

NEBRASKA CONGRESS

DAILY REPORT OF WHAT IS BEING DONE.

Measures of More or Less Importance Are Being Introduced at the Present Session of the Legislature—List of the Business.

Tuesday, Jan. 10.

The senate was called to order at the usual time with most of the members in their seats. The journal was read and approved after slight correction. The committee on rules submitted its report, recommending the adoption of the rules of 1895, except the rule regulating the make-up of the committees and that relating to a call of the house. Under the new rule nine members are required for a call of the house, while it may be raised by a majority of three present. The standing committees for the session were announced. Mr. Crow of Douglas offered a resolution providing for the adoption of constitutional amendments, as follows:

Section 1. That section 1 of article xv of the constitution of the state of Nebraska be amended so as to read as follows:

Section 1. Either branch of the legislature may propose amendments to this constitution and if the same be agreed to by three-fifths of the members elected to each house such proposed amendments shall be entered on the journals with the yeas and nays and published at least once each week in at least one newspaper in each county where a newspaper is published for three months immediately preceding the next general state election, at which election the same shall be submitted to the electors for approval or rejection. If a two-thirds majority of the electors voting at such election be in favor of the same such amendments shall become a part of the constitution. When more than one amendment is submitted at the same election they shall be voted on separately.

A resolution was sent up by Noyes of Douglas, directing the committee on judiciary to investigate the legality of surety bonds such as have been given by Treasurer Messers.

Fifty-seven bills were introduced in the house, the most important of which are: By Mr. Burman, a bill for an act licensing and regulating pawnbrokers, dealers in second-hand goods, junk dealers and chattel financing and providing penalties for violation thereof; Beverly, an act to limit and regulate the employment of children in manufacturing, mechanical and mercantile establishments; to provide a penalty for its violation and the employment of its provision and to repeal section 2404 and 2405, chapter xxiii, of the 1897 compiled statutes of Nebraska; Evans, a bill for an act to create and maintain a reserve and guarantee fund for the protection of depositors in banks; Haller, relating to duties of village and city boards; Hathorne, a bill for an act to transfer certain funds to the general fund and to provide for the credit of those funds direct hereafter and the payment of any warrants outstanding against said funds; Clark, a bill for an act defining and determining the effect of conditions in fire insurance policies, making void the contract of insurance in case of a change in the title, ownership, interest or possession of the insured in the property which is the subject of insurance or if liens are created thereon, and likewise conditions providing for a forfeiture of the contract of insurance in case notice of loss is not furnished within a certain time or in a prescribed manner; Flynn, an act providing for the branding of penitentiary made goods and providing penalties for violations thereof; Thompson of Merrick, a bill for the appropriation of \$40,000 for incidental expenses of the legislature.

Wednesday, Jan. 11.

The house had an easy forenoon, most of the time being devoted to the reading of bills. Thirty-four new ones were introduced. Many of these were of the Wheeler-Sheldon list of statute revision bills. Two or three invitations to attend special lodge exercises were read, after which the house took a recess. After dinner the second reading of bills and reference to committees was completed, house rolls No. 65 to 124, inclusive, being referred to committees. The secretary of state sent a formal communication to the house, announcing the delivery of the papers and ballots in the Gage county, Fillmore county and the Sixty-seventh district contests in the house. The speaker opened the envelope containing the Ashby-Chittenden contest papers from Gage county and the clerk read the record. It showed that the basis of the contest was the fact that Chittenden was already a member of the legislature at the time of his election and simply questioned the right of a member to be re-elected. On motion of Burns of Lancaster this contest matter was indefinitely postponed, without a dissenting vote. Fisher of Daves offered for consideration the Stoenberg resolution, being a copy of the one adopted by the senate in the forenoon, and moved that it be made a special order for Thursday. The motion prevailed without opposition.

Expectant applicants for minor places on the senate pay roll were numerous when the body convened this morning, but the majority were not prepared to announce the completion of the list. Owing to the decision of the special senate committee that all bills should be read in full on three separate days to conform to constitutional requirements, the journal was corrected to show that bills 1 to 9, read Tuesday, were on their first reading instead of second and their reference to committees rescinded. It was adopted. "I am speaking of islands, Williams. Those are continents."

"I think not, sir," drawled Williams. "When the Suez Canal was cut, it made islands of both of 'em, sir. Come to think of it, sir, the largest is Asia and Europe. It's all one piece of ground."

A Drawback. "My boy," said the man of ideal temperament, "if you want to become a master of your profession you must study; study day and night."

"Yes," replied the energetic youth, "and while I'm away off in a corner studying some other man will be hustling around getting all the business."—Washington Star.

Thursday, Jan. 12.

Senator Reynolds of Daves introduced a joint resolution by request which reads as follows: Whereas, A joint resolution for a sixteenth amendment to the federal constitution to prohibit the states from disfranchising citizens on account of sex is before the congress of the United States, therefore, Resolved, That the legislature of the state of Nebraska respectfully asks the immediate passage of this amendment that it may come before the several state legislatures for their action.

Canady of Kearney moved that the secretary of state be instructed to print 2,500 copies of Gov. Holcomb's message and Gov. Poynter's inaugural address. His motion prevailed. Chairman Holbrook of the committee on joint rules, handed in a report. The rules of the last legislature were adopted, except section 17. At this juncture, Prout of Gage, opened the way for the first interesting debate of the session, the resolution of Senator Crow of Douglas carried yesterday, reprimanding Col. Stoenberg of the First Nebraska and asking that he be detached from service at Manila, being the cause. Senator Prout moved reconsideration of the vote on the resolution. After considerable wrangling over the subject a vote was taken resulting in 25 to 5. Talbot of Lancaster moved that the resolution be referred to the committee on military affairs. Van Dusen wanted a prompt report and amended the motion, calling for a report today. This gave the senators another opportunity to loosen up and test their vocal qualities. A number of senators had expressed themselves in the matter the resolution was amended to give the committee till Friday to report. In the afternoon the secretaries continued the reading of bills on second hearing. When the order for the introduction of bills was reached the secretary was again deluged.

NO RIGHT TO CONQUER.

Senator Hoar Argues Power of Government Is Limited.

Senator Hoar's long-expected and much-advertised speech against expansion, or imperialism, as he is pleased to call the sentiment in favor of keeping the Philippines, was delivered in the Senate Monday, and for two hours the venerable Massachusetts Senator held the close attention of his associates. It was a remarkable speech in many ways and was filled with lofty sentiments and constitutional argument. Much withering sarcasm was leveled at Senator Platt of Connecticut and some at the President.

Mr. Hoar continued himself pretty closely to the constitutional aspects of the question, disclaiming at the outset an intention to discuss except in an incidental way the policy proposed by the administration of entering upon an expansion of its territory, but making a clear enough statement of his personal position on the subject. He based his argument principally on the declaration of independence and on the national constitution, saying that if the doctrines of the fathers were to be preserved, no right exists whereby we could govern subject peoples. He declared that labor would suffer, that the national debt would be materially augmented, and that the necessary increase in the army and navy would be a menace. The Senator added that if Congress should vote for annexation it would be in palpable violation of its declaration a few months ago that "the people of Cuba are and of right ought to be free and independent." Mr. Platt of Connecticut made a terse reply, saying the Massachusetts Senator had been building up a man of straw, and that he stood in fear of a mere specter.

SENATOR MASON SPEAKS.

Illinois Man Tries to Arouse Feeling for Filipinos.

Senator William E. Mason of Chicago was the star attraction in the Senate Tuesday, and the galleries were filled to hear his speech against expansion. He has introduced a resolution and enthusiastically in his speech for the Philippines as he was for the Cubans last spring, when he declared himself for war and for the independence of Cuba. He spoke for an hour and a half.

The keynote of the Senator's speech was the belief that in considering the welfare of the natives of the Philippines we should be in reality studying our own best interests. In the course of his speech he said:

It is easy to drift with the tide, but it is not always safe. The simple resolution I have introduced has nothing necessarily to do with any treaty, nor do I intend to speak of any proposed treaty. The resolution does not involve a question of law, but is a question as to the future policy of this republic. I am willing to trust the people and I want the people to hear both sides of the case before the verdict is rendered. In speaking of the Philippines I am speaking one word for them and two for ourselves. A black man said to a Senator the other day: "I thank you for speaking for my race," and the Senator replied: "I am speaking one word for your race and two for my own; nothing ever dwarfed the white race so much as stooping for 100 years to keep the black man down." I may appear to speak one word for the Philippines, but two for my own people, when I plead for the broad manhood of the man who wrote: "All just powers of government are derived from the consent of the governed." You cannot govern the Philippines without taxing them. You have not yet their consent and the proposition of taxation without representation is made again. Look out for tea parties; those little semi-social functions are likely to break out even there, for "Hail, Columbia" and "Yankee Doodle" have been heard in the archipelago.

GOV. M'LAURIN ON LYNCHING.

His Message Deals with Necessity of Stopping Outrages.

In his message to the Legislature Gov. McLaurin of South Carolina deals with lynching in a most emphatic manner. He says:

"The remedy suggests itself. See to it that laws are so enacted and so administered that conviction and punishment shall follow crime. It is necessary in mere protection of society and vindication of justice that a stop be put to dilatory in the administration of justice, which protects no man, to the protection of individual rights as to the subversion of the rights of society. It should become of itself a high crime and misdemeanor for a sheriff or constable to allow a prisoner to be taken by violence from his hands, even though his own blood should have to be shed to protect the criminal. I recommend that any county in which the crime of lynching is committed shall be liable to the heirs of the victim of the lynchers in the sum of \$5,000, and that men who shall be convicted of participating in lynchings shall be deprived of the right to vote or to hold office in this State."

FILIPINOS SUE WILDMAN.

Declare U. S. Consol Holds Independence Fund of \$47,000.

The Filipino committee at Hong Kong has broken off all relations with United States Consul Wildman. The committee has issued a writ in the Supreme Court to recover the sum of \$47,000, which the Filipinos claim to have deposited with Mr. Wildman as treasurer of the Filipino independence fund in June last.

The members of the committee further allege that sensational disclosures are probable, showing, they add, that the American Government recognized the Filipinos as belligerents by affording them assistance in arms and moral influence to cooperate against Spain, "thus inducing the agreement made with Aguinaldo at Singapore in April."

Great excitement was created in shipping circles at Philadelphia by the arrival at that port of the Norwegian tramp steamer *Fran*. Everybody thought it was Explorer Nansen's historic craft.

A solid five-foot vein of copper ore, 20 per cent pure, just below the surface, and containing silver and gold, has been struck by Tacoma men at the Leola mines in Pierce county, State of Washington.

A letter from President McKinley has been received at Macon, Ga., requesting half a dozen badges of the Confederate veterans, the same as the ones pinned on him on his recent visit to Macon.

Farmers of New Jersey having failed with sugar beets are going to experiment with sorghum cane.

THE STATE LEGISLATURES.

Friday.

North Dakota Senate amended divorce law, fixing time of residence at one year.

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In Delaware the House deadlock was broken in ninety-one ballots, regular Republicans beating Addicks faction.

In Kansas Gov. Leedy sent message to the House demanding the evidence of Representative Brown, who openly charged him with being influenced by use of money.

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Missouri appointed a committee of six to investigate the municipal government of St. Louis.

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In Michigan the Pingree and administration legislators clashed over appointment of committee and result was compromise.

The fourth ballot in California was taken, leaving Burns and Grant tied, with 26 votes each—Burns having gained two. A deadlock is predicted.

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The Player Performed a Great Feat, but Didn't Know It.

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Still there seemed to be no explanation for my being alone, and I started to get up, saying between my teeth, "Get 'em low, Jim, get 'em low!"

"Oh, Jimmy, my boy! Jimmy! Jimmy!" cried a voice, and an arm went round my neck and lifted me up.

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Painter's Secret.

The living worth of good work is always recognized, even in small things. Sign-painters do not usually achieve wealth or fame, yet the Chicago News declares that a fortune awaits the man who painted a station sign at Harper's Ferry, on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, shortly after the completion of the line at that point. The Western Society of Engineers has the sign on exhibition at their rooms.

The engineers are trying to ascertain who mixed the paint and applied it to the sign, which was placed in position at the Harper's Ferry station about thirty years ago. The summer's heat and winter's storms have in no way dimmed the luster of the paint used to make the words "Harper's Ferry." They stand out as boldly as the day they were formed by the artist's brush.

The wood around the letters has been worn about one-sixteenth of an inch by sand beaten against it by fierce winds, but the letters have withstood the elements.

It is asserted that no paint manufactured nowadays is equal in durability to that which was applied to the old sign, and if the person who mixed it is living and will take advantage of the secret he possesses as to its composition it is said he can, by engaging in the paint-manufacturing business, soon accumulate wealth.

The Bicycle in German Politics.

A somewhat remarkable movement is being started by the devotees of cycling in Germany. It is nothing less than a demand for the due representation of cyclists' interests at all elections, whether municipal or state. Wheelmen in the Fatherland have cause for bitter complaint against the police regulations, which in many cases are not only vexatious, but also unscientific. They differ too so much, not only in the various states, but even in the towns, that no wheelman on a long tour is able to master them. The taxes imposed upon cyclists too have approached the intolerable point. As a consequence of all this every candidate for a parliamentary or municipal seat will henceforth be asked to answer the question, "What are your views respecting the cycle police regulations and the cycle tax?" That the movement is a formidable one may be seen from the fact that one in every four electors owns a bicycle.

One Ahead.

"What are you crying for?" asked the mother.

"Will Spratt got ahead of me," bawled the child. "His papa was killed in the war, and mine wasn't."—Philadelphia North American.

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