

CONGRESS MEETS AT NOON

Chances That the Opening Session of the House Will Be Slimly Attended.

ONLY THE LEADERS NOW ON THE GROUND

General Forecast of What May Be Expected in the Way of Legislation—Conditions of the Calendar—Prospects for Little Work.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 4.—[Special Telegram to The Bee.]—Congress will begin its second session at noon tomorrow, but from the deserted appearance of the capitol yesterday one would imagine that the session was over long weeks ago. The session is expected to be held in a very sparsely attended hall, with few members present when Vice President Morton calls the body to order tomorrow. The house, on the contrary, will do well to muster a quorum. A large number of representatives are expected on late trains tonight and on early trains in the morning, but it is the general belief that at present there are scarcely more than 100 representatives in town. Among them are Speaker Crisp, Chairman Springer of the ways and means committee, Chairman Holman and nearly all of the members of the appropriations committee; Mr. McMillan of Tennessee, who was the virtual leader of the house last session; "Farmer" Hatch, "Silver Dollar" Bland, in a word, as "Private" John Allen of Mississippi expressed it this morning, "Most of us leaders are here." On the republican side ex-Speaker Thomas Brackett Reed is here, as well as Mr. Brewster of Michigan, Colonel Cogswell of Massachusetts and other leading republicans.

The indications therefore are that the session tomorrow will consist almost entirely of "deadheads" with very few of the followers.

Tardy Opening of a Ball Session.

Men who have been in Washington for years and have witnessed the opening of more than a score of sessions agree that never in their experience has there been on the part of the members of the house, such tardiness to report for duty. The general reason for the absence of so many members lies in the fact that the democrats, relying on the economic condition of the country, persuaded themselves that their own individual presence is unnecessary, while the republican members, knowing that they can neither effect or hinder legislation, feel in no hurry to come on to Washington. A large number of letters have been received in Washington from both republicans and democrats urging the members for their absence until after the holidays.

It is the general expectation that the session will be very dull. The only committee that has any work before it is the appropriations committee, which is expected to do nothing. The pension committee and the claims committee have already on the calendar sufficient bills to occupy the house during the session. The public building committee, which expected so much in this session, has been practically warned in advance by Mr. Holman that if no new appropriations are made, however, against which it is safe to predict a successful revolt. The river and harbor committee know that it is not worth while to come on to Washington, there is no hope of passage. Hence there is no temptation for the average congressman to hurry away from home before the holidays.

WHAT IT MAY DO.

Work That is Laid Out for the Session So Far as is Known.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 4.—The second session of the fifty-second congress is likely to be more remarkable for discussion than for action. Not that there are not very many things to be done, if the bulky calendars of the senate and house are put in evidence, but principally because of lack of opportunity or of inclination. The thing that must be done is to pass the sundry bill, which means for the maintenance of the government, and it is generally believed that the regular annual appropriation bills will represent nearly all of the positive achievements that can be credited to this session.

There may, however, be several important exceptions. One of them relates to the subject of immigration. The public interest in this subject, which was awakened last summer by the fear of the cholera epidemic, has been stimulated by the radical suggestion of the senate immigration committee that all immigration be suspended for one year. Un doubtedly powerful influences will be brought to bear to compass the defeat of any such pending proposition, but it may be that the great public sentiment will blind it will oblige congress to pass the measure.

Other Important Measures.

A strong effort will certainly be made to procure the repeal of the Sunday closing clause of the World's fair act. It may be, too, that some action will be taken upon a subject which the president has repeatedly called the attention of congress, namely, the desirability of legislation to protect railroad employees from the numerous casualties resulting from the absence of suitable devices to couple and uncouple freight cars. These matters comprise what the best judgment concedes to be all of the probabilities of original legislation on the part of the senate. The things to be done in congress may be that the great public sentiment will blind it will oblige congress to pass the measure.

REPORTS UPON THE TARIFF.

The senate finance committee has not yet completed the formidable task it undertook last session, which was the compilation of a series of elaborate reports upon the different tariff systems tried in the United States. These reports probably will be most interesting to the student of political economy, and may come under discussion at some period of the session.

Then there are bills to admit Arizona and New Mexico to statehood. The house has passed both these bills and the senate, providing for the admission of New Mexico. It is on the senate calendar favorably reported from the territories committee. The chairman of the committee is opposed to the bill, but it may be that New Mexico will yet join the union by the act of the republican senate.

An ill-considered bill has been introduced to become the unfinished business of the session. It was known to have a large majority of that body in its favor last session upon a direct vote. If it comes up for consideration, it is threatened with a renewal of the determined and skillful of obstructive tactics which last year proved successful, and the result is still doubtful.

Interesting Financial Questions.

There will probably be many propositions and much talk this session looking to reforms in the national banking laws, the necessity of which is said to be felt by the Keystone and Maverick bank failures.

The state bank tax may also be a fruitful source of discussion, and the alliance senators and representatives will be heard upon some of the radical propositions.

These matters, however, are likely to be simply themes for discussion without a direct vote. If any of them have been passed, strong efforts will be made by the house appropriations committee to retrench expend-

ABOUT THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

Secretary Noble's Report on the Business of the Interior Department.

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In the general land office on June 30, 1888, there were pending 359,953 final entries, and the accumulation steadily increasing. These have all been disposed of, and the present administration has issued 398,128 agricultural patents, 128,128 agricultural patents, 170,000 in the preceding four years, representing an excess in average of 37,620 acres. Nearly four times greater area of public lands has been surveyed than during the previous four years, and there has been a total of 1,000,000 acres of patents issued. The selections of public lands by the states for educational and internal improvements have greatly exceeded the work of any previous years. The total quantity of public lands disposed of during the past year by cash sales and miscellaneous entries was 13,654,049 acres, and there was a total of cash receipts of \$29,000,000. Agricultural patents were issued during the year to the extent of 15,430,000 acres, and patents on account of railroad land grants of 2,015,553 acres. Surveys of public lands for the year amounted to 12,711,403 acres. Through negotiations with the Great Northern Railroad company, an act of the session of congress, whereby the railroad is to give title to the present settlers and receive in lieu thereof lands elsewhere, the great injustice which was liable to fall upon settlers in the Red River valley of North Dakota has been prevented.

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SECRETARY NOLLE'S REPORT

On the Business of the Interior Department.

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SHOT DEAD IN HIS TRACKS

James Cooper of Bassett Killed While Resisting Arrest.

WAS PREPARED TO SHOOT THE SHERIFF

His Revolver Aimed at the Officer at the Moment of His Death—Something of the Victim's Omaha Record.

NEWPORT, Neb., Dec. 4.—[Special Telegram to The Bee.]—James Cooper was shot and instantly killed at Bassett this evening while resisting arrest. Cooper and Cornman, both of Bassett, got into a dispute over the riding of a horse. Cooper was going to slash Cornman with a razor, which Joe May caught Cooper and took the razor away from him. Cooper then pulled a revolver on May and fired, the ball striking May's leg, shattering the bone very badly. Then the sheriff stepped in to arrest Cooper. Cooper turned with his revolver pointed at the sheriff, but the officer was on his guard and before Cooper could fire the sheriff shot him dead in his tracks.

Cooper was one of the gang arrested here a year ago last summer for circulating counterfeit money, and served a term in the county jail at Omaha. He also got into a quarrel with John Behr of this place about three years ago and shot his antagonist in the back of the head, wounding him and was considered an all-around tough.

THEY USED CLABS.

Disgraceful Family Row in Which Two Women Do the Fighting.

FAIRMONT, Neb., Dec. 4.—[Special Telegram to The Bee.]—News reached this city tonight of a family row at the residence of Mr. Hodson, living four miles south of here. Friday night Mrs. Hodson and the girls, it is alleged, bound the old gentleman and before daylight pulled him from his bed to the yard, and proceeded to beat him with clubs until they thought he had enough, when they put him back to bed in a bloody condition, leaving him bound until noon, when one of his sons appeared and released him. A warrant has been sworn out against Mrs. Hodson and she will have a hearing tomorrow.

West Point News.

WEST POINT, Neb., Dec. 4.—[Special to The Bee.]—Frank Hahn and his estimable wife started for Oklahoma Thursday, where they expect to make their future home. Mr. Hahn has been one of the prominent business men of this place for four years, and both he and his wife leave many warm friends.

December 11 and 13 a farmers institute will be held at the court house in this city. Subjects of interest will be lectured upon by several university professors. Prof. Bessey of Iowa, Prof. Johnson of the University of Nebraska, Prof. Ingersoll will lecture on "Science and the Dairy." Prof. Taylor will speak on horticultural topics and Hon. C. C. Greider on the law.

The meeting held Wednesday afternoon at the Nelson house was attended by about thirty of the working men of this county. Plans and designs for the table will be used by the state board at the World's fair were submitted by John S. Neligh, which were accepted by the ladies, but much more will be required to carry out the accepted design. The table will be made at West Point and the contract will call for completion on or before the 15th of April, 1893. The following is a brief description of the design: Size, forty-eight inches high, four inches wide, center six inches; style, Renaissance. The center of the table will be raised six inches, showing the state seal. The seal will be held in position by four essential chairs, bearing the names of Beemer, Bancroft, Winser and West Point. The remainder of the table surface will be inlaid with various colored wood grains, forming an elaborate mosaic design. Four legs of antique pattern will be richly ornamented in gold and mounted on the table will be a sphere showing the voyages of Columbus and the name of our country. The sphere will be supported by four brackets projecting from the base of the table, which will be shellacked and polished with a smooth, hard varnish finish.

News Notes from Ord.

ORD, Neb., Dec. 4.—[Special to The Bee.]—The district court for Valley county was in session all last week. The cases of general public interest before the court were those of the estate of George Huntington Quincy and the Omaha & Republican Valley Railway companies. Henry C. Wolf, a drummer, sued the former for \$10,000 damages for an injury done to his knee in a collision at Palmer, Neb., Dec. 4, 1891. The railway company offered to compromise for \$200, which was refused by Mr. Wolf. The jury awarded him damages of \$10,000.

The other case was that of Mrs. Marilla L. Crow, widow of Jonathan S. Crow, who was killed in the Union Pacific yards at Omaha on the night of March 7, 1892, by being run over by a switch engine. The amount sued for was \$5,000. The jury, after being out all night, brought in a verdict for Mrs. Crow of \$5,000.

The Baptist church has called Rev. John Sigm of Cleveland, O., to be its pastor. He accepted the call and will be installed in January.

The Presbyterian church is holding a series of revival meetings conducted by the pastor, Rev. C. M. Johnson, assisted by Rev. J. C. Irwin of North Platte.

Presiding Elder Rev. G. L. Haight of Kearney is holding quarterly conference at the Methodist Episcopal church this week.

Sustained the Superintendent.

CLAY COUNTY, Neb., Dec. 4.—[Special to The Bee.]—The county Board of Supervisors was in session here last week and occupied all of Saturday in the hearing of the impeachment proceedings against N. M. Graham, superintendent of schools. The case was brought by D. J. Edgington of Edgar, an attorney at Clay Center, who presented an examination for a certificate, the superintendent claiming the applicant was disqualified on the ground of being refused a teacher on the ground of being refused several years in the county and apparently gave satisfaction. The board finally sustained Mr. Graham.

Another contest was commenced here last night. Mr. W. M. Clark, present fusion candidate, attorney, who has defeated at the last election by Le. Epperson, republican, by a clear majority of fifty-five votes, served notice on Mr. Epperson to meet Friday night at the court house to defend. This was the fifth contest case on file in Clay county, and it looks as though the battles will have to be recontested.

Tennesson's New Church.

TENNESSON, Neb., Dec. 4.—[Special to The Bee.]—The Presbyterian church at this place was dedicated today. It is an elegant structure of 800 seating capacity, costing about \$10,000 and containing, besides the auditorium, a Sunday school room, four class rooms and a parsonage. The dedication sermon was preached at 11 a. m. by Rev. Dr. Hunter of Nebraska City, and the dedicatory address of the Sunday school department by Mrs. Niles of Table Rock at 2 p. m. Rev. Mr. Fulton of Pawnee City delivered the evening sermon.

Tekamah Odd Fellows.

TEKAMAH, Neb., Dec. 4.—[Special to The Bee.]—At the last regular meeting of Orange Order No. 28, of this city, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the following officers were elected: James C. Shaw, noble grand; Frank E. Ward, vice grand; C. B. Tolson, secretary; H. M. Hopper, treasurer; P. L. Beck, B. G. Griffin and R. C. Lewis, trustees.

Nebriehka's Fire Record.

NEBRIEHKA, Neb., Dec. 4.—[Special to The Bee.]