

Nebraska Legislature

An emergency appropriation measure in the house of the finance committee provides for an appropriation of \$600 at once to tide Gov. Shallenberger over until the regular appropriations are available and to prevent, as the author says, the executive going into his own pocket to pay his incidental expenses and those of his office. Clark took occasion to point out that the retiring governor had been liberally provided with funds for the biennium and had spent it all before he stepped down and out, leaving the incoming governor poverty stricken and the end of the biennium still ten weeks away. Mr. Clark said he would ask to have the rules suspended and the bill advanced and passed so that the executive wheels can roll smoothly on for a while.

Clark would have the legislature appropriate \$275 for books, stationery, telephone bills, etc., in the office of the governor \$100 for the contingent fund, and \$25 for the maintenance of the governor's mansion and servant hire. This is to last until the biennial appropriation is available. It takes the place of the ordinary deficiency appropriation that is passed for almost all the offices and state institutions.

Senator Ollis got in again Tuesday. He would abolish the office of county assessor in all counties with a population under 20,000. He would also change the salaries of these officials so that in counties with a population of 20,000 to 30,000 he may receive \$700, in counties of 30,000 to 50,000 not more than \$800, in counties of 50,000 to 100,000 not more than \$1,800, and in counties of 100,000 or more not to exceed \$2,400. One of the problems to be figured out is how the law, if passed, will get rid of the county assessors elected in 1907 for four-year terms. They were selected under the revenue law passed in the legislature in 1905 and can hardly, it is said, be legislated out of office by the present legislature.

England of Boone would have the state engage in the business of manufacturing along lines that were considered last summer when the state board had the split with the contractor at the pententary over wages to be paid the convicts. Mr. England has introduced a bill providing that the state shall manufacture binding twine at the pententary using convict labor for the factory. He asks that \$50,000 be appropriated to equip a factory with necessary machinery and that \$150,000 be set aside for running expenses and operating expenses. This latter sum he would have spent for nothing but raw material and such help as is needed outside of convicts. To secure this appropriation the bill authorizes the issuance of \$200,000 in bonds, to run ten years, with an option of payment after two years, and to bear 3 per cent interest. The bonds are to be bought out of the permanent school fund, and the profits of the factory are to be used to wipe out the bond issue. The use of convict labor by the state itself instead of hiring them out, has been a question of legislative debate for many years.

The senate met Tuesday in the forenoon after a three-day adjournment over Sunday. Little was done other than to introduce new bills and have them read. Several of these bills caused some interest. That of Senator Bartos of Saline county asking for a committee to consider the advisability of moving the state capital to Kearney since the present capitol is too far east and the present building is in bad state of repair. He picks on Kearney, not because it last session lacked a normal school, but because it is often spoken of as "the hub of the nation." His resolution went over one day under the rules, and will be considered if he calls it up.

Between them, Ollis of Valley and Donahoe of Holt worked out a revised primary law that will make politics unknown in the race for certain offices, and will make all primaries open, eliminating the embarrassing situation of a man having to state his politics before he can vote. No discussions took place in the senate. Oratory is on the wane after the spasmodic effort of a week ago.

House Proceedings. The house met after the week-end adjournment at 2:30 Tuesday and took up routine business. The bills introduced Friday morning were read the second time and referred. Clark's two appropriation bills for the session, the one for \$20,000 for incidental expenses and the other for \$80,000 for salaries of members and employes, were taken up. They had by agreement never been referred to a committee, but had come up for third reading as soon as printed. Until these two bills, have been passed by both houses and signed by the governor it will be impossible for either members or employes to be paid, or to have incidental expenses settled. Neither bill received a negative vote in the house. In amounts they are the same as the appropriations made last session.

Wilson moved that 1,000 copies of his banking bill be printed for distribution. Already a resolution had been passed authorizing 500 copies of the bill. He said that he had so many calls for the document that he feared they could not be supplied. Taylor of Custer opposed, saying that particular attention would be given to two pledges of the party, the bank guaranty and physical valuation of railroads. He understood that whatever bill was finally framed which had a chance of passage would be the work of joint committee work. He did not think copies should be strewn broadcast throughout the land until something more definite had been accomplished. Other members, both democratic and republican, favored the larger number printed, and the resolution passed.

The G. A. R. post of Elmwood petitioned the legislature to look with favor on the bill to appropriate funds for the erection of a monument to Abraham Lincoln. They pointed out in the memorial that they had subscribed liberally and hoped the bill would receive favorable attention. The

IN THE WHITE HOUSE.

Cost of Maintenance \$78,000 Outside of President Roosevelt's Salary.

CURRENT COMMENT

CAPITOL COMMENT



BILL WAS \$10,000 IN 1885.

Expenses of Chief Executive, Except Board Bill and Clothing, Borne by the Government.

Washington correspondence:

EVERY four years a "suggestion" originates somewhere that the \$50,000 per annum paid by Uncle Sam to the chief magistrate is inadequate; that the salary should be increased to \$100,000. President Roosevelt, now to retire, advocates doubling the present stipend. William J. Bryan, who has had three shots at the White House bull's-eye and missed them all, combating the President's view, declares that \$50,000 a year is ample.

The expenses attached to the White House have enormously increased during the past twenty years, and perhaps the greatest increase has been witnessed during the Roosevelt administration. By this is meant the expenses that Congress pays have jumped from \$19,000 in 1885 to \$53,000 in 1909, exclusive of an appropriation of \$25,000 for traveling expenses. The total expenses of the President's home and other expenses amount this year to \$78,000, as compared with \$19,000 in 1885. This is in addition to the \$50,000 salary.

Prior to 1873 the salary of the President was \$25,000 a year. It was increased in that year. Andrew Johnson retired from the Presidency with a comfortable estate, and there was never a suspicion that he made a dollar except legitimately. He saved from his salary, which was only half of what William H. Taft will receive.

Practically every expense, except his board bill and tailor, is borne by the government. For ordinary care, repair and furnishing at the White House and for the "purchase, maintenance and driving of horses and vehicles for official purposes" the sum of \$35,000 was appropriated for the current fiscal year. This estimate is made for 1910, and in addition an estimate is made of \$15,000 for interior decorations, etc., which will be enjoyed by the Tafts.

What the Government Furnishes. The government heats the White House at an annual cost of \$6,000. It provides greenhouses at a cost of \$9,000 a year, in addition to annual repairs and improvements amounting frequently to \$3,000 or \$4,000 additional. It pays \$25,000 for the traveling expenses of the President, his family and any persons he may choose to take with him when he travels about the country. It pays for the lighting of the White House and grounds, at an annual cost of about \$20,000, a part of this money being taken from the revenues of the District of Columbia. The government pays the salaries of the President's secretaries, all the clerks and White House officials. It pays the expenses of most of the household servants.

In addition to the breakfasts, dinners and luncheons which come with daily regularity, the President gives about three state dinners in the course of the season, one each to the cabinet, Supreme Court and diplomatic corps. He must pay for these dinners from his own pocket, and frequently is called upon for similar functions for the entertainment of distinguished guests of the nation.

When a President leaves the White House and goes upon a journey all the expenses of the trip are paid from the traveling fund of \$25,000. The President's only expense is the amount which he may give in tips. When a President has a summer home and spends part of the year away from the White House the expense which he must bear is necessarily increased.

Other Officials' Perquisites. The Vice President receives \$12,000 a year, but practically no perquisites, not even house rent. The cabinet officers receive the same stipend, but they get carriages free and a few other minor perquisites. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court receives \$13,000 a year; the Speaker of the House \$12,000, together with mileage and the usual perquisites of a Congressman.

By careful economy cabinet officers can live within their \$12,000 a year, provided they do not engage too expensively a house in Washington. The Supreme Court Justices are able to save quite a penny, but that is because they are not expected to entertain quite as much as members of the cabinet. Most of them own their houses in Washington, which is a matter of economy.

The Clash at the Capital.

And still we read of slaps, Rooseveltian and congressional.—Milwaukee Sentinel.

Now it is the Senate and the President, and it begins to look as if the fight would this time be allowed to proceed beyond the skirmish line.—Providence Bulletin.

When it comes to a row between the present Congress and the President, we can only say, as the old woman did—"go it husband; go it, bar."—Augusta Chronicle.

Anyhow, it would be cheaper to pay the President \$100,000 a year than to undertake compensating him on the basis of his literary output at \$1 a word.—Washington Times.

President Roosevelt stoutly resents the assumption by Congress that usurping the functions of a co-ordinate branch of the government is a game two may play at.—Kansas City Journal.

Forecast for Washington: Area of high pressure includes both Senate and House wings of the capitol, moving in a northwesterly direction, indicating severe storms in the vicinity of the White House.—Houston Post.

Reaction in China. It looks as if the Chinese government were being really run by that 3-year-old emperor.—Cleveland Leader.

Fortunately for Kuan Shi-Kai, having the rheumatism in only one leg isn't a capital offense in China.—Toledo Blade.

The Chinese premier has been dismissed because he has "rheumatism in the leg"—and progressive ideas in his head.—Atlanta Journal.

It is no doubt because he had progressivism rather than rheumatism that caused the removal of Yuan Shi-Kai from the Chinese army.—Milwaukee Sentinel.

In removing from office Gen. Yuan Shi-Kai, the Chinese regent explains that he retired because of "rheumatism in the leg." Chinese diplomacy evidently consists in being able to tell lies that you don't expect anyone to believe.—Augusta Chronicle.

The Secret Service. The secret service is becoming almost a misnomer.—Indianapolis Star.

Congress is greatly handicapped by not having a single battalion of night-hawk detectives.—Baltimore Sun.

It appears that Mr. Roosevelt has found some of the secrets of the secret service too good to keep.—Galveston News.

"Dementia gratissima" may be added to the alibists' vocabulary by the secret service investigators.—Washington Star.

Wouldn't it be dreadful if all our public servants lived in terror of a secret service espionage?—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The President's declaration that no honest man need have any fear of detectives should have a soothing influence on Congress.—Toledo Blade.

That \$29,000,000 Fine. The \$29,000,000 fine need not be paid. But how about those lawyers?—Augusta Chronicle.

The \$29,000,000 fine will not be paid. The price of oil will remain the same.—Brooklyn Eagle.

Blessed be the courts. Paragraphers can now quit collecting that \$29,000,000 fine.—Cleveland Leader.

John D. seems to have been right when he said it would be a long time before that \$29,000,000 was paid.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

Standard Oil business men may be forgetful about some things, but they are not so careless as to mislay \$29,000,000.—Washington Star.

That \$29,240,000 fine will doubtless hold the record for some time to come, and, inasmuch as it will not have to be paid, the Standard's attorneys can point to it with pride.—Toledo Blade.

Big Stick vs. Pitchfork. When the big stick meets the pitchfork everybody wants a front seat.—Cleveland Leader.

Senator Tillman has discovered that Archibald is not the only man with dynamite in his letter files.—Washington Star.

The secret service man who trailed Senator Tillman must have been either very brave or very careful.—Baltimore Sun.

When they place secret service men on old Ben Tillman's trail they are pressing pretty hard against some sharp fork tines.—Detroit News-Tribune.

In selecting Senator Tillman to sick the secret service upon, Mr. Roosevelt has evidently not sought to rough-ride it over a smooth road.—Augusta Chronicle.

Mark Twain Incorporated. Mark Twain has become a corporation, but he will generously be allowed to regulate himself.—Atlanta Journal.

Here's hoping that Mark Twain, now that he is capitalized, will continue to have that funny feeling.—Buffalo Times.

The incorporation of Mark Twain is under suspicion as a first step toward monopolizing the funny business.—Butte Miner.

"Mark Twain, Incorporated," is all well enough, but everybody hopes it may never become "Mark Twain, Limited."—Washington Times.

Without the knowledge or consent of the Interstate Commerce Commission its collected data concerning the largest stock holdings in all the leading railroad systems of the country was published in Wall street news clips, apparently based on the figures for 1906. One of the striking features of the lists is the showing that E. H. Harriman is far the largest individual stockholder, with a total of \$116,000,000 shares of the common and preferred stocks of the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific. His interests in other roads do not stand in his own name, and, similarly, the interests of Morgan, the Vanderbilts and other big operators are represented by dummy holders or by business partners. H. C. Frick appears as the largest single stockholder in the Pennsylvania Railroad, with \$43,200,000.

During the last fiscal year ending June 30 the United States forest service issued to settlers in the neighborhood of national forests in Western States over 30,000 "free use" permits, under which the settlers received free about 244,000 cords of fire wood, posts, poles and sawlogs, worth \$166,320. The different States also received for school and road purposes 25 per cent of the income from the national forests, amounting last year to \$447,064. The direct return to the States in lieu of taxes on the 147,000,000 acres, the estimated area of unpatented land in the national forests, amounted in the last year to \$116,384 in cash and "free use" timber.

The attempt of the government to punish lynchers by invoking the rights of colored citizens contained in the fourteenth amendment to the constitution, failed when the Supreme Court dismissed the test case against Robert Powell, who with four other members of a mob that stormed a jail at Huntsville, Ala., in 1904, and lynched Horace Marble, a negro accused of murdering a white man. Powell was indicted for conspiracy to deprive Marble of his right of trial by jury, but the judge said there was no offense under the law, and the government appealed. The Supreme Court bases its decision on that in the whipping cases last year.

The report of the commissioner general of immigration for the last fiscal year shows a decrease of 39 per cent in immigration, the total number of new comers being 782,870. Of those admitted 177,293 could neither read nor write, and the bulk of them came from Southern and Eastern Europe. They brought with them a total of \$17,794,228, an average of \$23 to a person. On account of physical defects 2,966 aliens were rejected, 370 on account of mental defects and 311 on account of moral defects. In the year 1902 contract laborers were rejected.

The first and most picturesque of the official White House receptions of the season was that given in honor of the diplomatic corps. Diplomatic, official and social Washington was present in large numbers. Mail carriers on rural routes are to get a holiday on Christmas of each year if a resolution introduced in the House by Representative Burnett of Alabama is adopted by Congress. Hussein Klazin Bey, the first ambassador appointed by the Turkish government to the United States, has arrived in Washington.

OUR LYNCHINGS.

Record of 1908 Greater than That of Last Year.

The lynching record for 1908 shows that the practice of taking summary vengeance on persons guilty of certain forms of crime is increasing rather than diminishing. The figures for the twelve months beginning Jan. 1, 1908, are larger than for several years past. Though the most of the lynchings occurred in the South, they were not confined to that section by any means. Springfield, Ill., was the scene of the greatest race riot of the year, resulting in the lynching of two negroes and the killing and wounding of a number of citizens who participated in the riots that lasted several days. Of the other Northern States, one lynching is recorded for Indiana, while California furnished the only lynching in the far West.

Mississippi, Georgia and Texas, in the order named, furnished the greatest number. A quadruple lynching in Kentucky increased the figures in that State over those of previous years. The record of Texas for 1908 was six-fold greater than in 1907. In Arkansas, Alabama and Louisiana there were fewer lynchings than in 1907. Oklahoma shows a clean slate and so do Maryland, Missouri, Iowa and Nebraska. In all of which States lynchings occurred in 1907.

The lynchings for 1908 total 89. This number is exclusive of several who met death while being pursued by posses or resisting arrest. Of the victims, 85 were negroes and 4 were white men.

To Build Temporary Mesquias. The Italian military authorities are said to have decided to build a temporary city of wooden buildings on the plain a mile to the south of the earthquake-ravaged city. In the Italian Parliament the president of the Chamber reviewed the national calamity and Premier Giolitti presented a law to regulate the changed conditions in the earthquake zone. Both expressed thanks for the quick response of the entire world in sending help. Giolitti declared that both Messina and Reggio would be rebuilt.

Secretary Root and Ambassador Bryce at Washington is an agreement to regulate the use of water at Niagara Falls for industrial purposes so as not to disturb the scenic beauty. The basis is that the United States shall use not more than 20,000 cubic feet of water a second to develop 236,000 horse power, and that the limit on the Canadian side shall be 36,000 cubic feet to develop 425,000 horse power. This must be ratified by the Canadian Parliament.

Secretary Root has signed arbitration treaties with Ecuador, Bolivia and Haiti. Secretary Root hopes soon to sign with Ambassador Bryce a treaty for the reference to The Hague tribunal of disputed questions affecting the Newfoundland fisheries, for the settlement of pecuniary claims, and for the mutual uses of the boundary waterways.

The United States Supreme Court decided in the case of the Missouri Pacific Railroad against the Laramie Flour Mills Company, that a state court may compel a railroad to perform its duty as a common carrier and desist from discriminations, thus affirming the decision of the Kansas Supreme Court.

A remonstrance against further increase of the United States navy has been sent to Congress by the Board of Directors of the American Peace Society. It was signed on behalf of the board by Robert Treat Paine, president, and Benjamin A. Trushoff, secretary of the society.

An order issued by the Secretary of the Interior is of considerable interest to persons now taking up land on the Truckee-Carson irrigation project in Nevada. By the new order persons may live within fifty miles of their land as against the old requirement that they live within twenty miles.

The Geographical Survey has reports showing that the production of coal in 1908 fell off from 15 to 20 per cent from that of the previous year. In 1907 it reached the record total of 491,363,424 tons, of which 85,994,322 tons were anthracite.

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News of the Churches

About 1,800 young people, delegates from three church societies of Cleveland, Ohio, representing 11,000 people, under the direction of Rev. F. B. Wallace of the East End Baptist church, pledged themselves to live for at least two weeks as they believed Jesus would live in their respective positions were He on earth. The advice given by the pastor was as follows: "Be honest in your religion and in your business and social relations. Jesus was a manly man. When you meet a friend shake hands like a man, not like a giraffe. Jesus allowed no shoddy work in his carpenter shop. Allow none in your business. Be gentlemen and ladies. Do not be loafers. Get to work. Get to work on time. Read the Bible. Pray. Be sunny. Bring sunshine into the lives of others."

Rev. C. W. Heizer of the Iglesia (N. Y.) Unitarian church has begun a series of Sunday night free entertainments financed by the Law and Order League in a local theater. The object is to give pleasure and occupation to non-churchgoers and to help the liquor men to enforce the Sunday closing.

Owing to the difficulties into which St. Mary's academy and the St. Mary's Institute of Nauvoo, Ill., have fallen through the troubles of P. J. Moran's Fidelity Funding Company of New York, the Mormon church may regain possession of the property which was formerly owned by the founders of the faith.

The churches in the Hawaiian Islands number 101, and the membership is 12,023, but the accessions last year were only 795—less than 9 per cent.

Dr. Carter, bishop of Protocolia, has, according to a Reuter telegram, accepted the archbishopric of Cape Town, a vacant six months ago by the death of Dr. West Jones. Gypsy Smith has been sworn in as evangelistic services in St. Louis. The meetings have been held in the 47th street, which has a seating capacity of 10,000 persons, and the expenses incident to the meeting are about \$10,000.