be delivered at the rate of three per cent per annum for the time each bond has to run (interest on each to be payable semi-annually), and that each bond shall be for an equal one hundred and twenty per cent of the balance of the debt and interest computed thereon—computed as due to the date of the sinking fund, and the indebtedness computed to the time the bonds are issued, interest at the rate of three per cent per annum from that date to the average maturity of the bonds, and the sinking fund shall aggregate amount by one hundred and twenty per cent in addition to these provisions. Hoar's bill provides that every disposition of any stocks, bonds or other securities of other corporations now owned by the companies, whether by gift, sale or otherwise, shall be reported to the secretary of the interior within thirty days.

DYNAMITE FOR MR. EGAN.

He is the Recipient of a "Machine" Evidently Intended for His Destruction.

Lincoln (Neb.) special: A few days ago a rumor was started that an infernal machine had been sent to Patrick Egan, president of the Irish National League of America, while that gentleman was in attendance at an Irish ball. A reporter called upon Mr. Egan to ascertain the facts, but was then informed the rumor was groundless. The story was revived in the Lincoln Herald, and the reporter who opes the fact that the rumor was not entirely groundless. Mr. Egan says a few minutes before the ball was to be held he was standing in a doorway to pass into sample hall, where the ball was in progress, to see Egan. He admitted the rumor, but denied the fact that the rumor was not entirely groundless. Mr. Egan says a few minutes before the ball was to be held he was standing in a doorway to pass into sample hall, where the ball was in progress, to see Egan. He admitted the rumor, but denied the fact that the rumor was not entirely groundless. Mr. Egan says a few minutes before the ball was to be held he was standing in a doorway to pass into sample hall, where the ball was in progress, to see Egan. He admitted the rumor, but denied the fact that the rumor was not entirely groundless.

A SMOOTH YOUNG MAN.

Who Won a Family's Confidence and Then Went for the Wealth.

Baltimore (Md.) dispatch: A few weeks ago a highly intelligent, handsome man, giving the name of Paul Sieber, came to Mr. George Garrett's country seat, near this city, and was given work about the place. So polished was he in his manners that he excited the sympathy of the family. He had a sweet, tender voice, and he pleased Mrs. Garrett by playing choice operatic music on the piano and singing to save a card to the pretty daughter of Mr. Garrett, on which he had drawn a wreath of forget-me-nots about his name. "Oh, he's a star," said Mrs. Garrett, to her daughter, Fannie, a German and also English fluently. Mr. and Mrs. Garrett and their daughter came to the city last Sunday night, Sieber and George Kelly, who had been the paces. Sieber stupefied the other man with liquor and then ransacked the house. Five hundred dollars' worth of jewelry belonging to the daughter was taken, and a portion of the silverware was missing. The detectives say Sieber is a variety actor from New York. A heart pierced with an arrow is tattooed on one arm.

Send Along the Publications.

Captain Bedford Pim, the well-known naval engineer of England, and ex-member of the British parliament, who has just completed an extended tour of the United States and Canada, has expressed a desire to send to the British museum a single copy of every daily paper in the United States and Canada and also a copy of each weekly. Of the dailies he desires a copy of the issue of the first week in March to make one grand movement to the Eden of America. The assembly was composed of the most respected citizens of the city and vicinity, consisting of merchants, lawyers and clergymen, and the meeting was characterized by its harmony.

The Next Oklahoma Movement.

One of the largest Oklahoma demonstrations probably ever held in any one place in the United States assembled at Caldwell, Kansas, on the 23rd, and organized the Caldwell Oklahoma colony. Speeches were delivered by Judge Chelson and the Hon. George R. Smead and George Kelly. Resolutions were passed extending a general invitation to other colonies to assemble at Caldwell on the 31st of March to make one grand movement to the Eden of America. The assembly was composed of the most respected citizens of the city and vicinity, consisting of merchants, lawyers and clergymen, and the meeting was characterized by its harmony.

Mr. Croust, correspondent, declares that Thomas Jefferson, in spite of his "Jeffersonian" simplicity, "bought during his first term \$8,500 worth of rum.

INDUSTRIAL BREVITIES.

A writer in one of the English technical papers explains how cold air is the cause of smoke, and how care can reduce it. He would draw the existing fire to the front of a grate and place the coals behind; thus the fire in the front would burn more rapidly, warm the air above, and so prepare the rising gases for combustion. The smoke is diminished, as the gases from the coals at the back rise much more slowly than when placed upon the fire and the air partly warmed. For stoves and boilers, warm air may be produced for the entire combustion of all the gases, a result that is beneficial in many ways.

In order to give some idea of the progress of agriculture in New South Wales *The Engineer* gives the quantity of land under cultivation at the close of 1883 as follows: Wheat, 289,757 acres; maize, 128,634 acres; barley, 5,081 acres; oats, 17,810 acres; rye, 1,140 acres; potatoes, 14,953 acres; tobacco, 1,785 acres; sugar cane, 14,953 acres; grapevines, 4,378 acres; oranges, 7,268 acres; sown grasses, wheat, barley and oats, for hay, 178,503 acres; same, for cattle, 107,893 acres. Gardens and orchards absorb 17,455 acres, the whole quantity of land under cultivation exceeding 750,000 acres.

The total cut in the northwestern lumber region last year was 2,534,298,361 feet of lumber, 1,029,354,300 shingles, and 620,680,780 laths. The increase over the cut of 1883 was 447,811,966 feet of lumber, 202,974,031 shingles, and 85,799,850 laths. The stock on hand Dec. 1 aggregated 1,795,708,522 feet of lumber, 424,998,406 shingles, and 310,276,900 laths. The increase over the total Dec. 1, 1883, is 600,078,686 feet of lumber, 50,011,556 shingles, and 198,513,700 laths. The anticipated log supply is placed at 2,119,866,000, of which 1,522,500,000 represent new logs.

According to the annual report of the department of agriculture, now in press, the total yield of wheat in this country in 1884 was 513,000,000 bushels, of corn 1,795,000,000 bushels, and of oats 583,000,000 bushels. These are the largest aggregates ever recorded, the nearest approach on wheat being made in 1882, when the yield was 504,000,000 bushels, and on corn in 1880, when 1,754,000,000 bushels were raised. The average yield per acre in 1884 is given at 13 bushels for wheat, 28.5 bushels for corn, and 27.4 bushels for oats.

"Idunium" is the name proposed by Prof. Wechsly for the metal just discovered by him as one of the components of native vanadate of lead. The mineral is rather a scarce one, of a yellow color, and contains several other metals, of which zinc, iron, and arsenic are among the most prominent. Idunium resembles vanadium in several respects, both physically and chemically, while the only oxide hitherto examined forms stable salts with alkaline bases, and thus would appear to possess distinctly acid properties.

Mr. E. H. Johnson, president of the Edison Electric Lighting company, has his private residence lighted with incandescent lamps. The dynamo is in the cellar, and it is said to make so little noise that it can not be heard on the floor above. A small engine supplies the dynamo, and the exhaust steam is used in heating the house. Mr. Johnson's experiments have proved satisfactory, and he promises to make connection with one or two of his neighbor's houses for the purpose of furnishing them with light.

There are no hod-carriers in Germany. Bricks are passed from hand to hand. The higher up the bricklayers are the more men are required to toss the bricks. Two men to a story is about the average, with enough more to lead from the front of the building to the place where the bricks are needed. One may sometimes see three men on the ground, eight on the front of the building, and five on the top, making sixteen men through whose hands each brick passed before it reached its place of destination.

The total area under cultivation of rice in Burma is reported as 3,640,000 acres. An average crop all over the province ought to yield an exportable surplus of 988,000 tons of cargo rice. Although many of the district officers anticipate a crop considerably above the average, it appears better not to estimate for an exportable surplus of more than 975,000 tons, or 104,000 tons below the actual exports of 1882.

Cracks in floors around the mold-board or other parts of a room may be neatly and permanently filled by thoroughly soaking newspapers in paste made of one pound of flour, three quarts of water, and a tablespoonful of alum, thoroughly boiled and mixed. The mixture will be about as thick as putty, and may be forced into the cracks with a knife. It will harden like papier-mache.

A nurseryman asserts that apple trees which have straight and upright tops have roots of a similar character, and that those which have low and spreading tops have bushy roots. Even the color and peculiar markings of the bark of some varieties extend to the roots. The nurseryman is therefore able to distinguish several varieties by their roots alone.

Prof. Austin states that many clay and iron sewer pipes and house lead-ers are pervious to sewer gases. In one instance in Jersey City the leader was so porous that the parlor was rendered almost uninhabitable. He recommends that all sewer pipes be thoroughly varnished with shellac or soluble glass, or else painted with heavy paint.

A kind of cactus has been found in South America which only shows its flowers when the wind blows. There are little lumps on the stalk from which the blossoms protrude, but they go out of sight with calm air.

The use of natural gas in Pittsburgh manufacturing is steadily increasing, and now the right has been sold to a man who will try to introduce it into houses for heating purposes.

The directors of most fair associations have decided to sell no more family tickets.

A Preacher in Court.

In the early days of primitive Methodism, under the labors of one of our veteran missionaries, a notoriously bad character got converted. Quite in harmony with the custom of those times, he soon began preaching. On one occasion he had a large crowd of people gathered by the wayside, and to these he preached furiously. An officious policeman came up and took our friend into custody. The news spread like wildfire that old Tom was locked up for preaching. Had it been said that it was for poaching no one would have doubted it, but his preaching gave quite a different character to the affair. On the following morning the court was crowded to hear the trial. The charge was read over, and the prisoner asked what he had to say in reply. Now this man had been in that dock so often that he did not feel at all concerned; he seemed quite at home. Very quietly folding his arms, he addressed the magistrate to the following effect: "Gentlemen, do you mean business?"

"Business! business! of course we do."

"Well, gentlemen, please excuse me; but if you mean business, allow me to say that of late a great change has come over me, and I never now commence any business without first praying about it; if you please, we'll pray."

He did not wait to know whether they pleased or not, but with all the fervor of a new convert poured out his soul in prayer. All in the court and on the magistrates' bench were deeply moved, and some to tears. But he prayed rather long, and good as it was, they thought he might now close; so the presiding magistrate said in an undertone:

"That will do; just stop him."

The officer, shaking our friend's sleeve, said, "Stop!" but he prayed vigorously, he said, "Stop man, stop!" but he prayed with increasing fervor.

One of the magistrates saw one of our preachers in the body of the court, and calling to him said, "Mr. —, you come and stop him." But our dear old brother enjoyed this novel prayer-meeting too much to be induced to stop it; so he replied loud enough for all to hear:

"Nay, nay, you've started him; I can't stop him."

However, our friend in the dock drew his devotions to a close, stood upon his feet, and, again folding his arms, said with becoming meekness:

"Now, gentlemen, if you please, I am quite ready for business."

The prisoner was ordered into the ante-room while the case was considered.

One of the magistrates, moved to tears, said:

"We have often had this man before us, but never under such circumstances. If this is a sample of the work achieved by the labors of the Primitive Methodists, I wish them success wherever they go."

"It did not take them long to decide that he had broken no law, and therefore they would very gladly acquit him."

"Well, gentlemen," said an officer of the court, "shall we call him in and say he is acquitted?"

"What? what! call him in! No, never, or you'll have him on his knees returning thanks. Let him go out at a side-door, but tell him he is fully at liberty to carry on his good work."

Teetotalism.

Nothing is more necessary, in all important questions, than to approach statistics with the utmost possible scepticism; and the statistics of the teetotaler are the most utterly untrustworthy of all that we have been required, with any special care, to examine. It must not be forgotten that temperance societies are a trade, almost as lucrative to a large number of persons as liquor selling; and that paid lectures, converted duncans, writers of sensational teetotal novels, and such like, are not to be regarded as wholly exempt from human frailty. As to the use of alcohol, it must be remembered that it is scarcely possible to meet with a perfectly healthy man, woman or child. We live in an exclusively artificial state of society. The hard brain work, especially of a large class of society is exceedingly exhausting, and interferes very seriously with the ordinary processes of nutrition, and the like. Excessive physical labor has the same or a similar effect.

We have not the smallest doubt that if workingmen were to take a moderate quantity of alcohol in a highly diluted form, such as genuine lager beer, about three times a day, they would be very much healthier, able to endure more work, and able to live on a somewhat smaller quantity of more costly food. If our temperance—not teetotal—societies would devote themselves to the useful task of punishing all adulterators of alcoholic liquors, they would be rendering a real service to the working classes. Unfortunately they generally suppose that anything that makes a man "drunk" is alcohol; and know nothing whatever of the difference, chemical or physiological, between alcohol and fusil oils. Our readers, when they hear "Dr. Carpenter's" name quoted as an authority on the teetotal question must be careful to ascertain which Dr. Carpenter is meant. The Dr. Carpenter we learn, has found it necessary to abandon "total abstinence." The great advocate of teetotal nonsense is a Dr. Alfred Carpenter, an excessively different person.—*American Literary Churchman.*

Chloral.

The chloral has been attracting a good deal of attention in England of late, owing to a divorce suit and for damage in the higher walks of life, growing out of overdosing a lady patient with chloral by a physician, and statements which she made compromising him after her mind had been partially destroyed by the operation of the drug. Just now this country has a chloral sensation. Rev. J. Rhye Thompson, one of the most eloquent of Brooklyn's younger clergymen, has been missing for ten days or more, and his friends have been extremely anxious and at the same time very mysterious. It transpires that he was addicted to the habit of taking chloral and that the drug had unsettled his mental faculties to such an extent as to render him unconscious for the time being, of his acts. A friend of Mr. Thompson says that "he attempted to do too much, and when he found that his physical constitution was unable to withstand the mental strain he had recourse to chloral." Christmas day, however, Mr. Thompson was discovered in a Boston hotel and taken to his home, where he now lies dangerously ill. The moral of his experience is this: Never undertake to do too much, but if you ever should find yourself in a state of nervous exhaustion from overwork, do not have recourse to stimulants or drugs. Rest, complete rest, is the only sure remedy for overwork, and the only remedy that will bring the system back to its normal condition without injury. Alcohol, opium and chloral should be avoided as one would avoid a cholera laden ship.—*Hartford Post.*

Mexican Outrages.

Murders and outrages at the hands of Mexican bandits follow in quick succession on the Texas frontier, says an Austin telegram to *The New York Herald*, and the marauders, having accomplished either their deeds of blood or their wholesale robberies, cross over the Rio Grande, and are secure under Mexican law from the punishment of the courts of this state would impose. Gov. Ireland has written several letters of complaint to the department at Washington, but still killing and rapine go on unchecked, until now there seems no protection for the people of this section at the hands of the federal authorities. The latest report of murder and robbery comes from Carizo Springs this forenoon, and, as usual, the outlaws took shelter on the other side of the Rio Grande. The people of that section are now up in arms, prepared to defend their lives and their property from further raids. Trouble is feared, and in view of that fact Gov. Ireland to-night dispatched the adjutant general of the state to the scene. Gen. King takes a force of Texas rangers along with him to prevent bloodshed, and, if possible, to bring some of the more daring criminals that infest the border to speedy justice.

Your correspondent saw the governor late this evening and he said, with marked emphasis: "We are now determined to protect ourselves, and no nice distinctions of international law shall stand in the way of it. These Mexican depredations must cease. Men and women are killed by these desperadoes on the border in cold blood and their property stolen before their eyes, but we are prevented by the absence of a treaty to reach the murderers. President Arthur has been advised of this fact. I have been corresponding with Secretary Frelinghuysen for many months on the subject, but all to no purpose. Now that the federal government has failed to give relief, Texas will hereafter defend its citizens along the Rio Grande, even if it takes every man in the state and every dollar in the treasury to do so."

These bold words of Gov. Ireland are full of significance, and foreshadow the policy which the adjutant general will pursue. Texas, as one man, will sustain the governor, and even should a difficulty arise with Mexico, which can hardly be avoided now, this state is ready and able to take care of itself. Lively times on the border are now certain, and if a crash or collision occurs the authorities at Washington correspondance between Gov. Ireland and them will probably be published, showing that Texas has been forced into the defensive attitude it now assumes.

Repressing Genius.

The whirligig of journalism, like everything else, makes a change, and the style which used to make the whole city shudder now falls, if it ever gets up, like the "thud" which long became obsolete. Now and then a new reporter flashes up and undertakes the old style of some worn out and tired out and played out brother who, in his day, was called the "crack reporter of the staff." The descriptive man is doing space work on a weekly or a magazine. How this thought crept over me the other day as I overheard an old city editor shattering the hopes and ambitions of a young man who had meant well enough, although I did think he might have worn his reportorial star under the lapel of his vest, as star to be the custom, instead of trying to flash it up as young men do a scarf-pin.

"You say here," said the city editor, as he pulled a clay pipe that was black and strong, "that the 'evanescent beauty of the avenue was lured from her father's mansion by the villain's sinister smiles.' Now, my dear fellow, this is not what I want. Besides my objection to its wordy construction I must say that the time when villains with sinister smiles lured the Chicago beauty has gone by. The Chicago girl—to speak after the manner of the gang—is no chump. She knows the villain as soon as she sees him. He was here before the fire. You can't fool a Chicago girl any more with a sinister smile, or any other kind of a smile, no matter whether you are a villain or not. It is true you may meet her at the skating rink and buckle on her skates, and put your arm around her waist in the g. maze, so to speak. But to try to lure her away from the mansion of her father with a sinister smile and see how quickly she will drop on you. Why, she will paralyze you—cut you dead. She is on; make no mistake. Strike out 'evanescent beauty,' 'lure,' 'villain,' and 'sinister smile,' and say that she consented to give her hand to the young man who had given her and her father and mother indisputable proof that he