

THE NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE

Features of the Week at the Capital City.

IMPORTANT MEASURES ACTED ON

Both Houses Settle Down to Work and Transact An Unusually Large Amount of Business—State House Gossip.

A Legislative Resume.

LANSING, Neb., March 3.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The senate has been in session forty-six days, the house forty-five. Ten bills have reached the office of the secretary of state, and are laws full fledged. Two are yet in the hands of the governor, making twelve measures passed by both houses. The new statutes of the past week were two in number:

One authorizes the issue of bonds for the erection of county buildings, worth for \$1,500 on a vote of a bare majority of the people. Under the old law it required a two-thirds vote. The other act grants an indemnity of \$2,500 to William J. Wilson, of Tekamah, who was maimed for life while trying to arrest a burglar, "Reddy" Williams, at the order of the sheriff of Butte. The burglar shot him in the face, the ball entering the upper lip shattering the jaw and coming out under the ear.

The measures in the governor's hands are Ransom's bill, requiring fire insurance companies to pay the face of the bill making the commissioner of public lands and buildings a custodian for government plots, maps, records and surveys of lands, and the braids. The custodian is directed to keep these records in his office subject to the inspection of the land commissioners, surveyors general or other officers of the state, and also of the county surveyors. The bill was framed for the special benefit of the county surveyors, who often find it difficult to get proper care of their records.

Among the more important measures passed by the senate are the following: Raymond's railroad lien bill, which makes railroads responsible for the merchandise, fodder and produce on their cars during the work of construction. Claims for such goods are made liens on railroad property.

Lansing's bill providing for state oil inspection, raising the tax and adopting the New York test.

A bill making it unlawful for an officer of a city or a village to be or become interested, directly or indirectly, in any contract with his municipality. The penalty for an offending officer is a fine of \$500, or \$250, for a village officer, \$100 to \$1,000.

Another providing that when the last day of grace on a note or other commercial paper falls on Sunday the paper shall be due on the Saturday preceding.

Making it unlawful to contract in notes, bonds and mortgages for the payment of attorney's fees.

Providing that suits to recover on insurance companies may be begun at any time within five years after the date of the loss.

Authorizing the governor to pardon two long-term convicts on July 1 of each year.

Considerable time has been spent in banking bills, the features of which were given in THE BEE two weeks ago. It will probably pass this week.

Much of the time of the senate has been consumed in killing off bills. Among the more important to meet this untimely fate were Ransom's bill, which would have authorized Funkel's bill prohibiting the form and size of election tickets; Linn's bill to allow women to vote at principal elections; and Eggart's bill prohibiting the voting of bonds to aid in the construction of railroads. The last named provided the sharpest details of the senate's action on the bill, for the woman's suffrage had met its fate in this senate.

The herd and fence bill, which caused such a stir in the house, has also been put on the senate's general file, which insures its consideration.

The senate committee has recommended an appropriation of \$1,000 for the state dairy-man's association.

The investigation of the state farm and agricultural college has been continued, but without making any developments of a sensational sort. A bill has been introduced to separate these institutions and the agricultural college from the state university and establish an industrial college outside of the First congressional district, modeled somewhat after the plan of the Iowa agricultural college.

The house settled down to work the past week and transacted a large amount of business. The most important measure that passed the house was the Ransom's bill, which provides that in all cases of total loss, the amount stated in the policy, and not the value of the property destroyed, shall be the measure of damages, and when the insured or policy holder is compelled to go to law to collect the insurance he may also collect a reasonable attorney fee as part of the costs. Both of these provisions were strongly opposed by a powerful insurance lobby, who persistently argued that the passage of such a law would put a premium on arson and "light the torch of the incendiary in every corner of the state."

The members turned to the consideration of amendments and passed the bill by the strong vote of 79 yeas to 7 nays. The negative votes were cast by Herin, Gardner and Cushing. On a special meeting of a large number of the members of the house, it was resolved to bring this bill up and rush it through, and on Wednesday morning the bill was carried to the letter. The fourteen members who were absent when the bill passed, dodged the issue, were Messrs. Faye, O'Brien, Snyder and McMillan, Douglas, Hays of York, Hooper of Hall, Mattes of Otoe, Sweet of Morrill, Truesdell of Thayer, Green of Jefferson, Elliott of Harrison, Green of Dodge, Collins of Cass, and Meeker of Chase.

The Hamilton committee, consisting of Messrs. Hamilton, Snyder and McMillan, and Cushing, who were appointed to investigate the question of super-serviceable help, made their final report on Friday. They filed a lengthy and detailed report, which abuses that have crept into the legislative service. Among other things they found that about thirty per cent of the members in the enrolling and engraving department at the beginning of the session, when there was little or nothing to do, and severely criticized Chairman Herin, who had given up his seat, yielding to the clamors of the horde of applicants for positions, and making so many unnecessary appointments. The report closed with a recommendation that forty clerks be discharged, including eleven committee clerks, and seven from the enrolling and engraving rooms.

As Lancaster county has some forty-eight appointments, and of a total of less than one hundred and fifty the committee recommended that the bulk of the reduction should be taken from the contingent from that county. After some blistering reports of the report of the committee, the members named, the house was thrown into a panic by the only bill that was not passed by a one or two far had only adopted a declaration that they had forty too many employees on the pay roll. Will Truesdell of Thayer moved that the committee be discharged, and the members were absent, legislation was tied up for an indefinite period. Member after member were sent for and hurried away from his dinner and brought before the bar only to be excused with an order to stand treats, which was never enforced.

The house succeeded into a good national week and no occurrence of order was made.

CULTURE IN TWO STATES.

Iowa and Nebraska Work in Chautauqua Work.

LAST NIGHT'S PLEASANT MEETING

What the Prospects Are For An Assembly Particularly For The Benefit of Omaha and Council Bluffs.

At The Grand.

The stage setting at the Grand opera house last night was materially different from that witnessed by audiences the previous nights of the week. Instead of the Ethiopian comique, the Shakespearean tragedian, or the horse comedian, there were a number of cultured artists, who were the gospel and literary people of the city. They were there for the purpose of discussing the Omaha and Council Bluffs Chautauqua assembly, which was established last fall.

First on the stage were Rev. Dr. Duray, of the First Congregational church, Rev. Harsha, of the First Presbyterian church; Rev. J. M. House, of the First Methodist; G. G. Hitchcock, of the Evening World; J. E. Harkness, of Council Bluffs.

The auditorium of the theater was thronged with people who were evidently interested in the Chautauqua movement. It was a literary mass meeting.

The Rev. Dr. Duray presided and introduced Dr. Duray, who made a very able and forcible address concerning the movement. He talked of the various assemblies in the United States, and there were some fifty-four in existence; that they were being extended throughout Europe, and that preparations were being made to introduce them into Asia and Africa. He described the original assembly at Chautauqua Lake, New York; told how it was established and how the grounds were laid out; and how it gave a vivid description of the benefits of a knowledge of literature, science, history, language and art through the medium of the assembly. The assembly, he said, during the summer vacation, required a pleasant spot in the woods where they could get a breath of fresh air and a view of a beautiful stream, where they could enjoy their vacation days could be advantageously devoted to normal and biblical study; where they could study the scriptures and help each other in better accomplishments. In order that light might be gotten out of the scriptures it was necessary that light be shed on the scriptures. The speaker put light upon nearly all the good accomplishments. Chautauqua meant to give people knowledge by inspiring mind into youth and making youth think. He had met two young girls at Chautauqua lake who were attending the assembly gathering, and they were studying Latin and Greek, and had saved their pennies in order to get a little knowledge by attending the assembly. It pleased him to grasp their course and to see them so interested in their studies. He said that the assembly was to be brighter and truer than many of the delicate and dainty, sweet and joyous appearing femininity that is fringed about the city. The speaker introduced such sarcastic stress on the last four words of the sentence that the applause was tumultuous.

Rev. Mr. House then introduced Rev. W. J. Harsha, who spoke in glowing terms of the success of the Chautauqua. He said that Chautauqua was a grand thing, and that he hoped, matrimonial way that he desired, but loving that the assembly would bind them closer together. It was with great pleasure that he welcomed the Chautauqua on account of its intellectual tendencies; because it stimulated the mind, and that it was teaching men and women to improve their minds by reading excellent books, instead of indulging in the pleasures of the moment. He said that he was one of the trustees of the assembly, but felt like he had not done his duty. He said that he had much in the movement, though he had not been in it. He said that he had been in it, but he had not done his duty. He said that he had been in it, but he had not done his duty.

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A SERMON TO SOLDIERS.

Dean Gardner Addresses the Omaha Guards.

WHEN LIBERAL HAD A BOOM.

Sensation at Rise and Fall of a Wild Kansas Town.

WHO KILLED BRONCHO CHARLEY?

Nobody Cared But Everybody Went to the Funeral—An Enterprising Justice Who Stole Beer and Sold It.

Things were Lively Then.

The day of the wild cattle towns of the great southwest as depicted by the novelists of the east are about over says a Wichita correspondent of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, but yet there does every once in a while spring into existence a place which for a few days or weeks rivals Wichita of old and the famous Hays City, Ellsworth, Deadwood, Dak., Leadville, Colo. Chief among these "bad towns" are Liberal, Bear City, and Parcell, I. T.

Liberal is in Kansas, and its twin sister, Bear City, is just over the line in No Man's Land. Kansas being a prohibition state, the thirty citizens went over to Bear City to "irrigate," and the consequence was that many "tenderloins" were planted in this portion of the country. The Post-Dispatch correspondent was at Liberal when the boom was at its height, and when there were 3,000 inhabitants in the place. A visit to the town a few weeks ago revealed the fact that the then booming town is now but a forest of empty houses and blasted hopes. The town died abominably, but while she lasted was a great one.

During the month of May, 1888, and for several weeks in April and April was the best advertised city in Kansas. The Rock Island railway had just built into the town, and the Rock Island Land & Townsite company boomed it for all it was worth. The consequence was that thousands of thousands of people from all over the country flocked to the new eldorado of the west. It is needless to say that most of them returned wiser, but by far poorer than when they went to that place.

The first thing that struck Liberal was the lack of water, which had to be hauled in wagon or cars from the Chalmers river, and on its arrival at Liberal was worth five cents a bucket. This one fact ruined the city. The principal trade of the place was with overland freighters, and the men who brought in buffalo bones and sold them. The teamsters had to pay five cents a bucket for water to water their stock, and they quit the town on this account, and the business of the town died. But while it lasted Liberal was "dandy."

Some crank prohibitionists in Liberal caused the liquor law of Kansas to be rigidly enforced, and this built up Bear City. Bear City has about two and a half miles of Liberal, and over the line in No Man's Land. During the boom days of the Kansas town from fifteen to twenty hacks and busses did a thriving business hauling passengers from Liberal to Bear City at 25 cents a seat. On the line Liberal and Bear City were used to use a western expression, they could "irrigate" in beer at 50 cents a bottle. Being in No Man's Land the liquor dealer did not pay license either to Uncle Sam or Kansas, and thus the profit was immense, and as the place was wholly made up of saloons and bawdy houses, it derived its name of "Beer City."

The result was a night revel, drunken street fights, highway robbery and all other sorts of lawlessness. There was no law except the law of might, backed up by six-shooters and Winchester. Cowboys rode madly down the streets shooting revolvers and yelling like fiends, and although many of the lawless ones were killed, it was not until the town was a pile of ruins that the law was restored.

During the early days of the boom Charley Myers, an opium eater, a neophyte in the law, and a whiskey gurgler, was attracted to the place. His home was at Wichita, and he was considered the finest landscape painter in the whole state of Kansas, but his bad habits ruined him.

Soon after his arrival at Liberal he was arrested for selling liquor, and the light atmosphere of the place was spoiled. The Grand Duke was sent far into the interior, while the young adventurers for a couple of years, in her old victories, with Russian horses, and with a few more of the sights of the Bois.

Left to herself, in an evil moment she employed a hack writer, and in the autumn of 1875 she astonished and delighted the Parisians by the appearance of a book entitled "Le Roman d'une Americaine en Russie," which was an account of her liaison with the grand duke. She became the reigning sensation. Her books were seized by the police, and she was ordered to leave Paris. This period of her career is depicted in "A Modern Don Juan." She next figured in Italy, where her charms, always fatal to youth of the royal blood, soon entangled Count de Brichon, and she was the wife of Victor Emmanuel, in their thirties. The young man's mother, the celebrated Countess Rosina, put an effectual stop to the liaison, and the Italian police were charged with the task of getting the countess out of the country. Driven from Italy, she yearned to return to beautiful Paris, and was permitted to return on condition that she gave up all letters, portraits, heirlooms, etc., presented to her by the grand duke. Here she led a comparatively quiet life until about 1885, when she returned to Philadelphia, took a small house in the upper part of town, and devoted her time to her pen, and so worked upon the sympathies of some of her old school-girl friends that they sent her money and good wishes. After a short period of penance Hattie tried the new life and disappeared. She was never seen again, and no one knows where she is now.

Not the Quoniam She Explored. Chicago Tribune. "Miss Laura," began the youth, with a flushed face and a tremor in his voice, "I came this evening to ask you—"

"One moment, please," Mr. Hankinson. "Willie, you are not taking me into the room with those blocks. You'd better take them into the other room."

"To ask you," resumed the young man, mopping his brow with a trembling hand, "if you—"

"If you have tried that other evening you were going to take and if it did you no good I am nearly wild with a headache to-night."

"I have forgotten the circumstance to which you allude, Mr. Hankinson," said Miss Kajones wistfully. "Willie, you may remain if you wish."

The importance of purifying the blood cannot be overestimated, for without pure blood you cannot enjoy good health. At this season nearly every one needs a good tonic to purify the blood, and enrich the blood, and Hood's Sarsaparilla is what you need. It is peculiar in that it strengthens and builds up the system, creates an appetite, and tones the digestion, while it eradicates disease. Give it a trial. Hood's Sarsaparilla is sold by all druggists. Prepared by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

100 Doses One Dollar

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First on the stage were Rev. Dr. Duray, of the First Congregational church, Rev. Harsha, of the First Presbyterian church; Rev. J. M. House, of the First Methodist; G. G. Hitchcock, of the Evening World; J. E. Harkness, of Council Bluffs.

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The Rev. Dr. Duray presided and introduced Dr. Duray, who made a very able and forcible address concerning the movement. He talked of the various assemblies in the United States, and there were some fifty-four in existence; that they were being extended throughout Europe, and that preparations were being made to introduce them into Asia and Africa. He described the original assembly at Chautauqua Lake, New York; told how it was established and how the grounds were laid out; and how it gave a vivid description of the benefits of a knowledge of literature, science, history, language and art through the medium of the assembly. The assembly, he said, during the summer vacation, required a pleasant spot in the woods where they could get a breath of fresh air and a view of a beautiful stream, where they could enjoy their vacation days could be advantageously devoted to normal and biblical study; where they could study the scriptures and help each other in better accomplishments. In order that light might be gotten out of the scriptures it was necessary that light be shed on the scriptures. The speaker put light upon nearly all the good accomplishments. Chautauqua meant to give people knowledge by inspiring mind into youth and making youth think. He had met two young girls at Chautauqua lake who were attending the assembly gathering, and they were studying Latin and Greek, and had saved their pennies in order to get a little knowledge by attending the assembly. It pleased him to grasp their course and to see them so interested in their studies. He said that the assembly was to be brighter and truer than many of the delicate and dainty, sweet and joyous appearing femininity that is fringed about the city. The speaker introduced such sarcastic stress on the last four words of the sentence that the applause was tumultuous.

Rev. Mr. House then introduced Rev. W. J. Harsha, who spoke in glowing terms of the success of the Chautauqua. He said that Chautauqua was a grand thing, and that he hoped, matrimonial way that he desired, but loving that the assembly would bind them closer together. It was with great pleasure that he welcomed the Chautauqua on account of its intellectual tendencies; because it stimulated the mind, and that it was teaching men and women to improve their minds by reading excellent books, instead of indulging in the pleasures of the moment. He said that he was one of the trustees of the assembly, but felt like he had not done his duty. He said that he had much in the movement, though he had not been in it. He said that he had been in it, but he had not done his duty.

Mr. Hitchcock was the next orator introduced. He said that he was one of the trustees of the assembly, but felt like he had not done his duty. He said that he had much in the movement, though he had not been in it. He said that he had