THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

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RAT HOLES IN THE TREASURY

Some Reflections on the Conduct of the Last Legislature.

A WARNING TO NEW MEMBERS.

How the People's Money Was Wasted By the Reckless Extravagance of Unscrupulous Politicians and an Army of Retainers.

Read and Reflect.

LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 30.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—On the eve of the convening of the legislature I may render some service to the state by calling attention to some of the flagrant abuses of its lawmaking predecessor. For the benefit of the members of incoming legislature, I will cite a few facts and figures contained in two little pamphlets published by the state auditor at the close of the legislative sessions of 1888 and 1887. The legislature which held a forty-day session four years ago taxed the people of Nebraska for legislative expenses, including salaries of members, officers and employes, $45,000; incidental expenses of the session, $40,000, which, added together, made the aggregate cost of forty days' legislation $85,000.

In other words, the legislative expenses four years ago averaged $2,250 for each day of the session. That was generally considered very extravagant, and, in fact, was way beyond anything the people of Nebraska had previously paid for their law making.

Two years ago the legislature was in session sixty days, and the appropriation for legislative expenses ran up just an even $100,000 in excess of the session of 1885.

Of this enormous sum, $105,000 was appropriated to pay the salaries of officers, members and employes, and $80,000 for incidentals.

From $2,250 for each day's session in 1885, the last legislature ran up the expense to $3,083 for each day's session.

At that rate the forty day session of 1885 would have cost $123,333, or nearly $40,000 more than a session considered the most extravagant of its time actually did cost.

What brought about this reckless raid upon the taxpayers? Raising the pay of members from $3 to $5 per day and increasing the time from forty to sixty days accounts for an increase of only $266 per day or only $30,000 out of the $100,000 increase. What became of the $70,000 excess?

A comparison of the two little pamphlets shows at a glance the rat holes into which the peoples' money was poured like water. In 1885 the legislative manuals, which form part of the "incidentals," were procured for $350; two years ago they mounted up to $1,700, or a clean steal of over $1,200.

In 1885 Sherwood Burr was secretary of the state, and the entire expense of his office for assistance was $1,099.70.

Burr himself drew $278.20, while Walter Seeley, his first assistant, drew $274; E. O. Lewis, second assistant secretary, $75, and D. H. Mercer, clerk of the committee of the whole, a position no more needed than a wagon needs five wheels, drew $272.50. Computed by the day this gave Burr and all his assistants $4 per day for 60 days, when the actual number of session days was only 40.

Two years ago Walter Seeley, as secretary of the senate, drew for himself and his assistants $2,357 as against less than $1,100 for the same work in the preceding session, except that there was an increase of twenty days, which, on the basis of 1885, would have made the aggregate of the secretary's office only $1,650.

The $700 increase is readily accounted for. Instead of being content with two assistants and a clerk of the committee of the whole, Mr. Seeley employed Paul Clark, bookkeeper, and three girls as so-called assistant bookkeepers.

Walter Seeley himself drew pay for 150 days at $4 a day in a session lasting sixty days. This gave him $10 a day for session days. What do the farmers of Nebraska think of a ten-dollar-a-day secretary of the senate?

But that is not all. Four years ago Sherwood Burr prepared the Senate Journal for the sum of $600.

But Walter Seeley two years ago drew $900 for the same work.

From a perfectly reliable source I hear that one of the girls employed on his staff was placed on the pay roll at the instance of Senator Bonesteel, whose relations with female friends created a good deal of scandal. Seeley and Bonesteel were running mates during the entire session.

I do not believe the present legislature can afford to scandalize itself at the outset by giving countenance and support to such inexcusable plundering of the people.

This rat-hole in the senate was not a circumstance to the rat-holes in the house, where a whole horde of male and female assistants, copyists, clerks and hangers-on were employed at $3 a day for most of the session, when in fact they rendered no service excepting to add to the scandal and disrepute in which the whole legislature was enveloped. E. R.

A CLEAN LEGISLATURE.

The Railways See That They Cannot Control Them.

LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 30.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—I talked with a gentleman of wider political experience than perhaps any other who is here, and I give his views as he expressed them to me: "The question of the submission of a constitutional amendment on the subject of prohibition, ought not to cut any figure whatever in the speakership contest. Nebraska has excellent legislation on the liquor question now. This question aside, both the leading candidates, Watson and Dempster, represent the same side of political affairs, as between monopoly and anti-monopoly.

This has the appearance of a clean legislature, one free from the former low influences, but of course we must wait and see. There are some of the strikers of former sessions present, but they are not making much noise. The senatorial question does not, as he retofore, enter into the matter of the organization of the legislature. It should not cut the slightest figure in the speakership contest. Manderson is not here. Van Wyck is not here. Both the candidates of whom I have spoken substantially hold the same views with regard to railroads. If this legislature can transact its business independently of railroad control, there is reason to look for something in politics besides the constant turmoil of the past ten years.

There now seems to be a chance to make good politics in the public affairs of the state. There are more than two hundred thousand voters in the state, and they are asserting their needs and their rights. The railways see that it is too large a body or men, in too large a field for them to fight. Let them keep the oil room people away from the legislature representing the people. Let them trust the representatives of the people to do for them all that is equitable and just. Let them attend to the business of railroading and trust the people and their representatives for every favor which they really did and can properly ask." B.

A Diphtheria Epidemic.

PLATTSMOUTH, Dec. 30.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The diphtheria epidemic which was thought for a time to be extinct, has broken out anew in this city, and at present several adults are affected and the cases are of a more serious nature. About nine cases were reported this week.

Suicide on a Train.

BROKEN BOW, Neb., Dec. 30.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Fanny Hill, a girl sixteen or seventeen years old, was among the lady passengers on Friday's train from Alliance. Two hours after the train had left Alliance the lady was taken suddenly ill and began to scream and otherwise manifest evidence of being in intense misery. All was done that was possible to alleviate her suffering, but without avail. When the train reached Anselmo the conductor telegraphed to this place for Dr. Sanders to be at the depot on the arrival of the train to provide medical assistance. As her case was ascertained to be very critical, it was thought best that she should be taken off the train where she could receive medical treatment. She was taken to the Inman hotel, where she was given special care and everything done for her that seemed possible, until 2 o'clock in the afternoon, when she was relieved by death. There was every indication that she had taken poison, which caused her death, and in all probability with suicidal intent. Her people live at St. Michael, in Hall county.

THE BALD KNOBBERS.

Prisoners Who Escaped From the Ozark Jail Still at Large.

OZARK, Mo., Dec. 30.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The fugitive Knobbers who escaped from the Ozark jail yesterday morning are still at large in spite of the most vigilant efforts of Sheriff Johnson and posse for their capture. The vicinity of the Matthews home was diligently searched yesterday and guards placed at the passes to the hills in which it was believed the men would try to find shelter. Some boys hunting rabbits two miles from Ozark yesterday came upon a man lying low in a fallen tree top. He seemed very pale and excited, but explained to the boys that he had hidden to scare them and have some fun. After telling them that his name was Bill Owens he went off into the woods and the boys told the story and a posse of men vainly hunted the woods in the vicinity. From the boys' description the hidden man was John Matthews. At 1 o'clock this morning a man calling himself Owens called at the house of James Collins, four miles south of Ozark, and said he was hunting work. Collins kept the man till morning and gave him his breakfast. Observing that his strange guest carried two pistols, Collins soon came to the conclusion that the man was one of the escaped knobbers, and came to Ozark and notified Sheriff Johnson, who at once went with a party of armed men to that vicinity. It is believed that this man will surely be caught before morning. The work at the jail is believed to have been planned by Bill Newton, who was at one time a turnkey at the jail, and could have easily taken an impression of the keys.

Is it Returning to Life.

SIOUX FALLS, Minn., Dec. 30.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Last Sunday a three-year-old child of L. P. Olson, of East Sioux Falls, died from dropsy, and preparations were made to bury the child on Tuesday, but as the ground was very slippery from the recent sleet storm it was postponed until the next day. That night the body showed evidence of returning life. The color would frequently come into different parts of the body and then entirely disappear. There were also other evidences of life. The funeral is now indefinitely postponed until it is decided whether or not the child is dead.

Death of Mrs. Schofield.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—Mrs. Schofield, wife of Major General Schofield, died of paralysis of the heart at 7 o'clock this morning. She has been suffering from the effects of a severe cold, which developed into bronchial catarrh a few days ago, but was not thought to be in danger until heart failure supervened, only one hour or two before her death. Mrs. Schofield was the daughter of Prof. W. H. C. Bartlett, formerly of the United States military academy, and now actuary of the Mutual Life Insurance company of New York. The remains will be interred next Wednesday at West Point.

Losses by the Merle Failure.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 30.—Details of the losses which it is supposed have been sustained by various San Francisco and eastern business houses through the mysterious departure from this city of Charles F. Merle, president of the California Bone Meal Fertilizing company, and local agent for N. K. Fairbanks & Co., Chicago lard dealers, are difficult to obtain, and it is probable they will not be definitely known before the meeting of the directors of the fertilizing company, which will be held Monday. It is now stated the losses aggregate about $50,000.

SPARKS FROM THE WIRE.

Mrs. Harrison will receive at her home on New Year's day.

Hon. Moses Mordecai, an ex-United States senator, died at Baltimore.

Parson Davies says Kilrain will not fight Jackson, but is anxious to meet Sullivan.

The steamer Mexico was damaged to the extent of $3,000 by fire in New York harbor yesterday.

For the first time in years the emperor of Russia has sent a friendly Christmas greeting to the pope.

Joseph Solomon shot his wife and then killed himself last evening at his home in New York City.

At a fight among a crowd of drunken negroes yesterday afternoon one man was fatally and several others seriously injured.

A committee of nine locomotive engineers held a secret meeting at Hammond, Ind., last evening, presumably to discuss the "Q" strike.

The St. Paul Distilling company and the whisky trust are at loggerheads. In the meantime the price of whisky is being reduced.

Seven people, all colored, were drowned early yesterday morning near Ripley, O., by the upsetting of a small flat boat on which they were crossing the river.

Amos J. Stillwell, a wealthy merchant of Hannibal, Mo., was murdered while sleeping at his home, about 2 o'clock this morning. The motive of the crime was robbery.

In Pittsburg a spark from a pipe exploded two kegs of blasting powder, destroying four houses belonging to the Fricke Coke company and frightfully burning seven laborers.

A tramp who was stealing a ride on a Pennsylvania road was accidentally locked in a box car and kept without food or water for five days. When found he was speechless, and will probably die.

William West, in a quarrel with his wife's relatives in in Craighead county, Arkansas, yesterday, wounded his mother-in-law in the hand, killed his father-in-law and was himself shot dead by the latter.

Advices from Suakim say that Arabic translations of accounts published in London newspapers prior to December 20, of the plans and operations of the British forces, have been found in possession of the enemy.

Princess Adelbert Insane.

BERLIN, Dec. 30.—During the performance of "A Midsummer Night's Dream," at the opera house last evening, Princess Albert of Bavaria was seized with a violent attack of hysteria, and had to be removed. She has since become worse. It is believed she is insane. After the princess had been taken from the theater, the play was resumed.

IN SPITE OF THE POLICE.

The Widow of Anarchist Parsons Makes Good Her Boast.

SHE SPEAKS IN CHICAGO.

The Socialists Pass Resolutions Denouncing the Police for Their Recent Interference with Public Meetings.

For the Promotion of Socialism.

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—Anarchist Parsons, the dark-skinned widow, to-day made good her boast that she would speak in Chicago in spite of the police. It was in Waverly hall, one square from Mayor Roche's office, and is the same place which was closed against her one week ago. Four hundred people were crowded into the poky little auditorium, and scores of others choked up the entrance and stood upon the stairs. The meeting was one called by the socialistic labor party "to transact business and for the promotion of socialistic doctrines." The proceedings opened with the introduction of a resolution condemning the police for their recent "lawless" interference with public meetings. The resolution was unanimously adopted. "Tommy" Morgan, a socialist, was the first speaker. He said the employment of force by workingmen was futile. It appealed to the lowest instincts of mankind and was wrong from the moral, intellectual and practical standpoint. Its impracticability had been demonstrated in this city by the Haymarket and its results. The hanged anarchists was proof enough that force was impracticable.

The meeting was then open to any one who wanted to talk ten minutes. Mrs. Parsons rose. The crowd cheered when it saw her familiar face. "I should like very much some of these days to answer the assertions Mr. Morgan has made against those who are dead" said she "but the ukase has gone forth from Roche and Lord Bonfield that I am never to make another speech in Chicago, and that I am forever to be deprived of that right under the constitution. But I cannot sit here quietly and hear it said that those who are dead and silent in their tombs, had anything to do with the throwing of the Haymarket bomb, though in the war against tyrants, all things are justifiable. Those who say anything else are curs. They were miserable curs who on last Sunday night allowed themselves to be driven away from this hall by the police."

Mrs. Parsons then read what purported to be an extract from the speech of Thomas Jefferson, which occurred the following words: "God forbid that our country should be for twenty years without a rebellion." "Did Parsons or Spies ever utter anything more revolutionary than that?" said Mrs. Parsons. "It has been said that dead martyrs are no good, but their memory is dear to us, and a perpetual inspiration, because they died before they would ask pardon for deeds they did not do. When liberty shall be crowned with immortality, the brightest names in her crown will be those of Parsons, Spies, Fischer and Engel, who died for her. [Cheers.] I am for peace on principle. If you see two rival armies approaching each other and take a poll of the men, you will find that nine-tenths of them are for peace, but they are borne on by irresistible forces to the conflict. Before we can have peace in a society like our own, rivers of blood will have to run." [Applause.]

The chairman interrupted Mrs. Parsons and said that her ten minutes had expired. A number of detectives were present but made no attempt to interfere. After a number of other speeches, some in a decidedly fiery vein, the hall was cleared and a private meeting held by prominent members of the socialistic labor party." When the conference ended it was announced that arrangements had been made to continue the meetings every Sunday afternoon.

DIVISION AND ADMISSION.

A Large Proportion of Dakota's Citizens Favor the Proposition.

ST. PAUL, Dec. 30.—A vote has been taken by a Deadwood, Dak., paper on the question of single or double statehood, and it is shown that a little more than five-sixths of those answering are in favor of division and admission as two states. The answers received are from various parts of southern Dakota, and those voting are of all occupations and all political faiths. This vote is believed to be a fair representation of public sentiment on the matter, which daily grows stronger. It is generally believed that division and admission are simply a question of time, and while waiting the outcome with considerable anxiety, the people have already begun to look after the prizes to be secured when the two new states are introduced. Every move at the national capital is watched for eagerly, while a number of Dakota towns are looking after their fences and generally brushing up in the hope that they may become the seat of government. While a few towns are especially anxious to secure that plum, all are united in their efforts to bring settlers into the soon-to-be states.

The Papal Encyclical.

ROME, Dec. 30.—Opening with the words, "Exeunte jam anno," the papal encyclical thanks God for the consolations which the jubilee rejoicings have brought to the pope, and his holiness thanks the Catholic world for its tokens of affection and devotion. Turning to religious matters, the encyclical complains that the tendency of the age is toward material interests, and this tendency is strengthened by worldly pride and an evil press and drama, demoralization of arts and a changed education in the schools, materialistic and atheistic teaching obscuring true notions of right. Socialism, nihilism and communism, it says, are also outcomes of this tendency to material things. The pope attended te deum service in St. Peter's today to make the close of the jubilee year.

Marquis Guicoilol has been appointed syndic of Rome.

Proceedings of the Sobranje.

SOFIA, Dec. 30.—The sobranje yesterday voted the sums asked for in the budget, granted amnesty to all political refugees, except the actual leaders of plots since 1886, and extended pardon to Major Popoff, who was convicted of embezzling funds belonging to the war office. Prince Ferdinand closed the session with a speech, in which he thanked the members for the legislation enacted.

Changed Its Mind.

BERLIN, Dec. 30.—It is stated that the government has changed its intention regarding the proposed increase of the artillery strength of the army, and that no credit will be asked for that purpose during the present session of parliament.

Temporal Rights of the Pope.

BRUSSELS, Dec. 30.—At a large meeting at Liege to-day, at which Bishop Doutrelou, presided. Resolutions were adopted in favor of the restoration of the temporal rights of the pope.

Officers of the Skuptschina.

BELGRADE, Dec. 30.—The skuptschina yesterday elected M. Fanshanovios president, and M. Popovois vice president of that body. The premier read the royal decree opening the session.

Remedy for Radicalism.

PARIS, Dec. 30.—The manifesto issued by the new revolutionary group declars the commune is the sole remedy for Boulangerism and radicalism.

ANOTHER STEAMBOAT BURNED.

Total Loss of the Bristol—The Passengers All Saved.

NEWPORT, R. I., Dec. 30.—The steamer Bristol, of the old Albany line, burned at her dock here this morning, and is a total loss. She arrived from New York about 2:30 a. m., landed all her freight and her Fall River passengers. There were left on board only a few Newport passengers and their personal baggage. At 6:20 o'clock, just as the last passenger train was drawing out of the depot, fire was discovered on the steamer and the alarm was at once given from the company's signal on the premises. The fire started near the kitchen and spread with great rapidity, rendering futile all efforts to stop its progress. Three alarms were sounded in rapid succession. Thousands of citizens were also attracted to the spot by the brilliant illumination, the volume of fire and the clouds of smoke which arose from the burning steamer. The fire apparatus on the steamer was brought into use as soon as the flames were discovered and the crew worked with great vigor to save the boat, but the liner work of the state rooms, saloon and stairways was as dry as tinder, and the draughts through the steamer caused a fearfully rapid spread of the flames, so that before the city fire department arrived there was a mass of fire sweeping her almost from stem to stern.

Some of the passengers still on board did not understand the meaning of the first alarm, and were only aroused by the crackling of the flames. Nearly all succeeded in escaping, but some with only a portion of their clothing, and others by crawling over the railing near the burning timbers. One man, with two little children, who occupied a stateroom, who was awakened by the sound of crackling flames, barely escaped with his little ones, undressed, but with their clothing in their hands. Another young man had to borrow clothing in which to go to his home in this city. All the personal baggage of the passengers was saved.

When the department arrived the upper decks and center of the steamer were a mass of flames, which gave out such intense heat that it could scarcely be borne at the distance of several hundred feet. This greatly impeded the work of the firemen. The flames had gained such headway that they could only be fought from the wharf side, while the great heat and flying sparks endangered buildings on the docks and steamers lying on either side of the wharf, and constant efforts were required on the part of firemen to prevent them from igniting. A dozen streams were soon pouring into the flames with little apparent effect for over an hour, while others were employed in drenching the dock and buildings.

LAUREL WREATHS.

Eloquent Tributes Paid to Mrs. Orpha C. Dinsmoor By Her Co-Workers.

Beautiful memorial services for the late Mrs. Orpha C. Dinsmoor were held at Unity church yesterday afternoon. The spacious edifice was crowded with the legion of friends who revere the memory of this noble woman. Mrs. Dinsmoor's picture, encircled with a wreath of fragrant roses, sat upon a stand beside the pulpit, which itself was exquisitely adorned with the snowy flowers of the lovely narcissi and mignonette.

The services opened with a beautiful selection, "God is a Spirit," by the Congregational choir, which consists of Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Estabrook, Mrs. Squires and Mr. Brigham. The Rev. Miss Bartlett, of Sioux Falls, followed with a touching invocation. A choicely worded sketch of Mrs. Dinsmoor's life was then read by Miss Ida E. Dodson, and this was followed by a letter from Rev. Copeland, former pastor of Unity, which was read by Mr. Kilpatrick. Rev. Copeland's tribute to the dead was at once touching, beautiful and sympathetic. Mrs. Colby, of Beatrice, read a letter from Rev. Dr. Doherty, of Brownell Hall, at the close of which another selection, "Peace and Love," was rendered by the choir. Colonel Chase, representing the Nebraska Humane society, delivered a ten-minute address, in which he extolled the sainted dead in terms that were eloquent in a high degree. Mrs. G. W. Clark, of the Open Door, told, in glowing words, of Mrs. Dinsmoor's rescue work, and Mr. Gillespie, of the Omaha Board of Charities, spoke of the ladies connection with and good work in that institution. Mrs. Colby, president of the Nebraska Woman's Suffrage association, of which Mrs. Dinsmoor was an officer, read a panegyric on her co-laborer's life and work that brought tears to the eyes of many of her hearers. Among other things she said: "We are not here alone to honor the dead, or to express our love and esteem, but to gather up and emphasize the lessons of our friend's life along the various lines of her activity. The one overmastering quality of Mrs. Dinsmoor's mind," continued the lady, "was fidelity to truth as she saw it, to duty as it beckoned, to the friends who gathered around her, and those who came into the inner sanctuary of her life realize what true friendship might be and will bear its memory forever as a precious benediction in their hearts."

Mrs. Stanton followed Mrs. Colby with some reminiscences of her association with Mrs. Dinsmoor. She said: "Two nights before her death, as we were on our way to the Paxton hotel, she told me by what a slender thread she held her life, liable to pass away at any moment; but, said she, 'I have no fear of death. To me it is but passing through an open door from one room to another, and I suppose I can finish the work I have begun just as well when I have thrown off this flesh as I can now.'"

"'Yes,' I replied, 'and perhaps better. Space for you will then be prepared and with clearer vision you will see who can be most easily influenced for good.'"

Referring to the future of departed friends Mrs. Stanton said: "I like to think of our friends as here in our midst, influencing us to take a more active part in charities to which she devoted her life, whispering words of cheer to the unfortunate classes and warning the heedless children of luxury and ease. Perhaps our friend may be with us here to-day, quickening our hearts and brains to nobler action, or with the happy children in the nursery she has been instrumental in establishing. Experiencing the blessedness of her own work, or she may be trying to move the stony heart of some millionaire, whom she had tried in vain to move before, to open his coffers to those who have no resting place on this green earth. We may be sure that a spirit so active as she has ever been is still devoted to her chosen work." Mrs. Stanton ended her tribute with this quotation:

"The child who enters life comes not with knowledge or intent.
So those who enter death must go as little children sent.
Nothing is known, but I believe, God is overhead,
And as life is to the living, so death is to the dead."

Succeeding Mrs. Stanton came another selection by the choir, "Oh Paradise," and the vast auditorium resounded with its holy melody. The services closed with the benediction by Miss Rev. Bartlett.

ANOTHER FINE BUILDING.

It Will Be Built By the Omaha Commercial National Bank.

Still another new edifice will grace Omaha, and this time it will be designed by Mr. Ellis, one of Omaha's best known architects, who entered into competition with representatives from Boston, Chicago and St. Louis, and carried off the prize. The building will be erected by the Commercial National bank, and will stand on the corner of Farnam and Sixteenth streets, where in former days the city councilmen debated, and the Salvation Army sang. It will be three stories in height, and of a purely classic design, covering the full extent of the lot, 66x72 feet. The cost will be between $70,000 and $80,000, and when completed the building will be used exclusively for banking purposes.

IT WILL ACT UPON THE BILL.

The Ways and Means Committee to Consider the Substitue.

A SHARP POLITICAL TRICK.

How Bates, of Tennessee, Got His Certificate of Election—Congressman Whittaker's Hurried Trip to Washington.

WASHINGTON BUREAU THE OMAHA BEE, 513 FOURTEENTH STREET, WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 30.

Congressman McMillan, of Tennessee, is the first democratic member of the committee on ways and means to admit that it would not be politic for his colleagues to strangle the senate substitute for the Mills bill, in committee. "We will act upon the bill," said he, "when it reaches us, as promptly as possible, and will give the house an opportunity to discuss it, and if it reaches us in season, the people will have an opportunity to understand fully the difference between the two houses on the subject." Mr. McMillan expects, of course, that the house will vote the substitute down, and it is possible that the other democrats on the committee may take this view and consent to the discussion of the bill again. If they do go so far as this, the chances are growing greater every day that they will be disappointed. Some of the members from the tobacco states have returned to Washington from their holiday visits. After the election these people had very little opportunity to talk with their constituents as to the course to be adopted to please the greater number of them. The holiday visit has been improved in this respect to some extent, and it is evident from the guarded talk of these members that they have learned that the southern tobacco planters want the internal revenue laws amended so as to remove some of the restrictions which now harrass them. Two or three seen by your correspondent, this afternoon, would not say in the form of an interview, what course they proposed to pursue with reference to the amended Mills bill, if the opportunity is afforded them, but when questioned closely, admitted that it was of far greater importance to them and their constituents that the tobacco tax should be repealed than that the ideas of the Texas statesman shall be carried to the extent of preventing internal revenue reduction for some months more. They do not care about defining their positions at this time, but one member from Virginia assured me that there will be at least five from Virginia, North Carolina and Tennessee alone, who will support the senate substitute so long as it retains the internal revenue features.

POLITICAL MANEUVERING.

The illness of Congressman Laird and the peculiar reports which come from Tennessee and West Virginia concerning the outcome of the congressional contests in those states, are causing some of the republican members to urge their colleagues to join them in requesting General Harrison to call congress together immediately after the 4th of March, in order that the many contested cases may be settled at the earliest possible moment. The democratic officials of the house will do all in their power to secure the organization of the next house, and General Clark, the present clerk, seems willing to stretch all the points necessary to insure his own retention in office beyond the calling together of the first session of the Fifty-first congress. If there should be two certificates for any reason, in any case, he may be depended upon to enter that which certifies the election of the democrat, rather than the republican member, every time. While nearly everyone admits that two republicans have been elected from West Virginia, and that Evans has been elected in the Chattanooga district of Tennessee, it is believed that four democrats will show up with certificates from the former state, and the Herald of this city (Bourbon democrat) has a rather significant paragraph to-day: "It is said that immediately after the first returns reached Governor Taylor, the secretary of the state of Tennessee made out a certificate of election for Bates, democrat, signed it and affixed the seal of the state to it; that the same day the state secretary presented it to Governor R. L. Taylor, thus signed and sealed, who also signed it. The next morning Governor Taylor, for some reason, concluded that Evans, republican, was entitled to the certificate, and called on the state secretary to cancel the certificate made out in favor of Bates. The state secretary either declined to surrender it, or said it was mislaid, and at once communicated with Bates, who called and took the certificate, and fearing legal proceedings for its surrender, sent it out of the state. It is said, at the capitol, that Bates forwarded the certificate in a sealed package to Washington; some say to the care of the clerk of the house; the package not to be opened until further directions. Some time since these statements were forwarded to Governor Taylor with a request to deny or affirm them for publication, but the governor has failed to reply so far.

WHITTAKER'S RIDE.

There has been some doubt expressed as to the ability to get every republican member of congress to attend the opening session, owing to the fact that it frequently happens that members are very lax in attending to their duties in this respect. But there have been cases before where one party or another had but a bare majority, and when hustling was of the greatest necessity. It will be remembered that in the Forth-seventh congress, in spite of the fact that the republicans had a bare majority, that they were at all times, excepting during the last two days, able to maintain a quorum when the party lines were tightly drawn. In this respect the republican party had been very much better organized than the other, and it has frequently been a matter of comment that in spite of the comparatively heavy majorities which the democrats have had in the Forty-eighth, Forty ninth and Fiftieth congresses, they have often been compelled to resort to a call of the house and the aid of the sergeant-at-arms to get enough members together when the republicans refused to vote. At the called session of the Forty-sixth congress, when the democrats had control by just enough votes to insure organization, they did the greatest hustling on record. Counting Whittaker in Oregon, and O'Brien of New York, whose status was uncertain, the democrats had a majority of three. The notice was brief and the wires were down on the Pacific coast, and many members-elect were scattered. Telegrams were sent in every direction by the democratic committee, and every democratic member reached Washington in time to vote in the caucus the night before the election of the speaker. In the case of Whittaker, who was away from telegraphic communication, after the failure of repeated efforts to reach other prominent democrats in Oregon, a dispatch finally reached Mr. Noltner, editor of the democratic newspaper at Portland, Ore., who under the authority of the democratic committee, chartered a special engine, steamed out to Eugene City, took a buggy there, and drove fifteen miles to Whittaker's farm, captured the member-elect, and took him in the special engine to Portland, without a hair-brush or a change of linen, just in time to take the steamer to San Francisco. As soon as the steamer was sighted at San Francisco, Whittaker was taken, on board of a tug, direct to the railroad wharf, where a special engine and car had steam up waiting for him, and this special train took him all the way to Chicago, where he arrived just in time to take the eastern bound train, arriving at Washington the morning of the caucus. Another democratic member, who was sick at the Hot Springs, and who was not expected to live long, was brought a part of the way at least, in a special car, and in time to attend the caucus. It all cost the democratic committee, in the chartering of special trains, telegraphing and other necessary expenses, several thousand dollars, but they got every member to Washington and organized the house without Mr. Randall's vote, which his associates had insisted he should cast for himself if necessary to elect

CHANDLER ALL RIGHT.

Mr. W. Scott Smith, editor of the Portsmouth, N. H., Chronicle, who spent the holidays in this city, says that the talk of the election of Mr. Gallinger, or any other man to succeed Senator Chandler is very wide of the mark. Mr. Smith says that he has made a careful examination into the situation and he finds that more than two-thirds of the republican members-elect of the New Hampshire legislature are pronounced supporters of the ex-secretary of the navy. He says that several of the men who were his most bitter opponents in the last contest have declared for him, and that among the number is ex-Senator Rollins. Mr. Smith says that Mr. Gallinger is about the only man in the state who fails to see the handwriting on the wall, and that Senator Chandler will certainly be returned with thirty or forty votes to spare when the legislature meets next June.

PERSONAL.

Miss Clair Rustin, of Omaha, arrived in the city last evening and will spend the season as the guest of Mrs. Paddock.

PERRY S. HEATH.

THE CLEARANCE RECORD.

The Financial Transactions of the Past Week.

BOSTON, Mass., Dec. 30.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The following table compiled from dispatches to the Post from the managers of the leading clearing-houses of the United States, shows the gross exchanges for the week ended December 30, 1888, with rates per cent of increase or decrease as compared with the amounts for the corresponding week in 1887:

CITIES.	CLEARINGS.	Increase.	Decrease.
New York	$615,534,104	25.4	....
Boston	79,858,326	22.1	....
Philadelphia	56,037,769	13.1	....
Chicago	45,062,000	....	10.9
St. Louis	16,019,878	35.7	....
San Francisco	15,330,590	....	0.8
New Orleans	10,802,557	6.7	....
Baltimore	9,876,809	0.4	....
Cincinnati	9,613,650	7.2	....
Pittsburg	16,262,057	19.8	....
Kansas City	7,805,672	43.9	....
Providence	4,440,500	9.5	....
Milwaukee	4,644,000	10.9	....
St. Paul	3,318,532	20.0	....
Omaha	3,096,351	10.0	....
Minneapolis	3,073,241	37.2	....
Denver	2,734,836	45.4	....
Detroit	4,193,890	17.4	....
Cleveland	3,250,274	31.2	....
Memphis	2,592,840	4.3	....
Columbus	2,034,504	....	1.4
Indianapolis	1,762,103	....	13.8
Hartford	1,52,985	....	7.2
New Haven	866,682	....	5.2
Peoria	1,377,483	....	11.9
Galveston	2,049,667	62.3	....
St. Joseph	1,123,775	....	9.6
Duluth	1,085,945	25.7	....
Richmond	1,581,379	....	0.9
Norfolk	1,067,885	17.7	....
Portland	835,459	....	12.0
Springfield	960,829	22.0	....
Worcester	903,304	19.1	....
Wichita	628,967	0.5	....
Los Angeles	564,260	55.7	....
Lowell	511,459	9.7	....
Syracuse	608,600	33.4	....
Grand Rapids	363,290	12.6	....
Topeka	369,888	51.4	....
Total	$827,251,644	19.6	....
Outside New York	211,717,540	9.6	....

CHAMPION LIAR OF MEXICO.

He is Undoubtedly the Author of This Blood-Curdling Story.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 30.—A special to the Post-Dispatch from El Paso, Tex., dated midnight Sunday, gives meagre details of an attack on the palace in Mexico, in which 230 of the assailants were killed, seventy of whom were priests.

The riot is said to have occurred at 8 o'clock the previous evening.

It seems that Father Jose Gasper, a well known priest, hurried to the national palace for immediate conference with President Diaz. What he disclosed is not known, but a few minutes after warrants of arrest were made out for a large number of prominent people, but when officers went after them, not one of them could be found.

At 11 o'clock that night an immense mob attacked the national palace. They were joined and reinforced by the garrisons of at least three barracks. A conflict, fierce and bloody, ensued, but the government held its own and won the victory.

The generals and several high officers were killed. The government took over 2,000 prisoners. At the first fighting seventy-two priests were among the slain who numbered 230. Seventy-two additional priests were arrested and ordered to be shot, among them archbishop. A number of women got up petitions to have them reprieved, but it is not thought that they met with success. Great excitement prevails in Chihuahua, where Governor Laura Canillo called the legislature together at once and ordered all priests to be arrested. This seems to have been the last desperate effort of the clerical party against the government.

Senor Romero Don't Believe It.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—Senor Romero, Mexican minister, said to an Associated press reporter to-night that he did not believe any such occurrences had taken place in the City of Mexico as was stated to have happened in a special dispatch from El Paso, Tex., printed this morning, purporting to give an account of a great clerical uprising in the Mexican capital, in which 200 people were killed and a great number of priests had since been imprisoned and ordered shot. Senor Romero said that if anything of such magnitude had taken place he should have heard of it by cable via Galveston, and not received the first intimation of the affair from such a place as El Paso. "Besides," he said, "I have official dispatches by cable up to last Friday evening, and they do not say a word about it. If any such thing had happened they would have said something about it, especially if it had such an ending as is given in the published dispatch."

The minister added that it was a Mexican custom for every one, on the 28th of December, to tell the biggest yarns he could think of, and then laugh at those who believed them. It was a sort of American April-fools day, and he thought that perhaps the published story had such an origin.

It Is a Hoax.

EL PASO, Tex., Dec. 30.—A newspaper published in Chihuahua, Mexico, December 28, and received here yesterday, contained thrilling accounts of an alleged papist uprising in the City of Mexico. This narrative, purported to have been received by the Chihuahua papers by wire from the City of Mexico. Upon investigation the terrible tale turns out to be a huge hoax perpetrated by the Chihuahua newspapers upon their readers. December 28 is All-Innocents' day, and is celebrated in Mexico as April 1 has been in the United States and elsewhere. Intelligent Mexicans of this city placed no credit whatever in the Chihuahua story. It is hinted that the perpetrators of the canard will be called to account.

The Fire Record.

BOTTINEAU, Dak., Dec. 30.—Fire this morning, originating in McArthur Bros. drug store, destroyed the business portion of this town, causing a loss of $32,000. The insurance is about $12,000. Among the buildings destroyed was the postoffice and land office.

The Weather Indications.

For Nebraska: Fair, colder weather, northerly winds.

For Iowa: Fair, preceeded in eastern portion by rain or snow, colder, northwesterly winds.

For Dakota: Fair, colder weather, northwesterly winds.

THE BEE'S SPECIAL TRAIN.

It Will Be Run Daily, Commencing With the New Year.

SAVING OF TWENTY-FOUR HOURS

This Paper Will Now Reach the South Platte Country From One Hour to One Day Earlier Than Its Rivals.

The Bee's New Wings.

To-morrow morning THE BEE, with the advent of the new year, will inaugurate an enterprise, such has been undertaken by no newspaper west of Chicago.

This enterprise will be the running of a special newspaper train on the B. & M. to all points south and southwest. By this means THE BEE's subscribers in the South Platte country and southwestern part of the state will receive their papers from three to twenty-four hours earlier than they do at present.

As a consequence of this enterprise THE BEE will be delivered at the same time as papers many miles nearer the interior of the state and at some points one day ahead of its cotemporaries in Omaha. THE BEE will hereafter reach Lincoln at 7 a. m., one hour before other Omaha dailies leave this city. This enterprise has been undertaken to supply an increasing demand for the freshest news. THE BEE is published for everybody. It is taken by almost everybody in this section of country, even though they are compelled to wait for it, in some instances, many hours after it has been read in this city and vicinity.

There was but one way in which to overcome this difficulty and that was to inaugurate the special train service which will enable our readers to get and peruse their papers at the earliest possible moment.

The special BEE train will leave Omaha every morning, commencing to-morrow at 4:30 o'clock. It will pass Bellevue at 4:45 and reach Plattsmouth at 5 o'clock. In this there will be a saving of three hours. It will reach Louisville at 5:46, South Bend at 5:55 and Ashland at 6:13, at which place the old time of arrival was 9:25 o'clock. In regular order the towns of Greenwood and Waverly will be passed at 6:24 and 6:33 o'clock, respectively, the old hours being 9:50 and 10:15 o'clock.

At 7 o'clock the newsboys' cry of "Ere's yer OMAHA BEE" will resound through the streets of Lincoln as above stated just one hour and five minutes before the Omaha contemporaries reach the mail train and several hours before they arrive in the capital. In this way, THE BEE becomes a paper for the breakfast table in Lincoln as well as it is in Omaha. Its rivals, however, will be satisfied to get there in time for dinner.

With regards to the towns further to the west, the following shows the hour at which they will be