

THE QUITS AND INNS

Retiring and Incoming State Executives Address the Members of the Legislature.

GOV. DAWES' BIENNIAL MESSAGE.

A General Review of State Affairs For the Past Two Years.

MANY POINTS TOUCHED UPON.

Suggestions and Recommendations of Governor Thayer's Inaugural Address.

PURE ELECTIONS DEMANDED.

Nebraska's Progress During Twenty Years of Statehood Reviewed.

LEGISLATION FOR RAILROADS.

A Live and Let Live Policy Urged—The Needs of the School System—Investigation of State Institutions and a Labor Board of Arbitration Needed.

GOVERNOR DAWES' MESSAGE.

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 6.—The following is the substance of Governor Dawes' message delivered to the state legislature assembled in joint convention this afternoon:

The marvelous growth and development of previous years has continued during the two years that have elapsed since the last session of the legislature. The progress that has been made in general, the laws have been faithfully executed, labor of all kinds has received its reward, our agriculture has become more increased and strengthened, labor and capital have been in substantial accord.

The report of the state treasurer and state auditor should receive at your hands a thorough and exhaustive examination. Our financial condition is generally satisfactory, and the several recommendations and suggestions therein contained, with reference to special fund investments, the collection of revenue and taxation, are entitled to great weight. The following statement is presented:

Balance on hand November 30, 1884, was... \$42,816.99
Amount received... 3,323,844.10
Total amount received... 3,366,661.09
Total amount disbursed... 2,822,398.23

Balance in treasury November 30, 1886... \$94,327.76

The amount of state indebtedness as reported by the Joint Committee on Finance...

This has been reduced by payment of the \$500,000 state relief bonds that matured in March...

The original issue of bonds was for the amount of \$543,305.00, which was reduced...

REVENUE AND TAXATION.

The assessment of the taxable property of the state in 1885 was \$125,415,696.85...

Legislative expenses, 20th session...

Secretary of State... 14,400.00

Supervisor of public lands... 22,000.00

Attorney General... 15,000.00

Commissioner of public lands... 15,450.00

Commissioner of public lands and buildings... 25,000.00

Board of purchase and supplies... 500.00

Board of public lands and buildings... 21,000.00

Funds... 43,000.00

Supreme Court... 12,000.00

State Library... 16,700.00

District courts... 90,000.00

Normal school... 11,222.15

Hospital for insane—Lincoln... 180,000.00

Hospital for insane—Norfolk... 200,700.00

Institute for the deaf and dumb... 81,200.00

Reformatory... 37,000.00

Institute for feeble-minded... 10,954.65

State university... 200,000.00

Fish commission... 12,500.00

Railroad commission... 24,516.63

State horticultural society... 2,000.00

State board of agriculture... 4,000.00

would seem to require, the assessment roll would show a grand total of \$437,707,111.25...

The governor recommends liberal appropriations for public institutions...

The subject of taxation is one of overshadowing importance, and while the time will probably never come when the public revenues will be entirely done away with...

THE INSANE.

In the execution of the extraordinary power vested in your chief executive, for good and sufficient cause to me known, and deeming it for the best interests of the institution, a change was made in the management, and its affairs are at this time in a satisfactory condition.

A new insane asylum, provided for by act of the last legislature, has been completed at a cost of \$50,772. For a full description of the building and its location, reference is made to the report of the commissioner of public lands and buildings.

An appropriation must be made at once for the thorough furnishing and operating expenses of this asylum. The capacity of this institution is 1,000 patients, and I concur in the recommendation of the board of public lands and buildings, that provision may be made for public interests and additional buildings or wings to the present structure.

STATE PENITENTIARY.

The report of the warden of the state penitentiary for the biennial term ending November 30, 1886, presents a full statement of the condition of the institution, which has been successfully managed and directed by the present warden throughout his long term of service.

The contract leasing our convict labor was extended at the last session, and will expire October 1, 1887. The policy of continuing the present system, which is based upon information gathered from the experience of other states, and which has been found to be the most economical and profitable, is recommended.

It is recommended by the Adjutant General, and in my opinion, should be formed, with appropriation in such amount, and made available in such manner, as will enable the governor to employ our militia force upon such footing of equipment, general efficiency and strength, that the militia of the state may be organized to execute the laws or suppress insurrection, fully meet its constitutional obligation.

THE LIVE STOCK INTERESTS.

The magnitude of the live stock interests of Nebraska, and the constant menace to that interest from the fear of the introduction into our state of animals suffering from contagious diseases, and other infectious diseases, prompted the legislature of 1885 to enact a law...

Recognizing the great injustice, both to society at large and to the individual under sentence of death, of placing a young person who has committed a crime, such as is punishable by imprisonment in the penitentiary under our present laws, and subject to the degrading influence of association with the confirmed and hardened criminals...

The growth of this school has been constant and steady. From an attendance of 478 in 1885, it increased to 674 in 1886. From forty to sixty graduates from the elementary and higher courses are sent to the normal school...

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA.

The only thing to make the University of Nebraska a source of pride and honor to the state, is that the legislature, accepting the truth of history as shown by like institutions...

At the time of the last report for the year 1886, the state law and miscellaneous library contained 23,306 volumes. As shown by the report of the state librarian, covering the past two years, the number of volumes at the present time is 26,729, making an increase of 3,423 volumes.

THE RAPIDLY INCREASING amount of business, both civil and criminal, in the Third Judicial District, which includes the county of Douglas, has become so great, that the judges of said district unable to hear and determine important cases as promptly as they should, and it is necessary to demand, by an act providing for such additional number of judges in said district as may be needed.

ORGANIZATION OF COUNTIES.

Since the last session of the legislature the necessary papers have been filed in the respective offices asking for the organization of the counties of Logan, Dawes, Sheridan, Chase, Hamre and Sioux.

Proclamations, as required by law, have been issued, and the organization of the above named counties has been perfected.

During the past two years, eleven counties have been organized, and from the counties of Wheeler and Brown the counties of Garfield and Kevin Paha have been created.

At this time seventy-seven, with the counties of Grant and Boone in course of erection from the counties of Keith and Dawes respectively.

THE FISHERY COMMISSION.

The general interest taken in the subject of fish culture is shown by the fact that thirty-five states have in active operation, and several work commissions similar to our own.

In our own state the interest has increased steadily until now it has become a subject of the highest importance to the people.

The fine exhibit made by the commission at the state fair during the year 1885, and reported upon in my message, has done much to attract the attention of our people, and to impress upon them more fully the importance of fish culture.

The reports of commissioners and superintendents in charge of the fish culture, and the number of private ponds have been stocked, and the demand is constantly increasing.

The water is excellent, and the conditions for themselves the commissioners state that they feel the greatest assurance of its ultimate and profitable success.

It becomes your duty to carry out the provision contained in section 3, article 2, of the constitution, which provides that the legislature at its first regular session after each enumeration shall appropriate the amount of \$100,000 for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the act.

THE MAXIMUM number of senators and representatives provided for by the constitution has already been reached, and will necessitate a relinquishment upon the part of some of the older counties in favor of counties in the newly settled territory.

It is recommended that the legislature at its next session should provide for the organization of a second regiment, and I have denied frequent requests for the organization of a third regiment, and for the purchase of a limited appropriation for such purpose.

It is recommended by the Adjutant General, and in my opinion, should be formed, with appropriation in such amount, and made available in such manner, as will enable the governor to employ our militia force upon such footing of equipment, general efficiency and strength, that the militia of the state may be organized to execute the laws or suppress insurrection, fully meet its constitutional obligation.

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of the necessary expenditure for that purpose, the probability is strongly favored by the discovery of resources that will prove in point of profit to the state a return not only commensurate with the vastness in excess of any reasonable outlay, but which will also have your most careful consideration.

THE WORKING CAPITAL.

The work which has been done during the past two years and the building is now nearly completed. The cost of the state capitol is as follows: West wing, \$1,198,750; east wing, \$1,000,000. The amount appropriated and expended under the levy of 1883 and 1884 was \$1,198,750.

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