

MUTTERINGS OF THE STORM.

Gathering of Legislators-Elect and a Host of Lobbyists.

GOV. THAYER CINCHES A REPORTER.

Major Graham and the Council Sued - A Desperate Trio - A Bold Thief-Other Lincoln News Notes.

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 3. -[Special to THE BEE.] -Already the legislators-elect are beginning to gather and with them a perfect horde of lobbyists and hangers-on...

The managers of the independent party are preparing for the battle, and every legislator elected by the alliance is immediately tackled on coming to town, taken into a private conference and questioned closely concerning his allegiance.

Dictator Burrows is busy as a beaver and insists that Shradoff of Logan county be made speaker of the house. Persons who are on the inside say that Burrows is very confident of carrying his point.

The alliance leaders are figuring on a deal which, it is claimed, will beat Boyd. It is asserted that years ago there was an election near old Fort Hartung...

What the governor says. Your correspondent has received Governor Thayer this morning concerning the report circulated by a demagogic paper that the governor was scheming to succeed himself as chief executive...

The 10th parallel divides the state almost equally into two parts. The territory to the north of it is the more fertile and the more densely populated...

The whole story is a fabrication concocted to create a sensation and give the writer notoriety when he is no longer wanted.

T. I. Nash swore out a warrant in Justice Guiles' court in West Lincoln yesterday against Joseph Epps, saloonkeeper, on the charge of assault with intent to kill and assault with intent to wound.

A. P. S. Stuart today carried out his threat to sue Mayor Graham, Street Commissioner Byer and all the members of the council, except Bushnell Stuart, who is wealthy, but who he discovered by reading the papers that the council had elected to the street commissioner to tear down the old building...

An excited gentleman at York telephoned the police last evening that while he was getting a ticket for driving on the wrong side of the road, he saw a man pick up his overcoat and, jumping on board an east-bound train, disappeared.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this association the legislature should make such appropriations for the support of the public schools as will provide for a better equipment of the same.

Resolved, That we favor the classification and graduation of the public schools.

Resolved, That we are opposed to the state purchase of land for the purpose of establishing a state university.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this association the plan of district ownership of text books is to be commended.

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refunding bonds of Stanton county; \$50,000 railroad aid bonds of the city of Beatrice, and \$100,000 bond bonds, Medicine precinct, Lincoln county.

ODDS AND ENDS. Mrs. J. E. Nissley of Avoca, who has been anxiously searching for her husband, was surprised this morning by receiving a telephone message from him.

IRRIGATION IN NEBRASKA. (First Article.) The greatest single problem that concerns the development of Nebraska is the problem of irrigation.

The development of Nebraska is the problem of irrigation. It is the life-giving element of the state; it is necessary to anything approaching an even prosperity in another part; and, in the opinion of daring thinkers, the time will come when the changing conditions of agriculture and the enlarged home market for western farm products will make it desirable, if not necessary, in every part of our 76,000 square miles that is under cultivation.

The true purposes, in a series of articles to consider the subject in all its bearings—the existing need of it; the benefits it promises; the progress already made; the sources of water supply; the various methods of distribution; the aid needed from state and national governments; the cost of constructing them; how they are to be paid for, and the expense to the consumer.

The intention is to first furnish a complete exposition of this subject, then to arouse and center the attention of the state and, finally, by these means to interest capital and carry the grand undertaking to success. Something of good will result to the state if the agitation of the subject is partially successful. Something great will result if it is successful in its interest that its commanding importance deserves.

It is no easy matter to exactly define the arid and semi-arid regions of Nebraska, but these regions are the ones that are the most important in the state—those that are the most fertile and the most densely populated.

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the state which adjoins our arid region on the west, Colorado, and has precisely similar conditions to deal with.

It was the good fortune of Colorado to be so helplessly ruthless that its people perfectly understood that irrigation was a necessity. Next to having plenty of rain the greatest blessing of the Colorado people is, for then no valuable time is wasted in waiting for impossibilities to transpire and nobody goes to work under false pretenses.

All agriculture in Colorado is by artificial irrigation and independent of rainfall. Six of the largest irrigating canals in the United States have either been completed or are in process of construction in the Arkansas valley, ranging from 34 to 100 miles in length. During the past season the prosperity of the large region reached by these canals has stood out in striking contrast to the poverty and distress of parts of Nebraska and Kansas.

On the week beginning October 15 the first crop of grain was harvested at any point in Colorado was sent from Canyon City to Denver. At the same time there were no crops in the state fair and the people magnificent display of fruit and all kinds from the valleys of the Gunnison and Arkansas. Thousands of bushels of apples and some of the best of the state were raised from trees six years old—were waiting for harvest at Fremont and throughout the Gunnison valley.

The prosperity of the San Luis valley was immense. The greatest wheat crop ever known was harvested, and it was of a quality equalled only by that of the Maricopa. Enough was stored at Mesquite Lake to keep a large mill running night and day for one year, besides the great quantities shipped out. Sixteen United States mills in the lake region as well as in Nebraska—the potato crop was almost a total failure, save for a few exceptional instances. The winter was a brighter tinge to the gilt-edged prosperity of irrigated Colorado. From the San Luis valley and the Grand valley, carloads of apples were shipped to the east and west.

An entire trainload left Greeley for Chicago on October 6. The returns since the first of the season have been so great that the variety of crops that can be grown under the favorable conditions that exist in the irrigated portions of Colorado. Of the matter of profit from irrigation, a good deal has been said. This is a subject which has been talked with farmers in Las Animas county who gladly pay \$30 per acre annual rental for the use of irrigated farms near a good head of water. This is a subject which the New Mexico mountains, far remote from the great Denver market.

It is not necessary that the water time need be wasted in furthering the theory that irrigation pays. If more evidence is needed it can be furnished without delay. The experiment is being made in Arizona, Utah, California and from various foreign countries.

It is a fact not open to dispute that where water has been flowing for a long time over the arid acres prosperity has come to abide. The question for Nebraska is, when will her people begin in earnest to reclaim that large portion of her territory which has been reserved for the greatest ultimate productiveness?

THE WATER SUPPLY. The question is not a matter of anxiety to the friends of the irrigation movement, though there are still found occasional skeptics who "take exception" to the theory that must be depended upon. When Bill Nye said "the Platte river is about a mile wide and a foot high," and that "it has a large current," however, it is a subject which he voiced the contempt for western streams that is somewhat generally held. But scientific men are utterly to be trusted in all questions of the reliability of the underground flow in the bed of the Platte, the Republican, the Arkansas and other rivers that flow into the Platte.

There are three great systems of water supply for irrigation—the surface and underground rivers, the artesian well, and the storage or reservoir. The surface and underground rivers, the artesian well, and the storage or reservoir. The surface and underground rivers, the artesian well, and the storage or reservoir.

The artesian well has developed several fine situations. One of them is that of the Rock Island and Chicago. A single well, or a number of wells, can be drilled to a depth of 100 or 200 feet, and will yield a large amount of water. This is a subject which has been talked with farmers in Las Animas county who gladly pay \$30 per acre annual rental for the use of irrigated farms near a good head of water.

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NOT READY WITH ITS DEFENSE

The Milwaukee-Union Pacific Defense Case Accordingly Continued.

DANGER SIGNALS IN THE DAY TIME.

The Precaution Taken Yesterday to Advise the Milwaukee Train Men There Was Danger Ahead.

The case of the Milwaukee against General Manager Clark; Holcomb, assistant general manager; Ware, train dispatcher, and Bickens, division superintendent of the Union Pacific, for contempt of court in tearing up the former company's tracks at Council Bluffs, in violation of the order of Judge Doane, restraining the Union Pacific from in any way interfering with the running of Milwaukee trains over the Union Pacific bridges and approaches, was set for a hearing before Judge Doane at 11 o'clock yesterday morning.

The defendants were not ready for trial, and on motion of their attorney a continuance was granted until Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock to give them time to prepare their defense.

No doubt is expressed as to whether or not this court has jurisdiction in the case, as the alleged offense was committed in Iowa. As nearly as can be ascertained the notices of the Milwaukee to the Milwaukee-Union Pacific were served on the defendants on October 10 and 11 o'clock on the night in question. The Milwaukee train was derailed at the place where the tracks were torn up between 11:30 o'clock the same night, and a Union Pacific switchman informed the Milwaukee agent that the train had not been torn up five minutes after the accident occurred. It is conjectured that the officials in Milwaukee will attempt to prove that they were not notified of the tearing up of the tracks until after they had been served with notice of the injunction.

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HOME RULE FOR INDIANS.

Herbert Welsh States His Objections to That Policy.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 1.—To the Editor of THE BEE: Your issue of December 21 contains an article on "Indian policy" in which a very fair and kind allusion is made to certain views expressed by myself in reference to the recent Indian troubles in Dakota, and to the "home rule" policy in the appointment of Indian agents. Will you kindly permit me to state a few reasons to elucidate my views in regard to this matter, so that they may not be misapprehended.

The essential objection to what is known as the "home rule" policy in the appointment of Indian agents is not that it selects agents from the states or territories in which the reservations are located, but that it virtually commits their selection to local politicians, trading their votes for the position.

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