AROUSES PARTISAN SPIRIT

Floodgates of Politics Are Finally Open at Lincoln.

RECOUNT BILL STIRS UP BITTER STRIFE

Measure Passes the House Easily Enough Under the New Order, but May Have a Hard Time in the Senate.

LINCOLN, Feb. 2.—(Special.)—The house today by its action in passing the bill providing for a recount of the ballots cast for the constitutional amendments, voted upon at the last general election, closed one of the most bitterly waged political contests known in the history of legislation in Nebraska since the now famous session of 1891. The bill received seventy-one votes, or four more than the requisite number to make it a law, immediately upon its approval by the governor. The four populists from Douglas county who yesterday became members of the house for the first time voted in favor of the passage of the bill. John O. Yelser, one of the four, was reported to be opposed to the bill yesterday. Representative Wooster stated last night that he was opposed to the bill. Both voted for it, although it would have passed with the desired emergency clause without their votes.

The bill is now before the senate, having been read the first time just on the eve of the day's adjournment. Tomorrow it will be referred to the committee on constitutional amendments, of which Senator Ransom is chairman. The committee will probably take the bill under consideration tomorrow night at a meeting called in Senator Ransom's room in the Hotel Lincoln.

The bill as it passed the house had already been introduced in the upper branch of the legislature by Senator Dearing of Cass county and it was the subject of consideration at a meeting held by the committee on constitutional amendments last Tuesday night. At this meeting the difference of opinion was so radical that a subcommittee consisting of Senators Ransom, Feltz, Gondring and Murphy was appointed to draft an entirely new bill. The subcommittee was also divided in its views and as a result of these differences it was practically decided to draft two new bills. Senators Ransom and Feltz favored the recount of the ballots by a legislative committee, while Messrs. Gondring and Murphy believed that the whole question should be submitted to the supreme court for adjudication. To-night, however, it is reported that Senator Gondring is inclined to let the house bill stand or fall on its merits.

The passage of the bill through the house has aroused a bitter partisan feeling that is likely to continue through the session. The contest for and against the proposed recount of the ballots is drawing to Lincoln prominent leaders in both parties, and both sides are using every effort to advance or defeat the bill. It is openly charged that the populist leaders in the state have no hope of finally seating Judges Kirkpatrick and Neville upon the supreme bench; that the most they hope to do is to count in the amendments and declare the two judges entitled to their seats with the full expectation that the supreme court will ultimately decide that the law by which the amendment ballots were recounted is unconstitutional. Then the party leaders propose to go before the people in the next state campaign with the matter, charging that a partisan supreme court had thwarted the will of the people.

On the other hand it is asserted that before the bill can pass the senate an action will be commenced in the district court in Lancaster county enjoining the auditor of public accounts from drawing his warrant for the payment of more than $3 per day to members of the present legislature or for more than forty days. By this means the constitutionality of the law by which the amendment extending the legislative session to sixty days will be tested in the supreme court.

PASSES HULL'S RECOUNT BILL.

House Finds Many More Than the Necessary Two-Thirds Majority.

LINCOLN, Feb. 2.—(Special.)—House roll No. 5, the measure around which all legislation has revolved during the past two weeks, was today passed by a vote of 71 to 26. The bill provides for a recount of the vote on the constitutional amendments. Following is the full text of the bill:

A bill for an act to recount the ballots cast on the constitutional amendment relating to the judges of supreme court and their term of office, on November 3, 1896, to compare said ballots, declare the result and fix penalty for violation of the provisions of this act.

Be it enacted by the legislature of the State of Nebraska:

Section 1. That county clerks of each county within the state are hereby required to forward to the speaker of the house of representatives on or before the 10th day of February, 1897, all the ballots and poll books returned to them by the judges and clerks of election, held November 3, 1896, relating to the constitutional amendment increasing the number of judges of the supreme court and fixing their term of office. Also the clerks of counties having custody of the abstracts of votes cast in the senatorial and representative districts at such election, shall enclose them with said poll books and ballots.

Section 2. The president of the senate shall appoint two senators and the speaker of the house shall appoint three members of the house, who shall jointly constitute a board to inspect, count and compare said ballots, poll books and abstracts and report in writing to the governor their finding thereon and declare the result, on or before the 25th day of February, 1897.

Section 3. Said board may employ sufficient clerical force not exceeding three to assist in such work.

Section 4. If, upon the return of the report of said board, it shall appear that said constitutional amendment was adopted according to law, the governor shall immediately issue his proclamation declaring said amendment to be a part of the constitution of the state.

Section 5. Said report shall be recorded in the office of the secretary of state, and thereafter shall be prima facie evidence of the result of the election upon said constitutional amendment.

Section 6. Immediately upon completion of said canvass said board shall seal up said ballots, poll books and abstracts and return them to the speaker of the house, who shall cause them to be forwarded to the several county clerks.

Section 7. It shall be the duty of the speaker of the house to take the necessary precaution to preserve the integrity of said ballots, poll books and abstracts from the time received by him until returned to said county clerks.

Section 8. Any county clerk failing to transmit such ballots, poll books and abstracts to the speaker of the house, as required by this act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be fined not less than $200 nor more than $1,000.

Section 9. Whereas an emergency exists this act shall be in force from and after its passage.

BALDWIN SWORN IN.

When the roll was called this morning Mr. Sutton of Pawnee stated that he had received a telegram to the effect that his brother was not expected to live, and asked to be excused. His request was granted. An attempt was made to suspend the reading of the journal. Roddy objected, and on a rising vote was sustained.

As Representative Baldwin, one of the newly seated members from Douglas county, did not take the oath of office yesterday in company with the other three, on motion of Hull, Chief Justice Post was invited to appear in the house and administer the oath. The committee, Messrs. Rouse, Gerdes and Dobson, waited on the chief justice, whom they found on the bench, and unable to comply. The committee reported this fact, with the additional information that the chief justice would administer the oath in the supreme court room. Representative Baldwin was escorted to the supreme court room where the oath was administered.

Hull directed attention to the fact that Mrs. Clara Berwick Colby had been granted twenty minutes in which to address the house. A motion was made that Hull be named a committee to escort the lady to the house. This was amended by the substitution of Roddy of Otoe. Mrs. Colby thanked the house for the kindly greeting accorded her, and complimented the members on the large number of woman suffrage bills now pending. The speaker said that four western states already had woman suffrage, and she was now here to urge the Nebraska legislature to memoralize congress in behalf of the proposed suffrage amendment which has been pending in congress for at least two decades. Mrs. Colby dwelt on the fact that, so long as men had invaded the industrial field formerly occupied exclusively by women, such as soap and candle making and even millinery and dressmaking, it was no more than fair and just that woman be be accorded equal rights with man in the whole field of politics and industry.

Wooster, at the conclusion of Mrs. Colby's address, asked a number of questions which were readily answered and to the evident satisfaction of the members of the house.

RECOMMENDED FOR PASSAGE.

On the call for reports from standing committees the following bills were recommended for passage:

House roll No. 153, repealing the Russian thistle act of 1895.

House roll No. 57, amending the game law of 1895.

House roll No. 134, providing for the sale on execution of stock of corporations.

House roll No. 24, requiring the hides of meat cattle to be exhibited for ten days by purchaser or slaughterer.

House roll No. 133, providing for punishment for cruelty to children.

House roll No. 140, providing for the adoption of minor children.

House roll No. 109, providing for the refunding of expenses incurred by a county in taking care of the insane of another county.

House roll No. 206, reducing the salary of county commissioners to $3 per diem when in actual session and providing that in counties of over 70,000 inhabitants the salary shall be $1,200 per annum.

House roll No. 140, reducing the salaries of county attorneys.

The following bills were ordered to the general file:

House roll No. 69, providing for public scales and the appointment of weighmasters.

House roll No. 185, legalizing the acts of the county clerk of Buffalo county.

When Hull's bill, house roll No. 83, was reported from the committee with the recommendation that it go on general file, Roddy of Otoe moved as an amendment that it be referred to the committee on insanity. There is no such committee. Clark of Lancaster, however, said he was on the committee on hospitals for the insane, and he objected to the sarcastic comment on one of his constituents. This bill provides that the sum of $10,000, to be expended under the direction of W. F. Weight, shall be appropriated for the purpose of making two experiments in the way of producing rain by bombarding the atmosphere. Stebbins, chairman of the committee on irrigation, said that nine men on the committee had unanimously recommended this bill to the general file, and he thought their combined judgment was as good as that of any one man on the floor. The report of the committee was adopted and the bill went to the general file.

The joint resolution requesting Senator John M. Thurston to vote for all free silver measures introduced in the senate, was reported as correctly engrossed and enrolled, and recommended for passage. Clark of Lancaster moved an amendment that the resolution go on the general file in order that it might be debated in committee of the whole. This was defeated by a vote of 57 against it, and argument was smothered.

Webb, from the committing on printing, reported that bids had been received for printing 5,000 copies of Governor Holcomb's message, as follows: Jacob North, $180; State Journal, $177.75; Woodruff-Dunby company, $167. On motion the contract was let to the Woodruff-Dunby company.

The house then took a recess until 2 o'clock p. m.

IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

Following roll call in the afternoon Sheldon moved that the house resolve itself into committee of the whole to consider bills on general file, and Speaker Gaffin invited Sheldon to take the chair.

House roll No. 62, which was under consideration when the committee last rose, was first on the list. This is Rich's bill, amending the act for the sale of malt and spiritous liquors. On motion of Rich the bill was recommitted for amendment.

Then house roll No. 5, which had been recommitted to the committee of the whole for amendment, popped up. Chairman Sheldon ruled that as the bill had been recommitted, it came first on the list following No. 62. Hull moved that the bill go to the committee on enrolled and engrossed bills for correction. A figure 3 had been written 5 in the engrossing.

Ballard made the point of order that the bill should be sent to the committee on privileges and elections. The chair ruled that the point was not well taken. Burkett raised the point that one committee could not order another committee to do anything. Gaffin, from his seat on the floor, moved a substitute to Hull's motion, that the bill be reported back to the house with the recommendation that the house order the correction made by the committee on engrossed and enrolled bills. The amendment was carried and the committee took up house roll No. 52, an act defining the duties, powers and obligations of secret societies and associations. An error in proof reading was found in the title of this measure. Clark of Lancaster pointed out that the time to correct the title would be after the bill passed.

Clark of Richardson requested the author of the bill, Mr. Woodward, to explain the provisions of the measure. Mr. Woodward did so by saying that its object was to make the state auditor responsible for all secret society securities placed in his custody.

Clark of Richardson thought that with a bond of only $50,000 it would not be good policy to entrust him with securities mounting up into millions.

Burkett could not understand the exact bearing of the measure, and moved that the bill be recommitted for amendment. The bill was recommitted.

House roll No. 37, which requires proprietors of irrigation ditches to bridge roadways across which their ditches cut, and keep said bridges in repair, was recommended for passage, after prolonged debate and numerous amendments.

On motion of Hull the committee of the whole rose, reported, and the report was adopted.

PASSES THE RECOUNT BILL.

Rouse moved an adjournment, but there was a strong majority against him. Hull wanted house roll No. 5 called up, but it was shown that the committee on enrolled and engrossed bills had not got through with it.

Then Severe, from the committee on enrolled and engrossed bills, reported house roll No. 5, as having been correctly engrossed, and Hull renewed his motion to suspend the rules and proceed with the consideration of the bill. It required 67 votes to do this, and they were forthcoming instantly.

Speaker Gaffin instructed Chief Clerk Eager to read the bill, which provides for a recount of the votes cast on the constitutional amendments at the election of November 3, 1896, which he did. The bill was passed by the following vote in detail:

Yeas:

Ankeny,	Hile,	Shull,
Billings,	Hill,	Smith (Dglas),
Bower,	Holland,	Smith (Rich.),
Baldwin,	Horner,	Snyder (Nmha),
Campbell,	Hull,	Snyder (Sherm),
Clark (Rich.),	Hyatt,	Soderman,
Cole,	Jones (Nmha),	Stebbins,
Cronk,	Jones (Wyne),	Straub,
Curtis,	Kapp,	Taylor (Dglas),
Dobson,	Keister,	Taylor (Clay),
Eager,	Lemar,	Uerling,
Eastman,	Liddell,	Van Horn,
Endorf,	Loomis,	Webb,
Felker,	McCarthy,	Welch,
Fernow,	McCracken,	Wheeler,
Fitzroberts,	Marshall,	Wiebe,
Gaylord,	Mitchell,	Winslow,
Gerdes,	Moran,	Woodard,
Givens,	Morrison,	Wooster,
Grandstaff,	Phelps,	Wright,
Grell,	Rich,	Yelser,
Grimes,	Robertson,	Zimmerman,
Grosvenor,	Severe,	Mr. Speaker—71
Hamilton,	Sheldon,	

Nays:

Alderman,	Fouke,	Nesbit,
Bernard,	Goshorn,	Pollard,
Blake,	Henderson,	Prince,
Burkett,	Holbrook,	Roddy,
Byram,	Jones (Gage),	Rouse,
Casebeer,	McGee,	Waite,
Chittenden,	McLeod,	Wimberley,
Clark (Lncstr),	Mann,	Young—26.
Eighmy,	Mills,	

Absent and not voting:

Jenkins,	Schram,	Sutton—3.

EXPLAIN THEIR VOTES.

In explanation of his vote Clark of Lancaster sent up the following written document, to which Goshorn asked that his name be attached:

Mr. Speaker: There has not been a charge anywhere that there was a single voting precinct in this state where the vote on constitutional amendments was not correctly counted and returned. I believe this bill to be an attempt to "count in" a constitutional amendment that failed to receive the endorsement of the people at the polls; an attempt to amend the constitution by the legislature. This legislature has no power to constitute itself a court of appeal from the state canvassing board, and, if it had, the act submitting the amendment to the vote of the people was invalid and the vote thereon was of no effect. This act is unconstitutional and void and if passed will be fruitful of a large expense to the state, entirely unjustified and absolutely without effect. I therefore vote no.

Bernard's explanation was as follows:

This bill has caused more mischief than any bill I have any knowledge of. It has caused the removal of four honored members of this house. It has also placed members of this house under the charge of attempted bribery to promote its passage. The bill provides simply for a recount on the vote for supreme judges while there were twelve amendments voted on. I am opposed to the bill and vote no.

Winslow of Gosper then sent to the clerk's desk a resolution stating that there were reports in circulation to the effect that there were gross irregularities in the conduct of the Institute for the Deaf and Dumb at Omaha. Clark of Lancaster moved an amendment that the matter be referred to the house standing committee on deaf and dumb, blind and insane hospitals. Wooster moved as a substitute that the committee be instructed to report whether or not a special committee was necessary, and the substitute carried without division.

Following the introduction of a few bills the house adjourned until 10 a. m. tomorrow.

BILLS ON FIRST READING.

The following bills were read for the first time:

By Clark of Richardson, house roll No. 352, to amend sections 3, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 26, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33, 37, 38, 50, 64, 65, 67, 69, 70, 71, 78, 80, 83, 91 and 115, chapter xiii-a of article I of the Compiled Statutes of 1895, for the government of cities of the first-class having more than 25,000 and less than 100,000 inhabitants, and to repeal section 10 and repeal said original sections and all amendments thereto, and all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this act.

By Weaver, house roll No. 353, providing for the payment by counties of the premium on the bond of county treasurers, where such bonds are executed by a surety company authorized by the laws of Nebraska to execute such bonds, such premium not in any instance to exceed one-half of 1 per cent per annum of the penalty stated in the bond.

By Weaver, house roll No. 354, providing for the payment out of the state treasury of the premium on the state treasurer's bond, when such bond is executed by a surety company authorized by the laws of Nebraska to execute such bonds, such premium not to exceed one-third of 1 per cent per annum of the penalty stated in the bond and appropriating fund for the payment of such premium.

By Weaver, house roll No. 355, to provide for the sale of unclaimed freight and merchandise transported or received for transportation by common carriers to pay charges thereon and to provide for the disposition of the surplus of the proceeds.

By Grandstaff, house roll No. 356, to establish and create a precinct board of equalization in counties under the commissioners' system.

By Grandstaff, house roll No. 357, to provide for extending the time of payment for educational lands of the state of Nebraska under existing contracts for the sale or lease of same.

By Grandstaff, house roll No. 258, to amend section 2983 of chapter xiv of the Consolidated Statutes of Nebraska for 1891, and to repeal said original section.

By Holland, house roll No. 359, for the relief of William Bergin, James Bergin, G. T. Taylor and Lewis M. Heard.

By Morrison, house roll No. 360, to provide that banks shall give securities for deposits.

By Ankeny, house roll No. 361, for the relief of John Aschenbrenner, Louis Aschenbrenner and Eliza Appleman.

By Dobson, house roll No. 362, to amend section 1, article ix, chapter lxxii of the Compiled Statutes of the state of Nebraska of the year 1895.

By Clark of Richardson, house roll No. 363, defining fraternal beneficiary societies, orders or associations and regulating the same, and to repeal an act entitled, "an act to exempt certain secret societies and associations from the requirements of chapter xvi of the Compiled Statutes;" to define the duties, powers and obligations of such societies and associations and to provide penalties for the violation thereof, approved March 29, 1897.

By Clark of Richardson, house roll No. 364, to apportion the state into judicial districts and provide for the election of judges thereof, and to repeal sections 8, 9 and 10 of the Compiled Statutes of Nebraska of 1895, chapter v, entitled, "Apportionment."

SENATE BUSY MAKING LAWS.

Several Important Measures Pass the Upper House.

LINCOLN, Feb. 2.—(Special.)—Mrs. Clara Berwick Colby was this morning accorded the privilege of addressing the senate for twenty minutes on the question of woman suffrage. She urged the senate to pass the joint memorial requesting congress to submit a woman suffrage amendment to the constitution.

The regular order being resumed, reports from standing committees were received as follows:

From Mr. Johnson, chairman of the committee on miscellaneous subjects: Senate file No. 74, introduced by Mr. Ransom, for an act defining cruelty to children, prescribing punishment therefor, and for guardianship of children in certain cases. Also senate file No. 47, introduced by Mr. Ransom, providing chattel mortgages on furniture and household goods not signed by both husband and wife invalid. Also senate file No. 100, introduced by Mr. Watson, to provide for imposing a tax on state banks and other private or corporate institutions doing a banking business in the state. The tax so collected is to be used for the protection of depositors of insolvent banks. Also senate file No. 76, introduced by Mr. Ransom, providing that no child under the age of 12 years shall be employed in any store, office, shop, factory or other place to exceed three months in any one year.

After several more bills had been read the first time the bills on third reading were taken up, read and passed. The bills passed were as follows:

Senate file No. 6, by Mr. Murphy of Gage, amending the law relating to the summoning of juries in district courts. Its main provision is as follows:

Section 1. That section 661 of the code of civil procedure, being section 6230 of the Compiled Statutes of Nebraska of 1895, entitled "Juries," be amended to read as follows: "The clerk of the district court shall, on the day of the drawing aforementioned, issue an order to the sheriff, deputy sheriff or coroner, as the case may be, commanding him to summon the persons whose names are drawn as petit jurors to appear before the district court at or before the hour of 11 o'clock, on the morning of such day of the term as the district judge of said district shall by written order direct, stating in the order the day of the week and month and the place of sitting of the court, to serve as petit jurors."

The bill also contains a similar provision relating to the summoning of grand juries.

Senate file No. 13, introduced by Ransom. It reduces the salaries of the Douglas county commissioners from $1,800 to $1,500 per annum.

Senate file No. 46, also by Ransom, requiring street railway companies to vestibule their cars. Senator Dundas, populist of Nemaha, was the only member voting against the bill. Senator Evans of Douglas did not vote.

The senate then took a recess till 2 o'clock.

After recess the senate devoted itself to the consideration of several matters, the regular order being dispensed with. Mr. Ritchie, from the committee on internal improvements, reported back senate file No. 136, with the recommendation that it be passed. The bill amends the law which creates a special fund for the purpose of erecting a court house and other public buildings.

PARTISAN RESOLUTION DEBATED.

Mr. Dundas, from the committee on public charity, started an animated discussion by reporting back without recommendation, the joint resolution requesting the people of Nebraska to extend aid to the destitute of Chicago. The joint resolution is narrowly partisan in its character. Its lengthy preamble cites the alleged evil effects resulting from the gold standard and the resolution itself calls upon the people of Nebraska to extend aid through the chairmen of the free silver county central committees, and that all supplies be forwarded to "that noble patron and friend of the people, John P. Altgeld."

Mr. Howell stated that while there were doubtless some harsh features to the resolution, that under the circumstances he believed the people of Nebraska would overlook the partisanship and carry out its spirit. He therefore moved that the joint resolution be placed on general file with the recommendation that it pass. The motion failed to meet with a hearty response. Mr. Ransom asked that the report on the resolution lie over one day under the rules. He stated that Mr. Dearing, who was absent, was opposed to the political features of the resolution and wanted to be heard upon it.

Mr. Lee urged that the political features be stricken out, and he moved that the bill be returned to the committee on public charities for that purpose.

Mr. Howell asked that the resolution be sent to a special committee of three.

After some further discussion the resolution was sent back to the committee on public charities.

Senate file No. 14, by Mr. Ransom, reducing the number of commissioners of Douglas county from five to three, was then read the third time and passed.

The senate then went into committee of the whole for consideration of bills on the general file, with Dundas of Nehama in the chair.

PUBLIC DEFENDER BILL.

The first bill taken up was senate file No. 12, introduced by Ransom. It provides for the appointment of a public defender in Douglas and Lancaster counties. Under the proposed law the judges of the district court shall appoint, on the first day of each term, an attorney whose duty it shall be to defend all persons accused of felonious crimes during the term. The merits of the bill were discussed and explained by Ransom, while Steele and Mutz objected to some of the provisions of the proposed law. Gondring and Murphy warmly advocated the passage of the bill. The principal objection urged against the bill came from Mutz. The bill as amended by the judiciary committee provided that when any person is to be tried for any offense punishable by death, the trial judge shall appoint an additional counsel to assist such public defender in the defense of such person, and that such additional counsel shall receive for his services the sum to be fixed by the presiding judge, not to exceed $250. Mutz thought the amount was excessive, and moved to fix the maximum compensation at $100. His amendment was, after a protracted discussion, rejected, and the committee rose with the bill ordered engrossed for a third reading.

House roll No. 5 having been reported, was read the first time, after which the senate adjourned until tomorrow morning.

CASHES ALL SCHOOL WARRANTS.

State Treasurer Meserve Pays Out the Entire December Dividend.

LINCOLN, Feb. 2.—(Special Telegram.)—In response to many inquiries, State Treasurer Meserve states that the warrants for the December apportionment of the temporary school fund to the full amount of about $230,000 have all been cashed. A great deal of comment has been excited over the manner in which these warrants have been handled. The apportionment was made in the latter part of December, at the regular time, and the warrants drawn, but not signed. Auditor Cornell was placed in possession of his office late in the afternoon of January 7, and commenced his administration by signing the school warrants before he went to supper. School treasurers in all parts of the state began making urgent calls for their warrants, and Auditor Cornell felt called upon to make an explanation in the public press to show that he was in no way responsible for the delay. The public explanation failed to relieve the pressure and the demands for the warrants became more urgent.

State Treasurer Meserve at once signed and sent out warrants to the amount of about $80,000, announcing, through the columns of The Bee, that he would send out the balance in a few days. During the last week the full amount, $230,000, has been cashed.

Although he has been in office less than a full month, Treasurer Meserve has cancelled nearly $400,000 of the state's floating indebtedness. Saturday he called in another block of general fund warrants, amounting to $50,000.

KENT FOR LABOR COMMISSIONER.

He Will Be Named to Succeed Powers Very Soon Now.

LINCOLN, Feb. 2.—(Special Telegram.)—Within a day or so, possibly tomorrow, Sidney J. Kent will be appointed deputy state labor commissioner to succeed John H. Powers. Mr. Kent was slated for this office some time before the beginning of the year, but the delay in his appointment has been occasioned by a difficulty in making a place for Powers. It was first intended to give Powers a place in the office of the secretary of state, but this could not be arranged. It has been practically decided to appoint him as one of the under secretaries of the State Board of Irrigation.

Sidney J. Kent, who is to be the new labor commissioner, is one of the well known labor leaders of Nebraska. He is not only a practical working carpenter, but is in addition a broad minded, educated, public spirited man. He is an enthusiastic advocate of the Transmississippi Exposition and will at once undertake to bring about a speedy and amicable adjustment of the differences between labor organizations of Omaha and the exposition directory. He has already submitted to the Omaha labor leaders what seems to be a practical solution of the difficulty.

KANSAS CITY AND THE EXPOSITION.

Agents of that Town Looking for a Chance to Grab the Show.

LINCOLN, Feb. 2.—(Special Telegram.)—Something in the nature of a flurry among friends of the Transmississippi Exposition was noticeable this morning. Agents of the Kansas City Commercial club are said to be in the city to learn the exact status of the exposition bill before the Nebraska legislature. It is given out here that these agents will report to the legislatures of Missouri, Arkansas, Kansas and other western states the true situation concerning the Nebraska bill and if there be any ground for such a report they will say that Nebraska lawmakers are not in favor of an exposition and refuse to vote an appropriation for it. This statement is to be taken as the basis for an announcement, it is said, that Kansas City stands ready to pledge $1,000,000 cash as a bonus to be paid on demand to the Transmississippi Commercial congress, on condition that the exposition be relocated at Kansas City, and that the money be devoted to exposition purposes.

LAYING OUT THE APPROPRIATIONS.

Committee on Finance, Ways and Means Holds a Session.

LINCOLN, Feb. 2.—(Special Telegram.)—The committee on finance, ways and means held a late session tonight at the Lindell. Chairman Clark presided and a number of questions were under consideration. Dr. L. J. Abbott, superintendent of the Lincoln Hospital for the Insane was before the committee and explained the financial needs of the institution over which he presides. There is no special bill before the house for an appropriation for the asylum, but the amount he asks for is included in his biennial estimate.

There was a bill considered, however, for a new hall of mechanic arts on the grounds of the University of Nebraska. The amount asked for is $30,000, with $20,000 in another bill for a new building demanded by the directory of the state farm.

Another measure considered was a bill providing for a dormitory for the Peru Normal school. It was decided by the committee that the University bills should lie over a while. Chancellor MacLean notified the committee that he could not meet with it this evening.

The committee also decided to visit the State Normal school before making any report on the bill. There is a prospect that the house may adjourn over next week and allow the various committees to visit all of the public institutions in the state.

The transmississippi bill was considered for a short time by the committee, but it was not decided to report it tomorrow, nor was any time indicated when they would do so.

WAITS ON ATTORNEY GENERAL.

Hearing of the Treasury Controversy Goes Over One Day.

LINCOLN, Feb. 2.—(Special Telegram.)—The supreme court convened in regular session this morning and although it had been expected that the state treasury controversy would be presented, the matter went over until the return of Attorney General Smyth from Washington. Mr Smyth is expected home tomorrow. Both sides to the controversy are preparing briefs, but neither has been filed as yet.

Need Money for the Schools.

FREMONT, Feb. 2.—(Special.)—At the regular meeting of the school board last evening there was considerable discussion as to how the board could economize. Some were in favor of not purchasing any more text books and supplies for the schools and of issuing those now on hand only to children of poor parents, but the board decided it had no authority to take any such action. C. D. Marr was appointed purchasing agent and hereafter he will have sole charge of purchasing supplies. All the teachers now employed have contracts for the year, so it will be impossible to make any reduction in their salaries until the beginning of the next school year. Unless the board can get more money from some source, either by the enactment of the bill now before the legislature increasing the levy for school purposes 5 mills or from a transfer from the city treasury of the whole or a part of the saloon license funds, the efficiency of the schools will be much injured.

Urge a Liberal Appropriation.

STOCKVILLE, Neb., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—The return of Senator L. M. Graham Saturday for the first time since the opening of the legislature, has renewed the interest of the people here regarding the appropriation for the Transmississippi Exposition. The people about here are earnestly in favor of a liberal appropriation by Nebraska for this exposition. Senator Graham returned to Lincoln today, accompanied by his wife.

George D. Chadderdon, editor of the Faber, was at home over Sunday, and returned to Lincoln today. He holds a position in the present legislature as assistant enrolling clerk in the senate.

Assaulted Him with a Crutch.

BEATRICE, Neb., Feb. 2.—(Special Telegram.)—Harry Wilson and William Brown were arrested this evening upon a warrant sworn out by William Burgess, charging them with malicious assault with a deadly weapon. It appears that Burgess got into an altercation with Brown and Wilson and the latter, who is minus a leg and goes by the name of "Crip," used his crutch as a means of assault, breaking Burgess' arm. The matter will be heard in justice's court tomorrow morning.

Revival Meetings at Mason City.

MASON CITY, Neb., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—Rev. T. K. Tyson, Baptist evangelist of Lincoln, closed a three weeks' revival meeting last evening. About eight members were added to the church. Rev. Mr. Trennary will continue the meeting tonight and perhaps the Methodists will keep the work going.

The high school gave an entertainment Saturday evening. The play was excellent for amateurs. About $15 was netted.

Polk County's January Mortgages.

OSCEOLA, Neb., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—The mortgage record as filed in the office of the county clerk of Polk county for the month of January, show that there were eighteen farm mortgages filed, amounting to $24,742.95; released twenty, amounting to $31,777.30; city mortgages filed one, amounting to $175; chattel mortgages filed 141, amounting to $27,564.40; released fifty-one, amounting to $6,223.73.

Fine Ice Crop at Sutton.

SUTTON, Neb., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—An immensely fine crop of ice has been secured at Sutton. The Sutton Creamery association has filled its cold storage warehouse and two beer (wholesale) vaults have been filled, as well as houses of private persons, who supply the butchers and merchants. Most of the ice was over a foot in thickness and very clear and compact.

Thieves Take Knives and Razors.

BLOOMINGTON, Neb., Feb. 2.—(Special Telegram.)—Thieves broke into C. Roupp's hardware store last night, securing $90 worth of knives and razors. They also broke into George Green's lumber office, but the sign on the safe that it was open saved it from being blown open. They broke cash drawers out but secured only a little small change.

Fine Corn Stored at Sutton.

SUTTON, Neb., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—Corn in the ear has been bought and cribbed up in Sutton, commencing about ten days ago, until now there are over 100,000 bushels safely housed for better prices. It has mainly been bought at 10 cents per bushel and the crop, both shelled and in the ear, is in prime condition.

Otoe County's Mortgage Record.

NEBRASKA CITY, Feb. 2.—(Special.)—The mortgage record for Otoe county for the month of January shows twenty-two farm mortgages filed, $22,766; twenty released, $22,538; six city mortgages filed, $3,456.12; seven released, $6,318.96.

Closes the Revival Meetings.

UNIVERSITY PLACE, Feb. 2.—(Special.)—Dr. Paine closed the revival meetings at the Nebraska Wesleyan college Sunday night. The meetings have been exceedingly successful. Dr. Paine makes good use of his stereopticon to attract a congregation.

Grip is Epidemic at Sutton.

SUTTON, Neb., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—Grip is epidemic in Sutton. All the doctors are busy and some cases are unusually severe, although no deaths have as yet occurred. It is estimated by the physicians that there are now over 300 cases in Sutton.

Gives Permission to Drill.

LINCOLN, Feb. 2.—(Special.)—Adjutant General Barry today issued a special order, No. 6, authorizing the students of the schools at Aurora to drill and parade with arms in public under the superintendence of their instructors.

Juniors Banquet the Seniors.

UNIVERSITY PLACE, Neb., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—The senior class was banqueted last night by the junior class at the Lindell hotel in Lincoln. An excellent menu was served. Seven toasts were given during the evening.

Buys a Farm Near Duncan.

DUNCAN, Neb., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—William Ernst of Duncan bought 160 acres of land of John Reichtenbacher this morning for which he paid $3,820. The land lies one mile east of Duncan and contains ordinary farm buildings.

Stella Band is Reorganized.

STELLA, Neb., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—The Stella band was reorganized last night and will begin active practice at once under the leadership of Mr. Moon, formerly with the Pond Berlin Dramatic company.

Revival Services at Stella.

STELLA, Neb., Feb. 2.—(Special.)—The Methodists have begun a two-weeks' re-

(Continued on Sixth Page.)

MODERN WOODMEN CONVENE

State Camp Meets in Biennial Session at Grand Island.

ELECT DELEGATES TO GO TO DUBUQUE

Mayor Thompson Welcomes the Delegates and A. R. Talbot Replies and the Convention Quickly Gets Down to Work.

GRAND ISLAND, Feb. 2.—(Special.)—The state camp of the Modern Woodmen of America—the members of that lodge in Nebraska—were in biennial meeting in Grand Island today. Each lodge or "camp" in the state is entitled to one delegate. There are 456 camps in the state and that number of delegates are entitled to seats in the head state camp. The session was opened at 10 o'clock this morning at the Bartenbach opera house. The visitors are seated by congressional districts. The representation by districts is as follows: First district, 77; Second, 22; Third, 83; Fourth, 100; Fifth, 86; Sixth, 88. The membership in the district is: First, 3,452; Second, 2,022; Third, 3,908; Fourth, 4,755; Fifth, 3,196; Sixth, 3,226; making a total of members in the state of 20,559.

The session was opened by an address of welcome by Grand Island's mayor, W. H. Thompson, which was responded to on behalf of the Woodmen by A. R. Talbot of Lincoln, member of the board of directors.

The matter of principal interest among the delegates, before assembling for business, seemed to be the selection of delegates to the head camp to be held in Dubuque, Ia., June 1. The Nebraska Woodmen are entitled to twenty-two delegates, one at large and one for every thousand members or major fraction thereof. The First district is thus entitled to four, the Fourth to five, the Fifth to three and the Sixth to three.

About 400 of the 456 enrolled delegates were in the city this morning and the attendance is therefore all that it was expected to be.

Committees on rules and resolutions were appointed and the convention adjourned to 2 o'clock this afternoon. At 2:30 the camp was again called to order and greetings were read by State Clerk Rewick from the camps of Iowa and Michigan. Reports of state banker and state clerk, as also the committee on rules, were adopted. The committee on resolutions reported a recommendation that whereas the Modern Woodmen of America had now over 200,00 members it establish a publishing house and print its own paper and stationery. The resolution was discussed and voted down.

The house then took up the election of a delegate-at-large and in preface thereto Mr. Jelkins introduced a resolution that the delegates from the Nebraska camp to the head camp be instructed to work for the election of A. B. Talbot as head consul at Dubuque next June, and that W. H. Thompson of north of the Platte and Mr. A. L. Kinson of south of the Platte be elected delegates-at-large, and that Alfred Morgan and W. E. Sharp of, respectively, north and south of the Platte be elected as alternates. They wanted Talbot but did not want the election of the delegates along with it. After a parliamentary squabble the subject matter of the motion was divided. Talbot was endorsed and the camp proceeded to elect one delegate-at-large. There was a lengthy struggle between C. C. McNish of Lincoln and C. A. Atkinson of Wisner, W. H. Thompson of Grand Island and Gunnell of the Sixth district also having been nominated on the third ballot with but one vote to spare. Mr. Atkinson was elected. Mr. McNish was then chosen alternate-at-large.

Congressional districts selected the following delegates: First district, E. W. Brown, Henry Gering, E. T. Black; Second district, P. C. Schroeder, S. C. Haney; Third district, W. H. Hognod, Charles A. Smith, B. F. Griffin, M. P. Lane; Fourth district, E. S. Franklin, C. E. Jenkins, C. H. Caldice, Dr. S. Ashby, Edward Lampool; Fifth district, Frank Harris, J. D. England, James McNally; Sixth district, A. E. Cady, J. W. Comstock, C. J. Woolsen, L. M. Keith.

The following officers were elected: Head consul, W. H. Thompson, Grand Island; adviser, G. E. Eksasser, Omaha; banker, D. C. Zink, Grand Island; clerk, W. A. Forsyth, Phelps county; physician, Dr. Barlow, Arcadia; escort, Joseph Chamberlain, Dawson county; watchman, Ed Lake; sentry, C. E. Moffet; board of managers, Fred Pearl, O. M. Gunnell, J. W. Edgerton. The next biennial camp will be held at Fremont. The convention adjourned at 6:30. Tonight an informal discussion and exemplification of work was held at the opera house.

WOODMEN OF THE WORLD CONVENE.

Ex-Attorney General Churchill is Elected Head Consul.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 2.—(Special Telegram.)—The first convention of the head camp, Woodmen of the World, was called to order by Sovereign Head Clerk John T. Yates of Omaha, at 1:30 this afternoon. The place of meeting was the spacious hall of Halter block, corner Thirteenth and P streets. The district, represented by 150 delegates in attendance, comprises the Indian Territory, Oklahoma, Kansas and Nebraska.

The order appears to be in a very prosperous condition, the report of the sovereign head clerk showing an increase of membership this year of 17,083. This convention is the most important ever held in the history of the order, as a question of jurisdiction has arisen, although the principal business before the convention is the election of two delegates to the sovereign camp which meets in St. Louis in March. Before adjournment this evening, at 6 o'clock, the question of a division in territory was discussed, but no conclusion was reached. The general sentiment of the delegates was opposed to the separate jurisdiction plan and in favor of the department plan.

This afternoon the election of head consul was declared in order, and ex-Attorney General A. S. Churchill was elected. His only competitor was Judge Moxey of Indian Territory. At 6 p. m. the camp adjourned until 8 p. m.

The convention continued in session this evening until after 12 o'clock. The night session was consumed almost entirely with a spirited discussion of the department and division of jurisdiction plans. The department plan was adopted, after a prolonged discussion. As outlined by a prominent member of the order, the new system provides that the death rate south of a