

NEBRASKA.

Sargent suffered from quite a disastrous fire.

The smallpox quarantine at Nebraska City has been raised.

Protracted meetings at Hebron are awakening much interest.

A lodge of the Knights of Pythias has been organized at Bertrand.

The Methodists of Stuart are conducting an enthusiastic revival.

Mrs. Anna Michelson, a pioneer woman of Grand Island, died last week.

Measles, mumps and the grip are keeping the doctors of Wilcox and vicinity on the jump.

The citizens and business men of Fairbury are moving in unison for the success of a farmers' institute to be held under the direction of the state university.

The family of Carl Grunz, residing near Doniphan, Hall county, which was afflicted with severe illness caused by trichina-infected pork, are rapidly recovering and are now out of danger.

A bill has been prepared by County Clergy Robertson, and will be introduced in the legislature, praying that Cass county be reimbursed to the amount of \$600 by the state. This is the sum expended by the county officials in maintaining company B while awaiting its muster into the actual United States service.

Mrs. Fannie O'Leary, a practicing attorney of Chadron, has written a letter suggesting that the forty-five stars in the flag be so arranged that they form one large star. She says: "The forty-five stars divide equally into the five points, but many may be distributed in the center of the large star and the symmetry still be preserved."

The coroner's jury investigated the Sunol wreck on the Union Pacific and reached a verdict in substance that the accident was due to an unintentional error on the part of H. R. Reece, engineer on head engine of train No. 3, in not giving signal for brakes to engineer on second engine of the train, who had control of the air brakes.

Dr. Armstrong, formerly in charge of the feeble minded institute at Beatrice, died last week. He was 47 years of age the 28th of last December. He was born in Columbia county, Ohio. Moving to Iowa he took a collegiate course at Parsons college. He graduated then from the Iowa state university, from whence he entered a medical college at Iowa City, from which he graduated with high honors.

Railroad contractors are pricking up their ears over the rumor being circulated among them that the Union Pacific's new owners have appropriated no less a sum than \$27,000,000 to be spent soon in improving the old lines and its branches and building new lines. Just what foundation there may be for this report is not now definitely ascertainable, but railroad contractors have made the assertion that such is the fact, and they generally know about such matters.

Several cases of well developed smallpox are reported from three miles east of Murray and nine miles south of Plattsmouth. James Nichols and wife were visiting in Hamburg, Ia., one month ago. On their way home they visited friends in Nebraska City. Soon after arriving home he was taken sick. A physician was called and pronounced it chicken pox. Since that time Mrs. Nichols and her mother, Mrs. Frank Carroll, have come down with what is now conceded to be smallpox.

J. H. McClay of the Third Nebraska, thus writes from Cuba: "Speaking for those of the regiment who were recipients of those very fine favors, (Christmas donations), permit me to return sincere thanks and to say that if a complete enjoyment of these gifts and an abiding gratitude on the part of those receiving will in any way compensate those who have so generously remembered the Third Nebraska, then we must receive a liberal credit on account. I may say further that the knowledge that the ladies of the Woman's Relief Corps were largely instrumental in collecting and forwarding those articles, adds a preserving memory in connection with Christmas festivities enjoyed by the Third Nebraska."

At the meeting of the Nebraska state historical society recently held in Plattsmouth, Hon. J. Sterling Morton announced that ex-Senator T. W. Tipson, who is now in his 82nd year, had completed his manuscripts and that they would soon be published by the society. The first paper read, was by Clyde B. Aitchison of Council Bluffs, and related to the Mormon Settlements in the Missouri Valley. In the year 1846, 16,000 Mormons were obliged to leave their homes in Illinois and crossed the Mississippi in May of that year. W. W. Cox of Seward gave a vivid description of one of the earliest conventions for the nomination of congressmen, held at Omaha in 1852. Mr. Cox was living at the time not far from the present site of Lincoln, and went as a delegate. He entitled the journey, "My First Trip from Salt Lake Basin to Omaha." The city of Lincoln was not thought of, and Lancaster county contained but twenty-one families. Both the republican and democratic conventions met in Omaha at the same date, and an exciting time ensued.

The Rockford mills and contents, owned by I. B. Nelson at Burwell, were destroyed by fire. Loss \$1,800; no insurance.

The footings for the year in the books of the county clerk reveal the fact that during the year 1898 Jefferson county's mortgage indebtedness has been decreased by a grand total of \$425,146.49. This marvelous decrease was not alone confined to realty mortgages, but farm, city and chattel mortgages have shared in it alike. In this particular Jefferson county claims to have made the banner record of the state when population and area of square miles are considered.

THE STATE LAWMAKERS

The Grind With Which They Are Daily Engaged.

TRYING TO ELECT U. S. SENATOR.

Text of Some of the Measures Thus Far Introduced—An Onslaught of Bills in Both Branches—Some that Have Advanced to Second Reading.

Senate.

The senate of the 16th was called to order by the lieutenant governor. Senator Howard was the only absentee.

New employees were agreed to as follows: Engrossing clerk, Everett Milks; clerk of committee on public lands and buildings, Willard Weedon; copyholder, W. R. Stewart; clerk of committee of agriculture, John Sherer; clerk of committee on enrolled and engrossed bills, E. M. Havens; engrossing clerk, I. C. Harney; clerk of committee on military affairs, L. C. Wright.

A large number of bills were introduced and read at large on first reading.

Bills read on second reading were referred to the following committees: Senate file 48, to committee on constitutional amendments and federal relations; 49, revenue; 50, finance, ways and means; 51, railroads; 52, live stock and grazing; 53, counties and county boundaries; 54, revenue; 55, judiciary; 56, judiciary; 57, judiciary; 58, judiciary; 59, judiciary; 60, miscellaneous subjects; 61, banks and currency; 62, judiciary; 63, counties and county boundaries; 64, counties and county boundaries; 65, judiciary; 66, judiciary; 67, judiciary; 68, mines and mining; 69, judiciary; 70, judiciary; 71, judiciary; 72, miscellaneous subjects; 73, judiciary; 74, insurance; 75, judiciary; 76, judiciary; 77, live stock and grazing; 78, agriculture; 79, judiciary; 80, judiciary; 81, municipal affairs; 82, judiciary; 83, judiciary; 84, live stock and grazing; 85, judiciary; 86, judiciary; 87, insurance; 88, railroads; 89, education; 90, finance, ways and means; 91, education; 92, judiciary; 93, judiciary; 94, judiciary; 95, judiciary; 96, judiciary.

On motion of Senator Talbot, balloting for United States senator was made a special order for tomorrow at 11 a. m.

When the senate was called to order on the 17th by President Talbot every member was in his seat. The journal was read in part, its further reading being dispensed with on motion of Senator Halderman.

Senator Schaaf of Sarpy sent up to the secretary's desk a resolution petitioning congress against any entangling alliance with Great Britain, and moved its adoption under suspension of the rules. The resolution was tabled.

The hour of 11 o'clock having arrived the senate proceeded to the balloting for United States senator.

Lieutenant Governor Gilbert read the regulation for the election of senator, after which Secretary Morgan called the roll of the senate, each senator as his name was called responding with the name of his choice.

The ballot resulted as follows: Allen 12, Hayward 8, Webster 3, Thompson 2, Field 1, Hinshaw 1, Lambertson 1, Weston 1, Davidson 1, Valentine 1, Little 1, Cornish 1.

The total number of votes cast was thirty-three. The vote having been read and verified it was announced by the chair that no one had received a majority of the votes cast, and the secretary was instructed to so record it in the journal.

Senator Halderman of the committee on printing reported recommending that the senate reconsider its action of yesterday ordering the return of files furnished by the secretary of state to their manufacturers, and the procuring of Keystone files in their stead. The committee recommended that the files furnished be retained on account of the exorbitant charge for Keystone files. The report was adopted.

Senator Van Dusen of the committee on judiciary reported recommending the passage of senate file No. 23. The report was adopted and the bill ordered engrossed for a third reading. The law sought to be amended is that prescribing bonds that must be executed in order to make an appeal in equity operate as a supersedeas.

A resolution offered by Senator Talbot petitions congress to pass the bill now pending granting a pension to John M. Palmer. The rules were suspended and the resolution was unanimously adopted.

Quite a number of new bills were introduced and given a first reading.

Senator Prout of the committee on securing committee rooms reported that the secretary of state had not complied with the request of the secretary for making committee rooms ready for occupancy, and ordered the sergeant-at-arms to prepare such rooms at once.

Senator Giffert's motion of yesterday tabled until today, giving the governor a messenger during the session of the legislature, was, on motion of Senator Van Dusen, laid on the table.

Among bills introduced the following occur:

A bill for an act to amend section 5 of chapter 76 of the compiled statutes of the state of Nebraska of 1897, and to repeal said original section. Relating to the duties and compensation of supervisors of registration.

A bill for an act to amend section 16 of chapter 4 of article 1 of the compiled statutes of 1897 and repealing said section as now existing. Making owners of dogs responsible for damage done by them to sheep and other domestic animals.

A bill for an act to amend section 17, chapter 2, article 1, of the compiled statutes of Nebraska, and to repeal said section 17 as it heretofore existed. Amending the law governing county agricultural societies.

Senate file No. 147, by Owens—A bill for an act concerning the compensation of receivers.

A number of bills went to second reading in the senate on the 18th, and were properly referred.

Senate file No. 23 is entitled "A bill for an act to amend section 677 of the code of civil procedure of the state of

Nebraska, and to repeal said original section 677," introduced by Senate Talbot.

The section amended is as follows, the part printed in parenthesis being the amendment:

"Third—When the judgment, decree or order directs the sale or delivery of the possession of real estate, the bond shall be in such sum as the court or judge thereof in vacation shall prescribe, conditioned that the appellant or appellants will prosecute such appeal without delay, and will not during the pendency of such appeal commit or suffer to be committed any waste upon such real estate (and if the judgment be affirmed, he will pay the value of the use and occupation of the property from the date of the undertaking, until the delivery of the possession pursuant to the judgment and all costs)."

Quite a spirited discussion arose over the measure. The committee reported the bill back, with the recommendation that it pass, by a vote of 18 to 11. The committee then arose, and President Talbot took the chair.

A communication was read addressed by the governor to President Talbot, signifying that should the senate so decide he would like to be accorded a messenger during the session.

Senators Prout and Currie were opposed to allowing the governor's request on the ground that the constitutional limit of employees had already been reached. The motion of Senator Talbot to allow the messenger was amended by Senator Van Dusen so as to show that the messenger was not an employee of the senate. The motion as amended was agreed to.

Among the bills introduced was a joint resolution by Cunningham of Harlan county which reads as follows:

Be it resolved by the senate and house that we, as representatives of the state of Nebraska, do, in justice to and in defense of the ancestral bequest of liberty we now enjoy, ask our congress at Washington not to detract from or depreciate 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 unwelcome, who, by bribery, betrayal and invasion, unfortunately come in her power.

In the house on the 17th Taylor of Custer offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the duties, powers and privileges heretofore given to the special committee on passes, by the resolution introduced yesterday by Mr. Sturgess and adopted by this house, be extended to include in said investigation and apply to judges and commissioners of the supreme court and members of this house. The resolution was tabled.

The hour of 11:30 having been reached, with all regular business transacted, Pollard of Cass moved that the house now proceed to vote on United States senator. The motion prevailed and the roll was called.

Among the bills introduced were the following:

A bill for an act to amend section 176 of chapter xxiii, entitled "descendants" of the Compiled Statutes of 1897 and to repeal said section as now and heretofore existing. Amendment gives surviving husband equal rights with surviving wife pending settlement of estate. A joint resolution proposing and agreeing to an amendment to section 1 of article iii of the constitution of the state of Nebraska, and to provide for submitting such amendment to a vote of the people. Relating to the initiative and referendum. An act to amend section 36 of article i of chapter xiv of the Compiled Statutes of Nebraska, 1897; also section 26, chapter xx, of the Compiled Statutes of Nebraska, 1897, and section 100 of the Nebraska Code of Civil Procedure as to permit cities to appeal from judgments without giving bond and to repeal said original section.

Thompson of Merrick introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

"Whereas, This is the tenth day of this, the twenty-sixth, legislative session, and,

"Whereas, Only nineteen bills of the large number already sent to the printer appear to have been printed; therefore be it

Resolved, That the committee on public printing be requested to investigate and report to this body as soon as possible as to whether or not the party or parties to whom the contract for printing the bills of this house is let are able to perform that work without delaying unnecessarily the work of this house."

The resolution was adopted. The order of business for the day having been gone through the house adjourned until 10 a. m. tomorrow.

The vote for senator in the house was: Allen 46, Hayward 20, Webster 12, Thompson 5, Field 3, Lambertson 2, Hinshaw 1, Hainer 1, Adams 2, Majors 2, Weston 1, Reese 2, Foss 2, Valentine 2, Martin 1, Van Dugro 1.

When the house assembled on the 18th all the members were present except Loomis.

Grosvenor introduced a resolution providing for 500 extra copies of house roll No. 137, the Pollard revenue bill. On motion of Burns the number was made 1,000 and the resolution adopted.

At noon the sergeant-at-arms announced "the senate of the state of Nebraska" and the representatives arose as the senators filed into the hall, preceded by Lieutenant Governor Gilbert. The lieutenant governor was received by Speaker Clark at the steps leading to the speaker's stand and invited to take the chair.

The formula of opening a joint convention of the legislature as provided for by the law and the joint rules of the two houses.

The first joint ballot for senator was then taken, resulting as follows: William V. Allen 58, M. L. Hayward 24, John L. Webster 10, D. E. Thompson 7, Allen W. Field 4, G. M. Lambertson 3, E. H. Hinshaw 3, E. K. Valentine 2, T. J. Majors 2, M. B. Reese 2, Frank Martin 2, E. E. Adams 2, J. B. Weston 2, S. P. Davidson 1, A. J. Cornish 1, J. H. Van Dusen 1, F. L. Foss 1, E. J. Hainer 1.

The house being again called to order, the committee on privileges and elections reported on the contested case from Chase county, their conclusion being as follows:

"At the election for such office Frank Israel received 1,377 votes, and George W. Benjamin received 1,082, leaving out of consideration the votes in all the precincts objected to by

which he paid and the number of miles traveled that he used transportation. The resolution was indefinitely postponed.

Sturgess of Douglas offered a resolution as follows:

I move that a committee of three be appointed to investigate the charge made that state officers and state employees have collected mileage from the state while traveling on free railroad transportation.

Burns of Lancaster moved to indefinitely postpone, and on roll call the motion was defeated by a vote of 37 to 40.

The resolution was then adopted by a vote of 72 to 19, and the chair appointed Prince of Hall, Smithberger of Stanton, and Sturgess of Douglas.

Burns of Lancaster moved that the committee be empowered to administer oaths and that they be allowed to employ a stenographer. The motion was defeated.

The following bills were taken up on second reading and referred to committees:

201, judiciary; 202, judiciary; 204, miscellaneous subjects; 205, judiciary; 206, library; 207, insurance; 208, miscellaneous subjects; 209, insurance; 210, banks and currency; 211, corporations; 212, judiciary; 213, county seat, county boundaries, organizations; 214, cities and towns; 215, judiciary; 216, judiciary; 217, judiciary; 218, judiciary; 219, judiciary; 220, insurance; 221, judiciary; 222, judiciary; 223, benevolent institutions; 224, railroad; 225, medical societies.

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fusionists, viz.: Bussell, Pearl, Logan, Pioneer and Fisher in Chase county; Highland and Swan Lake in Hayes county; Stratton in Hitchcock county, the votes remaining are: Frank Israel, 1,005; George W. Benjamin, 952.

"Frank Israel having received a clear majority of all the votes cast in the Sixty-seventh representative district, cast for the office of representative, we recommend that he be awarded the seat therefore in this house and that George W. Benjamin be ousted therefrom."

The report went over for later consultation.

The report made by the minority on the foregoing case requested that the entire matter be resubmitted.

Among bills introduced were the following:

To amend section 6, article iii, chapter xviii, Compiled Statutes of Nebraska, and to repeal section so amended—providing that there shall be no stoppage of pension in case of veteran entering soldiers' homes.

To provide that all labor on state lands and buildings be done by days' labor and to provide for the manner of purchasing material for the construction and repair of said public works.

To amend an act entitled "An act to provide security to the public against errors, omissions and defects in abstracts of title to real estate and for the use of abstracts in evidence," laws of 1887, chapter lxiv.

Supplementary to an act entitled "An act concerning counties and county officers," approved March 1, 1879, and to amend section 18, of chapter xviii, of the Compiled Statutes of 1897. Provides for county treasurers keeping on hand in banks of the county money necessary to meet current disbursement.

Adjourned.

Fifteen new bills were introduced in the house on the 19th, among them being:

To amend section 1 of an act entitled "An act to provide for a lien or labor performed and material furnished for the erection, preparation or removal of any house, mill, manufactory or building or appurtenance, being chapter 82 of the laws of Nebraska of 1885 and to amend the title of said act."

To provide for a fire proof wing and heating equipment for the Nebraska hospital at Lincoln, Nebraska, and to appropriate \$50,000 therefor.

To amend section 953a of the Code of Civil Procedure and to repeal said section as now exists. Provides for change of venue in civil and criminal cases.

When the two houses met to ballot for United States senator, the result was announced as follows: William V. Allen 58, M. L. Hayward 24, John L. Webster 10, D. E. Thompson 7, Allen W. Field 4, G. M. Lambertson 3, E. H. Hinshaw 3, G. M. Lambertson 4, M. B. Reese 2, C. E. Adams 1, J. B. Weston 2, E. J. Hainer 1, S. P. Davidson 1, F. L. Foss 2, A. J. Cornish 1, J. H. Van Dusen 1.

On reassembling of the house, the chief justice of the supreme court having been sent for, F. P. Israel, who was declared elected to represent the Sixty-seventh district, was called before the speaker's stand and Chief Justice Harrison administered the oath.

Speaker Clark announced that he would assign Israel to places on committees held by Benjamin, whose seat Israel takes, and in addition would assign Israel to the chairmanship of the committee on live stock and grazing. Chairman Tucker of the last named committee having requested that this change be made.

On motion of Wheeler of Furnas the house resolved itself into a committee of the whole to consider bills on general file. The speaker called Rouse of Hall to the chair.

House roll No. 13, by Taylor (Custer) was taken up and considered by the committee. Taylor spoke in behalf of his bill, which provides:

That every county judge, county clerk, county treasurer and sheriff whose fees shall, in the aggregate, exceed the sum of \$1,200 each for said judge and clerk, and \$1,600 each for pay such excess into the treasury of sheriff and treasurer per annum, shall the county in which they hold their respective offices.

Provided, that in counties having more than 25,000 and less than 40,000 inhabitants, each of the aforesaid officers whose fees shall, in the aggregate, exceed the sum of \$2,000, shall pay such excess into the treasury of the county in which they hold their respective offices, and provided further: That in counties having more than 40,000 inhabitants, each of the aforesaid officers, whose fees shall in the aggregate exceed the sum of \$2,500, shall pay such excess into the treasury of the county in which they hold their respective offices.

If the duties of any of the officers named in section 1 of this act shall be such as to require assistants, then each such officer shall be allowed one deputy, whose compensation shall not exceed one-half of the amount hereby allowed the officer whose deputy he is, also such clerks or assistants as the board of county commissioners may find necessary.

None of the officers, deputies, clerks or assistants mentioned in this act shall receive for their services any money other than that accruing to their respective offices.

None of the officers named in this act shall have any deputy, clerk or assistant unless the board of county commissioners shall find the same to be necessary; and the board shall in all cases prescribe the number of deputies, not exceeding one, or assistants, the time for which they may be employed and the compensation they are to receive.

The committee arose, reported to the house, and the report was adopted by a vote of 74 yeas to 17 nays.

The house then adjourned.

The following reports of standing committees came up in the house on the 20th.

H. R. 53, declaring the plowing up of a public highway to be a misdemeanor, was reported for passage by the committee on roads and bridges.

H. R. 5, amending the statutes so that in cases of felonies, except treason, arson and murder, information by grand jury is necessary, and relating to the bonds required in such cases, was reported for indefinite postponement. These reports were adopted.

Grell of Sarpy offered a resolution

declaring that the house was opposed to the United States entering into any foreign alliances. On motion of Pollard of Cass the resolution was laid on the table by a strict party vote.

Pollard of Cass offered a resolution authorizing the committee on printing to furnish the supplies for the house. It was indefinitely postponed.

Pollard of Cass offered a substitute resolution as follows:

I move that the committee on printing be given entire supervision over the amount and character of supplies for the use of members of this house, and that the secretary of state be instructed to only purchase such supplies as the committee on printing may desire.

This was also indefinitely postponed.

Olmstead of Douglas made the following motion, which was adopted:

That the sergeant at arms be instructed to forthwith bring F. Skipton, county judge of Fillmore county, Nebraska, before the board of this house to show cause, if any he has, why he still refuses to deliver to this house, in violation of its subpoena, the ballots cast at the last election in said Fillmore county.

Mr. Skipton having refused to deliver the ballots, Olmstead offered the following:

That F. Skipton, now before the bar of the house, be adjudged guilty of contemptuous behavior in its presence by refusing in the presence of the house to deliver the Fillmore county election ballots in the possession and under his control, and that he be punished in the county jail of Lancaster county, Nebraska, for the period of six hours.

The resolution was adopted without division, and the speaker ordered the prisoner to the custody of the sergeant at arms until a mittimus could be made out.

In the joint ballot for senator the result stood: Allen 53, Webster 10, Lambertson 3, Hinshaw 2, Foss 2, Adams 1, Van Dusen 1, Hayward 40, Thompson 7, Field 2, Reese 2, Weston 2, Cornish 1, Hainer 1.

Among the bills introduced were the following:

To amend an act creating the Nebraska Territorial Board of Agriculture.