and the Hamburg hotel. The American and English residents, among the former being United States Vice Consul Blacklock, fought the fire, which was only destroying German property, until they were nearly exhausted. The American and English sailors worked until overcome by the heat, carrying water, using axes and saving property. Several stores, the court house, jail, etc., were also destroyed.

While the fire was in progress Knappe declared that he thought the occurrence was entirely accidental. Within five or six hours, however, he expressed the belief that the American and English residents of Apia were implicated in the matter.

On the afternoon of January 15 a boat belonging to ex-United States Vice Consul E. L. Hamilton, manned by two natives, was seized by an armed boat from the German waters of Apia harbor. The boat was afterwards released, and when an explanation was demanded by Consul Blacklock, Consul Knappe replied that it was because the boat had not displayed any national flag.

The English merchant steamer Richmond arrived in Apia harbor shortly before dark on the 18th. At 1 o'clock on the morning of the 19th the Richmond was boarded by an armed boat's crew from the Adler. The officer in command informed the captain of the Richmond that war had been declared by Germany against Samoa; that the harbor had been blockaded and martial law declared. The captain was further told that no freight would be allowed to be taken from the Richmond, unless taken directly to the wharf of the German Trading and Planting company, where it would be opened and the propriety of admitting it be passed upon by Beckman, manager of the German firm, and a person who was in no way connected with the German government in an official capacity. This proceeding on the part of the German war ship verified the belief that the German consul had received important news from his government. Soon after 9 o'clock in the morning the following proclamation printed in English and German, but not in Samoan, was issued by the German consul, proclaiming a state of war for the Samoan islands:

"Any assistance to the rebels will be punished by martial law, irrespective of any nationality. The introduction of contraband of war is prohibited. All vessels and boats are liable to search by our authorities. The police of Apia henceforth will act under instructions from the imperial German government."

An hour after the document had been issued a boat belonging to H. S. Moore, an American merchant, which had gone alongside the Richmond to obtain freight, was seized by the German guard boat. When the seizure was reported to Vice Consul Blacklock he at once communicated with Captain Millan, who wrote to Captain Fritz of the Adler, demanding an explanation of the seizure and asking that the boat be at once released. The German captain replied that Germany had declared war against Samoa, and that the boat was seized because Moore refused to land his goods at the German wharf. At 3 o'clock in the afternoon the German captain gave his consent that the boat be released, and allowed Moore to land a few head of cattle and sheep at his own wharf, but insisted that all other than live freight be landed at the wharf of the German firm.

Consul Blacklock addressed a letter to Consul Knappe, requesting him to explain whether Germany had declared war against Samoa, and also if martial law existed. After several hours the German consul sent a reply, saying: "By order of the imperial government the German consul had proclaimed martial law for Samoa until further notice." No reference was made in the letter as to the declaration of war. Captain Mullan thereupon called upon Captain Fritz and inquired if war had or had not been declared by Germany. The German captain informed Captain Mullan that war had not been declared by Germany. Later Captain Fritz once more changed his statement, and told the American officer that war had been declared.

On the afternoon of the 20th the British ship Longfellow arrived in port from the Pauline Islands, bound for Queenstown with guano, having been obliged to put in for provisions. She was immediately seized by the Germans but after her papers were found to be clear the commander of the English war ship demanded her release and the German guards left her.

On the afternoon of the 20th a proclamation was issued by the British consul notifying British subjects that, notwithstanding the German proclamation, they were still subject only to the authority of the queen's representative. An hour later the German captain issued a proclamation notifying the British that, notwithstanding their consul's notice, they were under martial law, and should they in any way interfere with the authority they would be seized and tried accordingly. That evening John C. Klein, the American newspaper correspondent, who has attained much notoriety in connection with the troubles, received secret information that Captain Fritz and the German consul had decided to arrest him under the martial law, try him and either execute or deport him to the Marshal islands.

At 7 o'clock the following morning an armed guard went on board the English merchant steamer Richmond and arrested an English tourist named Gillan, taking him on board the Olga. They claimed Gillan was arrested because he was believed to be a spy. The English consul and the captain of the English war vessel protested against the arrest and notified the Germans that Gillan would be taken back by force if necessary. He was then released. A proclamation was issued on January 21 by the American vice consul, Blacklock, notifying the American citizens of the German proclamation of war, and forbidding them to take part in any hostile operations on either side, telling them that as long as they remained non combatants they would be entitled to personal immunity and protection. That afternoon Captain Fritz notified Editor Cusack, of the Samoan Times, that his paper had been suppressed from that date, because of the publication of certain articles offensive to the German authorities. On the 23d the German consul, Knoppe, went to Mataafa's camp and was received by his chiefs, Mataafa not appearing. Knoppe told them of the declaration of war and of the establishment of martial law, which he said was directed against the American and English residents, who had been giving Mataafa bad advice. The Germans were only anxious to be good friends with all Samoans, but in case Mataafa refused to make peace the Germans would summon all the force necessary to make war. The chiefs informed the consul that they would make no terms of peace unless a promise was given in writing, in the presence of the other consuls, that Tamasese and Brandeis would be sent out of the country and assurances given that Germany would not take advantage of Mataafa and his government. Nothing came of the conference.

John O. Klein was taken on board the Nipsic for safety. A few days later Captain Fritz sent a letter to Captain Mullan, requesting that Klein be delivered to him for trial for his participation in the battle of December 18. Captain Mullan replied briefly that the alleged charges against Klein could be settled only by the governments at Washington and Berlin, and that he positively refused to deliver him up. Klein was then taken by the Nipsic to Tutuila and placed on board the steamer Mariposa.

In an interview to-night Klein denies that he was other than a passive spectator of the battle in question, and says that the attempt of the Germans to arrest him is due to their hatred of any one daring to state the real facts regarding their aggressions. This was illustrated in the case of Editor Cusack.

FIFTIETH CONGRESS.

Senate.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—The senate bill to place Major James Belger on the retired list as colonel in the regular army was passed.

The senate resumed reconsideration of the resolution reported from the committee on privileges and elections as to the outrages in Washington county, Texas, and Mr. Cole proceeded with his argument, quoting extensively from the testimony to prove the bad reputation of the three memorialists, Hackworth, Moore and Schutze.

Mr. Cole yielded the floor to permit Mr. Sherman to present the conference report on the direct tax bill.

The house provision in relation to lots and lands at Beufort, S. C., is amended so as to appropriate $500,000 to pay for town lots in Beufort at a rate of half the value assessed thereon for taxes by the United States tax commissioner for South Carolina, and an amount of $5 per acre for lands. The report was agreed to.

Mr. Coke then resumed, but soon yielded again, in order to allow Messrs. Blair and Edmunds, who were not present when the direct tax bill was adopted, to express their views in opposition to the bill. Mr. Coke did not wish to complete his remarks to-day, and the senate adjourned.

House.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—In the house Mr. McCreary of Kentucky, submitted the conference report on the diplomatic and consular appropriation bill. Agreed to.

Mr. McMillan of Tennessee, from the committee on ways and means, reported a bill to reduce taxation and simplify the laws in relation to the internal revenue.

Mr. Breckinridge of Kentucky, from the same committee, reported a bill to reduce taxation and for other purposes.

Mr. Reed of Maine, asked that the report on this bill be read.

The speaker stated that the bill was not before the house for consideration.

Mr. Reed—Is there a report?

The Speaker—There is a brief report.

The bill was referred to the committee of the whole. The effect of the report on these two measures is to place them upon the calendar ahead of the internal revenue bill to be reported from the committee on appropriations, and to give them right of way, unless the friends of the Cowles bill can muster sufficient force to set them aside.

Mr. Breckinridge of Arkansas, from the ways and means committee, reported a bill amending section 2,506 revised statutes, relating to the duty on lumber.

Mr. Randall, from the committee on appropriations, reported the Cowles bill amending the internal revenue laws, which was referred to the committee of the whole, together with a minority substitute report, by Mr. Forney.

The house then went into committee of the whole on the postoffice appropriation bill.

The pending amendment increasing the appropriation for the compensation of postoffice clerks by $300,000 was defeated by a vote of 86 to 87.

Mr. Holman offered an amendment providing that the aggregate salaries of postoffice clerks, as fixed by the new classification, shall not exceed the sum appropriated by the bill ($6,559,000.) The amendment was adopted after a brief debate, in the course of which Mr. Peters of Kansas characterized the civil service law as the froth of political economy, the morass of political honesty, and the excelsior of political hypocracy.

Mr. Kerr of Iowa moved to strike out the clause relative to assistant postmasters.

Pending a vote the committee rose and the house adjourned.

A REVIVAL.

Real Estate and Building Business Beginning to Look Up.

There has been considerable of a revival in the real estate business during the past week. For three days the totals ranged from forty-five thousand to seventy thousand as follows:

Monday	$ 15,541
Tuesday	8,621
Wednesday	63,179
Thursday	44,775
Friday	67,595
Saturday	28,802
Total	$228,513

The building permits, as usual for the season, are low. Following are the figures:

Monday	$ 1,350
Tuesday	5,100
Wednesday	3,250
Thursday	100
Friday	1,000
Saturday	
Total	$10,800

The bank clearings, as usual, register well up on the scale. The figures are as follows:

Monday	$ 721,206.56
Tuesday	691,444.76
Wednesday	580,526.41
Thursday	512,239.22
Friday	610,064.18
Saturday	522,856.92
Total	$3,638,338.05
Increase 22.0.	

Thus Far $3,000,000 in Buildings.

Last Sunday, THE BEE published an estimate from seven of the leading architects of the city of the valuation of new buildings to be erected in this city for which they are preparing plans. The figures aggregated $910,000 in business blocks and manufacturing establishments, and $545,000 in residences.

Yesterday three additional architects were seen and the figures they gave aggregated $336,000 in business blocks and manufacturing establishments and $200,000 in residences, being a total of $536,000 for these three. This sum added to the figures given last week gives a grand total of $2,991,000 worth of new buildings, for which ten of the architects of the city are now preparing plans.

In detail the estimates given yesterday were as follows:

Fowler & Biendorf are preparing plans for the following buildings:

A four-story store room for I. Brown, to be located on Douglas street; three three-story residences for C. S. Montgomery, Harney street; four stores and flats for A. H. Gladstone on Thirteenth street; two stores and flats for B. F. Troxel, Saunders street; a 65-foot hotel on Thirteenth street; three three-story store rooms for Baumann, Kram & Co., Sixteenth street; residences for A. M. Weir, Seymour park; N. Shelton, California street; J. Deiss, Locust street; E. A. Benson, Briggs' Place; for the Mutual Investment company, location not given; for the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Real Estate and Investment company, location not given; block of six residences on Webster street, three stories high; a four-story mill near Cut Off lake, the whole aggregating in value $223,000.

McDonald & Ogilvy have on hand orders to draw plans for a warehouse to be built by Edwards & Crome on the corner of Eleventh and Nicholas streets, at a cost of $20,000; for a $10,000 store building, to be erected by John Ercks, on the corner of Sixteenth and Webster; another warehouse to cost $25,000; a block of French flats to cost $30,000; three residences to cost $15,000 each; two other residences to cost $4,500 and $9,000 respectively, the whole representing a total value of $115,500.

I. and I. Hodgson, jr., are preparing plans as follows: For a residence to be built on West Furnam street by O. M. Carter at a cost of $30,000; residence and flats for Mr. Creigh, value not given; warehouses on Leavenworth street, between Seventh and Eighth, and on Jones, between Eighth and Ninth, for G. M. Troutman, of Philadelphia; for a residence to be built by Captain Marsh east of Brownell Hall, and for numerous other storerooms, flats and residences, the whole aggregating a valuation of $200,000.

For Immanuel Hospital.

Next Friday and Saturday the Immanuel hospital will appeal to the charitably disposed citizens of Omaha for aid. The management, however, offers value received to the contributors, and will give an absolutely moral entertainment, entitled "The Life of Joseph," at the Exposition hall. It will be illustrated with twelve living tableaux, and the vocal and instrumental recitals in accompaniment will be in charge of Prof. J. E. Butler and C. A. Jacobson. The fact that the entertainment is under the patronage of the Rev. Messrs. Fogelstrom and Harsha speaks for itself.

RAYMOND'S BANKING BILL.

It Is Being Considered By Committees From Both Houses.

MAIN FEATURES OF THE MEASURE

An Interview With Mr. Jewett on the Custer County Division Question—Legislative Notes and Gossip.

The Banking Committees.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 16.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The banking committees held several joint meetings at the Windsor hotel, listened to the opinions of a large number of bankers, and read numerous and varied bills introduced in the present legislature. The purpose was to secure light and a solid basis for a law for the bank regulation, of which Nebraska is in such great need, but there were so many conflicting opinions among both bankers and legislators that no agreement was reached and the committees separated.

Senator Raymond had a bill prepared that seemed to come nearest to the general opinion as to what was needed, but he became impatient at the delay and introduced this measure. Since then both committees have taken the Raymond bill as a basis for a new measure. The committees are working separately, but by exchanging opinions are arriving at similar results.

The bill makes it unlawful for anyone to engage in banking unless he have the capital indicated in the following scale: In places of less than 1,000 inhabitants, $5,000; 1,000 to 1,500, $10,000; 1,500 to 2,000, $15,000; 2,000 to 5,000, $20,000; 3,000 to 5,000, $25,000; 5,000 to 10,000, $30,000; 10,000 to 20,000, $50,000; 20,000 to 30,000, $75,000; in cities of over 40,000, $100,000. Quarterly sworn reports must be made to the state treasurer showing the following facts:

"The amount loaned upon bond and mortgage, together with the list thereof; the par value and estimated market value of all stock or bond investments, designating each particular kind and amount invested in each; the amount loaned upon the of securities, with a statement of the securities held as collateral for such loans; the amount loaned upon notes, bills of exchange, overdrafts, and other personal securities, with the estimated market value of such securities; the amount of rediscounts and commercial paper past due; the amount invested in real estate, giving the cost of the same; the amount of cash on hand and on deposit in banks or trust companies, with their names and the amount deposited in each; the amount of all other assets, including accrued interest, not enumerated above, and such other information as the state may require."

Commercial paper six months overdue, and not in process of collection, may not be included in the resources. The affidavit to the statement may not be made before any one connected with the bank. The statements must be published. The treasurer may call for special reports at any time.

The treasurer must appoint a person or persons to examine every person at least once each year. The examiner must make a thorough investigation, and is empowered to administer oaths and compel the attendance of witnesses. The examiner will be paid $10 a day while employed, but not to exceed $2,000 a year. He must give a bond for $10,000.

A penalty of $50 is fixed for each day the quarterly statement is delayed beyond a tenday limit from its date. The penalty for any statement, book entry or false exhibit intended to deceive the examiner shall be a fine not exceeding $10,000 and imprisonment in the state penitentiary from one to five years.

Each banking concern must have on hand, in lawful money, including sight exchange and deposits in other banks, 15 per cent of the amount of its deposits. If the reserve fall below 15 per cent the bank may not increase its liabilities except by acquiring sight exchange. If the deficiency continue thirty days it shall be sufficient cause for the appointment of a receiver. The total liabilities for money borrowed may not exceed 20 per cent of the capital, but the discount of bills of exchange and commercial paper, made in good faith, shall not be considered as money borrowed. A bank is prohibited from receiving deposits when insolvent. Such offense is made a felony punishable by a fine of not exceeding $10,000 or by imprisonment not exceeding five years, or both.

If, any time, the state treasurer learn that the interests of a bank's depositors have become jeopardized he must notify the attorney general, who must ask the supreme or district court to appoint a receiver. A statement of the facts in this clause will be sufficient for the appointment of the receiver.

The Raymond bill makes depositors preferred creditors, but the committees will strike out that featurr. A provision will probably be added covering savings banks. National banks are not affected.

Won't Tamper With the Statutes.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 16.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Senator Jewett, of Broken Bow, has a little newspaper clipping stowed away in his pocketbook that may come handy for future reference. It was cut from THE BEE and contains an interview with Mr. J. Wood Smith, of Callaway, that reflects upon Mr Jewett. These gentlemen live in Custer county. It is forty-six by fifty-four miles in size, and there is a considerable element in favor of dividing it into four counties. Mr. Smith imputes bad faith upon Mr. Jewett's part by insinuating that the latter is back of a bill introduced in the house and intended to throw obtacles in the way of county division. Representative Whitehead, of Custer county, made this explanation:

"Mr. Jewett lives at Broken Bow, the present county seat, and is naturally opposed to division. Representative Sergeant and myself are for division. That issue was entered into in the early part of the canvass, but for the sake of harmony and in the interest of the party, the republican candidates agreed, if elected, not to interfere with the existing laws relative to county division. I am confident, from the information I have, that Mr. Jewett is innocent of doing anything contrary to our agreement."

"Mr. Smith's insinuation is unjust," replied Senator Jewett, in answer to a question. "I have had nothing to do with the house bill he refers to, and did not know of its existence until after it was printed. I announced publicly that I would not tamper with our present statistics governing county division, and that position I still hold. If division was the issue," the senator added with a smile, "I think Custer county must be very nearly solid against it, for I had a majority of 1,635 over Smith. His own precinct gave me a majority, and in a democratic precinct adjoining I got 108 votes to his 5," and the senator's manner conveyed a suspicion that his democratic opponent had personal reasons for misrepresenting him. In this connection it may be said that Mr. Jewett is one of the influential members of the senate. He does not talk much, but when he does he expresses himself tersely, clearly and forcefully. He is a faithful worker, and personally is one of the most highly respected senators of this session.

The house bill referred to was introduced by Representative Fenton of Richardson. It requires a three-fifths vote to divide a county, and provides that a proposition for division shall not again be entertained until three years after such a vote has been taken. The bill is said to have been introduced to fit the desires of certain residents of Holt county.

Farmers' Institutes.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 16.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Mr. Whitehead of Custer introduced a bill to-day, appropriating the sum of $2,500 annually, for the next two years, to be expended in holding farmers' institutes. According to the provisions of the bill the president, secretary and board of regents of the state university, the president and secretary of the state agricultural society, Horticultural society, Dairymen's association and State Farmers' alliance are constituted a board to superintend the holding of the institutes and expend the money. They are required to name one of their own number, who is to receive a salary of $300 a year and expenses, to act as special agent of the board in arranging for the meetings.

The bill further provides that no part of the money shall be used to pay local expenses, that the institute shall continue from one to three days, and not over $100 be expended at any one meeting. The bill also specifies that the purpose of the measure is to dispense "practical knowledge on topics pertaining to the farm on agriculture, stock and dairying at the least expense to the people."

The Scoville Committee.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 16.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The sergeant-at-arms of the house returned this morning from Culbertson, bringing the two parties implicated in the bribery business. The committee held a very short session to-day, as several members wished to go home. It is intimated that the doors of the committee room will be thrown open on Monday and the reporters admitted. This means either that nothing tangible has been developed, or that the guilty parties have been named.

The statement published in an Omaha paper this morning that McNickle, of Gage, has testified that money had been offered him to vote against submission is entirely without foundation.

There is a rumor afloat that John A. Taylor had put the committee on the wrong scent and hurried the affair off on a wild goose chase to Culbertson, while the real parties who have knowledge of the transactions have got beyond the reach of a subpœna.

Senate.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 16.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The senate opened this morning with eight members absent. Ransom also left, and Senator Paxton's bill for the condemnation of a postoffice site at Omaha was put on its passage, going through without opposition. Senator Howe also improved the opportunity to bring up his bill for globular glass ballot boxes in the committee of the whole. It was amended so as to apply only to cities of 5,000 or over, and was approved in committee of the whole.

The senate spent the larger share of the morning in wrestling with the Funck ballott bill, which was explained at length in THE BEE a few days ago. It regulates the size, color, type, paper, and method of voting election tickets. The bill was cut and slashed without mercy, and in despair of getting the disevered pieces together the senate put the bill back on the general file. It will probably make another try next week.

Senators Nesbitt, Howe, Paxton, Robinson, Norval, Roche, and Pope, were appointed to meet with a house committee and arrange a joint session of the legislature to receive Senator Manderson. The senator has sent word that he will be in Lincoln next Tuesday.

The senate adjourned at noon to meet Monday afternoon at 4 o'clock.

House.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 16.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Many members of the house were absent this morning.

Mr. Rhodes of Pawnee offered the following, which was unanimously adopted:

Whereas, Hon. Charles F. Manderson, United States senator, will be in Lincoln, Monday, February 19. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the house that the legislature meet in joint convention, for the purpose of receiving Charles F. Manderson, senator-elect.

Resolved, That a committee of seven be appointed to act with a like committee on the part of the senate, to provide for a suitable reception in joint convention of the senator.

The speaker appointed the following as members of the above committee: Rhodes, Berlin, Winters, Truesdell, Severin, Crugen and Larson.

The house went into committee of the whole to consider bills on general file.

A bill declaring dogs to be "property," and providing for their taxation, was finally ordered to a third reading. Also a bill prohibiting county courts from directing their processes to any peace officer except the sheriff.

Mr. Whitehead introduced a bill providing for the holding of county institutes and appropriating $2,500 annually for two years for the same. The bill makes it the duty of the board of regents of the state university to appoint a superintendent, who shall serve at a salary of $300 per sear, and hold meetings to discuss all farm problems at such points in the state as there may be a demand.

The house then adjourned until 2 p. m. Monday.

Legislative Gossip.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 16.—[Special to THE BEE.]—To-day was pay day and a large number of employes appeared at the desk of the chief clerk and drew their little warrants.

The whole house is gradually settling down to the opinion that Tom Cooke, first assistant clerk, is the right man in the right place. He has charge of the journal, and in every case the record has been found correct to a dot. Tom is a decided success.

The house was unable to do anything today. The temptation to spend Sudday at home and save some expense is too much for the average legislator, and the minority, after voting down two or three motions to adjourn, yielded to the inevitable and allowed the resolution to carry.

Shall dogs be taxed? was the problem that the salons in the house were endeavoring to solve to-day. They finally concluded to let a man keep all the dogs he may desire and pay taxes on their "value."

The Hampton committee is doing thorough work and cannot help weeding out at least one-third of the employes of the house, especially in some departments.

Mullane's Course Approved.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—When shown the Samoan advices received from San Francisco to-day, Secretary Bayard to-night said that Captain Mullan, of the Nipsic, had acted sensibly in taking care of Klein, the correspondent. Quite naturally exasperated by the killing of their countrymen, the Germans had fallen into the error of supposing that Klein was the leader of the native forces and had wished to punish him. Therefore he was glad that Klein had gotten back safely to the United States.

Of the other events chronicled in the dispatch, the secretary pointed out that since this date the telegraphic advices showed that martial law had been abolished, so far as it applied to foreigners, and that the German officials had been rebuked. He had noticed in the newspapers, although he had no official information on the subject, that German consul Knappe and Herr Brandiss, Tamasese's adviser, who, according to some accounts, had been responsible for fomenting strife, had been ordered home by the German government. If this was true, the state of affairs promised to be much relieved. Altogether, the secretary was hopeful that a speedy, peaceful and satisfactory settlement of the Samoan affairs would be reached. He had, he said, received no news from Samoa later than that sent to congress and already published.

Y. M. C. A. Briefs.

James Hilberry, formerly stenographer at the Y. M. C. A., has resigned his position there and engaged with the Pullman Palace Car company in a like capacity.

Physical Director Kerr, of the Sioux City association, was a guest at the rooms yesterday.

The membership is rapidly reaching 500, the limit of the number of gymnasium lockers.

State Secretary Nast was a visitor at the hall yesterday.

The monthly meeting of the reception committee decided that the next reception shall be given to railroaders.

The membership committee met with the reception committee at tea at 6 o'clock. This committee is doing some earnest work in its line, and at this session considered the subject of "Ways and Means."

New Switch Yards.

The Union Pacific will, in the near future, commence the construction of a new switch yard at Summit, to be used for storage of freight received, and will also extend the spur trackage in the yards at Twentieth street, necessitating the laying of over three miles of side track.

Special Service.

Yesterday arrangements for carrying a mail pouch on the Golden Gate special on the Union Pacific were completed, and hereafter that train will convey mail matter distributed to points east of the Missouri river from San Francisco, Chicago and New York mail in the main will be handled. This move is brought about in the interests of the commercial circles of San Francisco.

WANT THE ILLINOIS RATES

Iowa Commissioners Asked to Grant Certain Concessions.

EFFECT OF THE NEW SCHEDULE.

A Postoffice Burned—The Winona & Southwestern—A Prominent Keokuk Attorney Dead—Other Hawkeye News of Interest.

Railroad Men in Conference.

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 16.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—A number of prominent railroad men, including President Perkins, of the Burlington road; General Freight Agent Bird, of the Milwaukee, and Judge Hubbard, the Iowa solicitor of the Northwestern, have been in conference with the railroad commissioner here to-day. They frankly stated to the commissioner that they had come to ask for some relief from the present schedule of rates. Their alarm at the situation was not due simply to the expected reduction in revenue in Iowa, but they say that if the present low rates were sustained in Iowa the same would be demanded in Illinois and Nebraska and other states, and all of their interstate rates would have to be cut down correspondingly. This, they said to the commissioners, meant a great crippling of the service in order to lessen expenses or inevitable bankruptcy. They said that while the road might do business at a loss in this state, the proportion of their local business was only about 20 per cent of the inter-state business, and if the present interstate rates were allowed to remain the roads could keep their heads out of water. But such a result would not follow if the Iowa rates were sustained. These rates are 15 per cent lower than the Illinois commissioners' rates, and Illinois would insist on having the Iowa rate and so would all the other states. For this reason they urged the commissioners to change their schedule and give the Illinois rates. The commissioners gave them no direct reply, though Commissioner Day states that in his opinion some changes ought to be made and will be made.

Closed by the Inspector.

DES MOINES Ia., Feb. 16.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Most of the coal mines of this state have been running at less than half their capacity. The mines have been, as far as sanitation is concerned, in good condition. In a few instances only have the inspectors been compelled to interfere. One of these instances was at the Fishville mines, Mahaska county. Inspector James Gildroy has been compelled to close down on this mine because the managers had refused to comply with his recommendations as to ventilation. Three thousand cubic feet of air was made to do duty for 117 miners, eight drivers, three roadmen and a motley collection of mules and donkeys. He says they ought to have at least 18,900 cubic feet. The managers, as soon as the mine was closed, went to work to construct the necessary air shafts, etc. Mr. Gildroy states that when he closed the mine, a step only to be resorted to in extreme cases, many of the men who had been suffering raised objections because it would compel a cessatson of work for a few days for repairs.

The Inter-State Convention.

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 16.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE]—Governor Larrabee has been officially notified by Governor Humphrey, of Kansas, that the inter-state convention to take action against pork and beef combinations will be held in St. Louis on the 12th of March. The scheme for this convention originated with the Kansas legislature, and has received the endorsement of the governors of various western states, and they have agreed to see that delegates to represent the respective states will be in attendance. Governor Larrabee has not yet appointed the Iowa delegates, but will do so in the near future. The purport of the convention will be to agree upon some line of action for all of the western states to follow in the hope that a combined opposition of these states may succeed in overthrowing these gigantic combines. Governor Larrabee is in hearty sympathy with the movement and will see that Iowa is well represented.

The Winona & Southwestern.

FORT DODGE, Ia., Feb. 16.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—It was learned in this city this evening from the Winona & Southwestern officials that a continuation of the construction will be commenced on that road within the next thirty days. Preparations are being made rapidly to begin grading. The officials say that the work of construction will be pushed with the same vigor and promptness that marked the construction of the first twenty miles. The location of the road has been definitely determined, and will build to Omaha and Sioux City, via Fort Dodge.

Railroad Notes.

Thomas W. Lee has resigned the position of general passenger agent of the Lake Erie & Western in view of taking his position March 1 as assistant general passenger agent of the Union Pacific.

The Atlantic express on the Union Pacific was one hour late yesterday morning resulting from a heavy train and the storm.

W. H. Holcomb's private car "100" has just emerged from the shops with new sets of wheels manufactured out of compressed paper.

The new rotary snow plow for the Union Pacific will be wheeled into Omaha over the Rock Island about Tuesday next. 'He who laughs last laughs best.'

J. S. Tebbets, who will step from the general passenger to the general freight department of the Union Pacific March 1, is devoting a portion of his time at present in the freight department.

A Policeman Resigns.

Last night Mayor Broatch and Messrs. Gilbert and Smith transacted the business usually allotted to the board of fire and police commissioners, the other memoers of the board being absent. It was decided that applicants for position on the force should appear for examination April 13. Officer W. R. Adams handed in his resignation, which was accepted. Superintendent George A. Coulter, of the fire and police alarm system, asked for an increase in salary. The application was left over. Officer Freeland was given leave of absence until March 1, and after contracting with the Gutta Percha & Rubber company for 2,000 feet of hose, at cost of $2,000, to be delivered in twenty days and paid for June 11, the board adjourned.

Daily Vestibule Trains.

The Union Pacific and the Southern Pacific have entered into a combine, and about April 1 a daily vestibule train service will be instituted between Omaha and San Francisco. The new combination will require six vestibule trains and the same will be furnished jointly by the two companies. One of the three to be furnished by the Union Pacific will be the Golden Gate Special, the schedule time of which will be changed for the occasion. It is stated that this deal is made to cut in on the Burlington's traffic to Denver and that of the other transcontinental lines to the coast.

Changes at Headquarters.

General Traffic Manager Mellen has been assigned the quarters formerly occupied by Thomas L. Kimball, when he was at the head of the traffic department of the Union Pacific. The rooms occupied by Mr. Mellen will be occupied by the general manager. D. O. Clark, of the fuel department, has been assigned a suite of rooms on the second floor.

Joe Ryan Sick.

J. B. J. Ryan is lying dangerously ill at his residence, corner of Lowe and Mercer avenues. He contracted a severe cold about ten days ago and it is feared that it may yet result fatally.

The Weather Indications.

Nebraska and Dakota: Clearing, colder northerly winds.

Iowa: Generally fair, much colder northwesterly winds.

SPORRING NEWS.

Morgan's Fall.

The fifty-mile race between Senator Morgan, of London, England, and Charlie Ashinger, at the Colosseum, attracted a crowd of 3,000 people. The race was close and exciting up to the forty-fourth mile, when Morgan, who was trailing closely, made a miscalculation and ran into the pole and turned a complete somersault over his wheel, falling flat upon his back upon the turf track. Morgan was badly stunned, but quickly recovering himself, mounted his wheel and pluckily continued the race. He made frequent efforts to recover the lap he lost by the accident, but they were unavailing. Ashinger was too evenly matched, and it was evident that he was the winner. The mishap robbed the race of much of its interest, and although Morgan rode heroically, it was no use. Ashinger won the race by one lap in 2:58¼.

It was thought by many spectators that the fall was a deliberate attempt to throw the race.

The female bycielists who have been engaged in a six days' race at Madison Square Garden, New York, during the past week, will be here for a race in the Colosseum, beginning Monday, March 11. Billy O'Brien has telegraphed Manager Prince to make all arrangements. Among the starters will be M'lle. Armando, Hulda Swallow, Kittie Brown, Jessie Oakes, Jessie Woods, Lulu Hart, E. Von Blumen, Lizzie Stanley, Minnie McShane, Louise Fox, Hattie Lewis and Emily Baldwin.

A Challenge.

OMAHA, Neb., Feb. 17.—Sporting Editor BEE: It has always been my plan to receive defeat, as well as victory, in the proper spirit, but owing to the accident which befell me last night, it is no more than fair and in justice to my supporters to challenge Ashinger to a race on next Saturday night, of from one to fifty miles, for $50 or $100 a side, winner to take all receipts. Yours,

"SENATOR" W. J. MORGAN.

Have deposited $50 with John J. Hardin to bind the match.

Diamond Flashes.

Manager Selee was very sensible in concluding to hold on to Jack Nagle. He is a great catcher, and a great favorite here.

Catcher Sam Trott has drifted out of the Western association again. He will manage the Newarks, of Newark, N. J., this year.

Tug Arundel, with the St. Louis Whites last season, has gotten himself into jail at Auburn, N. Y., for beating up a policeman.

The Des Moines club has released Pitcher F. C. Smith from reservation. The Prohibs are trying to purchase Monk Cline of Kansas City.

Big Wilson, the back-stop, is at his home in Brooklyn, and writes that he is willing to try Omaha another season, and at a reduced salary.

Manager Selee and President McCormick, as well as Secretary Brandt, are all confident that Omaha will finish better than last season.

St. Joe has signed Shellhasse, the supple little backstop of last season's Syracuse Stars. Shellhasse is a weak batter, but an excellent catcher.

Young Freeman, the last pitcher signed by the St. Louis Browns, is in the city, the guest of Dr. Hughes, corner Sixteenth and Webster streets.

The captainey of the Omaha team has not been touched upon yet, but it will likely be left to a vote of the players. Andrews would make a good man.

No Western association pitchers will size up the Omaha team as a snap after they once face Leighton, Canavan, Cleveland Campana and Andrews.

All of the Western association teams, this coming season, will be backed by men of wealth and business reputation, which insures their success.

Ted Kennedy says he will pitch better ball than ever this year. He is anxious to come back to Omaha, but as yet Willis is the only pitcher signed.

Alamazoo Jennings, of Cincinnati has, made application for a position on the umpire staff of the Western association. Alamazoo must be disappointed.

Charlie Willis, the New England pitcher, has been signed by Manager Selee. He pitched for Portsmouth last season, and was generally a sure winner.

Readers of THE BEE—the base ball organ of Omaha—should derive some satisfaction from the fact that all its news has more or less of a local application.

All talk about Pittsburg's wanting to sell Staley, the old Western association pitcher, is bosh. He is one of the most promising rotators of the National league.

Manager Selee writes that his present team is the strongest aggregation that he ever succeeded in getting together. He has sent J. J. Hardin an order for thirteen pairs of shoes.

"Patsey Oliver Tebeau," says the Globe-Democrat, "has at last succeeded in raising a moustache, and he glories in a few scattering hairs on each jaw which he calls his "Burnsides." Let 'em grow, Pat, they'll hide your cheek.

There may be such a thing as Omaha's holding Canton to its deal for Crooks. A bona fide sale was made, but Canton refuses to come to time. The best thing Crooks can do now is to sign a contract with Omaha at Omaha's price.

A friend writes THE BEE that Omaha will be pleased with Big Cleveland, and adds that he was not well all through his engagement with the Pittsburgs, and that when in condition he is one of the surest and prettiest hitters in the country.

The arbitration committee will have its hands full this spring, and no mistake. Joe Ardner, the second baseman of the St. Joe team, has jumped his contract and gone to California. This case, with that of Alvord, Veach and others, will make lots of work.

The Milwaukee papers are filled with accounts of their gilt edge team, and intend to tear the lining out of the stiff-legged jays and young blood hams of this city. Milwaukee has a severe case of swelled head, and the Omahogs will have to jump upon them with both feet when they come together.

Old John Campana, the famous long-distance pedestrian, and father of Campana who plays third here this season, was in the city a few days since en route to San Francisco. Old John called at the Colosseum and gave Messrs. Hardin, Prince, Morgan and others a sample of the style of his boy's play. If the sire's word goes, the son is a nummer.

Questions and Answers.

Will you please inform us of the number of miles in the last eighteen-hour bicycle race won by Prince?—Miner Bros.

Answer—Three hundred and fifty-four.

To decide a bet please state who holds the English records from four to twenty miles?—Cyclist.

Ans.—S. G. Whittaker, an American, and well known in Omaha.

Please state in THE BEE's Sunday sporting department whom Paddy Ryan won the championship from.—E. T. Hall.

Ans.—No one. The only time he fought for the championship was when he met Sullivan at Mississippi City. His fight with old Joe Goss was not a championship battle.

Will you please write me whether a Western association player can be held for next season at a reduction of salary from what he received last year?—J. H. C., Chicago.

Ans.—THE BEE answers no questions by mail. He can.

When will the playing schedule be published in THE BEE?—Amateur, Omaha.

Ans.—As soon as ratified by the association, which will probably be the first week in March.

To settle a dispute, will you please state the fastest time made in a fifty-mile bicycle race, and oblige?—B. & M.

Ans.—By F. F. Ives, against time, at Springfield, Mass., October 9, 1886.

Will you please decide the following bet? I bet George W. Williams $30 that there never was a stake of $10,000 fought for in America.—E. J. Cohen.

Ans.—You lose. Tom Hyer and Yankee Sullivan fought at Rock Point, Md., February 7, 1849, for $10,000, Hyer winning.

Can you state in Sunday's BEE the largest number of innings ever played in a game of base ball?—E. T. Millen, Union Pacific headquarters.

Ans.—Twenty-four, Harvard vs. Manchester, Boston, Mass., May 11, 1887.

E. L. Lomax, of the Union Pacific, is in New York.

TEKAMAH BELLES WEEPING

For Young William B. Moon, Who Has Fled.

HIS DIAMOND STUDS SPARKLED,

And His Beautiful Sealskin Overcoat Quite Turned the Young Ladies' Heads.

A Society Darling.

TEKAMAH, Neb., Feb. 16.—[Special to THE BEE.]—W. B. Moon, who has been clerking in various stores in Tekamah for the past five years, indulged in seal skin overcoats and diamond studs and went in the very best society, has been requested to leave town by the indignant merchants of that burg, whom he has roobed in sums varying from $1,000 to $1,500 each. He was a great favorite among the ladies, and many fair maidens are supposed to be weeping in silence for a form that has vanished.

The Ke