LOBBY IS ON HAND IN FORCE

Third House at Lincoln Well Organized and Waiting for Trouble to Start.

INSURANCE MEN ALREADY HARD AT WORK

Seeking the Repeal of the Valued Policy Law by Insidious "Uniform Policy" Route—Lively Times Ahead for the Shapers of Legislation.

LINCOLN, Feb. 14.—(Special.)—The remaining thirty days of the present legislative session will be exceedingly busy ones for the lobby. The real work of the session has finally begun. The preliminary work has been cleared away, the junkets have been taken, most of the bills have been introduced, the committee work is well along and from now on until the closing weeks in March the days and nights will be full of contention, strife, plotting and counter-plotting. The lobby is now on the ground in full force and it has plenty of work in hand. Men are here representing the railroads, telegraph and telephone companies, express, electric light and Pullman corporations, street railway companies, and not to be mentioned least, the insurance companies. The representatives of these companies are established in the several hotels, with every facility for the prompt transaction of business. They have all kinds of money to spend, railroad and Pullman passes are as plentiful and as easily obtainable as free soup tickets, theater tickets are as free as seats in church and liquid refreshments as easily obtainable as the sulphurated and salted product of the artesian fountain in the back yard of Lincoln's postoffice square. These representatives, making up the "third house," stand in the expectant attitude of the luckless inhabitants of the Armenian village on the eve of a Turkish raid. They are wondering when the atrocities are to commence.

INSURANCE MEN ACTIVE.

The insurance men are by no means as indifferent and inactive as some would have the public believe. The valued policy law is still on the statute books, but it will be effaced if the legislature can be wheedled or buncoed. In the house the law so obnoxious to the insurance interests is attacked openly. In the senate the attack is conducted along strategic lines and the approach of the lobby is insidiously concealed.

In the senate two feelers have been sent out. Senator Crane early in the session offered a bill requiring a standard form of insurance policies, stipulating that the New York form should be followed. In the judgment of some of the best lawyers of the state a standard policy law will invalidate the valued policy law, if properly enacted. But Senator Crane's bill was unsatisfactory for the reason that it did not repeal any of the existing sections of the insurance law, and in order that there could be no doubt as to the result a conference of insurance men and their attorneys was held in the New York Life building in Omaha, and a new bill drawn up. This bill was recently introduced by Senator Hahn of Adams county, and is designated as senate file No. 220. It is entitled "An act to compel all fire insurance companies doing business in this state to use a standard form of policy and to prescribe the form thereof." The bill gives at length the form of the standard policy to be used. Among others, it contains the following innocent-appearing provision: "In case of loss under this policy and a failure of the parties to agree as to the amount of loss, it is hereby agreed that the amount of such loss shall be referred to three disinterested men, the company and the assured each choosing one out of three persons to be named by the other, and the third to be selected by the two thus chosen. Such referees, or a majority of them, shall make their award in writing within ten days," etc.

This resolution, harmless as it appears, is the kernel of the whole measure, for, taken with the final section of the bill, which repeals all sections of the law conflicting, it repeals the valued policy law now in force in Nebraska.

The insurance companies undertook during the past year to negative the valued policy law by inserting in their policy a provision similar, if not identical, to the one authorized by Senator Hahn's bill. The attempt landed the companies in the supreme court, and in deciding the case of the Home Fire Insurance company of Omaha against Bean, Justice Harrison, the court concurring, delivered an opinion declaring under the laws as they now exist that "where real property is wholly destroyed by fire, any provision of a policy of insurance covering such property which in any manner attempts to limit the amount of the loss to less than the sum written in the policy, is in conflict with the statutory rule, invalid, and will not be enforced."

The bill introduced by Senator Hahn nullified this opinion, because, after requiring the insertion of a provision for arbitration in all policies, it repeals any and all laws on the statute books conflicting.

LAWS IT DOESN'T WANT.

The insurance lobby is adroit, but its work is hardly as fine as the exigencies of success demand. While it is laboring to accomplish the overthrow of the valued policy law, it is on the defensive with respect to other insurance measures. For instance, there is senate file No. 24, introduced by Dale of Harlan county. It extends the provisions of the valued policy law to cover personal property. It was claimed yesterday by a prominent state official that Dale was not the author of the bill, but that the measure had been drawn by a prominent Omaha attorney, who sometimes interests himself in such matters. The statement, is, however, subject to some qualification. Senator Dale is not the real author of the bill. He frankly states that he copied it verbatim from senate file No. 65, introduced in the senate two years ago by Senator Pope, and smothered in the judiciary committee. Senator Dale believed that it was a good bill for the farmers; but after looking into the matter he believes the bill, if it should become a law, will open the doors to fraud upon a large scale, and he is therefore prepared to meet an indefinite postponement of the measure with complacent resignation.

The insurance lobby is not a little worried over the situation. A week or so since Captain H. E. Palmer, who will hardly be classed among the insurance lobbyists, for he himself has denied it, decided in his inner consciousness that Frank Ransom of Omaha was the author of much of the grief and woe to the insurance interests, and he taxed the smooth-faced attorney with having drawn several of the tantalizing bills. A row was the result, and the picturesque language which followed bleared the atmosphere. Ransom denied the paternity of the lusty infant which had been abandoned at the doors of the insurance lobby. "I have been importuned to draw up at least forty insurance bills," retorted Ransom, "and I have refused in every case; but now, blast you, I will draw up a bill, and I promise it will curl your hair."

Ransom was as good as his word, and in a day or two his bill was ready for introduction. It was introduced by Senator Watson, and when it was read the first time the secretary called it senate file No. 214. It is entitled "An act to prevent insurance companies doing business in this state from making any agreement whereby open and free competition between said companies will be prevented or hindered, and to provide punishment for the violation of this act."

HISTORY WILL BE REPEATED.

The balance of the session will be full of incidents. Many of these incidents will be amusing, and some of them tragical. Some of them will be of the kind described today by ex-Representative Dick Berlin of Omaha. At the session at which he was a member an important bill had reached its third reading, in spite of the sweating of the lobby. At the critical juncture the lobby mustered enough votes to force an adjournment. J. C. Watson was speaker and Tom Cooke chief clerk. The roll was called, and at the close the leading members of the lobby, emboldened by success, crowded around the speaker's desk. There was an apparent delay after the roll call had been completed. Tom Cooke knew that the motion to adjourn had been carried.

"What's the result, Tom?" queried Speaker Watson, in a stage whisper.

Tom declined to say, but continued an animated colloquy with the leader of the lobby.

"Why don't you announce the result, Tom?" again demanded the speaker.

"That's all right," retorted Tom. "I haven't got any theater tickets for tonight yet."

A moment later the vote was announced and the house adjourned.

NEW JUDICIAL APPORTIONMENT.

Arrangement of the Counties for the Purpose of Holding Court.

LINCOLN, Feb. 14.—(Special.)—The new judicial apportionment bill, introduced in the senate by Lehr of Saunders county, makes some radical changes in the law passed by the populist legislature of 1891. The following is the proposed apportionment, as compared with the apportionment of 1891:

NEW DISTRICTS.	OLD DISTRICTS.
No. 1. Richardson, Nemaha, Johnson and Pawnee.	No. 1. Richardson, Nemaha, Johnson, Pawnee, Gage and Jefferson.
No. 2. Otoe and Cass.	No. 2. Otoe and Cass.
No. 3. Lancaster and Saunders.	No. 3. Lancaster.
No. 4. Douglas, Sarpy, Washington and Burt.	No. 4. Douglas, Sarpy, Washington and Burt.
No. 5. Seward, York, Hamilton and Polk.	No. 5. Saunders, Seward, Butler, York, Hamilton and Polk.
No. 6. Butler, Dodge, Colfax, Platte, Merrick and Nance.	No. 6. Dodge, Colfax, Platte, Merrick and Nance.
No. 7. Saline, Fillmore, Thayer, Nuckolls and Clay.	No. 7. Saline, Fillmore, Thayer, Nuckolls and Clay.
No. 8. Cuming, Stanton, Dixon, Dakota, Cedar and Thurston.	No. 8. Cuming, Stanton, Dixon, Dakota, Cedar and Thurston.
No. 9. Wayne, Madison, Antelope, Pierce and Knox.	No. 9. Wayne, Madison, Antelope, Pierce and Knox.
No. 10. Adams, Webster, Kearney, Franklin, Harlan and Phelps.	No. 10. Adams, Webster, Kearney, Franklin, Harlan and Phelps.
No. 11. Boone, Hall, Wheeler, Greeley, Garfield, Loup, Valley, Howard, Blaine, Thomas, Hooker and Grant.	No. 11. Boone, Hall, Wheeler, Greeley, Garfield, Loup, Valley, Howard, Blaine, Thomas, Hooker and Grant.
No. 12. Buffalo, Dawson, Custer and Sherman.	No. 12. Butler, Dawson, Custer and Sherman.
No. 13. Lincoln, Logan, Keith, Cheyenne, Deuel, Scotts Bluff, Kimball, Banner, McPherson, Arthur and Perkins.	No. 13. Lincoln, Logan, Keith, Cheyenne, Deuel, Scotts Bluff, Kimball, Banner, McPherson, Arthur and Perkins.
No. 14. Gosper, Furnas, Frontier, Red Willow, Hayes, Hitchcock, Chase and Dundy.	No. 14. Gosper, Furnas, Frontier, Red Willow, Hayes, Hitchcock, Chase and Dundy.
No. 15. Holt, Rock, Brown, Keya Paha, Cherry, Sheridan, Dawes, Sioux and Box Butte.	No. 15. Holt, Rock, Brown, Keya Paha, Cherry, Sheridan, Dawes, Sioux and Box Butte.
No. 16. Gage and Jefferson.	

The Sixteenth district is a new creation. There is a noticeable change in the Third district, Saunders being added to Lancaster, which has heretofore stood alone and taken away from the Fifth. The big populist majority in Saunders county has made the Fifth district too nearly populistic to suit the republicans. The Third district is given four judges instead of three, while two judges are assigned to each of the Sixth, Eleventh and Fifteenth districts.

BILLS AFFECTING PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Several Measures in Which the Teachers of the State Are Interested.

LINCOLN, Feb. 14.—(Special.)—A committee appointed by the State Teachers' association, consisting of State Superintendent of Public Instruction H. R. Corbett, C. G. Pearse, principal of the Beatrice schools, J. M. Gillan, secretary of the Omaha Board of Education, J. S. Baer, superintendent of public instruction for Lancaster county, and H. K. Wolfe of Seward, held a meeting in this city this evening for the purpose of securing united action upon a number of the educational bills now pending in the legislative committees. These bills were prepared by a committee appointed by the State Teachers' association. They are as follows:

House roll No. 74, providing for the equitable division of license moneys between two or more districts forming parts of a city or village.

House roll No. 69, providing for the issuance and registration of school district warrants and the payment of interest on them at the rate of 6 per cent per annum.

House roll No. 162 is urgently recommended by the association. It provides for a State Board of Education to consist of the state superintendent of public instruction, the chancellor of the State university, the principal of the State Normal school, one city superintendent and one county superintendent, the last two to be chosen by the first three. The members of this proposed board are to receive no compensation but their actual expenses. The bill directs the board to prescribe minimum courses of study for common and high schools, to license instructors, prescribe courses of study for county institutes, conduct state examinations and issue state certificates.

House roll No. 330 contains several features recommended by the State Teachers association, including those making the school year, agree with the fiscal year, empowering boards in towns and cities to employ teachers after April 1, changing the time of election of members of boards of education in cities and making boards consist of an odd number of members.

House roll No. 188 strengthens the compulsory attendance law and provides for an attendance officer.

House rall No. 283 provides for free attendance at public high schools.

LEGISLATIVE DAY VERY BRIEF.

Speaker Richards' Bereavement the Occasion of an Early Adjournment.

LINCOLN, Feb. 14.—(Special.)—The chairman of the judiciary committee, Munger of Lancaster, in the absence of Speaker Richards, called the house together at 3 p. m. The latter was called home by the sad intelligence of the death of his little boy, 1 year old. Chaplain Maze, in his prayer, alluded in a few well chosen and appropriate words to the melancholy event.

Following roll call, which showed but few absentees, Chief Clerk Geddes read a telegram from the absent speaker stating that on arriving at Lincoln he had received intelligence of the death of his child, and would immediately return to Hebron. Harrison moved that a committee of three be appointed to draft resolutions of sympathy for Speaker Richards and his stricken family. The chair appointed as such committee Harrison of Hall, Davies of Cass and Howard of Sarpy.

On motion of Cole the house adjourned until 10 o'clock tomorrow.

In the senate the reading of the journal was dispensed with, and upon motion of Dale of Harlan an adjournment until tomorrow was taken out of respect for the grief of Speaker Richards, whose bereavement by the death of his child was announced just as the body convened.

To Kill Off Superfluous Attorneys.

LINCOLN, Feb. 14.—(Special.)—Sutton of Douglas has a bill printed, house roll No. 448, which is very stringent in its provisions regarding the practice of law. The very first section provides that from and after August 1, 1895, all licenses to practice law in this state be revoked, with the exceptions of the judges of the supreme court, district and county courts, judges of the police courts of cities of the metropolitan or first class, the attorney general of the state and county attorneys. It is then provided that, in the way of reinstatement, the supreme court may from time to time place upon the rolls as attorneys and counsellors of said court such persons as have theretofore practiced therein as in the judgment of the court are thoroughly qualified to practice therein. Thereafter no person shall be admitted to practice law in any of the courts of this state unless he shall have been duly admitted to practice in the supreme court. The supreme court shall appoint committees for the examination of applicants for license to practice law as may be necessary, and the meetings of these committees shall always be held at the capital of the state. The other provisions of the bill are similar to the law now in force, including the two years' preliminary reading in the office of a regular practicing attorney, or on production of a diploma from some reputable law school in the state.

Support for Benedict's Bill.

LINCOLN, Feb. 14.—(Special.)—A large number of petitions are now coming in in support of Benedict's age of consent bill. Many of them would have been introduced in the house this afternoon had it not been for the immediate adjournment. The petitions are from all sections of the state and a great deal of interest is being awakened in the provisions of the measure. The bill, house roll No. 348, raises the age of consent from 15 years, the present law, to 18.

Bid for Government Bonds.

NEW YORK, Feb. 14.—It is announced that a bid of 113½ is made by a Stock exchange member for $50,000 new government 4 per cent bonds when issued.

MURDER MAY GO UNPUNISHED

Burt County Authorities Claim Jurisdiction Lies in Iowa.

TWO MORE FATAL AFFRAYS REPORTED

One of the Victims is Dead and Another is Likely to Die—Blann, the Man Who Killed Phillips, Discharged by the Authorities.

TEKAMAH, Neb., Feb. 14.—(Special.)—Robert Phillips, the man murdered on the Missouri river accretion land east of Tekamah, was buried at Oakland last Sunday and his alleged murderer, James P. Blann, was promptly arrested and lodged in the Burt county jail at this place, where the state was awaiting developments, anticipating a sensational revelation as soon as Blann could be induced to talk freely. It is the prevailing opinion that Blann was an instrument of more prominent characters in the back ground, and that many are implicated indirectly in the shooting. At the time of the shooting the four squatters entrenched in the cabin were armed with revolvers and shot guns awaiting the midnight assault of which they had been forewarned. The assailants were ambushed at long range with Winchesters, and had secured the surrender of the squatters, who had come out of the hut with hands up, when Phillips was shot down.

Blann, the accused murderer, was released last night because the state has no jurisdiction in the matter. The point of jurisdiction is the result of a survey of the grounds, which is alleged to have been within the Iowa boundary at the time of the government survey. None of this river accretion land pays tax and the court decisions on conflicting points at issue have added but little light on the question. It is doubtful if Iowa will attempt a prosecution, in which event the great crime will go unpunished.

On another tract of accretion land, twelve miles northeast of Tekamah, a dispute arose over the ownership, when one Wils Wilson struck an antagonist with a heavy club and beat him into insensibility Monday evening. The fellow's recovery is doubtful.

On Holman's island, a tract of several hundred acres, cut off from Iowa and owned by I. N. Holman, about fifteen miles north, or near Decatur, on the east, a free fist fight and slugging match took place a week or so ago, in which a young man by the name of Stevens was so hammered up that he has since died and no efforts have been made toward prosecution. The island is regularly surveyed Iowa lands, under the jurisdiction of Iowa, and pays taxes into Monona county's treasury, yet it lies on this side of the present river channel.

Burt county is more than willing—it is anxious—to stamp out this shame and drive the outlaw class from along her border, but refuses to act for the want of jurisdiction. The question now is, is this river accretion no man's land; and will more shooting and murder follow, as is talked and feared? Fred Lass, the squatter, and cause of Phillips' murder, has not attempted to remain in his shanty over night since the murder, fearing to meet a like fate should he venture the risk.

DR. ROBBINS' PECULIAR CASE.

Insurance Companies Fighting the Policies on His Life at Lincoln.

LINCOLN, Feb. 14.—(Special.)—Samuel Melick, administrator of the late Dr. Robbins, appeared in the district court today for trial of his suit against the Masonic Fraternal association to recover $5,000 on an accident policy held by the doctor in that company. June 1, 1890, Dr. Robbins accidentally shot himself in the fleshy part of the foot. The wound becoming more painful, tetanus or lockjaw developed. This had been feared by Dr. Robbins himself, as well as by his attending physicians, and chloral was freely administered to ward off the attack. The doctor was seized with the frightful spasms which attend tetanus on the morning of June 13, while alone in his room. In his agony the wretched man seized his scalpel and cut his throat from ear to ear, severing the trachea and jugular vein. The Masonic Insurance company set up as a defense that death was not due from accident, but from suicide. A test suit was brought by Administrator Melick to recover on another policy in the Travelers' Insurance company of Hartford, and in special findings the jury in the United States circuit court found for the administrator. The company appealed, but Justice Sanborn of the circuit court of appeals affirmed the decision of the lower court, holding that it was strictly a question of fact as to what caused death, the original accident of the pistol shot or the scalpel. Among the insurance companies of this country the case has excited great interest, as it was the first test case of the kind on record. A jury was empaneled and testimony begun this afternoon.

Ever since the startling developments before the Lexow committee in New York, Lincoln has been considerably exercised over the moral obliquity of its own public officials. Desiring to become regenerate in this respect, some time ago the Round Table club started a movement by the appointment of a committee looking to the formation of a Civic federation, not for investigation, but to secure, if possible, the election of better men to administer municipal affairs. The names of this committee are: I. M. Raymond, S. L. Geisthardt, J. E. Miller, A. E. Hargreaves, Dr. F. B. Crim, E. T. Hartley and Frank Strong. The Renaissance club also appointed a similar committee, and this afternoon they met at the office of Mr. Geisthardt to form the Civic federation.

The following pledge was adopted:

"We, the undersigned, in order to secure honest and efficient administration of the affairs of the city of Lincoln, do hereby pledge ourselves upon our honor to aid in the nomination and election to city offices only of persons of unquestioned character and fitness for the trust. To use all honorable means to defeat all other regardless of party lines. To take an active part in city politics."

Late this afternoon Henry Smith, arrested yesterday for a series of small burglaries, and who is wanted by Sheriff Kyd of Gage county for horse stealing, pleaded guilty in both police and districts court to burglary. He will likely be given a year in the penitentiary. Smith had been out of the insane asylum but three days when he committed the burglaries.

There appears to be a serious hitch over the matter of rent of the Lincoln hotel. W. H. Deldine of Sioux City wants to lease the house, and today he went home without having completed any arrangement. Deldine says that $10,000 a year is too much to pay in these times. Some of the members of the hotel company favor a reduction.

Today the delegation of Lincoln citizens to the Hastings reunion of the Grand Army of the Republic returned and immediately entered a vigorous kick against the proceedings attending the location. They say they did not get a square deal in the matter. The vote was a standing one, and they say that Hastings succeeded in having a number of her citizens—not voters—standing in the rear part of the hall and counted.

Miss Hattie F. Riegger of Seward was taken from the noon train today in an unconscious condition and removed by Matron Evans to the home of the invalid's sister, on South Eleventh street. Miss Riegger is a trained nurse in one of the hospitals of the state.

George P. Tuckerman, Ben Wood, G. H. Underhill, L. H. McCoy and E. N. Havens were arraigned today for running steam engines without having taken out engineer's licenses. All were discharged for want of prosecution, except Havens, who was fined $5 and costs. The fine was remitted, however, on the recommendation of Mayor Weir.

Relief Commission Meeting.

LINCOLN, Feb. 4.—(Special.)—The regular monthly meting of the Nebraska Relief commission was held yesterday behind closed doors at the office of the commissioner in the capitol building. Governor Holcomb met with the members. Aside from the regular routine business of the commission the question of supplying seed grain to the destitute was discussed. It was decided to solicit from different sources in each county needing seed grain reports of the number of acres cropped last year, and an estimate of the amount which will be needed for the coming year. When these reports are all in the committee proposes to divide seed grain relief pro rata among the counties requiring such aid. The details of the business were left with the finance committee of the commission, C. J. Ernst, J. W. Hartley and S. B. Thompson.

YORK SOCIAL HAPPENINGS.

Literary Societies Present Some Interesting Programs.

YORK, Neb., Feb. 14.—(Special.)—One of the most enjoyable events of the season was the valentine social given at the residence of D. W. F. Reynolds last evening, under the auspices of the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor. As the name would suggest, the principal part of the evening was amusement pertaining to valentines. A large crowd was present, who did not leave for their respective homes until the clock indicated that the dawn of the next day was near. The social was voted a decided success by all who atended.

The Young People's society of the United Brethren church held its monthly business meeting at the residence of M. Burns last evening. After the usual business part of the program was carried out, a delightful evening was spent.

The Intermediate League of the Methodist Episcopal church held a meeting at the home of Miss Celtie Huffman on Tuesday evening. A delightful program was rendered and enjoyed by all who atetnded.

The annual junior entertainment of the York High school will be held at Nobles' opera house on Friday, February 15. The schools have arranged for a good entertainment, and a good program is prepared for the evening. The music will be under the direction of Prof. J. A. Parks.

The literaries of the United Brethern college will celebrate Washington's birthday in an appropriate manner. As that evening is the appointed time for their meeting to be held, a program is arranged in observance of that event. The question for debate will be: "Resolved, That Washington was a better president than statesman."

The Baptist Young People's union held a meeting at the home of the Misses Sheeks on Wednesday evening. A large attendance was present and the spacious parlors were crowded to their utmost capacity. After a business meeting a recess was called, after which a beautiful program was rendered. One of the principal events of the evening was a spirited debate on the question: "Resolved: That the Hawaiian islands should be annexed to the United States." The judges rendered a decision in favor of the negative.

PETITION FOR SEED BOND ELECTION.

Farmers of Holt County Ask the Opportunity to Vote on the Question.

O'NEILL, Neb., Feb. 14.—(Special Telegram.)—A special meeting of the Board of Supervisors was held today to take action upon a petition presented to them containing 670 names, praying that the board call a special election for the purpose of voting $50,000 bonds to enable the farmers to purchase seed and grain. The board granted the prayer of the petition and called the election to be held on March 1. The only security that will be required will be a note which will be given to the county by the person securing the grain. There is considerable dissatisfaction in parts of the county, as the farmers claim that they will be unable to pay for the grain in one year, while the poor people in the towns say that if the county is to loan money to the farmers, they ought to be able to get some of it, too.

John Harvey, a resident of Spencer, Boyd county, who runs a freight line between O'Neill and Boyd county, was kicked in the head by a horse in the stable in this city while feeding his team. He was unconscious for thirty minutes. It is not known how badly he is hurt, as both doctors are in the country.

FIRE AT NEBRASKA CITY.

Levi's Big Livery Barn Burned and a Close Called for a Big Block.

NEBRASKA CITY, Feb. 14.—(Special Telegram.)—Heroic work of firemen alone prevented a disastrous conflagration last night. Levi's livery barn, comprising two large two-story brick buildings, was completely gutted. Adjoining the barn on the north is the Watson hotel and this was saved only by desperate work. Had the fire communicated to this building nothing could have saved the entire block. The vehicles were removed and all horses except one, which ran back into the barn after being liberated. The building was valued at $8,000 and insured for $3,200, being owned by Jacob Sichl. Levi will lose $500 on contents, fully insured. The origin of the fire is a mystery, but facts point strongly to incendiarism, as the flames were first discovered in the loft and a man was seen running from the building after the alarm was sounded. Mr. Levi was burned out fourteen years ago this month, when two human lives were sacrificed, together with thirty head of horses.

DODGE COUNTY FARMERS.

Annual Session of Their Institute in Progress at Fremont.

FREMONT, Feb. 14.—(Special.)—The annual session of the Dodge County Farmers Institute began at the Women's Christian Temperance union temple today. An excellent program has been provided for the sessions, and the attendance will doubtless be quite large. The order of business announced for today included reports of officers and miscellaneous business; address of welcome, by Hon. George L. Loomis; a discussion on bees; "The Undeveloped Resources of Farm Life," by Mrs. A. M. Edwards; "Small Fruits," "General Farming," and other topics, interspersed with music and general discussion.

Charles Olds, assistant mustering officer, with other Sons of Veterans of this city, went to Waterloo last night and mustered in a new camp of that order. It was christened John M. Thurston camp.

Funeral of William Ritchie.

DAVID CITY, Neb., Feb. 14.—(Special.)—The remains of William Ritchie, a former resident of this city, who died at Pine Bluff, Ark., last week, arrived here last night and were buried today by the Masonic fraternity, in which order he had a high standing, having been high priest of King David's chapter for the past ten years. A large number of the order were present from adjoining towns and the services were of a very impressive character.

BARGAINS IN BREECHES

Trousers for Less Money Tomorrow Than the Cloth Alone Cost.

ONLY PART OF A PRICE FOR PANTS

Men's Pants for $2, $2.50, $2.75, $3, $3.50, $4 and $5 — Boys Knee Pants, 50c, 75c and 95c—Long Ones for $1.50, $2.00 and $2.50.

We are going to sell pants Saturday and lots of them. We don't care so much how much we get as how much pants we can sell. We've made up our mind to this, that with the experience of our grand sales of the two previous Saturdays before us, there is no man on earth who can do business in Omaha or anywhere else, for that matter, in a February unless he makes up his mind to actually sell goods for less than he paid for them, that is, put them at such a price that all that is needed is a bundle wrapper and some string for the goods to sell themselves.

Now, this third time is the charm. It's as far ahead of the suit sale of a week ago as the suit sale was better than the overcoat sale of the week previous. You never in your lives were able to lay your hands on pants at such prices as we make you for tomorrow. $2.00, $2.50, $2.75, $3.00, $3.50, $4.00, $5.00 for pantaloons that are in every size, in every style and including every grade of trousers in our store from the lowest to the highest priced, no matter what the former price, these figures hold good tomorrow.

Profit has been lost sight of long, long ago at these sales of ours. The question now is how much can we afford to lose in order to reduce the stock. You will acknowledge when you see them that to sell our pants at these prices we are losing big money on them, or that we have made an almighty big profit heretofore. But its a loss, no regard being paid to real value or original cost, except that the best pair of pants in the house can be had for $5.00 Saturday, while those for $2.00 are not as good, but you will save just as much money on a $2.00 pair as on a pair for $5.00.

The boys, big and little, are in it this time, with short pants at 50c, 75c and 95c, while the long pants go at $1.50, $2.00 and $2.50, without reserve, as to quality or value.

Then we have about 500 boys' 2-piece suits left to go at $2.50, $3.00 and $3.50, that are worth and have always been sold for twice the money. But we're clearing away our winter stock and would rather give you the goods at a price regardless of cost than have our money invested lying idle for eight months in a year.

Again this sale is for cash and it begins the first thing tomorrow morning, and when it ends at ten at night you will say "this certainly is the greatest pant sale ever devised by man."

THE CONTINENTAL'S BEST SALE.
THE CONTINENTAL'S PANT SALE.

CLOSE OF THE HASTINGS SESSION.

Last Day of the Grand Army Encampment a Lively One.

HASTINGS, Neb., Feb. 14.—(Special Telegram.)—Today was the closing day of the state Grand Army of the Republic and Woman's Relief Corps encampment, which has been in session in this city since Tuesday. There were fully 900 visitors in the city, nearly every one having remained to see the whole of it through. At last night's session a state relief committee was appointed as follows: Church Howe, chairman; T. S. Clarkson, Omaha; A. M. Trimbell, Lincoln.

Delegates to National Encampment—Hon. T. J. Majors, delegate-at-large; J. H. Wescott of Lincoln, O. F. Horne of Syracuse, J. D. Woods of Lincoln, H. E. Pond of Red Cloud, J. R. Heine of Fremont, Dr. S. K. Spalding of Omaha, Dr. Pillsbury of Fullerton, J. K. Paxton of Hayes Center.

A formal reception was given at the opera house this afternoon by the Grand Army of the Republic encampment to the ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic. Commander Howe made a few remarks, which were responded to by Deputy President Z. M. Hunter of Loup City. Mrs. Sarah A. Mason of Ord, Mrs. Agnes Haze of Omaha, Mrs. Shepard of Grand Island, and Mrs. Bayless of South Omaha also delivered some good speeches, after which the ladies were escorted back to their own hall by the encampment and the entire afternoon was devoted to obligating comrades in the order and wound up with a campfire. The ladies of the Woman's Relief corps held a secret session this morning and afternoon, when they elected the following officers: Deputy president, Mrs. General Dilworth of Lincoln; senior vice president, Mrs. Rosalie Condon of Pawnee City; junior vice, Mrs. Mary Saxton of Edgar; treasurer, Anna E. Church of North Platte; chaplain, Mrs. C. A. Frost of Wymore.

In the evening a grand open installation was held in the opera house by the Grand Army of the Republic and the Woman's Relief Corps. It was 9 o'clock when Hon. Church Howe rapped for order and announced that they would proceed with the installation. Mrs. Gertrude Connell, installing officer of the Woman's Relief Corps, installed the newly elected officers in a most creditable manner. After the installing of the Woman's Relief Corps, Hon. H. C. Russell of Lincoln installed the newly elected officers of the Grand Army of the Republic, which was followed by good music of local talent. The whole affair from beginning to end was a great success.

Two Crete Boys Injured.

CRETE, Neb., Feb. 14.—(Special Telegram.)—Today Frank Watkin was riding a pony when the animal slipped and fell, throwing the boy to the ground. He was picked up in an unconscious condition and taken home. Up to this time he has not recovered consciousness, and it is likely will not recover. Madison Rhine was thrown in the same manner near the B. & M. depot and sustained a slight fracture of the leg and a severely cut and bruised head and face.

Motor Car Knocked from the Track.

BEATRICE, Feb. 14.—(Special Telegram.)—A collision occurred today between an electric car and part of a train on the Union Pacific in this city. The motor car was going west on Court street, when it collided with three freight cars and an engine. The motor car was knocked from the track and the motorman thrown directly in front of the running train, but luckily succeeded in scrambling out of the way.

Pictures

Almost Given Away.

Colored Framed Complete | **Pastell** | **39c**

Choice of gilt, ivory or white and gilt patterns.

Genuine Artist Proof | **Etching** | **$1.19**

In exquisite up to date frames complete.

Genuine Hand Painted | **Water Colors**

Parlor size, in handsome frames Ready to hang complete | **$1.98**

WE are making frames to order cheaper than you can buy the moulding. Professionals and ameteurs should get our prices on paints, brushes, canvas and all artist material. Dealers should have our wholesale catalogues.

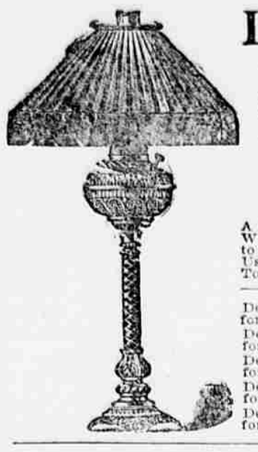
A. Hospe Jr. Retail 1513 Douglas Street. Wholesale 1614 Izard Street.

. . MORSE . .

The few short days left in which to close out the balance of this stock makes it imperative that we make prices to dispose of the most goods possible. Surely no other argument is necessary to convince you that you get the greatest bargains ever known when you buy at Morse's now.

Our China Department—

gets a farewell slash tomorrow that will well nigh deplete it. The finest ware—conceded by all dealers—has always been in this department, but the price-chopping ax falls heavily here.



Lamps—

We will give you an elegant bargain in a lamp if you will come tomorrow, for we expect to sell all we have at half price.

Stand Lamps,
Library Lamps,
Banquet Lamps,
Piano Lamps,
All at half price tomorrow.

A beautiful Parlor Vase Lamp, With Fount and Shade decorated to match—
Used to sell for $2.50;
Tomorrow your choice..... **$1.25**

Decorated Comb and Brush, former price $1.50, tomorrow.....	$1.00
Decorated 10-piece Toilet Sets, former price $4.00, tomorrow.....	2.40
Decorated 12-piece Toilet Sets, former price $5.00, tomorrow.....	3.50
Decorated Fish Sets, Carlsbad china, former price $7.50, tomorrow.....	5.00
Decorated Fish Sets, Carlsbad china, former price $8.00, tomorrow.....	5.50

Dinner Sets—

We have an unusually large line of fine English dinner ware and that means a knocking off of many dollars on a single set.

Brown decorated, in good English porcelain, formerly $10.00, now.....	$6.00
Brown boquet dinner ware, 100 pieces, in best English porcelian.....	9.75
Dinner Sets of 100 pieces, decorated in White and gold, never sold less than $17.....	10.80
Moselle Stock Pattern, fine American porcelian, with filled in decoration, set of 100 pieces.....	13.50
Loretto Stock Pattern, gold lined and fine decorations, set of 100 pieces.....	12.75
Vienna ware, in new decorations, set of 100 pieces.....	25.00

French China—In Two Great Big Bargains.

Fine French Dinner Set—
New Decorations—
100 pieces—
Worth every cent of $45.00—
Tomorrow **$19.50**

A Dinner Set—
Gold Handles—
Worth nearly $100.00—
125 pieces—
Tomorrow **$50**

Haviland China—

All of this ware will be given you tomorrow at less than the cost of production, and we have some of the most beautiful designs in the world. Every piece is a gem, selected from the choicest novelties created.

Haviland Dinner Set— Superbly decorated—149 pieces in all. Sold always for $105.00. Tomorrow a whole set..... **$45**

HAVILAND FRUIT PLATES.
HAVILAND BREAD PLATES.
HAVILAND CAKE PLATES.
HAVILAND BONE DISHES.
HAVILAND SALAD DISHES.
HAVILAND CELERY DISHES.
HAVILAND COVERED VEGETABLE

All at less than cost to import.

4 Bargain Tables—Odd Pieces at Odd Prices.

China bread plates..... China cake plates..... China fruit plates..... China bread and butter plates..... China oat meal bowls..... China bone plates.....	20 Cents.	China saucers..... Pepper bottles..... Salt bottles..... Glass salads..... Sugar shakers..... Cream jugs..... Toothpick holders.....	3c
Always sold at 50c to 60c each.		Always sold at 10c to 15c each.	
Bread plats..... Cake plates..... Vases ..... Bread dishes..... Berry trays..... Fruit plates..... Oat meal bowls..... Soup plates..... Gravy bowls.....	15 Cents	Tea pots..... Creamers ..... Butters ..... Sugars ..... Vegetable dishes..... Salads ..... Platters	40 Cents.
Always sold at 40 to 50c each.		Always sold at $1 to $1.50 each.	

Glassware—

We will give you greater bargains than ever tomorrow—These are special lines that we must close out, and we are positive we have made the right prices.

Plain Water Glasses, former price 5c each, tomorrow.....	2½c
Imitation cut glass Fruit Dishes, former price 5c each, tomorrow.....	3c
Wine Glasses, former price 7c each, tomorrow.....	4c
Engraved Water Glasses, Former price 8c each, tomorrow.....	5c
Tinted Finger Bowls, former price 35c, tomorrow.....	20c
Four-piece set, imitation cut glass, former price 40c, tomorrow.....	24c
Engraved Wine Decanters former price 50c, tomorrow.....	25c
Engraved Finger Bowls, former price 50c, tomorrow.....	30c
Imitation cut glass Salad Dishes, former price 50c, tomorrow.....	30c
Imitation cut glass Rose Bowls, former price 50c, tomorrow.....	30c
Four-bottle Castor, cut glass imitation, former price 50c, tomorrow.....	30c

- MORSE -