

OUR LINCOLN LETTER

Gossip from the State Capital, Legislative and Otherwise

The anti-free pass bill agreed upon by the sub-committee comprising Senators Gould of Greeley and Gibson of Douglas and Representative Marsh of Seward and Representative Knowles of Dodge, follows closely the national act on the same subject and the bill introduced in the senate by King of Polk. It goes a little further and provides that attorneys employed by railroads shall not be entitled to passes unless they are actually employed and receive a salary of \$500 a year. The sub-committee has agreed upon the following bill to report to the joint committee:

Section 1. No railroad corporation owning or operating any line or lines of railroad in the state of Nebraska or any officer or agent of any such railroad corporation shall issue or give any free ticket, free pass or free transportation for passengers except to its bona fide employees and their families, its officers, surgeons, who are annually employed, attorneys who are actually employed and receiving a salary of not less than \$500 per year, ministers of religion, traveling secretaries of Young Men's Christian associations, inmates of hospitals, and charitable and eleemosynary institutions and persons exclusively engaged in charitable and eleemosynary work; to indigent, destitute and homeless persons and to such persons when transported by charitable societies or hospitals and the necessary agents employed in such transportation; to inmates of national homes or state homes for disabled volunteer soldiers and of soldiers' and sailors' homes, including those about to enter and those returning from such institutions; to necessary care takers of live stock, poultry, and fruit; to employees on sleeping cars, express and baggage cars, and to linemen of telegraph and telephone companies; to railway mail employees, to newsboys on trains, baggage agents, persons injured in wreck, and physicians and nurses attending such persons.

Provided, further, that the provisions of this act shall not be construed to prohibit the interchange of passes for the officers and bona fide employees and their families of other railroad companies nor to prohibit any railroad corporation from carrying passengers free with the object of providing relief in cases of general epidemic, pestilence or calamitous visitation.

Sec. 2. Any railroad corporation violating any of the provisions of this act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and for each offense or conviction thereof shall pay a fine of not less than \$100 and not more than \$1,000.

Senator Holdbrook will this week introduce a bill into the senate to establish a state fire commission, similar in function to the fire marshals of some of the eastern states. It is said to be backed by a number of fire insurance companies. The bill makes the governor fire commissioner and allows him a chief deputy and two assistant deputies. The chief must reside in Lincoln and is to receive a salary of \$2,000 a year. The assistants are to receive salaries of \$1,500 each.

In accordance with the recommendations of the state bar association, Representative Tucker submitted a joint resolution for an amendment to the constitution to reorganize the state supreme court. The bill provides for a supreme court of seven members, one of whom is to be a chief justice. Instead of the senior member of the court serving as chief justice he is to be elected for the full term of twelve years. Each of the judges is to serve the same length of time.

A reciprocal demurrage in the opinion of Senator Holdbrook of Dodge county would do away with the present objections to demurrage charges against shippers, and in accordance with his opinion he has introduced a bill applying the reciprocity theory to the unloading of freight cars. The bill allows a shipper forty-eight hours in which to unload each car consigned to him and provides that if the unloading is accomplished in less time the unused time shall be credited to him to offset delinquency in future unloadings.

The state board of educational lands and funds has authorized the purchase of another block of \$10,000 of bonds of the state of Mississippi to net the state of Nebraska 3.75 per cent interest.

The house finance committee has agreed to recommend an appropriation of \$75,000 for the state board of agriculture, if the money is to be expended at the discretion of the board.

There is disposition to have made ready the appropriation bill, so it can be discussed intelligently and not be rushed through at the last minute when all is excitement, thus allowing boards, superintendents of institutions and others to drag money out of the state treasury with impunity. Indications are that every request will be investigated thoroughly, and if the money is actually needed it probably will be appropriated, but if not the legislators doubtless will use the pruning knife freely and effectually.

The joint committee on railroads had a busy time with their work. The committee met sooner than was expected and succeeded in agreeing on a two-cent fare bill to be introduced in the house by Harrison of Otoe, and made some changes in the railway commission bill and heard the argument of railroad attorneys and managers against a reciprocal demurrage bill.

The two-cent fare bill will merely change the word "three" in the present statute to "two" cents and provide that half-fare tickets shall be given to children under 12 years of age, the latter being a rule now in force on most of the railroads in Nebraska. The bill will be introduced as a committee bill by Harrison of Otoe, chairman of the house railroad committee.

When it came to the committee bill conferring power upon the railway commission, the joint committee succeeded in going through only about six sections of the proposed bill. The Aldrich bill has been followed in many particulars. The joint committee decided to give the commission a lump sum of \$6,000 a year for clerk hire instead of giving \$2,500 for one secretary and \$1,200 each for two clerks. It was also decided that instead of compelling the commission to inspect all railway bridges in the state twice each year, this duty is made merely optional.

The following provision is from Representative Cone's bill affecting weights: "It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation owning within the state goods or merchandise in original unbroken packages" located within this state, to offer for sale any such 'original unbroken package' unless such package shall have plainly printed or stamped thereon in the English language the full net weight or volume contained therein. Provided that the natural shrinkage in the course of handling such goods to the amount of 5 per cent of the net weight or volume thereon shall be exempt from the provisions of this act."

The claims committee of the house, met at the Lindell hotel. Claims and deficiencies have been filed that at present do not aggregate as much as usual. Of the claims so far handed to the committee there is one by Engineer U. G. Sawyer for \$750 for injuries received while a public employe, the old claim of Mrs. Mary M. Hoxie, for \$2,333.33 for salary as matron of the Kearney industrial school; by J. H. Mickey for \$191.83 for railroad fare paid while governor; for \$1,750 by the estate of John F. Cornell for expense incurred when his office was investigated while he was state auditor.

Members of the legislative committee which inspected the Soldiers' home at Grand Island entertain differences of opinion regarding the appropriation which this institution should have. The commandant has recommended that \$75,000 be appropriated for permanent improvements, and some members of the committee believe such a large sum is unnecessary, inasmuch as the maximum of the number of old soldiers who will become members of the home is reached.

As a compromise between conflicting interests on the compulsory education bill which he introduced into the senate early in the session Senator Thomas has a new measure which he may offer as a substitute for S. F. 50. The new measure is not radically different from the old one, but it is not quite so rigorous. It provides that every child between 7 and 15 shall be required to go to school not less than two-thirds of the entire school year in his district or in any case not less than twelve weeks during the year.

The house indefinitely postponed the bill by Raper which abolished the present optional death penalty. The bill was recommended for passage on the previous day without discussion and some of the members said they were not aware of the scope of the bill at the time. Carlin of Rock moved to reconsider and after a long debate the bill was killed. The house killed the bill by E. W. Brown of Lancaster providing that judges of the supreme, district and county courts are ineligible to election to office save judicial positions.

Before a packed gallery and a crowded lobby the senate laid the county option bill to rest by the decisive vote of twenty to eleven.

Though not much has yet been done in the legislature, the majority say all party pledges will be fulfilled before the close of the session.

The house got busy on the 5th and passed eighteen bills. Most of them, however, were of local interest.

The house passed Mr. Cone's bill providing that railroads shall not employ boys under 21 years of age as night telegraph operators or tower men. Author of the measure declared that he believed many wrecks are caused because young and inexperienced men help in handling trains.

A bill to be forthcoming will revise present methods at the South Omaha stock yards. Fusion members are behind the measure, fortified by stock raisers of the western section of the state.

BUYING A WAGON

How Mr. Brown Got the Worst of Two Bar-gans.

TRIED MAIL-ORDER METHODS

Thought He Was Saving Money, But Will Not Try the Same Thing a Second Time—Buying at Home Pays.

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Mr. Brown, a farmer living in Boone county, Mo., decided to buy a spring wagon. The next time he was in town he went to the local dealer to see what he had in stock. One wagon that suited him was offered to him at \$75. He thought he would take it, but before ordering he looked over a mail order vehicle catalogue. Here he saw described a wagon which, as far as description went, was the same as the one he saw in the dealer's store room. In fact, the description was written in such a convincing manner and all of the good points of the mail order vehicle were brought out so thoroughly that it appeared to be superior to the other one. And the price was only \$67.45. Mr. Brown thought of the saving of \$7.55 which represented several days of hard work. The more he thought about it the more he wanted to save that amount and in the end the Chicago mail order concern got his check.

When the wagon finally arrived, with a freight bill of \$4.50, he rode to town with his son and spent half a day putting it together. He had to buy a screw driver and some oil and sand paper and a few bolts to replace some that had been lost in shipment.



Like the terrible devil fish the catalogue house is death to everything that gets within its grasp. Once its death-dealing tentacles have wound around your community, there is no escape. Are you assisting the greedy monster by sending your dollar to the mail order house.

All of these cost him 75 cents. He was not experienced at putting spring wagons together and he didn't do a very good job of it, for one of the seats refused to sit in the right place and he had to get a local blacksmith to help him fix it. This cost him another half dollar and delayed him so much that he and the boy had to go to the hotel for their dinners; an additional expense of 70 cents. So before he got his team hitched to the wagon it cost him \$73.90, allowing him a saving of \$1.10, which was very stingy pay for the time he had lost. Of the amount he spent for the wagon, only \$1.95 remained in Boone county. The railroads and the mail order house got the rest of it.

In the meantime his neighbor, Mr. Jones, bought the \$75 wagon from the local dealer, who made a profit of \$16 on the sale. As the vehicle was already assembled and there were no extra parts or tools to buy, the amount paid for the wagon represented all of the cost to Mr. Jones. The dealer spent the \$16 profit for a new sign on his building; the sign painter hired a carpenter to repair the roof on his house; the carpenter paid his bill at the butcher's and the butcher bought a hog from Mr. Jones. And so the \$16 kept going in the county until a farmer with the mail order habit got hold of it. He sent it to Chicago and it never came back.

But this wasn't the last of the two purchases. A few weeks after the two wagons were bought, Mr. Brown's boy and Mr. Jones' boy, driving the new vehicles, met on the country road. They drove too close to each other and a smash-up resulted. The weakest part of each wagon gave way; an axle on the mail order product was broken and a doubletree on the other was smashed. Both breaks were plainly because of defective construction. Mr. Jones took his broken doubletree to town the next day and the dealer gave him a new one. Mr. Brown attempted to explain to the Chicago firm that the axle would not have broken if it had not been defective and coupled this explanation with a request for a new part, but after several weeks of correspondence with the piece as far away as at the beginning, he gave it up and bought the axle himself. This experience told Mr. Brown why he should trade with home merchants instead of patronizing the mail order houses.

In Boone county and in every other county there are many who send thousands of dollars out of the county every year, without ever considering

the fact that they are making their community poorer, reducing the per capita of wealth, and dwarfing local business, only to enrich a concern already rich enough to buy several counties. An extra thousand dollars in any community will mean, during the year, many thousands of dollars in business transacted and increased income for practically every one in the community. Often the amount sent to the mail order houses is more than enough to turn the balance the other way and business depression exists where prosperity would prevail under normal conditions. Even if the country purchaser was able to save a snug sum by ordering his supplies from a mail order house, the loss to the community would be greater than the gain for himself. It is needless to point out that as the amount of the mail order business from any community increases the amount of loss to the community also increases, until it is only a question of time until the individual loss caused by the general depression of business will exceed the individual saving.

In fact if everyone in the community bought from the mail order houses, local markets would disappear and the farmer would be compelled to sell as well as buy from the catalogue concerns. The rural districts would be devoid of business activity while the wealth of the country would be centered in one or two points. Buying by mail may be attractive, but the most pronounced mail order fiend must look with apprehension on any condition whereby he would be compelled to depend on the mail order man for a market for his products.

But the idea of saving on individual purchases is, to a great extent, a fallacy. In spite of his boasted ability to buy in large quantities, he is not able to buy for much less than the country merchant. Competition in all manufactured products is too keen for

JILTED SUITOR KILLS BRIDE

BESSIE NEWTON SHOT ON EVE OF INTENDED WEDDING.

The Benefactions of Count Creighton Who Recently Died in Omaha—Other Matters Here and There.

Ponca—Crazed by a rejection of his offer of marriage after courtship extending over five years and the fact that his old sweetheart would marry Ed. O'Donnell, Frank Frink shot and instantly killed Bessie Newton and a short time later attempted suicide, inflicting a severe bullet wound in the head from which he will probably die.

For the past five years Frink and Miss Newton had been sweethearts. A short time ago she gave a final refusal to his offer of marriage and centered her affections on Ed. O'Donnell. Her wedding to O'Donnell was scheduled to occur at once. When the news came to the ears of Frink of the approaching ceremony he, finding the girl's father down town and knowing that she was at home alone, secured a revolver and went to the house. When she came to the door he lifted the gun and shot her through the heart. She fell dead at his feet. Returning to town he secured more cartridges for his gun and went into an alley where he shot himself through the head. He failed to inflict a mortal wound and reeling was able to walk half a block before he fell. He was taken to the hospital and while upon the operating table the bullet which he intended should end his life fell from his nostril.

Gifts of Count Creighton.

The benefactions of Count Creighton, who recently died in Omaha include these:

To completing of St. Joseph's hospital, started by his wife	250,000
Convent to the Sisters of Poor Clare	50,000
J. A. Creighton Medical college	40,000
Ogden block, 15th and Douglas streets, to Creighton university	125,000
Arlington block, Dodge street between 15th and 16th streets, to Creighton university	75,000
Edward Creighton Institute and College of Law	60,000
Byrne-Hammer building to Creighton university	300,000
John Deere Plow company building to Creighton university	100,000
Warehouse lot on Jones street to Creighton university	5,000
Other benefactions	1,000,000
Total	\$2,905,000

Hunt for Dead Man's Gold.

Norfolk—William Boche, one of the original members of the German colony from Wisconsin, who laid out this city in 1866, died a few days ago, and carried with him to his grave the secret of a hiding place in which he stored a quantity of gold—some of his family believe it to have been \$2,000 and some believe it to have been much more.

His widow and children are now searching for the hidden treasure. Mr. Boche never trusted the banks. When he made a sale of real estate he had the currency changed into gold and hid it somewhere—nobody knows where.

He told his wife a couple of weeks before he died that he intended to tell her before his life ended where the money could be found. He walked out of doors on a warm afternoon and returned to be stricken.

Disease in Cream and Pork.

Norfolk—Dr. C. A. McKim, Nebraska state veterinarian, is anxious for a bill to be passed in this state providing local inspection of meat and dairy products because of the increase of tuberculosis among hogs and also humans. He says drinking tuberculosis milk produces tuberculosis of the lungs. A tubercular cow in this neighborhood was recently killed; the herd has probably been infected; milk from that herd goes to Omaha to be made into butter.

The scientists are trying to learn why hogs are getting the disease so fast—whether from drinking separated milk or following tubercular cattle.

Egg Business Big at Seward.

Seward—The Burlington has agreed to build a spur for J. G. Baeschlin, the egg and poultry buyer, so that he may ship the eggs and poultry bought at Seward by John Fleener to the markets with less trouble than heretofore. It is the purpose of Mr. Baeschlin to build an egg and poultry house that will take care of his business in the future. Last year he shipped sixty-seven carloads of eggs and fifty-two carloads of poultry from Seward. During the last year his monthly purchases amounted to an average of \$10,000 or \$120,000 a year.

Nonagenarian Who Saws Wood.

Fremont—Harlow Goff, who lives just north of the city, on Broad street, is one of the oldest and probably the most active man of his years in this part of the state. He is 93 years old, but is out around his premises every day and is sawing and splitting his supply of wood as usual. He is able to attend to his business affairs and bids fair to reach the century mark. He says he works every day from choice and because he enjoys it.

To Indeterminate Sentences.

The house has passed a bill which will, if it becomes a law, make a sweeping change in the regulation of the penitentiary and is along the line with the new idea that the law should reform rather than punish persons guilty of crime. It takes the length of term which a convicted criminal shall serve out of the hands of the judge who sentences him and put it in the hands of a prison board, which consists of the state board of charities and corrections, with the governor and warden of the penitentiary.

WORKS IN THE GARDEN.

Eighty-Seven Years Old, But Has a Sound Back.

Robert Stollan, 87 years old, of 55 Garden St., Seneca Falls, N. Y., a fine, sturdy old gentleman, who works in his own garden, gives thanks to Doan's Kidney Pills for his sound back and kidneys.



Mrs. Goetchious, his daughter, says: "Father had a severe attack of kidney trouble and lumbago, which caused him much suffering. He began taking Doan's Kidney Pills and was soon cured. We always keep them on hand. My husband was cured of bad pains in the back by taking only part of a box."

Sold by all dealers. 50 cents a box. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

Expensive City to Live In.

High prices continue to rule in Dawson City, which is probably the most expensive town in the world. It is a thriving place with a population of over 8,000, with warehouses, churches, banks, electric lights, wholesale and retail stores and two up-to-date newspapers. The newspapers themselves are worthy of consideration in the light of expense, for they cost 25 cents a copy. At this time of the year three eggs ordered in a restaurant cost \$1.50, while a caribou steak costs one dollar. Beer is worth one dollar a bottle and champagne \$10.50 a quart.

MIX THIS AT HOME.

Valuable Prescription Which Anyone Can Easily Prepare.

The following simple home-made mixture is said to readily relieve and overcome any form of Rheumatism by forcing the kidneys to filter from the blood and system all the uric acid and poisonous waste matter, relieving at once such symptoms as backache, weak kidneys and bladder and blood diseases.

Try it, as it doesn't cost much to make, and is said to be absolutely harmless to the stomach.

Get the following harmless ingredients from any good pharmacy: Fluid Extract Dandelion, one-half ounce; Compound Kargon, one ounce; Compound Syrup of Sarsaparilla, three ounces. Mix by shaking well in a bottle, and take a teaspoonful after each meal and again at bedtime.

This simple mixture is said to give prompt relief, and there are very few cases of Rheumatism and Kidney troubles it will fail to cure permanently.

These are all harmless, every-day drugs, and your druggist should keep them in the prescription department; if not, have him order them from the wholesale drug houses for you, rather than fail to use this, if you are afflicted.

WHEN HIS BABY WAS DYING.

The Milkman Was Late That Day, but None Complained.

A few days ago people on Linwood boulevard who patronize a certain milkman missed his familiar before-breakfast ring, says the Kansas City Star. It was late in the morning when he finally made the rounds. And the women scolded.

"I'll have to take milk from somebody else!" one irate housewife snapped.

"All right, madam," he said, softly. Something in his voice made her pause.

"What made you late?" she demanded, still angry.

A tear wavered on the milkman's eye, and trickled slowly down his cheek.

"When—when I left home," he began.

He paused and gulped at something in his throat.

"When I left," he said, "my baby—was dying. I knew someone—would be angry—with me if I didn't—come so I—"

He could say nothing more. The woman said, gently:

"I'm sorry."

Next day the milkman failed to appear. The second day he was around very early.

"We buried her yesterday," was his explanation.

No one chided him. They understood. His baby was dead.

GUIDES CHILDREN.

Experience and a Mother's Love Make Advice Valuable.

An Ills. mother writes about feeding children:

"If mothers would use Grape-Nuts more for their little ones, there would be less need for medicines and fewer doctor bills.

"If those suffering from indigestion and stomach troubles would live on Grape-Nuts, toast and good milk for a short period they would experience more than they otherwise would believe.

"Our children have all learned to know the benefit of Grape-Nuts as an appetizing, strengthening food. It is every evening, with few variations, like this: 'Mamma, let's have toast and Grape-Nuts for breakfast; or, let's have eggs and Grape-Nuts—never forgetting the latter.

"One of our boys in school and 15 years of age repeatedly tells me his mind is so much brighter after having Grape-Nuts as a part of his breakfast." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Read the little book, "The Road to Wellville," 14 pgs. "There's a Reason."