

# Nebraska Legislature

**One Thousand Bills.**  
The house has been in session 41 days and the senate 40 days, and so far one pledge made by the Republican party to the people has been kept, the election of Norris Brown to the United States senate. There have been introduced in the house 558 bills, and in the senate 448 bills, making a total of 1,006, as against a total of 707 two years ago. At that session there were, including the bills introduced at the request of Gov. Macey, 423 introduced in the house and 284 in the senate. In the house, Conc. Quackenbush and Lee lead in the number, 22 being accredited to each, while in the senate Thomas comes first with 44, Root of Cass is second with 43, while Saunders of Douglas got in with 21.

**McKesson's Grain Bill.**  
McKesson, of Lancaster county, has introduced in the senate a most important measure which he believes will prevent grain dealers from paying less for grain in certain localities than they do in others where the railroad facilities and the freight rates are about the same. His bill provides each grain dealer shall mail to the state labor bureau daily the price he paid for grain and it is made the duty of the labor commissioner to publish the same as often as he deems necessary. An incident of the late campaign inspired McKesson to draft the measure. He had his bins full of corn and, meeting the room, sold his grain at the market price being paid in Emerald, which at that time was 32 cents a bushel. That night he spoke at Firth and found the market there were paying 36 cents a bushel for corn. Emerald is closer to Lincoln and Omaha than is Firth and both are on the Burlington.

**Ready for Fight.**  
Should the allied railroads of Nebraska enforce the enforcement of the 2-cent passenger rate bill which will become a law shortly, as they have intimated they intended to do, they will find the legal department of state ready for the fray. In answer to an inquiry from Senator George Wiltse, of Cedar county, as to whether the law is valid and can be enforced, Attorney General Thompson went on record emphatically that it could be.

**Will Ride for Two Cents.**  
The Burlington railroad will accept the 2-cent rate bill and put the 2-cent rate into effect without attempting to contest the bill which is about to become a law. Quackenbush of Nemaha county announced the fact in the house Monday afternoon by saying Secretary Allen had told him a message had been received to that effect. The Lincoln agent of the Burlington announced he had received the message from General Passenger Agent Wakeley.

**Amending Revenue Law.**  
All of the bills relating to the election of precinct assessors were placed on general file. These bills promise to stir up a general fight with most of the fusionists fighting for them and some Republicans will join with the pops. Dodge tried to get the bills indefinitely postponed Monday morning, but was unsuccessful. One member believes the very life of the new revenue law is in the election of the county assessor and the appointment of the precinct assessors. Under the old revenue law the precinct assessors were elected and according to the old members who investigated the old system was never satisfactory.

**Investigation of Car Shortage.**  
The railway commission, though it has no stamps or salary, has been instructed to get busy and look up the question of a shortage of cars and remedy the evil at once. The house did it Monday afternoon through the adoption of a resolution by Richardson of Frontier county.

**Routine Proceedings of House.**  
The house passed the following bills Monday:

- By Redmond of Nemaha—Justice of the peace and county judge jurisdiction bill.
- By Walsh of Douglas—Compelling at least one member of county board to attend convention of state board of charities and correction.
- By Quackenbush—Memorializing congress to call a constitutional convention for anti-polygamy amendment.
- By Fletcher of Antelope—Establishment and vacation of private roads and for maintenance of such roads established.
- By Knowles of Dodge—Amending charter of cities of from 5,000 to 25,000 inhabitants.
- By Lee—Police commissioners of Omaha shall not be candidates for office.
- By Farley of Hamilton—Increasing the price of supreme court reports to \$2.
- By Howe of Nemaha—Providing for an appeal from a decision of a county board from the establishment or refusal to establish public roads.
- By E. P. Brown of Lancaster—Providing that granting or refusing to grant a new trial shall be a final order.
- By Clarke of Douglas—Giving city council of Omaha power to widen or narrow streets.
- By Noyes of Cass—Regulating licensing of automobiles.
- By Dodge of Douglas—Eviction bill.
- By Redmond of Nemaha—Court commission in district court to compute default judgment.

**Routine Proceedings of Senate.**  
With barely a quorum present the senate convened Monday afternoon at 1 o'clock. Before the session had gone far the other senators drifted in until there were thirty in their seats. Wilsey of Frontier started the business by introducing a resolution requesting the state railway commission to investigate the cause of a car shortage and empowering it to take evidence.

On reports of standing committees the following bills were placed on general file:  
By McMullen—Requiring university regents to hold open meetings except

where the interests of the university require a closed meeting.

By Randall—Making mandatory the statute requiring the university regents to furnish text books to students at cost, and to supply funds to poor students under certain conditions.

By King—Prescribing terms for conferring degrees by colleges, universities and normal schools.

The anti-pass bill, was read for the first time.

The following bills were passed:  
By McKesson—Providing for the publication of an abstract of the statement filed by insurance companies with the auditor's department. Gibson, Latta and Phillips voting no.

Requiring railroads to hold valid all tickets when presented by bona fide holders. Thomas voted no.

By fish and game committee—Amending statute relating to illegal fishing and prescribing a maximum penalty of \$50.

By Aldrich—To prohibit discrimination and rebates by insurance companies.

By Aldrich—Prohibiting the use of life insurance funds for political purposes by companies.

By Aldrich—Prohibiting misrepresentation as to terms of policies or benefits accruing under them. Thomas voted no.

By Aldrich—Making life insurance solicitors agents of the companies and not of the insured. Thomas and McKesson voted no.

By Aldrich—Regulating the salaries of insurance officials and prohibiting the payment of salaries of more than \$50,000 a year.

**Busy Day in House.**

The house Wednesday recommended for passage two railroad bills, killed the Sunday baseball bill, recommended for passage a bill to place Christian Scientists under the same rule as other practitioners in the matter of reporting on contagious diseases, treated Harvey, of Douglas county, like a prince and came very near taking up the Omaha-South Omaha consolidation bills. Harvey secured favorable action on H. R. 293, allowing the retirement of notes given to mutual insurance companies; H. R. 219, providing a way for the firemen and policemen of Omaha to increase their relief funds; H. R. 147, allowing the council to grant a person a monopoly on the garbage business so long as it costs neither the city nor citizens a cent. H. R. 170, Harvey's legislative annexation bill, was called up, but at his request it went over without losing its place. Lee wanted the bill discussed then and there in conjunction with his bill, but after some discussion the house sustained Harvey's request, though Jemmison at first moved that the bill go to the bottom of the file. Jemmison was induced to withdraw his motion and so did Lee.

Knowles got his bill, H. R. 220, providing a 2-cent fare mileage book good for passage in the hands of any person and good for two years, acted up on favorably, though Barnes, of Douglas county, told the house it was the most foolish thing that ever happened, because the railroads were compelled to sell tickets at 2 cents, and no person would be foolish enough to buy a mileage book for \$20 and have the money tied up when he could get a ticket at the same rate. The bill originally read good for three years, but Best offered the two-year amendment, which Knowles accepted.

**Work for Fort Robinson.**  
Adams, of Daves county, is anxious for the Nebraska delegation in congress to get busy on that appropriation for Fort Robinson, which is in his district, and Wednesday he introduced a resolution in the house to that effect. Mr. Adams assured the members that Senator Warren, of Wyoming, was working hard to accomplish the abandonment of Fort Robinson and that the Wyoming senator seemed to have more influence than all the Nebraska delegation. The Sixth district had only Congressman Kinkaid working for the appropriation and he was anxious that the other members get busy with Judge Kinkaid.

**Sifting Committee Approved.**  
In an effort to clean up the important bills before the final rush the senate Wednesday morning approved the sifting committee reported from the standing committee on committees. There was no opposition to the seven senators named in the report. They are Root of Cass, Thomas of Douglas, Wiltse of Cedar, Aldrich of Butler, Epperson of Clay, Phillips of Holt and Clarke of Adams. The sifting committee will begin the work of going over the general file within a few days.

**Railroads to Pay for Coal.**

The senate Wednesday afternoon in committee of the whole recommended for passage Senator Sackett's bill relating to the confiscation of coal in transit by railroads. The bill requires the roads to pay the value of the coal within sixty days and in addition thereto to pay a penalty of 20 per cent of its value and attorney's fees if it is necessary for the owner to go into court to secure his pay. Clarke, of Adams spoke in opposition to the bill, but it was recommended for passage by a large majority.

**Against Itinerant Physicians.**

A bill by Wilcox, which will practically drive out of existence so-called itinerant physicians and traveling medicine shows, was recommended for passage by the senate Wednesday afternoon. The bill requires itinerant physicians to pay a fee of \$250 a year and places them under the jurisdiction of the state board of health.

**Interests Creighton Law School.**

A bill of considerable interest to students and patrons of the Creighton law school was recommended to pass by the senate. The measure was introduced by Patrick and it allows the supreme court to designate other schools than the law college of the University of Nebraska whose graduates may be admitted to the bar without examination. The Creighton law school is the only other school in the state and is the only one affected by the bill.

County superintendents will not receive a boost in pay from this legislation, the senate having killed Goodrich's bill providing for an increase of about 20 per cent in the salaries of these officials.

# SCENE AND CHIEF FIGURES IN IROQUOIS THEATER FIRE TRIAL.



WILL J. DAVIS—DEFENDANT.



MISS VIVA R. JACKSON.



JUDGE E. R. KIMBROUGH.

## DAVIS PUT ON TRIAL.

### Iroquois Theater Horror of Three Years Ago Recalled.

The trial of Will J. Davis, charged with manslaughter in connection with the Iroquois Theater disaster in Chicago three years ago, was commenced at Danville, Ill., Wednesday morning in the Circuit Court before Judge E. R. E. Kimbrough. The jury is composed of matured men, averaging 43 years in age, one grocer, one blacksmith, one fire insurance agent, and two real estate dealers. The roster of the jury follows:

- Enos Campbell, blacksmith, Georgetown.
- A. W. Carrington, farmer, Jamaica.
- George Miller, farmer, Rossville.
- Robert J. Jagers, farmer, Sidell.
- W. R. Williams, farmer, Fithian.
- Fred Gibbs, merchant, Indianola.
- T. E. Jones, miner, Catlin.
- O. D. Graves, farmer, Danville.
- J. C. Foreman, farmer, Danville.
- A. L. Giddings, insurance solicitor.
- H. H. Mendenthal, farmer, Georgetown.
- J. J. Soale, real estate agent, Ridge Farm.

Miss Viva R. Jackson was the girl in connection with whose death Will J. Davis was indicted on a charge of manslaughter. She was one of those who perished in the Iroquois Theater fire.

The entire venire was practically composed of farmers, there being only a few business or professional men. These seemed to have formed an opinion regarding Davis' guilt or innocence, and they were excused. Most of the farmers on the venire said they had not been in Chicago in twenty or more years, and had received their information concerning the Iroquois tragedy through the newspapers. It developed that almost every man was a constant reader of Chicago newspapers. No time was lost in asking the veniremen useless questions. The attorneys, acting under strict orders from Judge Kimbrough, went direct to the point, and if a venireman was not qualified he was immediately challenged or excused.

Attorneys for the defense stated that they would resist any attempt of the prosecution to introduce unsavory and horrible testimony. "Although we are not going to mention this to the court just now," said Mr. Mayer, "when the State attempts the horrible business we will enter a strong objection." The State has scores of witnesses, and if the trial is finished in three weeks or a month it will surprise every one.

Lawyers for both sides, who say they have full knowledge of the personnel of the jurors, declare they are of an exceptionally high grade of intelligence. Residents of Danville who have watched their selection are of the opinion that the jurors are about evenly divided as to their leanings toward the State and the defense and it is generally predicted that Davis will get "a square deal."

"William J. Davis was the owner or manager of owners of the theater," said Attorney Buckingham, "he invited thousands of persons to witness a production at his playhouse on the afternoon of Dec. 30, when the house was in an uncompleted condition and when all the provisions of the law for the protection of his patrons had not been complied with. At least, this is what we hope to prove. He was the responsible person, as he was in charge of the house."

The first attack on the State's case was made by Attorneys Joseph B. Mann, W. J. Calhoun and Levy Mayer. They contended that the ordinance passed by the Chicago Council regulating the operation of buildings of the theater class is legally defective and so full of flaws that it is absolutely void. Being void and unlawful in the eye of the law, and forming the very foundation in the indictment on which Davis is to stand trial, it is useless, they contended, to waste the court's time in the examination of witnesses.

## MUST PROVE THAW'S SANITY.

### Big Proposition Still Before the Attorney for the Defense.

While the defense has shown by the testimony of its own experts that Harry K. Thaw was insane on at least half a dozen different occasions, the last being Oct. 3, 1906, it has not yet attempted to show that he is sane today. Neither Dr. Evans nor Dr. Wagner, the two alienists who examined Thaw in the Tombs, has examined him lately, and both say they cannot express opinions on his present condition.

## CHIEF FIGURES IN IROQUOIS THEATER FIRE TRIAL.

### Gigantic Conspiracy to Destroy Royal Family and Chief Officials.

Premier Stolypin, other of Russia's cabinet officials, the grand dukes and even the czar himself may be doomed to death—and that within a very short time—by a new conspiracy of appalling proportions which has for its object the annihilation of the imperial family and all the chief officers and supporters of the autocracy.

The opening of the new douma was made the occasion by the terrorists and revolutionary societies, which are reported to have formed this conspiracy, for a monster riotous demonstration that struck terror into the hearts of the emperor, his ministers and the grand dukes. Premier Stolypin, it is reported, did not dare leave the Tauride palace to return home because it was known that hundreds of terrorists swarmed in the streets waiting for an opportunity to kill him.

According to report, the police gained an inkling of this plot and warned the czar and his relatives in time to prevent their attending the opening session. Terrorists, the police learned, have been elected to the douma for the express purpose of assassinating the czar or any of the hated grand dukes who may appear before the lower house.



The police and high officials are in a frenzy of fear over this discovery, but they have been unable to learn which of the people's representatives are the would-be assassins.

## INTERNAL COMMERCE RECORD.

The movements of our internal commerce during 1906, as now compiled by the bureau of statistics, make a record-breaking total. Interior markets received 40,727,658 head of cattle. All of the eastern cities received larger quantities of grain.

## SAVE US FROM OUR FRIENDS.

Mary, I have sold the farm for \$50,000, and we will now move to the city and enjoy the balance of our life in comfort.

## FIVE YEARS LATER.

It is all over, Mary, I must pay John Brown's bond, which will take every dollar I own and you and I will have to go to the poor house.

## MORAL.

Do not sign a friend's bond, and when you require a bond, buy it. Write for particulars or see our agent at the County Seat.

## WE ISSUE SURETY BONDS.

The Title Guaranty & Surety Company, Home Office, Scranton, Pa., Capital and Surplus over \$1,000,000.

## THE HUGUENOTS.

Here are two essays on the Huguenots by Chicago public school pupils: "The Huguenots are people in France that are followers of Victor Hugo. Their leader is a man named Jean Valjean that was a thief, but got converted and turned out well. The Huguenots are very good people. A lady named Evangeline wrote a long poem about them, but it don't rhyme." "The Huguenots is the name of a big thing like a steam roller that the mogul used in India to run over people. It squashed them to death and was very terrible. It had eyes painted on it like a dragon and snorted steam when it was running. They are no huguenots any more."

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## WRITTEN ON A SLATE.

Gen. Lew Wallace wrote the first rough draft of "Ben-Hur" on a slate, giving as his reason that erasures could more readily be made. After satisfying himself with a sentence written in this way he would, with a soft pencil, transfer the writing to paper, and finally, when everything pleased him, he copied the entire manuscript in ink with the precision of an engraving clerk. It is declared by those who were personally acquainted with Gen. Wallace that "Ben-Hur" was written and rewritten at least thirty times, and that when the final copy was sent to the publishers there was neither a correction nor an erasure throughout the manuscript. The printer set up the copy exactly as it was written, and the author himself never corrected a proof before the book was sent to press.

## VERDICT FOR DR. PIERCE

AGAINST THE Ladies' Home Journal.

Sending truth after a lie. It is an old maxim that "a lie will travel seven leagues while truth is getting its boots on" and no doubt hundreds of thousands of good people read the unwarranted and malicious attack upon Dr. R. V. Pierce and his "Favorite Prescription" published in the May (1904) number of the Ladies' Home Journal, with its great black display headings, who never saw the humble, groveling retraction, with its inconspicuous heading, published two months later. It was boldly charged in the slanderous and libelous article that Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, for the cure of woman's weaknesses and ailments, contained alcohol and other harmful ingredients. Dr. Pierce promptly brought suit against the publishers of the Ladies' Home Journal, for \$300,000.00 damages. Dr. Pierce alleged that Mr. Bok, the editor, maliciously published the article containing such false and defamatory matter with the intent of injuring his business; furthermore, that no alcohol, or other injurious, or habit-forming, drugs are, or ever were, contained in his "Favorite Prescription"; that said medicine is made from native medicinal roots and contains no harmful ingredients whatever; and that Mr. Bok's malicious statements were wholly and absolutely false. In the retraction printed by said Journal they were forced to acknowledge that they had obtained analyses of "Favorite Prescription" from eminent chemists all of whom certified that it did not contain alcohol or any of the alleged harmful ingredients. These facts were also proven in the trial of the action in the Supreme Court. But the business of Dr. Pierce was greatly injured by the publication of the libelous article with its great display headings, while hundreds of thousands who read the wickedly defamatory article never saw the humble groveling retraction, set in small type and made as inconspicuous as possible. The matter was, however brought before a jury in the Supreme Court of New York State, which promptly rendered a verdict in the Doctor's favor. Thus his traducers came to grief and their base slanders were refuted.