A PLUNGE INTO THE PLATTE

Unpleasant Experience of Superintendent O'Brien and His Son.

COMPLAINTS OF LINCOLN MEN.

They Are Presented to the Inter-State Commission—York Will Build a Street Railway—A Heavy Failure.

A Narrow Escape.

ASHLAND, Neb., March 21.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Word has just reached this place of an accident that occurred at South Bend this morning in which two men came near losing their lives. Mr. M. E. O'Brien, superintendent of the state fishery and his son William were engaged in repairing the telephone line across the Platte river when their boat capsized and they were seen floundering amid the slush and ice in the river by Mr. Soober, who was just about to cross the river, but run down the river bank about a quarter of a mile and seizing a boat and taking for a paddle the seat of another boat which stood near by, rowed out into the stream and after a struggle of several minutes rescued the parties from drowning at a very great risk of his own life. At about 2 o'clock this afternoon Mr. O'Brien is lying very low as a result of his adventure, but the son was not so seriously affected.

They Want a Railroad.

INDIANOLA, Neb., March 21.—[Special to the BEE.]—Pursuant to call, the cities and owns of the Republican Valley from Red Cloud westward met in joint convention in this city for the purpose of making a united effort to secure additinal railroad facilities for the Republican Valley. Dr. J. A. Gunn, of Arapahoe, was chosen chairman and S. R. Smith, of this place, secretary. The following resolution was offered by E. S. Child, of Arapahoe, and on motion was unanimously adopted:

Whereas, We, the citizens of the rich Republican Valley, now assembled in convention at Indianola, have and hereby express the utmost confidence in the present resources and future prospects of our chosen part of the great west, and

Whereas, We recognize railroads as an important factor in the prosperity of our country, and

Whereas, We further recognize and appreciate the advantage to any section of country of having honest competition in all lines of business, railroads not excepted, be it now

Resolved, That we hereby invite a careful and thorough consideration of the advantages offered to any corporation intending to construct lines of railway through the southern part of the state by this broad, fertile and well settled valley, in the minimum cost of construction and certain encouragement to be expected from the numerous towns and cities along the route, and be it further

Resolved, That we invite the officials of the possible road, or roads, to visit our valley and towns and submit propositions to our people for aid in building said roads, or if an immediate visit is not practicable, that we suggest the advisability of said officials addressing the several boards of trade through their secretaries in reference to this matter, or other matters toward our mutual advancement.

On motion it was ordered that copies of the foregoing be sent to state papers for publication, and to such railways as may be building westward.

A committee on railroads was appointed consisting of E. S. Child, of Arapahoe; J. W. Dolan, and S. R. Smith, of Indianola.

On motion the convention adjourned to meet on call of the secretary of the board of trade of Indianola.

The Commission at Lincoln.

LINCOLN, Neb., March 21.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The inter-state commerce commission reached this city on a pecial train this morning and at 11 o'clock a. m. opened the hearing of the Lincoln cases at the United States court room. Most of the Lincoln cases are those affecting transcontinental shipments and these were consolidated. Messrs. Lambertson and Mason appear for the complainants and the Southern Pacific, Missouri Pacific, Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, Union Pacific and Northwestern roads are represented by their general attorneys. In opening the hearing Chairman Cooley stated that the commission were not sitting as a jury to award damages, but they desired testimony upon which if an injustice was being done, matters could be set right for the future rather than ajudicated for the past. The testimony was being taken through the afternoon, the wholesalers in the city being the principal witnesses. Their testimony went to prove discrimination on California shipments in favor of Missouri river points, and that Lincoln car load consignments were shipped to Omaha and then reshipped with a local tariff added. It is expected that the entire day to-morrow will be required in hearing these cases. A general complaint made by the Lincoln freight bureau will be heard separately, as will also the cases charging discriminations in shipments from the east. The latter cases are against the Burlington and the Missouri Pacific. A case from Beatrice is also to be heard at the meeting by the commission, and Messrs. Pemberton, Burks, Dole and others are in the city in the interest of the case.

Items From Ogalalla.

OGALALLA, Neb., March 21.—[Correspondence of the BEE.]—Deputy Sheriff Kiser is busy serving papers in district court cases. There will be a good docket this term, in which comes several interesting cases. Among them is the mandamus case of Madrid vs. Grant, which grows out of the county seat fight.

The republican club organized here some time since are working diligently for the success of the party, here and elsewhere.

William Kennedy was sent from this place to the asylum at Lincoln last week. Mr. Kennedy lived on a claim near here. Last fall, in November, he suddenly went insane and was kept in the county jail for want of a vacancy in the asylum, and had almost recovered when he was taken away. The cause for his insanity was unknown, but it was supposed that it originated in a snake bite from the effects of which he had never fully recovered.

Ogalalla has brilliant prospects of a new railroad in the near future, coming here in a northwesterly direction enroute to the oil and coal regions of Wyoming up the North Platte.

A Lincoln Firm Fails.

LINCOLN, Neb., March 21.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The well-known dry goods house of Friend & Son, of this city, has been closed by chattel mortgage, and the firm's branch stores at Greenwood and Bennett are also involved in the trouble. The Capital National bank has the stocks now in possession. The chattel mortgages held by the different parties are as follows: To Rosalia Friend, Leo Levy and Adolph Levy, $2,500; to the Capital National bank, $3,000; to Harwood, Ames & Kelly, $250; to Leo Friend, Atchison, Kan., $3,000; to Deutsch Bros., Atchison, Kan., $1,500; to F. Siegel & Bro., $8,250.

New School Building For York.

YORK, Neb., March 21.—[Special to the BEE.]—The proposition to vote $22,500 in bonds for the new central school building was carried here to-day with little opposition, only seven votes being cast against it. This amount, with the fund already on hand, will give York one of the finest school buildings in this part of the state. The building will be supplied with all modern improvements and equipped first-class throughout.

War Among the Regents.

LINCOLN, Neb., March 21.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The regents of the state university were in session to-night at the university building. The present meeting promises to be of more than ordinary interest. There is, in fact, a war in the faculty. A fire has smouldered for some time, and it seems now to be about to break out. The regents have been greeted by the factions on arriving in the city. The chancellor of the university is on one side and Dr. Billings on the other, and the rumor is that the trouble has reached the point where one of the two must go, although the board seems inclined to peaceful measures, if possible. The trouble as it will develop in the meeting the regents will be closely watched.

York's Street Railway.

YORK, Neb., March 21.—[Special to the BEE.]—The York Street railway company has been incorporated here, with a capital of $60,000. Nearly all of the stock is already subscribed. It is expected to construct at least two miles of line the coming season and real estate along the proposed route is already increasing in value.

Supreme Court Decisions.

LINCOLN, Neb., March 21.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The supreme court to-day transacted the following business:

Holland vs Bank, motion to retax, costs sustained as to $28.60; Cockle Separator company vs Clark, dismissed; Orleans vs Perry, continued; state ex rel Franklin county vs Cole, continued.

The following cases were argued and submitted:

Adams county bank vs Morgan, motion to dismiss; Stabler vs Binderup, motion to dismiss; Hilton vs Bachman, motion to dismiss in part; state ex rel Oketo county vs Babcock; Foxworthy vs Hastings.

Court adjourned to Tuesday, March 27.

The following decisions were filed:

Greenlee vs Schoenheit, error from Richardson county. Reversed. Opinion by Reese.

An action may be maintained against a vender of intoxicating liquors by a married woman for damages sustained by her by reason of her money being spent by her husband for intoxicating liquors, or squandered by him while intoxicated, or in the saloon of the liquor seller.

2. A married woman is not only entitled to the services of her husband as a means of support, but also as between herself and a vendor of intoxicating liquors, to the proceeds of his labor for such purpose.

3. A married woman brought her action against the keeper of saloons for damages resulting from a loss of her support by the intoxication of her husband, and for the sum of $1,000 belonging to her individual estate. The verdict of the jury was a finding in favor of plaintiff upon both issues, with an award of damages assessed at $1. It was held that the verdict could not be sustained.

City of Lincoln vs Beckman, error from Lancaster county. Affirmed. Opinion by Reese.

In an action for damages resulting from personal injury, the plaintiff was permitted to testify to the amount of her earnings prior to the injury for the purpose of showing the value of her time. This was without objection. She was then asked how much she made each week by her labor. Objection was made to the question, which was overruled. Held, no error.

Cowles vs district No. 6, Jefferson county, error from Jefferson county. Reversed, with instruction to sustain demurrer. Opinion by Cobb.

Milligan & Jo. vs Butcher, error from Wayne county. Affirmed. Opinion by Reese.

Yates vs Kinney, motion to quash and strike out parts of bill of exception. Motion to quash overruled; to strike out sustained. Opinion by Maxwell.

State ex rel. Ed Hershiser vs M. P. Kinkaid, mandamus. Writ denied. Opinion by Maxwell, Ch. J.

Mandamus is not a proceeding to correct errors but to compel action and will not be granted in any case where there is a plan and adequate remedy at law.

Village of Ponca vs Crawford, error from Dixon county. Affirmed. Opinion by Cobb.

A Painful Accident.

DAKOTA CITY, Neb., March 21.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Pat Barry, of this county, one of the oldest and wealthiest citizens, living about fourteen miles from this place, while en route to Chicago with cattle, was run over by the cars at Boone, Ia., yesterday. He suffered internal injuries and the amputation of an arm at the shoulder.

Arbor Day.

LINCOLN, Neb., March 21.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Governor Thayer to-day issued the following proclamation:

To the people of Nebraska: Spring time is at hand and the time to plant trees. Therefore in accordance with an appropriate custom now well established and recognized by law, I designate the 23d day of April, in the year of our lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight, as "Arbor Day," and I do earnestly request the people throughout this state to plant trees and the present and future generations will rise up and call you blessed. If, unfortunately, the weather should be so stormy as to prevent the work on that day, please do not fail to observe the next fair day.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the great seal of the state of Nebraska. Done at Lincoln this 21st day of March, A. D., 1888.

JOHN M. THAYER,

By the Governor: G. L. LAWS, Secretary of State.

A Burglar Sentenced.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., March 21.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Fritz King was found guilty in the district court to-day of burglary and sentenced to one year in the penitentiary.

Delinquent Tax Payers Stirred Up.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., March 21.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—A representative of the Storm Lake (Ia.) Investment company to-day bought of the county commissioners $60,000 worth of tax title property and will invest as much more in city tax titles. It has caused a furore among delinquents who express hatred of the tax title fiends.

A Crooked Postmaster.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., March 21.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—William M. Stigall, postmaster at Stewartsville, Mo., was arrested to-day and brought before the United States commissioner at this place on a charge of taking and opening letters addressed to others, and was bound over in the sum of $1,000 to the April court. Stigall has an inordinate curiosity for prying into other people's business and for the past six weeks more than half the letters addressed to the different business men in the town have been opened. Complaint was made through Deputy Postmaster Bower, of the city postoffice. Inspector Sykes, of St. Louis, was sent for, and arrived yesterday. The decoy letters were addressed to the respective business men, one of which was opened and another was not delivered at all. The postoffice inspector rode in the mail car with the pouch and saw it handed over to the postmaster.

The Arrears-of-Rent Bill.

LONDON, March 21.—In the commons to-day Parnell moved a second reading of his arrears-of-rent bill. He made an earnest speech in explanation of the bill and declared his willingness to consider any amendments consistent with its principle, and spoke of the necessity for early action to prevent the carrying out of three thousand or more notices of evictions served up to September and probably three thousand other notices which would be served and would plunge Ireland into a sea of disaster and trouble the end of which no one could forsee. The house refused to order the bill to a second reading by a vote of 328 to 243.

The Murder Business in Dakota.

ARMOUR, Dak., March 21.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Jesse Powell, the man who was murderously assaulted in a livery barn Monday, is still alive, but the doctors say he cannot survive. Bates, who attempted the murder, succeeded in escaping, but the officers are in close pursuit of him in Charles Mix county.

A report came here to-day that a man in Charles Mix county last night brutally murdered his wife and that a party is pursuing him with the intention of lynching him. Particulars cannot be learned.

Weather Indications.

For Nebraska: Light northerly winds, becoming southerly, warmer, fair weather.

For Iowa: Fresh northerly winds, colder, followed by warmer, fair weather.

For Eastern and Southwestern Dakota: Warmer, generally fair weather, light to fresh variable winds, shifting to southerly.

PARNELL MEETS WITH DEFEAT

His Arrears of Rent Bill Rejected By 328 to 243.

HE MAKES A STRONG SPEECH.

Many Lives Lost and a Large Number of People Injured By the Burning of a Theater at Oporto.

The Irish Party Downed.

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LONDON, March 21.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the BEE.]—Parnell, on whose pale face a strong light was thrown through the opposite windows, spoke this afternoon on his arrears bill in his usual deliberate and collected manner. His bill proposed that Irish courts have power to reduce certain arrears upon all holdings of less than £100 a year and to enable the tenant to pay the balance by installment. He protested against the scheme suggested last year by the government, compelling tenants seeking relief from arrears to place their debts in the hands of the court so that creditors should stand on the same footing. He argued strongly that rent was not like a debt due to a shopkeeper, because the latter's claim was not exorbitant and because he had not used his claim as a means of turning the poor man out of his house. Upon this issue the whole of the controversy subsequently turned. Parnell was brief but impressive. He stated frankly that even if the government should accept his bill it would not in any degree lessen the demand of the Irish people for a parliament of their own.

"How is it," he asked, "that you cannot settle the Irish land question? It is because you know nothing about it. You go to Birmingham for your information about Ireland instead of to Cork or to South Tyrone."

This hit at Chamberlain was received with cheers, while T. W. Russell swallowed with delight this sugared morsel thrown to him. Russell has been sent all over the country by the tories and unionists as advocates of their cause. He now displays many signs of a tendency to flop over. Parnell's allusion to him seemed almost like the announcement of Russell's approaching reception into the nationalist fold. Moreover, when Parnell made the allusion to the impossibility of continuing to govern Ireland from Westminister, Russell joined in the hearty cheers of the regular Parnellites.

Presently Chamberlain stood up and began his remarks by quoting the Americanism "catch on," but the phrase is not so much of a novelty as Joe seems to fancy. I hope he has brought back some fresher sayings and some livelier jokes than this. He made, as he always does, a shrewd, telling speech, contending that it was a gross injustice to wipe off the arrears rent and leave all the other arrears outstanding. He had a lively passage-at-arms with Dillon, and it cannot be said that Dillon got the best of it. Chamberlain is an exceedingly prickly, awkward customer to lay hold of. Nothing seems to shake his possession or disturb the clear exercise of his faculties. He succeeded this afternoon in impressing even his enemies with his acuteness and ability.

Dillon delivered one of his fiery harangues and stirring enough to move the most sluggish heart. Irish eloquence has no more brilliant a representative in the house.

The vote was first taken on Parnell's main bill, which was rejected by 328 to 243, a majority of 85, only 99 votes short of a full house. The amendment offering to treat all creditors alike was then adopted, but thus the whole question is left where it was last year. A tenant must pay all his debts or none. We shall, however, hear much more of the arrears difficulty.

A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT.

THE EMPEROR IMPROVING.

He Passes an Excellent Night and Rises Much Refreshed.

BERLIN, March 21.—[New York Herald cable—Special to the BEE.]—The health of the emperor is progressing favorably. The inclemency of the weather is unheard of even in this climate. It does not affect him in the least. He passed an excellent night, arose refreshed and hopeful, took his morning walk in the orangery and set to work in better spirits than he has been for a long time. Hss voice has improved. Far from missing the mild climate of the Riviera, it is as if this hardy soldier found alleviation in the very harshness of his native air. This morning a wreath from San Remo arrived for the tomb, the most exquisite trophy of flowers artistic hands could twine. Two strong men find it no easy task to carry it, and the scent which arose from the thousands of violets, hyacinths and lilies of the valley was almost overpowering. It was first taken to the emperor's sitting room for his inspection and then Sir Morrel Mackenzie went to place it on the tomb, as the inhabitants of San Remo had begged him. Both the empress and Princess Charlotte went with him. The emperor watched the little procession from a window.

Prof. Bergmann, who took the most pessimist view, has, since his last examination of the emperor's throat, changed his opinion, although he is still of the same view with regard to the cause of his illness. The extraordinary strong constitution of the emperor now inspires him with new hopes. Prof. Bergman is of the opinion that under favorable circumstances it will be possible to preserve his life for a long time to come. The emperor takes a warm interest not only in home but foreign politics. He sent a telegram of condolence to the president of the French republic upon the death of the latter's father. According to an old Prussian custom the Empress Victoria will hold a mourning drawing room next Saturday in the old castle.

The Gould System Troubles.

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LONDON, March 22, 4 a. m.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the BEE.]—This morning's Financial News, in the course of an editorial headed, "Is the Gould System Breaking Up?" comments thus: "Wall street has waited anxiously for several months for Jay Gould to return home and lift it up, but Mr. Gould's first discovery on his return home is that he may soon need lifting up himself. His Missouri Pacific system has got into a decidedly ghastly condition. Last year about 1,500 miles of line were added to it and its gross earnings declined by $1,000,000. Nothing so dramatic as this had happened in American railway experience since the collapse of the Wabash. By the way, it may be high time for English holders of Wabash to ask themselves what effect it is going to have on them. If Gould's southwestern roads get into trouble, as seems inevitable, the Wabash will have lost its last hope of redemption. Its chances had previously sunk very low, but this threatens to finish them."

Theater Burned.

OPORTO, March 21.—During the performance at the Banquet theater, last night, an explosion of gas occurred and the theater took fire and was destroyed. A number of lives were lost and many people injured. Ten dead bodies have been recovered from the ruins.

Eighty bodies have been taken from the ruins. Most of those burned were in the third row of boxes and galleries where whole families were suffocated. Some corpses were found in the stage boxes.

CHICAGO CARPENTERS.

Six Thousand of Them Threaten to Strike for Living Wages.

CHICAGO, March 21.—[Special Telegram to the Bee.]The threatened strike among the 6,000 carpenters of the city promises to extend to other branches of the building trade, and another general and disastrous tie-up, similar to that which this city experienced last year, may be the result of the differences between the boss carpenters and their employes. Mill men, the employes say, are responsible for the present situation for the reason that they can more than compete with contractors who do not own mills, thus forcing carpenters' wages down to the lowest possible point.

"It is just this way," said Secretary Brennock, of the carpenters' council, this morning. "The mill men who are contractors can take jobs away from almost any contracting carpenter, as they work their employes ten hours per day and pay less wages, while the boss carpenters pay more for eight hours work. Thus, with their own men, the mill bosses can put stairs, window sashes and doors into a building at a minimum cost, while the boss is almost helpless. Now, what we intend to do is to compel the mill men to work their men but eight hours. Then we can see our way clear to get higher wages for carpenters. You can just say that 6,000 union carpenters are going to have 35 cents an hour as the minimum rate of wages, and until we do get it there won't be a piece of timber sawed or hoisted or a nail driven."

"Are you willing to arbitrate?"

"Yes; we have tried that twice with committees of bosses, but didn't have power to act, and so nothing came of the conference. We are willing to risk getting our wages lowered by arbitration, but there is no fear of that."

Notices of a monster mass meeting have been issued by the carpenters' council and every branch of the trade in the building line has been requested to attend in full force. There the plans for a campaign against the carpenters and mill owners, and, in fact, any other line in the building trade which opposes them will be laid.

The painters held a secret session this morning and listened to the reports of various committees. The announcement was made that seven large firms and about twenty smaller ones had granted the pay asked for and that 600 of the 2,300 union painters were at work at 37½ cents.

BOODLER M'GARIGLE.

He Pays a Flying Visit to Duluth—A Chicago Detective Fooled.

DULUTH, Minn., March 21.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Considerable astonishment was manifested here to-day when a forenoon paper published an account of the presence of W. J. McGarigle, ex-chief of police and convicted boodler of Chicago, in Duluth last Friday. The facts as learned are that he called on several old Milwaukee friends, but requested them to keep silent regarding his whereabouts until to-day. He said he had been in Sault St. Marie and Duluth three times and in Milwaukee once since his escape from custody. He is enjoying good health and was, as he expressed it, quite stout. He wore a long moustache and was stylishly though plainly dressed. When asked if he did not fear being recaptured he smiled and said to his friend, with whom he was conversing at the time: "If I had not made myself known you would not have recognized me." As showing how completely he has changed in appearance, he related how several weeks ago at Sault Ste. Marie, when he was coming out of the dining room of the hotel, a well-known Chicago detective took his hat from the hat rack and returned it to him with an apology for the mistake, but failed to recognize him. The boodler said: "He made the cold chills run through me when he spoke to me, and I lost no time in absenting myself." He added that he expected to return to Chicago to live and that powerful friends there were working to secure the removal of all the difficulties which now threaten his coming back. He denied the recently published Chicago report that he had been making real estate investments here and at the Sault, but admitted the visits. He left on the night train Friday for Sault Ste. Marie, via Minneapolis, and was seen by two of his friends to enter the train with a short, stout man with a very red face. McGarigle carried a long light-colored leather satchel, similar to a surgeon's instrument bag.

The Dead Emperor.

NEW YORK, March 21.—Steinway hall was crowded to-night by Germans and German-Americans gathered to take part in memorial services for Emperor William. All parts of the hall were draped in black and trimmed with flowers and laurels. The principal speaker was the Hon. Carl Schurz, who carefully reviewed the deeds of the late emperor and eulogized his acts since becoming ruler. A cablegram was sent Emperor Frederick.

Missouri Immigration Convention.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., March 21.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The oommittee appointed by the board of trade to investigate the advisability of calling an immigration convention for the counties in northwestern Missouri to meet in this city has reported favorably, but the date of the convention has not been decided upon. The matter was first agitated by the rural press.

An Ice Gorge Broken.

RACINE, Wis., March 21.—The ice gorge which formed in Root river yesterday noon broke to-day at 3 o'clock. The backwater did considerable damage, flooding dock and residence property. The ice is now rapidly moving out of the river and all danger is past. Five thousand dollars will cover damage.

Continued Inundations at Hungary.

LONDON, March 21.—The inundations at Hungary continue to increase. Numerous houses have been wrecked and many persons and cattle drowned.

Big Ship Failure.

ROME, March 21.—Marino Bros., builders and contractors, have failed. The liabilities are £2,000,000.

The German Diet Passes the Budget.

BERLIN, March 21.—The lower house of the Prussian diet to-day passed the budget in its entirety and adjourned.

Six Young Thieves Caught.

Six young lads, four of them white and two colored, were arrested last night by Sergeant Haze and Officer Newman for stealing goods from the store of J. Harris, which was damaged by fire last week. The officers found the boys near Twelfth and Dodge streets and recovered part of the stolen goods. The prisoners names are: G. Thomas, B. Johnson, Frank Fisher, Shannon Haines, Frank Benash and Dan Thompson. They will have a hearing in police court this morning.

Snodgrass' Wanderings.

R. L. Snodgrass, who has been missing ever since last Monday, was seen in the California chop house, 211 South Twelfth street, about 2:30 yesterday morning. He was very badly intoxicated. Snodgrass had a number of valuable papers on his person, among them deeds to city lots and Dakota farms. He seemed to realize his intoxicated condition and turned all these papers over to the waiter there to take care of for him. Since then Snodgrass has again disappeared, but it is reasonable to believe that he is only on a protracted spree and will turn up all right in a day or two. His family, however, say that this is something unusual for him and are greatly alarmed over it.

Cary Culver, of Colorado, says: "A Shropshire ewe ought to earn from $7 to $10 a year." He says "they beat his cows all to death, and outdo his Percheron mares 100 per cent.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria.
When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria.
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

RATIONAL TARIFF REFORM.

The House Proceeding on a Basis of Facts.

THEORIES PUT TO THE TEST

Statistics Affecting the Question to Be Prepared—Blair and His Pension Measures—The Sioux Reservation Bill Passed.

Senate.

WASHINGTON, March 21.—In the senate to-day Mr. Blair in reference to the bill to give preference in civil service appointments to wounded ex-soldiers of the confederacy, as between men who had been disloyal, said that several senators on both sides had requested him to have the bill lie over still further. He therefore asked its postponement till next Tuesday when he would ask the senate to dispose of the pending question, the second reading of the bill.

Mr. Vance denied the correctness of the statement made yesterday by Blair as to there being 30,000 ex-confederate soldiers in the state of North Carolina alone who had lost limbs, and many of them are destitute and in alms houses. There were none in alms houses and none had died there.

Mr. Blair explained that he had meant to say wounded soldiers. The bill was laid over as proposed.

The senate then proceeded to take up and act upon the bills on the calendar. The bill providing for inspection of meats for exportation and prohibiting the importation of adulterated articles of food and drink, was amended so as to allow the inspection of meats at the place of packing, and passed. Other bills passed as follows:

To allow soldiers and sailors who lost both hands, or the use of both hands, $100 per month.

The house bill to facilitate the prosecution of works projected for the improvement of rivers and harbors, with an amendment, on which the conference committee was appointed.

The house bill for the relief of volunteers of the Forty-eighth regiment of Iowa infantry, as amended by a substitute entitled, "For the relief of certain volunteer soldiers." The substitute provides that the act of April 22, 1872, in relation to bounties, shall have the restrictive words, "before August 6, 1861, struck out, and that the claims of all soldiers and their heirs who had been denied the bounty of $100 granted by the act of April 22, 1872, shall be reconsidered, allowed and paid, if found correct and just, provided the soldiers were enrolled or enlisted prior to July 22, 1861, for three years.

The bill reported by Mr. Blair allowing a pension of $25 a month to women enrolled during the war as army nurses, and who rendered six months' services, having been reached, the report was read, in which it was stated that the beneficiaries under it would not average more than six or eight to each state.

Mr. Beck called for the yeas and nays, remarking that of course this bill, like all pension bills, would pass. It would apply to every colored woman who had cooked for soldiers during six months, and according to the report just read, such women were entitled "Roman matrons." He hoped the committee on pensions would at least do the senate the justice to call on the secretary of war for the number of enrolled female nurses during the war, so the senate might know within a million dollars of what the bill was to take out of the treasury. The bill under objection went over. Other public bills on the callendar that were passed were the following:

The house bill to divide the great Sioux Indian reservation into separate, smaller reservations, with a substitute, being the senate bill to divide a portion of the reservation of the Sioux nation of Indians in Dakota into separate reservations, and to secure the relinquishment of the Indian title to remainder.

To provide for the sale of the site of Fort Omaha, Nebraska, and for a new site and the construction of suitable buildings thereon.

House.

WASHINGTON, March, 21.—The house went into committee of the whole on the bill referring to the court of claims for adjustment, of the accounts of laborers and workmen and mechanics arising under the eight hour law.

Mr. Rogers, of Arkansas, in opposing the bill, said it would involve the expenditure of nearly $100,000,000. The proposition was ill-considered and vicious in its tendency. Messrs. Tillman, Taulbee and Lane opposed the bill. Messrs. Lodge, Compton, Dingley and Tarsney advocated it. The committee then rose and the bill went over.

Bills were passed to prevent the product of convict labor from being furnished to or for the use of any department of the government and from being used in public buildings or other public works and to prevent the employment of alien labor on public buildings and other public works and in the various departments of the government.

The house then went into the committee of the whole on the bill to establish a department of labor.

Mr. Buchanan, of New Jersey, moved to strike out the clause directing the commission to ascertain, whenever industrial charges shall make it essential, the cost of producing articles at the time dutiable in the United States in the leading countries where such articles are produced, by fully specified units of production and under a classification showing the different elements of cost or the approximate cost of such articles of production.

Mr. Mills, of Texas, vigorously opposed the motion.

Mr. Randall offered an amendment to extend the inquiry to the amount of wages paid in the various industries. Adopted.

Mr. Mills offered an amendment inserting the words "per diem, weekly and otherwise," after the word "wages" in Mr. Randall's amendment. Adopted.

On motion of Mr. McKinney, of Ohio, an amendment was adopted adding to Randall's amendment the words "and hours employed per day." The following amendments extending the scope of the inquiry were adopted:

By Mr. Buchanan—Whether any convict-made goods are imported into this country and whence.

By Mr. Bland—The profits of manufacturers and producers of dutiable articles.

By Mr. Washington of Tennessee—The comparative cost of living in this country and in Europe.

Mr. Brown of Indiana offered an amendment extending the inquiry as to the effect of the protective tariff in the United States on the agricultural industry and especially as to its effect on the mortgage indebtedness of farmers.

Mr. Mills offered an amendment extending the inquiry to the ascertainment of whether articles are now controlled by trusts and what effect these trusts had had in limiting and keeping up prices.

Mr. Randall offered an amendment extending the inquiry as to the effect of the state of currency upon agricultural interests.

Mr. Milliken offered an amendment requiring the labor commissioner to investigate the Mill's tariff bill and to report what effect it would have on the labor and industry of the United States and on foreign industries, and on the profits of foreign manufacturers and the markets of the American farmer.

Mr. Buchanan's motion to strike out was rejected, and pending action upon the amendment to committee rose and the house adjourned.

The Tariff Bill.

WASHINGTON, March 21.—The ways and means committee session to-day lasted but three minutes. Contrary to general expectation no attempt was made to formally vote upon and dispose of the tariff bill, and the republican members were left in the dark as to the reason for adjournment. A conference of democratic members was held immediately after adjournment, at which it came out that the report which will accompany the bill when it is presented to the house was not completed, and another day's time was required to give it shape. The committee will meet again to-morrow.

The comptroller of the currency directed Bank Examiner Stone to proceed at once to Dubuque and take charge of the affairs of the Commercial National bank.

BOY GAMBLERS IN WALL STREET

Youngsters Who Begin in a Very Small Way and Work Up.

Boston Herald: There is nothing a Wall street man is opposed to as speculation when it is indulged in by his help or his relatives. He lives by it, but it is forbidden to all who are dependent on him or who serve him. The other d ay a broker, who is a junior partner in one of the principal houses on Wall street, became suspicious that one of the office boys was "trading," as the Wall street folks politely call gambling. He liked the boy, and thinks him one of the brightest lads that he ever saw, so that he determined to make an effort to catch him breaking the rule against trading, and to warn him that if any other member of the firm ever caught him at the practice he would have to lose his place. The question was how to expose the lad, but an opportunity was speedily offered. A customer came in while the boy was writing at a desk.

The customer said: "Central pretty lively?"

Instantly the boy dropped his pen and asked: "What is it now?"

"One hundred and nineteen," said the customer.

Then the broker saw his chance. "What did you buy at, Billy?" he inquired of the boy.

Before the boy had taken time to think of the confession he was making he replied:

"One hundred and fifteen, sir." He was so pleased at having made a profit of four points on his trade that the words slipped from him.

"Now I've got you, Billy," said the broker; "go and sell out and quit speculating for as long as you remain with this house. The next time you're caught at it you'll have to go."

In another office it was noticed that all the office boys were in the habit of collecting around the ticker whenever their elders were not looking over the tape, and they whispered a great deal whenever they were together. One of their employers called them all before him one day, and upon cross-examining them, discovered that the eldest and brightest boy was running a baby bucket shop on his own account, with a cent a point as the standard of value, instead of a dollar as on 'Change, and had initiated all his associates in the full mystery of stock gambling. They were trading long and short, and imitating on a microscopic scale the operations of the customers of the office, some taking bulls as their models, and some betting with the bears. The baby bucket shop keeper was exacting a tiny premium on profits and scooping in the losses quite like an adult. He was discharged, and the rest were made to promise that they would never transgress again.

One of the shrewdest and quickest boys that ever turned up in Wall street obtained a place in a German banking house as an office boy at $5 a week less than three years ago. He does not get more than $8 or $10 now, but, in the meantime, he has grown to be seventeen or eighteen years old, and has become such a figure that the best way to describe his appearance is to say that he dresses like John Bloodgood. Like the garments of that leader of fashion and popular broker, his clothes are always neat and chosen with genteel taste, being made of the costliest materials, cut to fit as fluid fits whatever it fills, and yet never gaudy or loud. Last Tuesday I met this boy how he was getting along.

"Oh, nicely," said he, "though I had a bad week of it. I dropped $1,200 on wheat."

A little questioning brought out the fact that the boy had begun, as all others do, by small dickering in bucket shops, based on what was said or done in the office where he worked. By putting the bucket shop winnings by, and combining with another youth on a good tip or two, he had gathered capital enough to make a regular trade on the stock market. That had turned out well, and he had then become a regular gambler on 'Change. Viewing this case in one way, the bucket shop was certainly to blame for making a gambler of him, but he got his points from the legitimate gamblers, and is now one of them, and as good as any of them as long as he wins and his employer doesn't find him out.

But the stories that are being told to influence the public against the small quotation peddlers do not stop within any such limits as those above narrated. They contain tales of those bankers and brokers driving about at midnight to this house and that, and begging men to surrender checks cashed during that day for a wayward son who has forged to get money to meet trading losses, and who has then become frightened and confessed to the rich father ere the exposure of the next day came. They include tales of petty thefts by some clerks, and of the ruining of homes by others, who have got the fever without money to feed it. Altogether the impression left in an outsider's mind is that the district attorney might as well go on with the prosecution of the bucket shops now, and that, if he could next turn his attention to the regular exchanges, no great harm would result to the world.

Another Rival of Natural Gas.

Indianapolis Journal: After forty years spent in studying combustion A. J. Simmons of this city claims to have discovered an economical use of fuel that will rival natural gas. While he was engineer at a large hotel in Kansas City he found the principle which he has since developed successfully, as he says: "I discovered," he said yesterday, "that the atomic movement of flame and electricity is the same and that it can be isolated. On the other hand, while the atomic movement of magnetism and radiant heat is the same it cannot be insulated. Faraday was the first to discover the mechanical effect on flame. My discovery relates to the chemical effect, which is the superoxide of oxygen, generally known as ozone. I placed an iron bar in the bridge wall of a furnace, and by varying the magnetism in the bar found I could distort the flame at will. For this purpose in my first experience I used a dynamo, but afterwards, trying the cell system, obtained effects nearly equal to those from the dynamo. Through a process known only to myself, and which I will not patent, the flame produces a magnetic prestige which brings down the oxygen, the life of all fires. When properly fired no smoke is emitted, because the same process exhausts the hydrogen, the one great element of smoke."

Mr. Simmons has this process in practical operation in one of the laundries of the city, and claims for it a saving of 25 per cent in coal. He thinks a greater saving can be made and that, in time, his process will make the use of slack coal cheaper than natural gas. In the office of the Kansas City Times he says his process allowed one boiler, an inferior quality of coal and a less quantity being used, to answer the purpose of the two that had been used, before with the best of coal. The principle can be applied to heating and cooking stoves. This winter his coke for one base-burner which gave heat for three rooms cost him only $12, while his neighbors have spent much more for coal and obtained less heat.

THE SPECULATIVE MARKETS.

Trading in the Wheat Pit as Large as Any Ever Known.

BEARS MAKE A RAID ON CORN.

More Attention Paid to Provisions Than For Some Time Past—Cattle Slow and Unsatisfactory—General Quotations.

CHICAGO PRODUCE MARKET.

CHICAGO, March 21.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Speculative trading in wheat to-day and yesterday on the Chicago board of trade was said to be as large as ever known except possibly in the case of the collapse of a corner. The trading was in big blocks. "Fifties" and "hundreds" were as frequently dealt in as are "fives" and "tens" on other occasions. The bears were again in control and they brought out still more long wheat, which carried prices to the lowest point yet reached. A few large houses, however—notably Boyd, Paxton & Boyd and Jones, McCormick & Kennett—were liberal purchasers. Foreigners were buying, presumably to cover shorts, and commission houses with a country clientage were doing something on that side. The big shorts also were said to be quietly taking a large amount of grain, though Ream was openly selling most of the time. There was a quick reaction from the lowest point, and, in fact, fluctuations were generally swift without much lingering over the sixteenth. As a result of the morning's trading May wheat closed ¼c lower than yesterday. In such a market as that of to-day news from the outside was absolutely without influence, and there was not much of it. May wheat opened this morning at 77½c and immediately sold up to 77⅝c. Then the hammering began and also the unloading of long wheat and the price went quickly to 77¼c, up to 77⅛c, back to 77⅛@77⅜c, then down to 77@77⅛c, to 77⅛@77⅜c, down to 76⅞c, then up to 77⅜@77½c, back to 77⅛, 77⅛@77⅜c, up to 77⅜@77⅝c and the 1 o'clock close was 77⅜c. June wheat sold from 78c down to 77⅜c and closed at 1 o'clock at 77⅜@77½c.

Large receipts of corn and much better grading than of late helped the bears to raid that cereal and to bring out more long corn. Much of the selling was by the heavy wheat bears, and there was a suspicion that their course here was taken with direct reference to its effect upon wheat. Prices were put down ⅜c, but there was strong buying at the decline and when the pressure of the long grain coming out was removed there was some reaction, but this was followed by another decline and the close was within ⅛c of the lowest price of the session. May corn opened at 50⅝@50⅞c, sold early at 50⅛c straight, then dropped to 49⅞c, reacted to 50⅛c, then fell to 49½c, advanced to 49¾c, declined to 49⅜c improved to 49⅝@49⅞c, fell to 49½c, and closed at 1 o'clock at 49⅝c. June corn opened at 50⅛@50⅜c, sold down to