

THE NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

A Synopsis of Proceedings in Both Branches of the Twenty-Eighth General Assembly.

HOUSE.
In the house on the 12th Hunter of Webster offered a motion that the speaker appoint a sitting committee of seven members to whom all bills in general bills should be submitted and that all bills reported to the house by this committee should have precedence in committee of the whole in the order reported, except appropriation and revenue bills. The motion was tabled. Nelson of Douglas moved to have S. F. 11 engrossed for third reading. The bill was placed on general file. On motion Nelson of Douglas H. R. 23, the Omaha charter bill, was ordered engrossed for the third reading and its amendments printed. The committee on investigation and expenditures reported that on investigation it found three custodians of the supply room, W. H. Clark and J. H. Jallison, appointed by the secretary of state, with the concurrence of the house, and Homer Gage, appointed by Speaker Mockett. The committee reported that it found need for but one custodian of the supply room. Clark and Jallison be dispensed with. The report was adopted and therefore these two employes cut off the pay roll. The remainder of the bill was up in consideration of the revenue bill.

H. R. 374, the salaries appropriation bill, was placed on the general file of the house. The bill appropriates \$3,600 for a deputy clerk of the supreme court; \$5,400 for three assistants at a salary of \$900; \$1,800 for an assistant clerk of the court; \$1,200 to \$1,500, raising the salary of the head nurse at the Lincoln home for the friendless from \$200 to \$300; raising the salary of the teacher of the industrial home at Millard from \$300 to \$600. H. R. 225, by Ferrar, and H. R. 214, by Christy, providing for the destruction of prairie dogs. Providing that all warrants issued by proper authority of any county, city, township or school district shall draw the same amount as the state treasurer. Providing that the balance of funds in the hands of the Nebraska Relief association shall be paid into the state treasury and that Rev. J. J. Jallison be reimbursed for postage and stationery expenses. Providing for registration of voters. The registration shall be held at the office of the city clerk and shall begin on the first Monday of the month preceding each and every election, except school district elections, and shall end on the Saturday next to the first Monday of the month following the election. The order of business of the report of standing committee was returned to the following reports were first made: H. R. 225, which was indefinitely postponed Saturday, was recalled from the house. This bill increases the amount of indebtedness to be voted by school districts, providing for the amount of money to be raised in order to get the right of way. General file. S. F. 295, providing for the open season of fish. Placed on general file. S. F. 294, providing for the open season for certain game, was indefinitely postponed. The senate went into committee of the whole, with Howard of Douglas in the chair, and made the following resolutions: S. F. 201, placing constitutional amendments at head of official ballot. Ordered engrossed. S. F. 223, providing for the earliest opportunity for the payment of the bill for the foreclosure of tax liens. Ordered engrossed. S. F. 200 and H. R. 112 were indefinitely postponed. The former an act repealing the law relating to the appointment of needs in the public highways. H. R. 112 is the county commissioners' bridge bill. It provides that the board shall have the right to purchase any bridge which has already been made. A similar bill has already passed the senate.

In the senate on the 15th the following bills were reported: S. F. 297, providing for the destruction of prairie dogs. Providing that all warrants issued by proper authority of any county, city, township or school district shall draw the same amount as the state treasurer. Providing that the balance of funds in the hands of the Nebraska Relief association shall be paid into the state treasury and that Rev. J. J. Jallison be reimbursed for postage and stationery expenses. Providing for registration of voters. The registration shall be held at the office of the city clerk and shall begin on the first Monday of the month preceding each and every election, except school district elections, and shall end on the Saturday next to the first Monday of the month following the election. The order of business of the report of standing committee was returned to the following reports were first made: H. R. 225, which was indefinitely postponed Saturday, was recalled from the house. This bill increases the amount of indebtedness to be voted by school districts, providing for the amount of money to be raised in order to get the right of way. General file. S. F. 295, providing for the open season of fish. Placed on general file. S. F. 294, providing for the open season for certain game, was indefinitely postponed. The senate went into committee of the whole, with Howard of Douglas in the chair, and made the following resolutions: S. F. 201, placing constitutional amendments at head of official ballot. Ordered engrossed. S. F. 223, providing for the earliest opportunity for the payment of the bill for the foreclosure of tax liens. Ordered engrossed. S. F. 200 and H. R. 112 were indefinitely postponed. The former an act repealing the law relating to the appointment of needs in the public highways. H. R. 112 is the county commissioners' bridge bill. It provides that the board shall have the right to purchase any bridge which has already been made. A similar bill has already passed the senate.

Consideration of H. R. 79—the Ramsey selector bill—was taken up in committee of the whole on the 17th. The bill requires railroads to furnish equal facilities to all shippers, including abstracts, cars, special connections, terminal handling and interchange. The amendments offered by the railroad committee, to which the bill was referred, cut out the provisions for terminal handling and interchange, and required the railroad to pay the cost of the interchange. It should be applicable to cost at least \$3,000. Robbins of Gage offered a substitute to the amendment, which left the railroad to pay the cost of the interchange. The Robbins substitute amendment was adopted by a rising vote of 81 to 2, and the bill was then recommended for passage. The amendments to the bill were read for the third time and passed. Remedying minor defects in chapters governing cities of from 500 to 10,000 population. Ayes, 87; nays, 0. To authorize corporations, associations and societies to transact upon the assessment plan, the business of accident or sickness, or to issue a funeral benefit not exceeding \$5,000 to defray the nature and scope of the Nebraska state library. The University of Nebraska library and the Nebraska state historical society library and to regulate the purchase of books by them. Make state library exclusively one of law books and public documents; the state historical society library one of United States and Nebraska history, and the University library one of general reference. Provides for the transfer of books from one to another of these libraries in conformity with this classification. Repeals provisions in law governing schools in metropolitan cities which forbids the school board to expend more than \$200 each year for the purchase of books. Provides that appeals to the supreme court shall be made within six months from the date of the decision. To prevent the spread of contagious and infectious diseases and providing for a state health inspector by the state board of health at a salary of \$3,000. Carries an appropriation of \$20,000.

As soon as the house convened on the 18th the revenue measure was considered. Mitchell of Dixon offered an amendment to the personal property schedule, so as to exempt live stock under six months old from taxation. This led to an amendment by Sears of Burt to strike out the whole schedule and leave the

H. R. No. 57, by Gilbert—Providing that the city election in Omaha shall be held on the second Monday in May and every three years thereafter.
H. R. No. 67, by Gilbert—Requiring the city council of Omaha to acquire title to the Omaha water works.
H. R. No. 60, by Wilson—Appropriating \$28,000 for incidental expenses of the legislature.
H. R. No. 52, by Koetter—Making the free text book law applying to Omaha.
H. R. No. 42, by Burgess—To permit the school board of Lincoln to pay more than \$720 a year salary to a secretary.
H. R. No. 278, by Good—Transferring the school board of Lincoln to the Norfolk asylum for the insane.
H. R. 106, by Kittell—Repealing the law for a bounty on wolf scalps.
H. R. 48, by Koetter—For the payment of a bounty on wolf scalps.
H. R. 114, by Gregg—Regulating the printing and distribution of the state superintendent's annual report.
H. R. 16, by Buffalo—To permit townships to buy and maintain cemetery grounds.
H. R. 10, by Thompson—Providing that land leases for a longer period than one year from the making thereof shall be void unless in writing.
H. R. 8, by Perry—Regulating admission to the bar.
H. R. 18, by Douglas—Providing a seal for county treasurers and notaries public to tax deeds and certificates.
H. R. 119, by Gregg—Making it the duty of county superintendents to notify school districts when reports are due.
H. R. 10, by Marshall—To legalize heating and lighting bonds heretofore voted by villages; for the relief of the township of Syracuse.
S. F. 35, by Fries—Permitting normal schools having an investment of \$50,000 to issue teachers' certificates upon approval of the state superintendent.
S. F. 3, by Sheldon—Giving county boards added powers as boards of incorporated towns.
S. F. 34, by Sheldon—Asking congress to establish the true military history of the First Nebraska Cavalry by declaring it to be a volunteer regiment.
S. F. No. 29, by Warner—Was vetoed by the governor on the 14th of its form. He presented a bill to remedy the defect. The bill authorizes the commissioner of public lands and buildings to charge certain bills and to file the same with the public lands and buildings. The bill provides that the fees shall be paid to the land commissioners. The supreme court has held that the state treasurer has the right to receive money for fees.

SENATE.
In the senate on the 16th the following bills were reported: S. F. 297, providing for the destruction of prairie dogs. Providing that all warrants issued by proper authority of any county, city, township or school district shall draw the same amount as the state treasurer. Providing that the balance of funds in the hands of the Nebraska Relief association shall be paid into the state treasury and that Rev. J. J. Jallison be reimbursed for postage and stationery expenses. Providing for registration of voters. The registration shall be held at the office of the city clerk and shall begin on the first Monday of the month preceding each and every election, except school district elections, and shall end on the Saturday next to the first Monday of the month following the election. The order of business of the report of standing committee was returned to the following reports were first made: H. R. 225, which was indefinitely postponed Saturday, was recalled from the house. This bill increases the amount of indebtedness to be voted by school districts, providing for the amount of money to be raised in order to get the right of way. General file. S. F. 295, providing for the open season of fish. Placed on general file. S. F. 294, providing for the open season for certain game, was indefinitely postponed. The senate went into committee of the whole, with Howard of Douglas in the chair, and made the following resolutions: S. F. 201, placing constitutional amendments at head of official ballot. Ordered engrossed. S. F. 223, providing for the earliest opportunity for the payment of the bill for the foreclosure of tax liens. Ordered engrossed. S. F. 200 and H. R. 112 were indefinitely postponed. The former an act repealing the law relating to the appointment of needs in the public highways. H. R. 112 is the county commissioners' bridge bill. It provides that the board shall have the right to purchase any bridge which has already been made. A similar bill has already passed the senate.

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POEM BY STONEWALL JACKSON.
The Richmond Times is authority for the statement that this poem was written by Stonewall Jackson while he was serving with the army in the Mexican war.
The shadowy light o'er the skies;
The camp around in stumber lies;
The night with solemn pace moves on,
And hush o'er the battle's din;
But sleep my weary eyes hath found,
And sad, ungodly thoughts arise.
I think of thee, oh, dearest one,
Who love my early life hath seen—
In whose young heart have freshly met
Two streams of love so deep and clear,
And cheer her drooping spirits yet.
Oh, guard the tender sleeper's rest,
And hover gently, hover near,
To mother, wife—the doubly dear,
In whose young heart have freshly met
Two streams of love so deep and clear,
And cheer her drooping spirits yet.
Whatever fate those forms may show,
Loved with a passion almost wild—
By day—by night—in joy or woe—
By fears oppressed, or hopes beguiled,
From every danger, every foe,
O God, protect my wife and child!
Now, while she kneels before thy throne,
Oh, teach her, ruler of the skies,
That, when they bend alone,
Earth's mightiest powers fall or rise,
No tear is wept to thee unknown,
No hair is lost, no sprout is born,
That thou canst stay the ruthless hands
Of dark disease, nor soothe its pain;
That only by thy stern commands
The battle's lost, the soldier's slain—
That from the distant sea
Thou bringst at the wanderer home again.
And when upon her pillow lies,
Her tear-wet cheek is sadly prest,
May happier visions beam upon
The brightening current of her breast,
No frowning look nor angry tone
Disturbs the Sabbath of her rest.

PENALTY CLAIM A THRILLER.
A strange story is related in the case of Mrs. Leander Merchand of Steubenville, O., whose claim has just been secured. The facts form a weirdly mysterious tale.
Merchand, her husband, was born in North Carolina, but moved to Ohio and his mother an Indian. His mother died when he was young and a trader took him to South Carolina and sold him. He had straight Indian hair and complexion, but that made no difference.
Five years later he was sold to a Missouri farmer, but escaped, and later joined a Confederate regiment and was captured, and then he enlisted in the 102d Ohio volunteer infantry. He was captured by the Confederates, and after imprisonment in Cobana prison was exchanged and sent north on the ill-fated Sultan, which blew up, more than 1,300 soldiers losing their lives.
When the boat blew up he landed in a raft of driftwood, and was rescued and taken on an island below Arkansas city. He was badly injured and scalded. He recovered and drifted west, where he met the present Mrs. Merchand, who taught him to read and write.
He wrote the facts about his life in a prayer book, which was used to establish the claim. Later in life he became a harmless lunatic, and wandered into a swamp and was drowned. The district judge used the money in buying a plantation in the southwest.

THE FENCE-RAIL HABIT.
The fence-rail habit, said the sergeant, "grew on a man. There was no more exhilarating work than breaking up a seasoned cedar rail. A man who did it once wanted to do it again, and after doing it again he could split a cedar rail into coarse or fine splinters by hand, and he would be a man who had a record of breaking up 500 rails, and he reasoned that over 5,000,000 cedar, walnut and oak rails in the south were burned by soldiers, and that this wholesale destruction gave as much impetus to the barbed wire industry as the setting up of the prairie state."
"He located after the war in Nebraska, but got so lonesome with no fence rails in sight that he returned to Ohio, and moved from there when the people began to replace the old fence rails with barbed wire. A year ago he came to Chicago, and took him out to Fort Sheridan, and incidentally called his attention to the fine grade of the wire fence inclosing the recreation. He was furious, and said if the government really wanted to furnish food for chickens, they ought to build up every farm and camp with a barbed rail fence, and let the boys eat and burn the rails, as a reward for close attention to duty."
"I did not surrender," said E. F. Boyce on being examined for membership in the R. A. Smith camp of Consistency, which was held in Chicago. This reply called for an explanation, because it is customary for a candidate for membership to tell where he enlisted and how he was dismissed from the Confederate service before he can become a member of a camp. Mr. Boyce explained that he was one of the 2,000 men of the Western army who decided that they would go to Mexico with their commander, Gen. Sherman, rather than submit to the humiliation of a surrender. The command marched over the line, where they were met by the Mexicans. The detachment thought they might get shelter from the Mexicans and establish a new Confederacy, but the bull-fighters were too much in awe of the United States. It is estimated that there are only about fifty or sixty of these men left in the United States, and they belong to company H, Fifth Missouri—Atlanta (Go.) Journal.

DIDN'T KNOW HIS OWN SON.
During the battle of Antietam, one of the bloodiest in the civil war, there had been a sharp engagement of artillery and the Confederate battery from Rockbridge, Va., was standing waiting orders when Gen. Lee rode by and stopped a moment. A dirty-faced driver about 17 said to him: "General, are you going to put us in again?"
"Think of such a question from such a source to the general of the army, especially when that general's name was Lee."
"Yes, my boy," the stately officer kindly answered, "I have to put you in again. But what is your name?"
"Your face seems familiar, somehow," "I don't wonder you didn't know me," laughed the lad. "I'm so dirty, but I'm Bob."
"It was the general's youngest son, whom he had thought safe in the Virginia Military Institute. 'God bless you, my son; do your duty,' and the general rode on.

GEN. OSTERHOSE HAD A HEARTY.
That grand old hero, Gen. P. J. Osterhaus of the Army of the Tennessee, and who at times commanded the Seventeenth corps, is still alive, residing in Bonn, Germany, strong and happy in his 81st year. He is highly respected by the people and the commander of the garrison has issued orders that officers and soldiers must stand at attention and salute when he passes.

THE FIGHTING AT ALLATOONA.
"That reminds me," said Capt. Stone, "of an experience I had, not long ago, down in Georgia. I was making the rounds of our old battlefields and left the train at Allatoona Pass, where Gen. Corse held the fort. The station agent eyed me a minute, and noticing my Grand Army button, came to me and introduced himself as Capt. McDaniels of the Confederate service, and said he would be glad to show me over the scene of what he regarded as the hottest and sharpest battle of the war, if not in all history. It was in truth a fierce fight, and no one can understand why it was so until he looks over the ground and remembers that in this pass the very flower of the two armies met in a fierce struggle, in which neither meant to yield."
"Curiously enough, McDaniels' recollections of the fight centered on two

POULTRY
The Value of Capons and Caponizing.
Wm. G. Unitt, in an address to Nebraska poultry raisers, said: A Capon bears the same relation to a cockerel that a steer does to a bull; it is a castrated rooster. But a capon is more quiet, lays on much flesh and fat and remains tender for months. They will weigh from 60 to 75 per cent more than a rooster of the same age and many Eastern markets will bring from 20 to 30 per cent more. The comb and wattles do not grow after the operation if done before they become very prominent, but in some cases it is the practice to cut them off. The feathers of the neck and wings grow very long and glossy. A capon does not care for the heat, nor crow, nor fight, but will make the finest of mothers for chickens. If in the operation you do not succeed in removing all of the testicle, it will in course of time develop into a very large size. Such a bird is known as a slip. F. L. Wabburn, in the Oregon Bulletin, No. 31, says: "A slip gains flesh and fat and better flesh than a rooster. But in three or four months after the operation, the comb and wattles grow again and the bird becomes a cockerel, and I would advise a person to kill such birds if he has any, as they are a great bother upon a poultry farm. In some cases they bring as much money as a capon of the same weight. But if a person is careful in doing the operation there will be no slip to put upon the market. It has been asked by several, is the operation cruel? It is no more cruel than performing the same kind of an operation upon pigs, colts, and calves. It does not take long to perform the operation and the bird will begin to eat directly after being released from the castrating board. I would advise a person to operate upon a few dead ones first so as to become familiar with the appearance and position of the testicles. A person can feel the size of the large breeds and secure some very nice capons. The birds that you wish to caponize should be fasted 24 to 36 hours before the operation. And should be fed very light the first day or two after the operation.

Mottled Javs.
The Javs, though not as popular as some of the other breeds, are yet in every way worthy of more attention than they are receiving. They are a practical and good-sized fowl, differing from Plymouth Rock chiefly in form and symmetry. There are three varieties of Javs, the Black, Mottled and White. We illustrate a Mottled Java hen on this page. The plumage of the Mottled Javs is broken black and white in wings, tail and feathers, and the balance of the plumage is evenly mixed with black and white.

Feeding Winter Chickens.
Relative to the feeding of incubator chicks hatched in the winter, a report of the Rhode Island station says: "Many people have asked, on seeing the healthy growing, well feathered young chicks, what food we were using. The winter's experience, which has been a variety of grains were used, indicates that it is not so much what the food is as how the food is supplied provided there are plenty of starch, albuminous, and green matters. In nature small seeds, insects and grass furnish food for chickens. The corn is abundant in the spring and summer months, and it is at this time that the chickens thrive. To secure the best results foods simulating both the composition and the mechanical character of these should be supplied. For instance, in the summer the tips of grasses are young and tender and easily broken by the chickens. For green stuff to be easily assimilable some plant should be supplied which may also be easily broken. We have found hanging a head of lettuce in a brooder by a string to exactly furnish the desired want, and be greedily eaten by the chickens.

A Doubtful Method.
At a farmers' institute, a speaker said: "Ventilation is a subject, but no ventilator has ever been invented that will change with the weather—as is necessary in ventilating a hen house. So, as the attendant must do it, the simplest way will be found the best, and this is to depend entirely upon the windows. On all pleasant days in the winter, when the glazes are confined, the windows are opened sufficiently to give the fowls plenty of fresh air and fresh air, as they would get out of doors. At night the windows are closed, and the fowls do not suffer for fresh air until morning."
"We very much doubt the soundness of this advice. Open windows and doors on some days are fruitful sources of colds and catarrhal troubles. It is far better to adopt a scientific method of ventilation and depend upon it whenever the poultry house has to be tightly closed.

Guernsey Breeders' Association.
The Guernsey breeders of the United States held a meeting in Madison, Wis., recently, and elected the following officers: President, Chas. Solverson, Nashotah, Wisconsin; vice president, J. W. Perkins, Kansas City, Missouri; second vice president, F. W. Kimball, Austin, Minnesota; third vice president, John C. Chalmers, Ann Arbor, Michigan; secretary-treasurer, Chas. L. Hill, Rosendale, Wisconsin; M. D. Cunningham, Kansasville, Wisconsin.
It is announced that Mr. Rockefeller has given \$1,000,000 to his institute for medical research. The present plans for the institute call for the immediate erection of a laboratory in New York city for investigation in all departments of medical research.

The "Shank" of a Fowl is the Lower and Scaly Joint of the Leg.

NOT IVY BUT GRASS-HOPPERS.
The Minnesota experiment station has made a report of the insect invasions of that state during the past year. Among those invasions was that of the grasshoppers, which are looked for every year. The farmers have learned that one of the most troublesome varieties of locusts, the White Mountain locust, is not a pest. Complaint has frequently been made to the state authorities regarding the condition, and in a number of cases where the land was badly infested the state has paid for having the land plowed. This is a task too large to be generally undertaken by the state.

FIG. 1. NOT IVY BUT GRASS-HOPPERS.
The farmers in different localities in Minnesota are raising for a compelling non-residents to plow their land when infested with locusts. In our first illustration in this article we show a store in the Hill River district infested with young grasshoppers in a rather dry time. This will give some idea of their abundance in that locality. The state entomologist, after a visit to this region, reported: "It was however in the Hill River district, near Lindsay P. O., that farmers suffered the most. Here a tract extending one-half mile east and west and two miles north and south was swept almost bare of vegetation. Young grass, wheat, barley and oats were mowed down, and at the date of my visit, June 26, the farmers were complaining bitterly of the loss of acre piece of stubble which had been allowed to lie fallow for two years or more and was very evidently the breeding ground of the pest. In places I found the ground brown with young hoppers not yet ready to fly, and the area referred to presented a scene of desolation not easily forgotten. The young hoppers were working south, and on each succeeding visit I found their limit to be further south. Farmers in the neighborhood worked heretofore in the fall and spring. They come visitation, and about 800 gallons of oil were distributed by the entomologist. This oil was judiciously used, but the numbers of the insects were legion, and though the hoppers were in the field and on the grain all day and day after day and bushes of oily corpses dumped upon the road, the pests appeared to be almost as numerous after treatment as before."
Among the natural enemies of the grasshoppers are the birds. On our second illustration we show English sparrows eating grasshoppers in the streets of Crookston, Minnesota. This is one good point in favor of the En-

Meeting of Ayrshire Breeders.
The 25th annual meeting of the Ayrshire Breeders' Association was held at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York, January 29, 1903, with about fifty members and visitors present. The officers elected were: Gen. H. Foster, Dover, N. H., president; Orlanah Brown, Providence, R. I., Thomas Turnbull, Jr., Casanova, Va.; Charles C. Doe, South Newbury, Vt.; E. J. Fletcher, Greenfield, N. H.; vice presidents; C. W. Winslow, Brandon, Vt.; secretary; N. S. Winsor, Greenville, R. I.; treasurer; J. F. Converse, Woodville, R. I.; J. Andrew Casterline, Dover, N. J., executive committee for three years. The report of the treasurer showed about \$5,000 in treasury. The report of the secretary showed a removal by death of six members and twenty-four new members added. It was voted to continue the Home Dairy test for the next year with the same premiums.

Food for the Plum Curculio.
Prof. F. M. Webster: The plum curculio no longer confines itself to the wild plum, though it does return, if possible, to the woodlands there to pass the winter. The insect is a leaf-eater; but the plum orchard of the horticulturist offers a better feeding ground, with larger and more attractive varieties than the wild plums of the woodlands. The insect is enabled to breed more unrestrained, and a greater supply of food is offered it, than was possible under the old existing conditions. The inroads of birds upon its numbers in the primeal woods are now greatly reduced, and the few trees that happen to be located in an occasional chicken park, are the only ones where there is much of the old time trouble from feathered enemies. If there are not plum curculio, it can get along with the early peach and some of the apples, in which to breed and feed.

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