

THE VALENTINE DEMOCRAT

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 1909.

Cocoa door mats at Frank Fischer's hardware. 52

Rev. Clark of Rosebud spent Sunday in our city and visited with Rev. Wells.

Wm. Thunder Hawk and wife came down from Crookston this morning on business and returned on the freight.

Frank Fischer's trunk and suit case advertisement will interest everyone who travels. Look for it. 52

Miss Mary VanOrsdal started back to her parental home in Indiana Sunday morning in response to a telegram stating that her father was seriously ill.

F. C. Metzger and wife came down from Merriman Monday and went out to P. H. Young's ranch to visit a couple of weeks before going to their new home in Montana where Mr. Metzger has purchased a ranch.

J. E. Thackrey and his four children and Miss Cora returned from Kansas last night. The little girl Eleanor was to have stayed with Mrs. DeWylke but she cried to come back with her papa and Aunt Cora so she was permitted to have her choice.

U. S. Weather Bureau Report for week ending Jan. 5.

Daily mean temperature 19°. Normal 22°. Highest 51°, lowest -14°. Precipitation 0.02 of an inch. Total precipitation from March 1st (the crop season) to date was 18.98 inches and the average for same period for 20 years is 21.44.

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A. J. JORDAN, Arabia, Nebr.

Judge Quigley took the oath of office Monday and is now county judge of Cherry county. He has already married a couple from the reservation and transacted considerable other legal business.

N. S. Rowley came in Sunday and today is installed as county commissioner of this county. Geo. Russell came down the first of the week and attended to duties with James Mone and Alf. Morris until last night when he went home. We have heard no complaint against Mr. Russell and he goes home without a scar or blemish upon his record as county commissioner. Mr. Rowley enters upon his duties as the people's representative, and with James Mone of Cody and Alf. Morris of Woodlake pretty centrally represent the county.

J. R. DEAN ON SUPREME BENCH.

Broken Bow Democrat Named by Governor Sheldon to Succeed Sullivan.

Lincoln, Jan. 4.—Governor Sheldon appointed J. R. Dean of Broken Bow to the vacancy on the supreme bench caused by the resignation of Judge Sullivan. Mr. Dean notified the governor of his acceptance by long distance telephone and was on hand for the opening of court today.

Judge Dean's name was suggested to the governor by a Custer county delegation shortly after Judge Sullivan's resignation. The new judge is a Democrat having come through the Populist party. He was for two terms county attorney of Custer county, having been elected on the Populist ticket. He has been a resident of Broken Bow for the past eighteen or twenty years and has acquired a comfortable competence in the practice of law. His family consists of a wife and two children.

Pathetic Death of Hastings Girl.

Hastings, Neb., Jan. 4.—Katherine Hughes was one of the happiest little girls in Hastings Christmas morning, when she learned of the arrival of a little brother. She had been told to save her pennies and she might receive the gift she so much coveted. This she did, accumulating 190 pennies, which she insisted on the physician taking as his fee for the gift. Her happiness was so great that she became ill and has just died in convulsions. It is considered one of the saddest incidents which has ever occurred in Hastings. Her father, Z. H. Hughes and his wife are prominent residents.

Sheriffs Want Higher Salaries.

Grand Island, Neb., Jan. 1.—Higher salaries were advocated by all the sheriffs of Nebraska who attended the state convention here. These higher salaries were advocated especially for the officials in the smaller counties. The next convention will be held in Omaha. The following officers were elected: President, James Dunning, Grand Island; vice president, J. N. Babb, Nance county; secretary, H. S. Page, Fillmore.

Tots Run Away From Home.

Beaver City, Neb., Jan. 1.—Three children of G. W. Hudson the oldest ten years of age, were found at a farm house seven miles from town, following their disappearance from home. The youngsters in a spirit of adventure had run away from their home and tramped more than ten miles before they were overtaken. The youngest of the three, a mere baby, was hauled in an express wagon by the two other children.

Nebraska Has Great Year.

Omaha, Jan. 1.—Statistics for the year show it to be the greatest in the history of Nebraska despite the semi-panic conditions which prevailed. The bank clearings for Omaha, which reflect the amount of business done in Nebraska, show an increase of more than fifteen millions for the year, while the receipts of live stock and the transaction of business in other lines show a corresponding increase.

Aged Nebraska Woman Arrested.

Washington, Jan. 4.—Mrs. May Randa, aged eighty-nine years and claiming Niobrara, Neb., as her home, was placed under arrest because she wanted to see President Roosevelt about some land titles, which she thought he might have knowledge of. Mrs. Randa says her late husband was a friend of the president, who knows all about the land deal.

WORK BEGINS FOR SOLONS.

Thirty-first Session of Legislature Convenes at Lincoln.

MANY IMPORTANT MEASURES.

One of First Questions to Come Up is Whether Joint Committees Will Draft Platform Pledges into Bills. Inauguration of Shallenberger.

Lincoln, Jan. 5.—The Thirty-first session of the Nebraska legislature convened at noon today, with Charles W. Pool of Johnson county as speaker of the house and Tremore Cone of Saunders as chief clerk. In the senate G. W. Tibbets of Adams county was selected for prominent position and William H. Saffa of Seward county secretary, the body being organized with a full Democratic set of officers.

Thursday Governor Elect Shallenberger will be inaugurated into office and Governor Sheldon, Nebraska's first native son to be elected chief executive of the state, will retire to private life. Both the incoming and the outgoing executive will deliver their messages to a joint session of the legislative body held in the house.

In honor of Governor Elect Shallenberger a ball will be given in the state house Thursday night, following a reception, in which the receiving line will be composed of the new and retiring governors and their wives, and the incoming and the outgoing state officers and their wives. The colonels recently appointed on Governor Elect Shallenberger's staff will be on hand in brand new uniforms and their duty will be to mix with the crowds, while the Alma company and the two Lincoln companies of the National Guard will act as special guards of honor during the evening.

The reception will be held in representative hall and the ball in the senate chamber, which is smaller, though considered safer for dancing.

Committees May Draft Bills.

One of the very first questions the legislature will dispose of is whether joint committees of the house and senate will be selected to draft platform pledges into bills. The last legislature, which had a number of platform pledges to carry out, adopted this mode of procedure, and some of the members of that legislature who are also members of this, are in favor of the plan. Others, however, prefer to leave each member free to introduce bills without being handicapped by any action committees may take.

The bills which may be drafted by special committees are those providing for the guaranty of bank deposits and for the valuation of physical property of railroads and other public utility corporations. The fact that ideas regarding these measures are so different has created some sentiment for the selection of joint committees to whip the various suggestions into bills.

Estimates of Appropriations.

The estimates of expenses of the state government and the cost of proposed new buildings which the legislature will be called upon to appropriate is in the neighborhood of \$1,000,000 more than the appropriations of the last legislature, which topped the high water mark.

The estimates of needed appropriations now on file, which do not include special appropriation bills which will be introduced, total \$5,579,543. Of this sum, \$498,453 is for proposed permanent improvements and \$5,072,528 for current expenses and \$1,208,561 for the school appropriation.

Requests for the largest appropriations come from the Kearney normal school and from the institute for the feeble minded youth at Beatrice. The normal school asks for \$100,000 for additions to the present building and the feeble minded institute for \$168,000 for new buildings.

In addition to these estimates filed the state board of agriculture will ask for a large appropriation for the purpose of erecting a live stock pavilion, a steel grandstand and a machinery hall. In its statement to the public the board announced that it would require at least \$100,000 to construct any one of the proposed buildings. It is possible that this board will ask only for a sum sufficient to construct one of the buildings this year. Since the fair has been located in Lincoln the state has appropriated a total of \$68,000 for permanent improvements, the buildings and other improvements on the grounds having been paid for out of the proceeds of the state fair.

Telephone Legislation Likely.

Following a conference with representatives of all the telephone companies of the state with the state railway commission scheduled for Jan. 15 at Lincoln it is probable some telephone legislation will be recommended to the lawmaking body. U. G. Powell, rate clerk in the office of the commission, has an idea which will be discussed at that meeting, regarding the charges of telephone companies. Mr. Powell will advocate the installation of meters on each telephone which will record the actual time the telephone is used. The charge then is to be based on the time. Mr. Powell has not worked out the details of his plan, but expects the telephone men to contribute some ideas regarding the

charge that should be made for using the phone. One very little word has been the cause of much debate and considerable fighting in this legislature, and that word is "immediate." The fight will come over whether that word shall be used in the proposed bill which will provide for the guaranty of bank deposits. A very large number of the members insist that payment to depositors of money in a defunct bank should be paid "immediately." Others believe that to pay them "promptly" will do as well. While it is impossible at this time to get a line on the sentiment accurately, the membership seems to be pretty evenly divided whether "immediate" or "prompt" payments should be provided for.

Mr. Bryan has announced that he favors "immediate" payment, while those who oppose this, and the number includes Dr. P. L. Hall, insists that the platform calls for "prompt" payment and the bill should follow the platform literally.

This question loomed up as a very important factor in the fight over the organization of the house, as the various candidates for speaker were almost evenly divided on the question. Some held that "immediate" payment meant the day or the next day after the bank closed its doors, without even an investigation of its accounts, while others contended that "prompt" payment meant anywhere from ninety days to longer. The question is yet to be settled.

The Nebraska reference library has not yet moved into the state house, though announcement was made some time ago that it would be on hand with all kinds of information for the members. Owing to the great demand for more room by the state house officials because of the increase in the membership of the supreme court and the fact that each of them needed an office in the capitol, no room has yet been set apart for the library. Two years ago this reference library was in charge of A. E. Sheldon of the Nebraska Historical society, and he furnished information regarding legislation in other states and statistics for the use of members.

No Lobbyists Registered.

Up to the time of the organization of the legislature not a single person had registered as a lobbyist. Nebraska has an "anti-lobby" law, which requires that every person, other than an agent of a town or city or public board or institution, who attempts to influence legislation shall register his name with the secretary of state and announce what measures he is interested in and what corporation or interest he represents. The law provides that the lobbyist can appear before committees, file briefs or speak through the newspapers to the legislators and no other way. For him to talk to the individual members regarding legislation is a violation of this law, punishable by a fine or imprisonment. It provides further that at the close of the legislature, within twenty days, he must file with the secretary of state an itemized statement showing his expenses for the session. Considerable interest attaches to the practical working of this law, and some of the members of the last legislature, which enacted it, are very much divided as to its efficacy in abolishing the lobby.

So far, however, the indications are the lobby will not be as numerous as in the past. This is said to be due to the fact that the big interests of the state, which are liable to be affected by legislation, will merge their affairs and provide one chief lobbyist, who will look after all corporation legislation. The next few days, however, will develop more about the lobby.

Wants Half Holiday for Workers.

Fred Humphrey, a new member from Lancaster county, has in preparation a bill in which he is very much interested. Mr. Humphrey is anxious to give the working man more time in which to enjoy life, so he proposes to make every Saturday afternoon a legal holiday.

Representative Thomas of Douglas county will shortly introduce a measure to eliminate from the business of the state that of the chattel loan agent. The numerous suits filed by John O. Yeiser of Omaha against the loan agents and the exposures incidental thereto inspired Mr. Thomas to get up his bill.

As a further protection of wild game in Nebraska, Deputy Game Warden Carter will recommend to the legislature the enactment of a law which will prohibit foreigners or persons not naturalized from carrying firearms. The legislation will be aimed directly at the Italian and Greek laborers now being used in the construction of new railroads. According to Mr. Carter, these laborers use no judgment in the game they kill and pay no attention to the game laws.

Proposed New Capitol.

During the last few weeks there has been considerable discussion over the legislature making a start toward the erection of a new capitol building. The sentiment for this has crystallized to a certain extent and it is barely possible that an appropriation may be made for a start on the building.

The last legislature made an appropriation for a start on a new state historical building, which will be erected across the street east of the capitol. The historical society will again be before the legislature for another appropriation to build the first story. It is contemplated to make this building cost a large sum. Some of the members contend the historical society should have a place in the proposed new capitol, while others contend this new structure is too far in the distance for the historical society to wait on it. H. H. POTTS.

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