

THE STATE CAPITOL.

Bills of All Colors and Conditions Crowded Through the Legislature.

The Lincoln Lobby Secures Sufficient Support for the Capitol Tax.

The Various Railroad Bills and the Prospects of Passage.

Pointed Questions to State Officers and Some Replies.

The Nebraska City Bank Claim Favorably Reported.

THE LEGISLATURE.

Special Dispatch to THE BEE. LINCOLN, February 13.—The capitol appropriation bill was passed by a committee of the whole house this morning by a vote of 49 to 40, with the amendment that the limit of the cost of the new building is \$450,000, and the architect's commission reduced from one and a half per cent to one per cent, or an aggregate of \$4,500 for the plans. He has already been paid over \$2,000 for the plans of the wings, and this is exclusive of the cost of superintending, which will aggregate two per cent, or \$9,000 more. The senate is now debating the railroad bill, which was reported back by the senate railroad committee.

THE SENATE.

Editorial Correspondence of THE BEE. BILLS REPORTED. LINCOLN, February 12.—The senate convened at 2:15 p. m., nearly all the members being present. The regular routine occupied more time than usual, owing to the large number of bills reported back from the different committees. The judiciary committee alone reported back thirty-three bills, most of which provided a favorable report. The bill providing for the abolition of the grand jury system was reported back, with a recommendation that it do not pass, and the report of the committee was adopted. The senate also passed a bill which was made a special order for 3 o'clock today, was made a special order for tomorrow at 10:30, owing to the fact that said bill had not been returned from the committee.

PENSIONS FOR SOLDIERS.

Senator Reynolds offered the following resolution: WHEREAS, Under our national revenue laws large sums of money are being gathered into our national treasury, even largely in excess of the amounts necessary to meet the current expenses of the government and the amounts necessary for a healthy reduction of the national debt, therefore be it resolved, By this senate, that they earnestly petition congress that they enact such laws as will place each citizen of this nation, who may have served the country three months or more in the military service thereof and who has received an honorable discharge from such service and who may have attained the age of 50 years, upon the pension rolls, and that all citizens who have served the country as prescribed above, and who attain the age of 50 years, shall be placed upon the pension list, and your petitioners, the senate of the state of Nebraska, for the eighteenth session thereof, will ever pray.

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S OPINION.

The following communication from the attorney general was received and read yesterday afternoon: To the Honorable Senate of Nebraska, I am in receipt of the resolution of your honorable body, requesting the attorney general to furnish the senate with a written opinion as to whether or not it is necessary under the constitution of the state that bills that may be introduced or substituted for other bills should be read on three different days. Section eleven, article three of the constitution clearly requires every bill and concurrent resolution to be read at large on three different days. This provision, intended as it is to prevent hasty and imprudent legislation, might be rendered nugatory if, by substituting one measure for another, the reading of the measure thus substituted might thereby be dispensed with. I am of the opinion a compliance with the constitution would require all bills, including those offered as substitutes, to be read on three different days.

GOING FOR THE TREASURER.

Brown of Douglas offered the following resolution: RESOLVED, That the state treasurer be and he is hereby respectfully requested to furnish at the very earliest day practicable the information heretofore asked for and now required by the following questions: First, Do the books in your office show that any interest money (other than that mentioned in your communication to the senate on the 9th ultimo) have been received and credited to the state during the year 1882? Second, If you answer the books in your office show, or any one of them shows, that such interest money has been received, you are then requested to inform this body upon which fund or funds said interest money was received and to state to which fund the same was credited; the time of the payment into the treasury; the amount thus paid and the total amount of interest money passed to the credit of each separate fund. This resolution went over till tomorrow under the rules.

FURTHER INQUIRIES.

Senator Brown offered a resolution asking the attorney general for an opinion in regard to the legal and equitable responsibility of the state in the bill now pending before this legislature to appropriate money to pay the claim of the Nebraska City national bank amounting to several thousand dollars; also a resolution calling for an opinion from the same officer in regard to appropriating \$5,000 as required by a bill now pending to purchase tax deeds given by the county treasurer of Lancaster county on lots owned by the state. Both these resolutions were adopted. The bill prohibiting public officers of every kind from receiving fees and passes was up on its third reading. It appearing that the bill now pending had been amended as a substitute, and said substitute as a sub-

stitute not having been read three times according to law it was voted to have it put upon its first reading for the purpose of covering all defects which was accordingly done. Another bill of the same nature, which had been amended to death in the committee of the whole, came up on its third reading and was on motion referred back to the railroad committee.

There are four bills now pending for the organization of as many new counties, namely: Dawes, Cherry, Brown and Loup. From present appearances these bills will probably be passed.

TRICKS OF THE MONROE.

Senator Reynolds arose for information. He said that the house part of the special railroad committee had met and taken evidence after both house and senate committees had been discharged, and now they wanted to force that testimony, taken after the committee had been discharged, into the record, and he wanted to know if this was considered fair. A lively debate ensued, taken part in by a number of senators. A motion was made by Brown, of Clay, to publish the testimony taken after the committee had been discharged, but have the same appear as a matter of record. McShane moved that said testimony be reviewed but not printed. Upon this question the yeas and nays were called and the motion was lost—9 to 19.

The question then came up as originally introduced, but before a vote was reached the senate adjourned till tomorrow at 9 o'clock.

THE DATE OF ADJOURNMENT.

LINCOLN, February 13.—After the senate resumed its session, Senator McShane offered the following: RESOLVED, That a committee of three be appointed to confer with a like committee of the house to fix a day for adjournment, sine die. This resolution was adopted without opposition.

PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND.

In answer to a resolution introduced several days ago by Senator Connor, the state treasurer sent the following communication to the senate: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the following resolution adopted by your committee to wit: "Resolved, That our state treasurer be respectfully requested to inform the senate at as early a day as possible the true amount of the permanent school fund now on hand and not invested in bonds, and whether said school funds, if any, not so invested in bonds is now in the vaults of the state treasury and whether the same or any part thereof is now, or at any time has been loaned to banks, associations or individuals." Replying to the above I will say that the true amount of permanent school funds now on hand and not invested in bonds is \$137,508 77, and that the amount not so invested in bonds is in the vaults of the treasury in currency, gold and silver coin, and that no part thereof is now or at any time during the term of office has been loaned to banks, associations or individuals. P. D. STURDEVANT, State Treasurer.

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secretaries would virtually be the commission and that competent men would not accept a position with so much work and so little pay. Sowers moved to amend the amendment making the salary of the secretaries \$2,500. Both the amendment and the amendment to the amendment were lost. The committee at this point arose and the senate adjourned till 2 p. m.

THE HOUSE.

Special Correspondence of THE BEE. GENERAL BUSINESS. LINCOLN, February 12.—The house reassembled this afternoon at 2:30 precisely. Mr. Franke announced that he had received a dispatch from Major North stating that his wife had just died and asking that he be excused. He was unanimously excused until such time as he could conveniently return. A committee of five was appointed by the speaker to confer with a committee of three on the part of the senate to fix the day on which both houses should adjourn.

The committee on railroads recommended the bill defining the liability of corporations for injury to employees for passage. The house then went into committee of the whole with Cook, of Nuckolls, in the chair. The bill providing for the payment of \$900 to Paoli, Franca for surveying school lands in Red Willow county which had been imperfectly surveyed by the government surveyor, after some discussion was set down upon. The bill for the relief of the Nebraska City National bank was next dealt with. It provides for the payment of the sum of \$13,640 50 to the bank, which, it is alleged, the state had unjustly collected of the bank on a judgment for the above sum received by ex-Governor W. H. James on behalf of the state, which he converted to his own use. After a lengthy debate, on motion of Mr. Groat, of Otoe, the bill was reported back with a recommendation that it do pass. Mr. Wolph, of Cass, moved an adverse motion, but it was voted down. Mr. Johnson, of Saunders, moved a resolution that after to day no bill shall be introduced except by a two-thirds vote. Nearly a dozen bills were introduced.

Adjourned till 9:30 to-morrow morning. BILLS REPORTED. LINCOLN, February 13.—The house met at 9:30 this morning. Mr. Groat, the chairman of the special railroad committee, presented his report, and on motion of Clark, of Douglas county, 2,000 copies were ordered to be printed for distribution. A pretty lively discussion took place over Mr. Whedon's bill to increase the salaries of deputies of state officers. The majority report of the committee on finance, reports and means favored the passage of the bill, and the minority report urged that it should not pass. Mr. Wolph claimed that the salaries now paid by the state for this work are higher than for similar work done for private individuals. Teachers who spent thousands of dollars, and many years of their lives in qualifying for positions in our colleges were not paid near so well.

Gray, of Douglas, described it as the first attempt at civil service reform in Nebraska. He maintained that the civil servants should be paid in proportion to the years of experience they had in their duties. Hall, of Cass, thought it was civil service with a vengeance beginning at \$1,500 for the lowest grade of clerk. Neither side of the opinion that the civil service reform was beginning at the wrong end. He favored a reduction of the lowest grade clerks and let the higher grade be increased according to their worth. Payne was not in favor of giving the clerks higher pay simply because they had been employed for a number of years. The report of the minority committee was finally accepted.

The capitol appropriation bill was brought up in committee of the whole, and after being amended in several particulars was recommended for passage. The Michigan Contest. Special Dispatch to THE BEE. DETROIT, February 13.—The legislature reassembled to-day after ten days recess. The first ballot in joint convention showed no essential change from the last vote taken. It stood Ferry 44, Stout 23, Chamberlain 14, Burrows 8, Willets 9, with 19 scattering on 9 different candidates.

Oakes Ames' Censure. Special Dispatch to THE BEE. BOSTON, February 13.—The senate has adopted a resolution requesting the Massachusetts delegation to congress to make every effort to secure expunging from the Record the vote of censure upon Oakes Ames by the Forty-second congress. The committee on elections reported against biennial elections and biennial sessions.

Saloons and Smallpox. Special Dispatch to THE BEE. CHICAGO, February 13.—Considerable pressure is being brought to bear upon various directions for a high license for saloons and the council is considering the matter. As the council contains several saloon keepers of no very lofty type the prospect for the abolition of low groceries in Chicago is not very flattering.

The council committee are agitating the question of compelling the street railway companies to furnish better accommodations for traffic. They are ridiculously inadequate at present. From various parts of the country come reports of small pox. The last place for an outbreak is Finchford, Iowa, with ten cases. The disease is far less frequent all over the west than last winter.

A Sick Governor. Special Dispatch to THE BEE. NEW YORK, February 13.—Ex-Gov. Edwin D. Morgan is lying dangerously ill. He is attended by a number of eminent physicians. His family are very anxious.

A DIRE DISASTER.

One Hundred People Said to Have Been Drowned in Cincinnati To-Day.

The Freight Depot of the Cincinnati Southern Railroad Goes Down.

With Its Human Burden Who Perish in the Flood.

A Large City Sewer Bursts and Adds to the Confusion and Peril.

The Rivers in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Southern States Rising and Doing Unusually Damage.

A Graphic and Heartrending Account of the Flood and Its Work.

Special Dispatch to THE BEE.

CINCINNATI, February 13.—A shocking disaster is reported by telephone from the western part of the city. Both the freight and passenger depots of the Cincinnati Southern railway were undermined and fell into the surrounding water, carrying with them a hundred or more people. The depots were one-story frame structures, resting on the McLean avenue fill, which was almost covered by water from thirty to fifty feet deep. The earth has become so soaked as to melt, and the catastrophe was further hastened by the breaking of a sewer, which sent a current along the bank. Crowds of people in the vicinity were looking at the flood, and it is supposed these are the victims.

THE REPORT CONFIRMED. CINCINNATI, February 13.—The passenger depot of the Cincinnati Southern depot was undermined and fell into the surrounding water. One hundred people are reported drowned. CINCINNATI, February 13.—The river at 11 o'clock was 64 feet and rising slowly. It will certainly reach 65 feet before it ceases to fall. The weather is cloudy and warm. The water works engines are all idle and the water in the reservoir is enough for six days. The police report no increase of crime consequent on the lack of gas last night. A brick dwelling house in Oakes street is reported fallen this morning, but no lives were lost. Much sickness is found among the imprisoned people in the tenement houses. Relief boats are being sent to the city to prevent suffering.

THE DEPTICUL. CINCINNATI, February 13.—It is impossible yet to tell the extent of the disaster at the Cincinnati Southern depot, and only the freight depot west door. A great crowd of people were gathered at the scene to witness the falling of the building. The crowd rushed over on the platform of the depot to see what was the matter, when suddenly the whole depot collapsed, and sank into the water. The truck was at the same time depressed and cars standing close by ran into the depression, covering the people who had gone down with the falling structure. Not one body was recovered at 1 o'clock, nor could the bystanders give any intelligent account of how many escaped. The work of recovering the drowned will be exceedingly difficult, as the place is isolated, and any move will be attended with danger. Other parts of the street are melting away as this portion did, but it is impossible, however, to say whether the break in the great sewer in McLane avenue caused the depot to sink or not.

STILL LATER. CINCINNATI, February 13.—Nearly a square mile of the city is under water, and from 5,000 to 8,000 people are driven from their homes. Several people have lost their lives in the flood. The sufferers were the inhabitants of the bottoms of the old Bear Grass creek. The break occurred at midnight. Many houses are destroyed, and those who escaped saved only their lives. Later information makes it definite that three boys, two freight handlers and four members of O'Connell's circus were drowned. No bodies are yet recovered. The baggage-master says he heard a rushing noise when Ryan's saloon went down and hurried round and saw the depot give way. He saw at least fifty people thrown in the water.

It now appears certain that the disaster was caused by the breaking of the great sewer, twenty-five feet of one end of the freight depot and half of the passenger depot are gone. The latter being separated at a partition between the waiting room and the ticket office. The books, tickets, safe, etc., were gone in an instant. EVANSVILLE, February 13.—Not much damage is done in the city, but a great deal in the lowlands between Evansville and Henderson. MADISON, February 13.—Not much damage is done here so far. The railroad depot is flooded and the track is under water for some distance. The river is still rising.

HENDERSON, Ind., February 13.—There are no losses of life here, so far as we can learn. The damage will be very heavy, but cannot be estimated until the water goes down. It is now about three feet higher than it was last February, and up to this morning has raised about an inch per hour. Lawrenceburg is entirely covered, and in some of the houses the water is on the second floor. The entire village of Henderson is covered. Some of the people had to abandon their houses entirely. SHAWNEETOWN, Ill., February 13.

The river is rising an inch and a quarter an hour. The citizens are moving into their second stories and much alarm is felt. HELEN, February 13.—The river has risen fifteen inches in the past twenty-four hours. The people are preparing to repair the bad places in the levees at once. NEW ALBANY, Ind., February 13.—The river rose eight inches last night and still rising. All the houses and factories along the river are abandoned. The water got into the glass works furnaces last night and the fires are all out. Mr. Depauw will lose a least \$100,000, and about 3,000 persons are thrown out of employment. There is no estimate of the loss yet. From three to five hundred families have had to move, and every available room on the high ground is filled. The railroad track between here and Jeffersonville is abandoned, and the ferry boats are only making an occasional trip to the Kentucky side of the river.

The Courier-Journal's Frankfort special says: Kentucky river is 43 feet and rising three quarters of an inch per hour. It is expected to continue to rise until night. One thousand people are homeless; distress is everywhere. Communication with the outside world is cut off, save by telegraph and tumpike to Versailles. A large portion of South Frankfort is entirely submerged. Fort Hill, the highest point above Frankfort, is now an island, caused by the back-water. Residences two miles from the river are under water. The Ferrisburg distillery is covered on the first floor. Six hundred head of cattle are standing in water above their knees. The water is three feet six inches on the floors of the penitentiary, covering nearly the entire prison yard. Prisoners are locked in the chapel and doubled up in cells on the second floor range. The wooden bridge to the south of Frankfort is considered unsafe and hourly expected to go down. The people line the banks watching the heavy drift and houses go down. The river is the highest ever known. The damage already reaches \$100,000.

NEW ALBANY, February 12.—The Ohio is still rising at all points in this state. The water is ten inches higher than the flood of 1881. Thirty-four of the manufacturing concerns are now flooded, and if the rise continues until next week every factory in the city will be under water. The loss will be fully \$100,000, and other establishments will suffer to an equal or greater amount. Five hundred are flooded in the lower part of the city. Two to three thousand employees will be thrown out of employment if the flood continues. Between Evansville and Henderson the telegraph poles are covered. In some places the wires are strung on tops of trees. Lawrenceburg is completely surrounded by water.

CINCINNATI, February 12.—The river is rising more rapidly. It had reached a height of 62 inches at 10 o'clock to-night. Some of the day were a reputation of those yesterday, with the exception that the work of removing goods was less active. More attention was paid to the suffering people. The relief committee appointed by the chamber of commerce is composed of the most active and responsible citizens. They have already taken prompt measures, being supported by a subscription amounting to \$75,000. They will act in concert with the existing charitable associations.

In view of the exposed condition of property it is proposed to call for the help of the militia river patrol, organized to watch the flooded districts and give relief when needed. Captain W. P. Walker, of the Chesapeake and Ohio railway, made commander of the fleet, was authorized to seize boats when needed. Troops will be paid to assist the police. The committee will expend not more than a thousand dollars a night in this service. There being no gas the police have orders to make arrests of all suspicious persons on the streets at night. But little money will be allowed for the relief of the victims of the situation. The relief committee has given orders for the most rigid inspection of the wants of sufferers. Father O'Connell, pastor of the Catholic church, Third street, opened the building to-night for the homeless. Three hundred are sleeping there. The station houses are filled with beds for the accommodation of persons driven from their homes. No accident has been reported, and every precaution is used to prevent loss to coal fleets and other exposed property. Lights are improvised everywhere. Coal and candles are in the streets, awnings, newspapers and telegraph offices. Electric lights are in the theatres and some hotels. The latter use candles for rooms. Little change in the condition of the railroads.

By an accident to the gear wheel in the Wametta mills at New Bedford, Mass., operations at both the mills will be suspended two weeks, throwing 1,000 operatives out of employment. The appraisers appointed by the court in the matter of Ohas. Conrad & Co., of Lawrence, Mo., have filed a detailed account of assets, which aggregate only \$73,048. In a circular sent to the creditors, the firm says it is intended to sell the property to pay the debts, and the surplus among the stockholders: liabilities, \$28,900; assets nominally \$12,000,000.

The first annual meeting of the Sax and Sons' and Sons' and Sons' association of America was held in New York Tuesday. Alfred R. Turner, Jr., was elected president. Telegrams were sent to senators thanking them for their efforts in behalf of the industry. Action has been commenced in the superior court of New York by Joseph C. Reed, a stockholder of the Western Union telegraph company, to restrain the consummation of the lease of the Mutual Union by the former. A bid was filed in the case by the plaintiff. The second day of the Georgia sequel conditional at Savannah opened with a heavy shower. The parade of electric lights and trade display was successful. One hundred boats were artistically gotten up. The procession was reviewed by the governor. The festival continued in the afternoon and a banquet followed.

INDIANAPOLIS, February 13.—A meeting was held at the board of trade to-day. Subscriptions for sufferers at Lawrenceburg were taken. A car load of cooked meats, bread, crackers and other provisions started at six o'clock by special train for Lawrenceburg. The Ohio is still rising at Madison at the rate of one inch an hour. Hundreds of families have been compelled to leave their homes. The city is in total darkness, the gas works being submerged. The river reached the highest point, 65 feet, at 5 p. m. to-day, and remained at that height up to midnight, when the waters began to recede.

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Many occupants of houses in the submerged districts had removed and their escape. The fact that the survivors are scattered over the city renders it impossible to make a definite statement as to who are lost or saved. It is sufficient to say that the death roll is smaller than the circumstances indicate. Six men and boys are known to be lost. A lieutenant of police and family (wife and three children) were missing, but it is hoped they have moved to places of safety. These are all that could be learned by active search. It is feared when the water subsides ghastly remains may be found in houses now under water as it is scarcely probable so small a list as this will close the death rate. So far as heard all yet alive have been removed from their homes. A man was seen frantically calling for help from the door of a house floating down past the foot of First street this afternoon. He was rescued by parties with a skiff and had been in the house all night and day.

Business is almost at a standstill, owing to the flood. The mayor is distributing food to the sufferers. The German fund sufferers' fund was diverted to home use. Thirty-five squares in the northeastern part of the city are under water. Houses are overturned and crushed. In the lower hollows of the bottom the water is within a foot of the roofs.

CINCINNATI, February 13.—There is strong ground for hope that the disaster at the Cincinnati Southern railroad depot was not attended with no great loss of life as reported. The matter has been very carefully investigated, but for a positive statement it would be difficult to say any lives were lost at all. The baggage master at the depot says a great number of people were on the platform of the depot, and he thinks at least twenty-five went down in the water. This statement is an opinion, but he says a number in the water and believe none were lost, but they all admitted there was great alarm and hurried flight many people have been enveloped and not seen by those fleeing. L. W. H. man, cashier, had sufficient warning to enable him to secure \$2,000 cash, but not enough to save all the money in the safe. With the exception of the members of O'Connell's crew, who are reported missing, nothing like a definite report as to any loss has been ascertained. No employees of the railway company are missing. The company shows enough confidence in the stability of the remaining portion of the building to use it. Trains arrive and depart regularly, but access to the freight depot is cut off. Four hundred soldiers of the Ohio National guard are on the streets doing patrol duty to-night. The extinguishing of private electrical lights at midnight left the city in total darkness.

The river reached the highest point, 65 feet, at 5 p. m. to-day, and remained at that height up to midnight, when the waters began to recede. INDIANAPOLIS, February 13.—A meeting was held at the board of trade to-day. Subscriptions for sufferers at Lawrenceburg were taken. A car load of cooked meats, bread, crackers and other provisions started at six o'clock by special train for Lawrenceburg. The Ohio is still rising at Madison at the rate of one inch an hour. Hundreds of families have been compelled to leave their homes. The city is in total darkness, the gas works being submerged.

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