PART I.

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE.

PAGES 1 TO 10.

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IRISH FIGHT IS OVER

Landlords and Tenants All Agree on Terms of Land Purchase Bill.

EACH SIDE BELIEVES OTHER IS SINCERE

Unionists Join Nationalists in Pressing Government to Act Speedily.

LACK OF CASH ALONE SEEMS TO BAR WAY

National Exchequer, Depleted by War, Not Able to Bear Extra Burdens

EFFORT WILL BE MADE, HOWEVER, TO ACT

No One Considers It Possible Present Opportunity Will Be Allowed to Slip Away, Even If Loan Is Necessary.

LONDON, Feb. 21.—The interested parties in the Irish land question, Irish nationalists, landlords and tenants, are now for the first time in the history of Ireland in agreement upon the lines of the Dublin conference. They have also joined forces in bringing pressure on the government to make Secretary Wyndham's forthcoming bill agree in spirit with the recommendations of the conference, and all indications point to the bill conceding those demands.

It will be introduced in Parliament at the end of March, and if passed will accomplish what Mr. Redmond and Lord Dunraven agree in saying will be one of the "most extraordinary, peaceful revolutions ever effected."

If Mr. Wyndham, for lack of funds or other causes, fails to meet the views of the conference, he will have on his hands, to quote Mr. Redmond, "an Ireland such as the world has never seen." In this view such a strong supporter of the government as the duke of Abercorn concurs.

Mr. Redmond adds:

If this agreement of keenly opposing parties lacks fulfillment through the governor's refusal there will be twice as many counties under the ban of the crimes act as there were prior to the present truce. This truce will be continued until the meaning of the bill is revealed. A great nationalist conference, at which Bourke Cockran of New York will be one of the principal speakers, will meet in Dublin in April to take action on the subject.

Amazed at the Results.

The duke of Abercorn, who is president of the powerful Irish landlords' association, which at first declined to join the earl of Mayo in a movement to join the nationalists, but later signified its assent, frankly admits that he is amazed at the results achieved and at the "happy topsy-turvydom" now prevailing in Irish politics.

Asked if he thought the nationalists were sincere in their professions of willingness to settle the long-standing grievances by a compromise, he emphatically expressed his belief in their complete sincerity. The duke could not conceive that the government would "stand on any quibbles" when the solution of the most serious problem of the empire was within its grasp. He thought the process of changing the holdings from the landlord to the tenant might possibly cost $3,500,000 annually, adding: "It surely would be cheap at that price."

Neither Mr. Redmond nor Lord Dunraven believe the transfer of the land would involve more than $1,500,000 annually, and both think that the economies resulting from the cheaper administration would greatly reduce this figure, if they did not eventually quite wipe out the necessity for state aid in the payment of differences between the maximum price the tenant can afford to pay and the minimum price the landlord can accept.

Lack of Funds is Drawback.

The Irish unionist leaders are of the opinion that the whole question might be declared settled in advance if the government was not so "desperately hard up." In consequence of this lack of funds, Mr. Wyndham's bill will not be introduced until after the presentation of the budget, so that any money to carry out the provisions of the bill will not be included in the year's taxes.

Chancellor of the Exchequer Ritchie, while quite sympathetic toward Ireland, now faces a more serious financial situation and more bitter protests against overtaxation than have confronted any chancellor in recent years.

The phenomenally small government majorities since Parliament reassembled are indications of the storm which is brewing over Mr. Ritchie's head. He must also float a new Transvaal loan before October, and the government, for this reason, is paraicularly anxious in this respect.

Consols, yesterday, were at the lowest point reached this year, and inquiries made at Anglo-American banking houses, such as the Morgans, Seligmans and Speyers, reveal the fact that there is no indication of the United States subscribing to a loan.

Since the last war loan was so largely underwritten in New York the international monetary situation has completely changed, and the firms here say the Americans now need their capital for use at home.

Easy to Float Loan.

One financier said: "If the government would bring out a loan that would really provide means for settling the Irish question, they would get more underwriting than they would know what to do with, both here and in America."

Mr. Redmond was asked point blank if he thought the landlords were in earnest. He replied:

I have every reason to think they are just as anxious as we are to settle.

If Mr. Wyndham brings in a bill on the lines of the decision arrived at by the Dublin conference the greatest step in the industrial and social history of Ireland will have been accomplished.

More than that, it will be a most important step toward home rule. Under the new system the landlords will live in Ireland, derive benefit from their property and begin to take a new interest in Irish affairs.

They will then see the necessity for an extension of local government and will eventually become as anxious as ourselves to secure home rule.

AFTER THE NEWS OF RUSSIA

Proprietor of London Paper Seeks to Have Censorship Relaxed.

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LONDON, Feb. 21.—(New York World Cablegram — Special Telegram.) — Alfred Harmsworth, the proprietor of the London Daily Mail, has gone to Russia to see if he can arrange with the Russian authorities for a news service from St. Petersburg for the Daily Mail. The arbitrary interference of the Russian censor has made it impossible for any newspaper correspondent to send news without being expelled. If Mr. Harmsworth gets the censor's ban relaxed it will be the biggest achievement of his career.

CHOATE ATTENDS A DINNER

Returns to London in Time for the Opening Session of Parliament.

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LONDON, Feb. 21.—(New York World Cablegram — Special Telegram.) — All the women of the United States embassy will attend the first court on March 3. Mrs. and Miss Choate have gone to the south of France to remain until the end of this month, but they will return March 1. Mrs. Henry will attend with her daughter. Mrs. Clover and Mrs. Ridgely Carter are remaining in town to be present.

Ambassador Choate returned to London in time to be present at the opening of Parliament and to attend one of the Parliamentary dinners on Monday night, going later to the reception at Devonshire house.

After the state procession on Tuesday Mr. Choate had a luncheon party at Carlton house terrace and Secretary White had a few people also, Mrs. White having come over from Ireland for the occasion.

Most of the embassy people attended the performance of "Resurrection" at His Majesty's theater on the second night, when the king and queen were present.

Captain and Mrs. Clover gave a dinner party at their house on Park Lane, taking their guests on to Tree's theater. Mr. and Mrs. Ridgely Carter were of the party. Mrs. Carter wore a robe of soft cream lace and had on her neck a collar of turquoise and diamonds. Mildred Carter, their little girl, is still at school in the United States. Their other child, Bernard, has just gone to an English college, but later they mean to send him to Harvard.

When Mrs. Clover returns to Washington about April 1 she will take her two pretty little girls with her. Neither has ever been to an English school, so they have all their American ways. They say they love London and are sorry to go, so their parents promised to let Doral have her first season in London and a presentation at Buckingham palace when she is 17. She is 12 now, tall, very fond of horses, rides well and any morning early she may be seen on the Row riding with three other girls who also live on Park Lane, and three grooms following. Mrs. Clover means to go to her mother's place in California for the summer.

Nellie Post, Lady Barrymore's daughter by her first husband, the late Arthur Post, was one of the principal debutantes at the viceregal drawing room in Dublin castle. Miss Post resembles her mother, is a tall, handsome brunette and is much admired. Miss Muriel White, daughter of the secretary of the United States embassy, was her constant companion in Dublin.

PRAISES AMERICAN PAPERS

French Journalist Speaks of His Impressions of This Country.

(Copyright, 1903, by Press Publishing Co.)

PARIS, Feb. 21.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Paul de Huy, the editor and publisher off the Petit Parisien, has returned from the United States with great admiration for American ways and methods. He said today to the World correspondent.

"One thing that struck me was the frank way in which the managers of American newspapers open their doors to all comers, even competitors. I found a great deal of fraternity and no jealousy. We do not do that here.

"Being specially interested in newspapers, I visited the paper factories and found them much larger and better equipped than ours. In America they turn out 1,500 tons daily. In France we think we have done marvels when we turn out 150. We make money on circulation; the Americans frequently lose on that, but gain enormously on advertisements.

"I think our way of 'making up' a paper is better than the American way. There, I think, the headlines are too close together, or are too frequent. In the details of a printing office the Americans are far ahead of us.

"Since my return to Paris I have been arranging for the introduction of several American features in the Petit Parisien, such as an electric proof press and an autoplate machine, like those employed by the New York papers.

"Another thing I would like to see introduced here is a newspaper cuttings (reference) department, which in the New York office is a model arrangement.

"The interior organization of the American newspapers, as a rule, is superior to ours.

"The New York reporters took my breath away. I noticed that the American papers pay comparatively little attention to politics, while in France a paper with no politics could not exist. 'Business first' is the American's motto. He wants news in the paper, and then, if he has the time, he reads politics."

WARNINGS OF EARTHQUAKES

French Savant Has a Scheme for Transmitting Them Over the World.

(Copyright, 1903, by Press Publishing Co.)

PARIS, Feb. 21.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—A method by which warning of earthquakes may be signalled by the combined use of the seismograph and the telegraph was explained by Prof. Lipman at the recent meeting of the Academy of Sciences.

The elasticity of the earth's surface is such that the slightest seismic shock may be transmitted to the furthest end of the world. Prof. Lipman would take advantage of this to unite all the observatories having seismological instruments by telegraph wires so disposed that when the first seismic impression should be received, as usual after an earthquake, all the other apparatus connected would signal the earthquake's approach, for the electric fluid moves more quickly than seismic waves.

QUICK LUNCH FOR LONDONERS

Prospect of Eating in a Hurry Worries the People of Great City.

(Copyright, 1903, by Press Publishing Co.)

LONDON, Feb. 21.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—The prospective opening in the city of London of American quick lunch counters by G. H. Wyman has called out serious warnings from the medical fraternity on the dangers of increased facilities for getting food. It has also provoked a counter movement among London's leisurely business men. They have started a country lunch club, whose members lunch together three times a week at some country place with suitable train service. They began with a lunch at Guilford, twenty-nine miles down the Surrey railroad, the journey there and back and the thirty-seven minutes for lunch taking from 12:40 to 2:10 p. m.

DUE TO WASHINGTON

Representative Omaha Citizens Pay High Tribute to His Memory.

OMAHA CLUB'S ANNUAL BANQUET NOTABLE

Occasion Marked by Uncommon Attendance and Excellent Addresses.

DR. ANDREWS DISCUSSES CITIZENSHIP

Chancellor Exalts George Washington as a Perpetual Model.

JOHN L. WEBSTER ON ANOTHER PHASE

Washington's Connection with the Constitution the Theme of a Scholarly Address Dealing with American History.

"Washington" was the name at the Omaha club's dinner last night. Eloquent and learned men spoke earnestly of the first American, paying fitting tributes to his many-sided genius, his high conception of citizenship and his unfaltering adherence to the convictions he had formed after due deliberation. It was a representative assemblage of Omaha men who had gathered to listen to these addresses, and the occasion, the third annual event in honor of the great president's birthday, was made a notable one in all respects.

It was 9:15 o'clock when Edward Porter Peck, president of the club and toastmaster of the evening, introduced Dr. E. Benjamin Andrews, chancellor of the University of Nebraska, who responded to the toast: "Washington, Our Perpetual Model in Citizenship." Dr. Andrews said in part:

There is no more interesting or amazing fact in American history than the persistence with which Washington keeps before the public mind as the foremost American. We honor many other citizens. We particularly honor Lincoln, and next after him Grant. We honor McKinley. Lincoln, Grant, McKinley are great names in this republic and will forever be. It is, however, clear that no one of these men is thought of as occupying quite so high a niche in the esteem of the American people as Washington does.

This pre-eminence is the more remarkable in view of the fact that Washington's character, like all earth's greatest characters, passed through its mythical period. Soon after his death there sprang up two Washington personally, all his deeds and characteristics were magnified to superhuman proportions. He was thought to be a greater general than Napoleon or Wellington. He was a hero like St. George, a giant like Hercules, a saint like Thomas à Kempis. Then came reaction. Critical study revealed that Washington was altogether human, having faults like other men, only no doubt less numerous than most; that he had a hot temper leading on one or two occasions to emphatic profanity, and so on.

Safe to Know the Truth.

But, and here the great wonder comes in, this critical study did not in the slightest dislodge Washington from the pinnacle of fame on which he had stood from the first. It was found safe to know the truth about him. When criticism had unearthed the very worst that could be said touching his life, conduct and character, there stood forth an incomparable manhood, an unparalleled citizen.

It is worth while to inquire into this marvelous power of our greatest American to keep his position as leader in spite of the mighty rivals time has raised up. This cannot be because his career is removed from our time by a century, since study has so brought before us the events of his life that we know actually more of him than we do of Lincoln and almost as much as we do of McKinley.

One consideration helping to explain his primacy is that Washington's citizenship had many sides or aspects and that he was a model in each. He was "first in war" and also "first in peace"—a warrior as well as a statesman. Because his double presidency came after his military work and has gotten itself recorded much the more fully, many admirers of the great man almost forget his extraordinary talent as a general. It is, however, safe to say that if he had been a military man and nothing else he would have ranked with the foremost.

Less of a Politician.

Again Washington was less a mere politician than Lincoln. It is well known that at one period Lincoln was a politician and little if nothing more—politician not in the worst sense and yet certainly not in the best. He was a party man, bent merely on advancing party men and party measures before he seriously settled down to his great statesman life mission. No such period occurred in Washington's life. He was always too serious and too patriotic for mere partisanship. Washington got and kept his eminence without resort at any time to any political device or contrivance. He never participated in any factional work or descended to any of the ruses so common among men whose mentality is on the political and not on the statesmanship plane. With these traits of our great first citizen, that his civic character had many facets and that he was never a politician in any objectionable sense, went other civic excellencies, each helping to constitute him for all time the model American. For one thing he held a just balance between Anglophobia and Anglomania. He respected Great Britain. How could he help doing so, knowing that all that was best in our institutions came from that source? But whatever Jacobin ranters might say to the contrary, he was never unduly or inappropriately obsequious to the British power against which he had boldly drawn sword in the cause of the thirteen colonies.

Expansionist, but Not Jingo.

Washington was also a model American in being an expansionist without being in any sense a jingo. Jefferson is often referred to as the leader and father of American expansionist policy. No so. Washington was before him in this. Washington was the great expansion protagonist. With him, moreover, expansion was not mere theory. He himself crossed the mountains into the Mississippi valley, a pathfinder and a pathbreaker, in effect doing more to enlarge westward the borders of America than was accomplished by Jefferson in the Louisiana purchase or by McKinley in the Spanish war. On the other hand, the great man at no time sunk to a jingo spirit. He did not wish war or conquest merely for the sake of it. He advised against entangling alliances and led the country through one of its most critical periods.

When we recall the fact that we are voters and citizens of a republic he made more than any hundred, more than any thousand other men, shall we not strive to be a broad citizen as he was a great citizen as the first citizen of the republic?

Washington and the Constitution.

Mr. John L. Webster responded to the toast, "Washington and the Constitution." In his opening remarks Mr. Webster briefly but succinctly sketched the condition of the country during the four years from 1783 to 1787, when the colonies were united under the Articles of Confederation. He pointed out how anarchy and disorder reigned, and quoted from Washington's letters to show his prophetic foresight of the condition toward which the country was drifting. The attitude of the several parties into which the people had divided was also made clear. Of the initiatory steps to a constitutional convention, taken by Virginia at the instance of James Madison, of the election of Washington as a delegate, and of the effect of this action on the people of the other states Mr. Webster spoke, and then went on:

George Washington so loved his retirement from public strife that he hesitated to attend the convention. It required the persuasive influence of Madison and Edmund Randolph and Henry Knox to have him accept this new responsible duty. One of the letters of General Knox to George Washington is of more than passing interest, in which he said:

"For I take it for granted that however

(Continued on Second Page.)

BEAUTY IS AT A DISCOUNT

Czarina Makes a Change in the Personnel of Her Maids of Honor.

(Copyright, 1903, by Press Publishing Co.)

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 21.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—The czarina made an extraordinary transformation in her suite at the last court. Hitherto her maids of honor have been chosen from among the prettiest girls at court. This gave umbrage to the majority of the court ladies, who are not pretty, so this time the czarina surrounded herself with a retinue of somewhat withered dames, who have seen younger days, uncharitable persons say. The czarina is said to have been also influenced by a desire to place temptation to flirt out of reach of the czar.

The effect was a tremendous personal triumph for the czarina. She appeared in soft rose-colored silk in empire style, her finest diamonds and pearls studding her bodice, while she wore Peter the Great's famous tiara of diamonds and emeralds with an egg-shaped ruby in the center, reputed to be worth $8,000,000. She looked an empress every inch and it was remarked that the czar's eyes followed her everywhere. He danced only with her.

BERNHARDT'S TOMB COMPLETE

Great Actress Has Made Choice of a Magnificent Final Resting Place.

(Copyright, 1903, by Press Publishing Co.)

PARIS, Feb. 21.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Sarah Bernhardt's grewsome task of ordering her own coffin made and fit for a bed is a matter of past [illegible] which served the purposes of advertising much better than her pet snakes and tiger cats.

But, was it for advertising purposes? She has followed up her coffin exploit rigorously in her later years by supervising the erecting of her own tomb in the Pere la Chaise cemetery in Paris. It would seem that both of these morbid freaks are merely the evidence of an eccentric nature, which may also be responsible indirectly for her great genius.

The tomb is now completed. It is a granite structure, severely plain and pierced by four arches. Inscribed upon it in plain, bold letters is the single word "Bernhardt." It stands close to the tombs of Talma, Rachel and Mlle. Mars, so when the "Divine" Sarah goes to her final rest she will at least be sure of illustrious company.

BELIEVE PRIEST IS CHRIST

Pilgrims Tramp Nine Hundred Miles to Worship "Father John."

(Copyright, 1903, by Press Publishing Co.)

CRONSTADT, Russia, Feb. 21.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Eight pilgrims have arrived here after tramping 900 miles to worship "Father John of Cronstadt," whom they believe the Christ. They were sent home by train by the authorities, who have done everything they can, though without avail, to stamp out the peasants' belief in the divinity of this priest.

When Father John left Petersburg the other evening, in spite of the secrecy always observed about his movements, a considerable number of people gathered at the railway station and he had to be escorted from his carriage by twelve stalwart gendarmes, who joined hands and formed a ring about him. The women in the crowd threw themselves on the ground and tried to crawl inside the ring to kiss his feet or even his garments.

PROPELLERS UP IN THE AIR

European Inventor Builds Novel Craft for Use in Tropical Waters.

(Copyright, 1903, by Press Publishing Co.)

BERLIN, Feb. 21.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—Count Zeppelin, an air ship inventor, is experimenting at the Lake of Constance with an automobile launch. It is an odd looking craft, having propellers in the air instead of in the water. The launch is very light and has a draft of only one foot. On the deck is a kind of platform, to which is attached a propeller made of aluminum, having two screws 37 inches long by 14 inches broad and 1½ inches thick. A petroleum motor of twelve horse power is the driving force. The speed of the launch in calm weather is estimated at fifteen miles an hour. It seems hardly to touch the water. Count Zeppelin's object in building such a peculiar craft was to supply the want of a suitable boat for tropical waters, where aquatic plants hinder the use of an ordinary boat. The idea of aerial propellers is the result of the count's ballooning experiences.

BOURKE COCKRAN IN EGYPT

Before Returning New York Lawyer Will Give Irish Some Advice.

(Copyright, 1903, by Press Publishing Co.)

LONDON, Feb. 21.—New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.) — Bourke Cockran is now in Egypt, where he will stay some weeks, making a trip to Khartoum. While in London he was welcomed, as usual, alike by "smart" society and by the Irish leaders. He lunched with John Redmond, the chairman of the Irish parliamentary party; T. P. O'Connor, William O'Brien and John Dillon.

He originally intended to sail for New York at the end of March, but he has decided to delay his departure until the middle of April, in order to attend the national convention in Dublin on the 14th, having been summoned to pass on the British government's promised land purchase bill for Ireland.

Mr. Cockran is interested in a big scheme for promoting an Irish industrial revival, which, it is expected, will be launched early next year.

BIG PRICE FOR A SMALL JUG

Fetches Eight Hundred Dollars Because it is Old and Homely.

(Copyright, 1903, by Press Publishing Co.)

LONDON, Feb. 21.—New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—A small jug, nine inches and a half high, made of Fulham stoneware and dated 1581, fetched $800 at Christie's this week. It had been in the possession of a church at West Malling, Kent, over 400 years. Its brown surface is splashed with red, orange, green and purple. Its neckband and handle are of silver gilt. It is positively devoid of charm except in the eye of a connoisseur, but brought three times the price ever paid for such an article at Christie's.

CITIZENS UP IN ARMS

Representative Omaha Men Protest Against Proposed Revenue Law.

OPPOSE PLAN FOR TAXING FRANCHISES

Proposed Amendment Would Destroy the Fruits of Long Fight.

CORPORATIONS TO EVADE ASSESSMENT

Suggested Measure Would Allow Many Millions to Escape Taxation.

SOUNDS NOTE OF WARNING TO STATE

People of Nebraska as Much Interested as the People of Omaha in Having an Equitable Valuation Made.

Thirty-three representative citizens adopted unanimously the following resolutions at a meeting called suddenly by the tax committee of the Real Estate exchange at the Commercial club yesterday afternoon:

Whereas, It is reported that amendments are in contemplation to the general revenue bill which has passed by a special committee of the Nebraska legislature, which amendments provide that street railway, electric light, water and gas companies, shall be assessed only on their tangible property and in addition to an amount equal to one year's gross receipts, which said additional assessment on the gross receipts is to be in lieu of a tax on the franchises; and

Whereas, Such amendments would mean that the value of the franchise would be grossly undervalued to the extent in the case of the Omaha corporations of millions of dollars; and

Whereas, Such principle and method of franchise assessments would if carried out in state, county and city taxation, greatly lower the assessments at present standing against the Omaha franchised corporations and would result in the undervaluation of franchised corporations not only in Omaha, but throughout the state, and practically undo all the work accomplished during the past two years by the public agitation and litigation toward raising the valuation of such corporations to just and reasonable figures; therefore be it

Resolved, by the citizens of Omaha in emergency meeting assembled, That we unqualifiedly condemn said proposed amendments; that we regard the threatened passage of the same as a great public danger, and that we call upon the public, the press and the Douglas county delegation to vigorously oppose the same, and that we earnestly ask that said Douglas county delegation use all the power it possesses to prevent the passage of said obnoxious amendments.

Action Prompt and Unanimous.

This resolution, which explains itself, was framed by W. S. Poppleton, introduced by Dr. W. H. Christie, seconded by F. D. Wead and was adopted without dissent. The only amendment to its original form was suggested by Victor Rosewater, who desired the importance of the proposed legislation to other cities and towns than Omaha set forth. The tax committee of the Real Estate exchange had called the meeting at one hour's notice for 4 o'clock. The citizens present included the following:

B. R. Ball,	T. L. McCague,
W. H. Bell,	John L. McCague,
G. S. Benawa,	J. H. McIntosh,
A. G. Charlton,	H. F. McIntosh,
Dr. W. H. Christie,	T. J. Mahoney,
David Cole,	Euclid Martin,
Robert Cowell,	L. P. Perine,
Lorenzo Crounse,	W. S. Poppleton,
J. O. Detweiler,	A. L. Reed,
William Fleming,	Victor Rosewater,
J. A. Gates,	Robert Smith,
W. T. Graham,	John Steel,
C. F. Harrison,	Mel Uhl,
G. M. Hitchcock,	W. G. Ure,
Herman Kountze,	F. D. Wead.

Proceedings of the Body.

Mr. Detweiler called the meeting to order and suggested as chairman former Governor Crounse, who presided. F. D. Wead announced the object of the meeting.

"An emergency exists," he declared, "and it appears that an immediate mass meeting of as many citizens as we can get together is important. According to the newspaper dispatches from Lincoln, efforts are being made in the joint revenue revision committee to change the method employed in taxing franchised corporations. If the proposed changes become a law, then the two years' fight that the citizens of Omaha have been making to secure equality in taxation will amount to nothing and we will have to begin all over again. In the case of the street railway company we figure that it will reduce the assessment in this city about $3,200,000, meaning a difference in taxes, computing with a 10-mill levy, of $32,000. The method will work against equitable taxation in Omaha, and has no good reason to stand upon."

W. S. Poppleton was called upon to speak and said: "We spent two years and a lot of time and money to obtain the equitable assessment of the franchised corporations. The matter was fought out by public agitation and in the courts and a fair and just valuation for taxation at last fixed upon the corporations. It seems outrageous to think that the legislature is going to vitiate our accomplishment. The adoption of the proposed amendments would place us back where we were, would mean another long fight in the courts and while the present changes may be for country districts only, the injection of the principle into taxation is wrong and will have a pernicious influence. In time it will creep into municipal taxes. I believe that all the citizens who stood for equal taxation will be with us in the coming fight to prevent the enactment of these provisions into law."

Should Send Out Warning.

John L. McCague said that the meeting was called together more to anticipate what might be done than to condemn measures that were known to be advocated. He thought the meeting should sound a note of warning in order that the legislators might know that Omaha was watching the matter. "The franchised corporations should be given to understand that a time can come when forbearance will cease to be a virtue," he declared. "Street railway, electric light and telephone companies have been knocking on the door and begging permission to enter Omaha during the past year. It is not yet too late to admit these rivals to the present corporations and throw wide open the door of competition, creating losses to the established corporations that will be far greater than the payment of just taxes."

Mr. Wead said he thought the time had come for a vigorous protest. There is no reason to doubt that the proposed changes in the revenue bill are contemplated, he affirmed. "There is one point we must not lose sight of," he continued, "and that is while the Douglas county delegation is busy knocking out these objectionable features and succeeding in the endeavor, they are not to lose sight of the matter of railway taxation. It has been suggested that the franchise-tax matter has been introduced to divert attention from the railroad tax reforms."

Victor Rosewater was asked to speak on

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THE BEE BULLETIN.

Forecast for Nebraska—Fair Sunday and Warmer in East Portion; Monday Fair.

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Temperature at Omaha Yesterday:

Hour.	Deg.	Hour.	Deg.
5 a. m.	14	1 p. m.	26
6 a. m.	13	2 p. m.	29
7 a. m.	12	3 p. m.	31
8 a. m.	12	4 p. m.	32
9 a. m.	13	5 p. m.	30
10 a. m.	15	6 p. m.	29
11 a. m.	18	7 p. m.	28
12 m.	20		

DIDN'T BET, BUT LOST MONEY

Costly Experience of a German Farmer with a Brace of Sharpers.

Henry Scheurle, a transient German from North Dakota, was too shrewd to bet on the unlocking of a padlock, but he lost his money just the same. Saturday afternoon Scheurle was accosted on South Tenth street by two men who exhibited a friendly interest in him and the North Dakota wheat crop, and finally drew him into an argument about opening a padlock they had. Scheurle was willing to argue, but when he was asked to bet that he could open it he backed up. "I've got money all right," said he, "and I'm game, but I won't bet on that."

"Let's see your money," said the pair, and the German handed over his pocketbook. One man counted over $42 in bills and handed back the pocketbook. After a while the fellows left, and when Scheurle wanted to buy a cigar in the Burlington station later, he found his pocketbook didn't contain a cent.

GOVERNOR MICKEY TO SPEAK

Program is for Him to Make Three Addresses During the Day.

Governor Mickey is to be the principal speaker at a patriotic meeting to be held in Kountze Memorial church this afternoon at 4 o'clock. The members of the Grand Army, Union Veterans' union, Millard and Thurston Rifles, Omaha Guards and Loyal Legion are to be in attendance. There also will be other speakers. Previous to the hour of meeting the members of the Grand Army posts and the Union Veterans' union will gather at the postoffice building for the purpose of giving the governor an honorable escort to the church.

In addition to his address at this meeting, the governor has agreed to talk to the members of the congregation of the First Methodist Episcopal church and to talk to the children during the Sunday school session at noon in the First United Presbyterian church, Twenty-fourth and Dodge.

WATER COMMISSION MEETS

Informal Session Held to Talk Over Prospective Duties of the Members.

The appointees of Governor Mickey on the new Omaha Water commission held an informal meeting Friday at which they discussed their prospective duties, the requirements of their official bonds and the details of their organization. While nothing definite was agreed on, the consensus of opinion appeared to be in favor of making ex-Governor James E. Boyd the chairman. Although the time for organization under the law does not arrive until the first Wednesday in March, another informal meeting probably will be held before that time to arrive at a more definite understanding.

WOODS' CONDITION CRITICAL

Colored Man Shot by Detective Heitfeld Takes a Turn for the Worse.

Harry Wood, the negro who was shot by Detective Heitfeld Friday evening in the Midway saloon, while the former was resisting arrest, was reported at a late hour last night as in a critical condition. He had been resting easily during the day and a rather favorable opinion of his chances of recovery was expressed by the hospital authorities, but he later grew worse.

Captain Ely Lectures.

Captain Ely, the modern "Sinbad of the Sea," gave one of his characteristic lectures before the boys of the Young Men's Christian association and their parents Saturday evening, which was largely attended and interesting. The feature of his lecture was Captain Ely's experience on a whaler and his sailor yarns. His lecture was illustrated with whaling and sea faring weapons which he exhibited.

Movements of Ocean Vessels Feb. 21.

At New York—Sailed: Vaderland, for Southampton; Luciana, for Liverpool; Carthaginian, for Glasgow; Graf Waldersee, for Plymouth, Cherbourg and Hamburg.

At Havre—Sailed: La Savoie, for New York.

At Liverpool—Arrived: Belgenland, for Philadelphia. Sailed: Campania, for New York.

At Southampton—Sailed: Minneapolis, from London, for New York, and passed Hurst Castle.

At Malta—Arrived: Moltke, from New York via Funchal, etc., on a cruise.

At Antwerp—Arrived: Nederland, from Philadelphia.

At Astoria, Ore.—Sailed: Euphrosine, for Australia.

At Portland, Ore.—Sailed: Riverdale, for Amsterdam.

At Algiers—Arrived: Kaiserin Maria Theresia, from New York via Funchal, etc., on orient cruise.

At Rotterdam—Sailed: Amsterdam, for New York.

At San Francisco—Arrived: Nippon Maru, from Hong Kong; Banning, from Navidad. Sailed: G. P. Hitchcock, for New York; Aucola, for Hong Kong.

KEEPS LIPS SEALED

Ex-State Treasurer Bartley Gives a Curt Answer to an Interviewer.

PRESENT BUSINESS IS HIS OWN AFFAIR

Indicates He Considers Term in Penitentiary Has Paid the State.

DECLINES TO GIVE ANY INFORMATION

Reports Credit Him with Collecting in Large Sums on Loans.

HOLDS HEAVY CLUB OVER MEN WHO OWE

Legislators Inclined to Want Some Information and Money Before Releasing the Bartley Bondsmen.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 21.—(Special.)—"If anybody thinks for a holy minute that I am going to come back from the penitentiary after serving six years, and tell him anything about my present business he's d—— badly mistaken," sententiously remarked Joseph S. Bartley, ex-state treasurer of Nebraska, to a correspondent for The Bee this afternoon.

"I am trying to attend to my business the best I can and it doesn't make a bit of difference to me what people say about me," continued the man who defaulted to the amount of over $500,000, as he wheeled around from his desk in his office in the Richards block.

"Is it not a fact, Mr. Bartley, that you are collecting in money by monthly installments, on loans you made while you were state treasurer?" was asked him.

"That is my business and I refuse to talk about it," was the quick and decisive reply.

"Isn't it a fact that you are maintaining yourself by means of loans you made while state treasurer?" was asked.

But this inquiry brought no more satisfactory response than the first one.

"Isn't it true, Mr. Bartley, that on a recent occasion, one of your customers became delinquent in his monthly payment of $50 on the loan he had received from you and that you wrote him a letter, threatening him unless he came to time with the payment and that he came to time forthwith?" was the next attempt at probing.

Bartley threw back his head and laughed—one of those cynical laughs—and then looking rather annoyed, said:

"Who told you such a thing as that?"

Not in Discussion Business.

Bartley simply will not discuss the past or the present either, insofar as it relates to his money-loaning industry, which, it is said, has attained considerable proportions, nor will he talk about the movement on foot to secure the release of his bondsmen from the obligation they owe the state, nor of that celebrated mysterious "cigar box" and its contents. He is a sphinx so far as all these matters are concerned. His lips are sealed and he regards it nobody's business if he has become an opulent money lender on money that belongs to the state of Nebraska. He rests secure in the knowledge that the persons to whom he has farmed out these embezzled funds are his victims and no such little thing as an investigation by the state legislature is likely to disturb the equilibrium of his financial prowess.

"I have not asked a single member of this legislature to support this resolution to release my bondsmen," said Bartley.

"Then you know that the resolution has been drawn up and that an effort really is being made to secure the release of your bondsmen?" was interposed.

Evidently annoyed at his unguarded statement, he replied:

"Well, what I know of it is what I have learned from the newspapers."

While Mr. Bartley may not be able to inspire the most implicit faith in everything he says, no one who could talk with him ought to doubt his word when he says he is not bothering himself about any movement for the benefit of his bondsmen. It's a 100 to 1 shot that this is the least of Joe Bartley's troubles. It's a safe bet that Bartley has decided to let the bondsmen look out for themselves, though there is no question but that he is thoroughly informed as to every detail of the movement to secure the passage by this legislature of the resolution for the release of these bondsmen.

As for his own release from anything that might be construed into a legal obligation to the state, Bartley is evidently not concerned. He got the only release at the hands of Ezra P. Savage that he cared anything about. The other release is not essential to the success of his present vocation, which is said to be in a most flourishing condition. As to any pledge made by him or his friends that, in consideration of his release from the penitentiary he would address himself with all possible power to the remuneration of the state for the money he had embezzled, be it far from Joe Bartley to worry.

Suggestion Which Takes.

It has been suggested that before Bartley and his sureties are released on their official bond the legislature should pry into the mysteries of this remarkable case and ascertain the amount of proceeds that has been realized on the valuable contents of that mystic cigar box and claim it all in the name of the state. And this suggestion has struck a responsive chord. The wisdom of it has appealed to thoughtful members of the legislature. But the trouble seems to be in deciding how to go about this difficult task.

No doubt ample proof could be obtained to show conclusively that the contents of that cigar box has yielded and is still yielding a big income—to Joseph S. Bartley. The statement was made to a correspondent of The Bee a day or two ago by a gentleman who professes to have incontrovertible evidence, that Bartley has made loans enough and of sufficient character to keep him and his family in comfortable circumstances the rest of their days without any work on his part, except to see that his "interest" is promptly and regularly paid.

Said this gentleman:

"Bartley has no cause for anxiety about his financial condition. He has enough money loaned out to enable him to continue his extravagant habits as long as he lives."

Little substantial hope is entertained of getting at any useful facts as to the notorious cigar box and its contents. The coterie of people who could give information on this point is so small and the respective positions are such as to warrant no hope whatever. Bartley has refused to say a word. Ex-Governor Holcomb, who went into office as Bartley commenced his second term and testified to having accepted the alleged securities presented to him by the