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It must be conceded that the investigating committee drew the lynx pretty strong. The overhead wire companies sprang their mine before their friends could escape the shower of mud.

KANSAS CITY, as usual, is ten years ahead Omaha. It has just secured a great union depot on paper. The main question is: Did the council "see" the subway people, or the subway people "see" the council?

The street sweepers have been laid up for two weeks for repairs. An extra haul on the treasury is required to grease the shafting. The undertakers should advance the date of the convention at Lincoln.

CADET TAYLOR failed to connect with the state board of transportation. This is due to the merciful disposition of the board to save the roads from bankruptcy.

ADMIRATION for the Denver hack robber is lost when one contemplates the methods used to purge Moffat of his coin. Castor oil has lost none of its persuasive qualities.

NEBRASKA officeholders threaten to overwhelm the hungry Hoosiers at the capitol. The number of prairie waifs seeking recognition and a salary is sufficient to fill all the offices in sight.

EVICTING settlers from the Iowa river lands when the government is holding out prospects for relief smacks of persecution. The land companies only prejudice their cause by such action.

THERE is no reason why the council should vote a franchise to any subway system in order that overhead wires may be submerged. The time for issuing free franchises in Omaha is past.

THE condition of the Eleventh street viaduct demands the immediate attention of the authorities. The structure is a menace to life, and prompt measures should be taken to avert a calamity.

A CORRESPONDENT asks whether a council of a village in Nebraska can sign an application for a liquor license. The town board can grant a license in a county where the sale of liquor is not prohibited.

AMONG the commendable acts of the legislature was the maintenance of fairly good order during the closing hours. The drunken orgies which disgraced previous legislatures was noticeably absent.

THE United States senate is carefully watching the progress of the press repression bill in Germany. A similar law in this country would relieve the members of much physical pain and mental torture.

THE purchase of the Pacific hotel plant by the Union Pacific is an evidence of the retrenchment inaugurated in all departments. The back number plates can be pressed into service as car wheels when the finances run low.

NOT the least important of the measures which have become law, is the bill reducing the number of justices of the peace in metropolitan cities to six. This statute applies directly to Omaha and will go far in correcting the abuses of jug-handle justice.

THE LEGISLATURE. The Nebraska legislature made a record conspicuous for two reasons: The number of good local and general laws added to the statute books, and the almost entire absence of vicious legislation.

From the beginning to the close the legislature was harassed by a combination of boddlers determined to do as little as possible, except for a price. Half the members became active claim agents, and struggled to press their personal schemes to the front at the expense of general legislation.

Like all preceding legislatures, the Twenty-first was beset by a horde of hungry lobbyists and desperate tricksters. They were actively assisted by the chairmen of important committees, and their schemes of plunder were given a prominence which threatened for a time to make them successful. With the active aid of the combine on the floor of the house, general legislation was delayed as a means of covering honest members into supporting wholesale rackets on the treasury.

The demands of the producers for relief from railroad exactions were totally ignored. It was impossible to secure even respectful consideration in the senate. It was the graveyard of every measure affecting the corporations. The absurd claim that regulation would retard railroad building and delay the development of the western section of the state was successfully worked by the lawyers and political fencers.

An article will appear in the April number of the North American Review from the pen of Senator Chase advocating an increase of the salaries of members of congress and other federal officials. From extracts published Mr. Chase proves that there is a great deal to be said on his side of the question.

Mr. Chase argues that the country is rich and prosperous, and that the people are not only willing to see, but that they take pride in seeing, the men who represent them enabled to live in a manner befitting the important position which they occupy before the world.

It is of course not a sufficient answer to arguments in favor of paying congressmen a just compensation to say there is always an abundant supply of capable men willing to go to congress at the present salary, as has been shown in the case of the vacancy made by the resignation of Mr. Chase.

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question is likely to be vigorously agitated in the next congress, with some probability that the members of the succeeding congress will get an increase of salary. Perhaps the best plan would be to reduce the membership of the house to such an extent that a reasonable addition to the compensation would not materially increase the cost of congress to the country.

REGARDING AN EXTRA SESSION. The special session of the senate is expected to adjourn next week. Regarding an extra session of congress, the impression is general that one will not be called, or at any rate not sooner than October.

THE anxiety of the telegraph companies to bolster Shillinglaw shows that they were deeper in the subway mire than they are willing to admit. If they were disinterested parties to the investigation, why was it necessary to scour Chicago for certificates of character? Why were telegraph franks distributed so lavishly among councilmen? The evident intention was to perpetuate the overhead wire nuisance.

AS was predicted by THE BEE early in the session the railroads had little to fear from the legislature. Measures which contemplated the regulation of rates and taxation of railroad property in cities for municipal purposes were defeated. This is one of the dark spots which cloud the record of the session just closed.

GOVERNOR THAYER is determined to tolerate no lawlessness in Keya Paha county. Well-meaning but impetuous men should not take the law into their own hands. If there are horse thieves and dangerous characters in the county, the proper authorities of the county and state should first be called upon to deal with them.

THE fight against prohibition in Massachusetts is growing exceedingly warm. The religious press has taken a bold stand against a law which breeds hypocrites and cultivates spies. The Christian Union joins the Congregationalists in opposing constitutional prohibition, and advises its Massachusetts readers to vote "No."

THE bill passed by the legislature assessing fire insurance companies two per cent of their premiums in cities for the support of fire departments was a timely measure. The companies receive the protection and they should bear their share of the burden for the maintenance of efficient fire departments.

THE people of Nebraska have cause for rejoicing that the disreputable claims and boodle element in the legislature were routed foot and horse. The farmers fought nobly in the protection of their constituents, and they should have all the credit for the victory.

IN ANSWER to inquiries we would state that claims to lands in Oklahoma can be filed on and after April 22, the date fixed by proclamation of the president for opening Oklahoma to settlement. No one will be allowed to take up a claim there before that date.

Boulanger's Faint. Atlanta Constitution. Boulanger is carrying the Napoleonic parallel to a dangerous point. He has fainted, but whether at the smell of paint or powder is not known.

A Boom in Cotton. Birmingham Republic. The cotton market is being strengthened by the announcement that plump girls are again to be the fashion.

Qualified to Be a Senator. Washington Critic. When a hen goes into eggsecutive session she keeps it very still until the business is transacted, and then she gives it all away. The hen should be a United States senator.

AN OMAHAN ABROAD. He Writes to Friends an Interesting Account of His Travels.

The following readable letter, received by a number of gentlemen of the city, will be appreciated by Omaha readers: PALACE HOTEL, SAN FRANCISCO, March 14, 1890—Dear Friends: I have only one apology to make, and that is for sending you a typewritten letter. I have made four ineffectual attempts to fulfill my promise to write you full particulars individually, and have at last concluded to send you a detailed statement of my trip collectively.

We went direct from Omaha to Denver and stayed there for three days. Denver is undergoing quite a boom. Property near the business center sold as high as \$4,000 a front foot. Outside property, eight miles from the business center, was selling for \$300 and \$400 a lot, twenty-five feet front.

I met Governor Cooper, of Colorado, and had quite a chat with him. He said that while he would vote for Kansas City the attributes of a city, he would not rank Omaha as being better than a town. He stated that the boasted packing interests of Omaha were nothing compared to the daily shipments of ores from Denver.

On further investigation I found that shipments are made every four days, and when called his attention to this fact he laughed and admitted that he was stretching things a little. Armour & Co. are selling meats in Denver.

Next went to Pueblo, Colo. This place is spread all over the salt hills, and is under the control of a few men. The business center is in Salt Lake City, over the Denver & Rio Grande railroad.

At a town called Peterson, about fifty miles from Pueblo, Colorado, where I was discovered, and the entire valley was one mass of scaffolding and drilling paraphernalia and tanks, and of course the entire country was under the control of a few men.

Reached San Francisco a few days after, and I took the next train for San Jose. Spent some time in San Jose, and returned to San Francisco accompanied by my father-in-law.

Messrs. Albright, my paternal family-in-law, are here. Here we found every evidence of a shattered boom. Nothing is doing there of consequence, except the large engine building, capable of seating 10,000 people. Its acoustic properties are wonderful.

We found here, as at every point, a great tendency to go into the market and hire an open Surrey, I acted as driver and we rode all over the city for about an hour and a half, and on our way back I bought a dozen oranges and paid \$1 for them; got shaved and paid 25 cents, as natives get much more for the same services.

Went direct from this point to San Diego and stopped at the Coronado hotel, which is a very beautiful spot and the beach is very pretty, still no bathing to any extent is indulged in here, as you have a species of ray fish called the sting ray, which burrows in the sand along the beach. It varies in size from an ordinary watch crystal to a fish about the size of a tail about one and a half times as long as the width of his body.

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PREFERENCES WERE BURIED. The Board of Transportation Elects Its Secretaries.

The state board of transportation elected a board of secretaries after a four-hour session. It is learned that the meeting was quietly called to avoid an invasion of the press gang and the usual crowd of hangers-on. It became apparent that the individual preferences of each member of the board would have to be dropped on an election could not be reached.

There were forty-seven candidates. In turn each one received hearty support. On the fifty-fourth ballot J. I. Gilchrist, of Wahoo; L. W. Gilchrist, of Alliance, and W. S. Garden, of Red Cloud, were chosen. C. H. Holmes, of Beatrice, was selected clerk.

A Sad Accident. How, or when, no one knows, but James H. Houston met with a sad death last night a little after 1 o'clock. His lifeless body was found in the Burlington yards, lying across the track and almost covered in train.

Houston was a well known bricklayer, and was employed by the Burlington street, was industrious, but addicted to the drink habit, and it is thought wandered into the yard at the recent meeting of the night. The coroner was summoned, but is yet undetermined as to the necessity of an inquest. No witness has yet been attached to the road or any of its employees.

Houston was nearly or quite forty years of age, and was in the prime of life. He was the oldest of twelve years of age. One of his little boys called at police headquarters last night at 9 o'clock and inquired of the police as to the whereabouts of his father. He was told that his father had been killed.

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NO DEARTH OF CANDIDATES. Greivous Disappointment the Lot of Forty-five Would-Be Servants of the State-Capitol City News Notes.

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STATE AND TERRITORY. Nebraska Jottings.

An Oddfellow lodge with about a dozen members has been instituted at Platte Center. The Dixon County Agricultural society is in a hole \$1,000, but it hopes to extricate itself.

The postmaster at Ulysses has been made vacant by the death of C. E. Zimmerman. Dr. Thomas S. Franklin, one of the pioneers of Gering, is dead. He leaves a family of ten children.

Every station in Nemaha county is expected to witness a horse show to be given at Auburn April 6. Dr. and Mrs. S. A. Honested, formerly of Columbus, are now in Denver, each trying to secure more than the other the started Lincoln is rapidly becoming noted as an educational center.

The Hastings jail contains a sick prisoner by the name of James Beauregard, who claims to be a relative of the famous Confederate general. White Caps have notified R. G. Lottifer, proprietor of the "Impudence" billiard saloon at Ulysses, to jump the country or take the trail where the trail is unknown.

The question of erecting a new court house will not be submitted to the voters of Seward county until the regular November election. The Hastings jail contains a sick prisoner by the name of James Beauregard, who claims to be a relative of the famous Confederate general.

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