Personnel and Purposes of the Present Nebraska General Assembly



President Pro Tem Jennings. Lieutenant Governor McGilton.

First Assistant Barnard.

Clerk of the House Wall.

Currie of Dawes.

First Assistant M. J. Greevy.

Secretary of the Senate Wheeler.

SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL OFFICERS AND LEADERS OF THE NEBRASKA LEGISLATURE THAT IS NOW HOLDING ITS SESSIONS AT LINCOLN AND WHICH ORGANIZED FOR BUSINESS LAST WEEK.-Photo by a Staff Artist.

NCOLN. Jan. 7 .- (Special Corre- needful qualities of unflinching manhood spondence.)-Thirty-eight of the and sierling integrity. 100 members of the house and seven of the thirty-three senators in the twenty-ninth Nebraska legislature were members of these respective

in 1903, is large. This and the fact that number of young men is much greater. there are but nine fusion or minority memcrate and populists being in the house.

ent and last membership "on the face of Knox, Sheldon of Cass and Dimery of Butthe returns," as the politician would say, Ier. They looked like mere boys. the present membership bears a high degree of intelligence and gives promise of house, former Speaker J. H. Mockett, jr., an honest administration of the people's of Lancaster, R. W. W. Jones of Otoe and

the deliberations of the session. If the the risibles ference and corrupt practice.

House Sets High Standard.

has set a standard of independence which few Nebraska legislatures have attained; and the state. "Will the house prove its record?" is the

question now. And the confident belief is

Aspersions have been cast upon the senate even this early, but they are spurned by members of that body and other close observers who maintain that, as in the lower branch of the present legislature, the railroads and allied interests will not have the easy sailing they have had in certain other legislatures and hope to have in this

The venerable man selected as president pro tem of the senate, certainly, by his past services as a legislator, gives no warrant for adverse criticisms. William H. Jennings, the oldest man of the upper body, enjoys the confidence of every one of his colleagues; not only that, but he is held in the highest possible esteem by his constitutents, for proof of which it is only necessary to recall that nominated by the republicans, he was endorsed by the populists and democrats and therefore sent to Lincoln by a unanimous vote of his district. That all interests will be fairly treated by Senator Jennings as the temporary presiding officer of the senate is not how essential to the proper performance of draw it up he took the floor in its defense credit to himself and honor to the house he didn't do it alone, certainly no other questioned by anyone who knows the man.

Rouse and Jennings.

Indeed, it is the popular opinion that, while differing about as widely as two men could in personal characteristics, the presiding officers elected respectively in the house and senate this year are men of the highest type of intelligence and honor. In George L. Rouse, the new speaker of the house, one finds admirably mingled the esmential elements of a typical reformer; frank, courageous and aggressive, forceful in speech, determined in action, a parliamentarian of faultless precision, large of frame and quick of intellect, this ideal lawmaker from Hall county, as speaker, presents a picturesque figure. He is not an experiment; his record is made, the events of four preceding legislatures supplying ample evidence of what he is and what he may be expected to do. Never yet has he worn the filthy tag of a corporation tool, been branded as ought but a devoted servant of the people's interests, nor failed to set for his many colleagues a high standard of statesmanship. Having been elected speaker, not by, but in spite of corporation influence, it was a surprise to none that Rouse enunciated in his maiden speech before the house Wednesday, a clear cut policy of reform-retrenchment and economy, business on a business basis.

If not as aggressive in speech or action as the presiding officer at the other end of the long corridor in the state capitol building, President Protem Jennings of the senate is regarded as a safe and sane servant of the people. He is constructed on a different plane than Rouse. Cool. calm and conservative, mellowed by age and tempered by experience, his words with less spontanlety, but with a spirit of deep conviction, and his action is less potent, but just as sincere. And so it is a happy and refreshing picture that is held up before the people of the old Antelope state who have been looking for two men in these important positions in whom they could behold combined the

splendid Example for Others. What splendid examples for the remain-

der of the membership! One unique feature of the senate personbodies two years ago and the per cent of nel is its youthfulness, as a whole. The old legislators this year, men who have average age is less than usual. Not near served in sessions prior to this or the one as many "old men" as last term. The

"What a bright lot of young men," rebers of the present legislature are two of marked a close observer Wednesday, when its most distinguishing features. The sen- the senators filed into the house for the ate is solidly republican, the nine demo- joint session to prepare for the inaugural Following closely upon the Thursday. While it is too early to draw an accurate heels of the imposing appearing lieutenant parallel between the personnel of the pres- governor, were Senators W. A. Meserve of

The senate has three members of the last E. E. Good of Nemaha. They were all Nebraska has learned by experience to prominent in the house and doubtless will judge subsequent events largely upon the be in the senate. The "silver-tongued basis of the organization of its legislature. Cicero," of the senate two years ago, Sena-If certain ulterior influences dominate and tor (Judge) Wall, is still there, and so the dictate in the selection of the officials of galleries may look forward to many a dethe house and senate it is a safe prediction licious season of combined laughter and that the same outside interests will control shedding of tears, for the judge can tickle members do their own organizing, the mem- glands about the best of anyone who has bers, experience has taught, will continue served his state as a legislator for many a to transact the business for which they day. In Senator Cady of Howard the peowere elected untrammelled by lobby inter- ple expect to find a strong figure. Senator Fries of Valley, defeated by Jennings for president pro tem, is an active leader. county's trie, Gibson, Saun-Douglas Freely and generally is it admitted this ders and Thomas, has made a good year that the house, in its organization, impression and is looked to for more than perfunctory service. Saunders was in the senate last time and became very popuestablished a precedent which if followed lar with his colleagues. He is a man who by future legislatures must inevitably re- works more with his mind than his mouth, flect honor and credit upon the members and that is what commends more legislabut allows nothing to worry him. Beghtol, who is serving his second term from Lancaster, is entering upon the work with far more aggression than he did when he was a new member two years ago.

Lieutenant Governor McGilton.

Lieutenant Governor McGilton, one of the tallest, most handsome and popular men in the state, will again honor the senate as its presiding officer. Mr. McGilton is one man who finds greatest enjoyment in his work. He throws his soul into it and no member on the floor of the senate watches with more interest than he the details of every transaction. McGilton commands the highest admiration of the senate and by his very force of character compels the best of order. He and Senator Jennings, who appear together in the accompanying cut. law-making body.



IN ONE OF THE HOTEL LOBBIES BEFORE THE SESSION CONVENED .- Photo by a Staff Artist.

for the position he fills.

Currie, McAllister, Bartoo, Copsey, Davis, Knox, Bacon, Perry and Junkin.

Douglas One of the Leaders.

worker, a keen thinker and effective de- was in the chair.

teritory up in the northwest than most rounded by an able set of assistants, bis las, until two or three days before the New England governors or legislatures first deputy being M. J. Greevy of Omaha, present session convened, was regarded by combined. The senator is a steady worker, who is fitted by experience in business life all factions as the next speaker of the house, and it is not too much to say would The thirty-eight members of the present have been had not some indiscreet words house who served in that body two years and deeds, for which he was not wholly ago are these: Hogrefe, Cravens, Wilson, responsible, entered into the management Cassell, Deles Dernier, Jahnel, Roberts, of his campaign at the last moment, as it contest for the speakership, brought forth Jouvenat, Charles Anderson, Harmon, At- were. But Douglas took his defeat as a a round of applianse, which was eloquent wood, McLain, Burgess, Holliett, McClay, strong, unselfish man might be expected Warner, Stetson, Robbins, Cropsey, Detrick, to, and by his attitude toward his victor mony which had dawned upon the new Meradith, Cunningham, Caldwell, Fishback, since the contest, has added to his wide legislature. Saddler, Ferrar, Rouse, Coats, Douglas, circle of friends and admirers. Rouse night before, it was thought possible and braska legislatures, are peering into the In this list are some strong men. Doug- of the house. However, when the time ar- house from Lancaster county. This las of Rock county, was one of the powers rived for the nomination of a speaker up "human cyclone" already has blown into in the last house, and it is believed will rose the graceful figure of the Rock county atoms one of the biggest schemes which be in this one. Douglas is a tireless man. Speaker Protem Windham of Cass probably will confront the members this

bater. Tenacious but tolerant, he is a "Mr. Speaker," said Douglas, in a firm, the Douglas campaign for speakership. Deform an excellent combination for ruling formidable foe in the arena of forensic musical voice, "I wish to place in nomina- fying the Union Pacific-Northwestern maspiries of the upper branch of Nebraska's combat. Douglas was one of the leaders tion for speaker a man who has been chine, which had thrown its influence back in the framing of the present revenue law tried and found not wanting, a man who of Douglas, to do "its worst," Burns set Scuretary Wheeler showed two years ago in the last legislaturs. After he had helped will discharge the duties of the office with out to encompass Douglas' defeat, and if

tors than it condemns. Senator Giffan is business is a capable corps of officers. He and fought with the tenacity of a Spartan and state; a man in every sense of the back in his old place, representing more is promoted one notch this year and, sur- until its passage had been secured. Doug- word eminently qualified for the place. I therefore nominate for speaker of this man Kinkaid. He is one of the members county.

Brings Forth Applause.

This eloquent tribute from the lips of the man who had waged such a splendid in itself as indicating the spirit of har-

Men who have been in or watched the dehaving been nominated by the caucus the liberations of certain other sessions of Neindeed, rumored around quietly, that the future of the present one with a feeling of Douglas forces were still not ready to mingled apprehension and delight because submit and would make a fight on the floor of "Joe" Burns' return to the floor of the winter. It is nothing more or less than

tion than this ubiquitous son of Erin. Davis of Buffalo and Windham of Cass went to work among a lot of men with are looked to as good balance wheels this whom he has great influence and piled up

financier. Knox of Buffalo is another hard- counties. working member. Two years he was chairman of the committee that investigated the Bartley cigar box mystery. Hogrefe of Richardson is one of the quiet but hardworking business men of the house. Jouve-Fishback of Clay, Cropsey, of Jefferson, Ferrar of Hall, Roberts of Dodge, Deles prominent men among the new members, talk, Hunker of Cuming, who was honored with One of the familiar figures in political The other eight are Gerdes and Lord of

·Holt and Mackey of Custer. "Old Frank" Currie. Frank Currie, "Old Frank," as he is af-

fectionately known by his friends, is one of the unique characters of the legislature. Currie was a member of the session two years ago. He comes from the northwest end of the state, his postoffice being Whitmey in the summer time and Crawford in the winter, and represents enough territory to make a good-sized state. Currie is just 50 years old, but he's as young as his son of 22, who is private secretary to Congresshouse, Hon. George L. Rouse of Hall who is working all the time, but doesn't let it worry him, and when the day is done he hasn't any overtime chalked up against of the situation simply smiled. And what world he ever saw and for that reason he recording. It would have been far better devotes himself and urges his friends to for the candidacy of Douglas for speaker enjoy it while the opportunity presents if he had formed an offensive and deitiself. Full of wit and good stories, Currie fensive alliance with Wall and Barnard, is most serious when it comes to the inter- instead of letting the impression get out ests of the republican party. He goes that he had tied up with Westberg. around looking for chances to put in a plug

one man contributed more in that direct for the party. In his quiet, unobtrusive way he silpped into Omaha last fall and year. The former was in the house two at least 200 votes in one lump for John L. years ago and both served twenty-six years Kennedy for congress. Few people knew age and left good records. Davis 'ast term anything of this and probably Mr. Kennedy rendered splendid service on the finance never would had it not been necessary for committee and doubtless will be placed this him to take a hand in order to complete year where he can give to the state the Currie's plan. Currie is a stockman and benefit of his years of ripe experience as a owns land enough to lay out several good

McAllister the Bachelor.

McAllister of Deuel, the only lawyer in his county, is a bachelog and one of the nat of Boone is another. Wilson of Paw- best-natured men in the house. He is nee and Perry of Furnas, both of whom a painstaking worker in committee and a were candidates for speaker; Caldwell and good debater on the floor. Last session for a long time it was thought he was a farmer and it became a matter of general comment that not many farmers or men Dernier of Cass, all were active, but less not accustomed to public speech could put demonstrative than some others, in the up as strong an argument as "Mac," and sesion of 1903. Howe of Nemaha, son of the there was much amusement when it was distinguished Church Howe, is one of the learned that it was "Mac's" business to

the nomination for speaker by the fusion affairs of Nebraska is Paul Clark, whose force, will be the leader of these nine men. cut appears in this number. Mr. Clark was once speaker of the house. He is re-Richardson, Bender of Platte, Bolen and garded as a strong-possibility for congress Fenlon of Butler, Jones of Polk, Bedford of in the First district to succeed Burkett, What would the house do without John Wall and Clyde Barnard?

That is a question which few members do not care to try to answer, for they do not like to contemplate the loss of either man. As chief clerk and first assistant, respectively, this pair forms one of the best teams that has ever done the heavy work in this or any house. Prompt and accurate in the discharge of their own official duties, they are ever ready with accommodations to any who may call upon them. When John N. Westberg and some of his foolish friends of Omaha conceived the strange idea that he could beat John Wall for chief clerk, and therefore put out of office Barnard, men who knew something the state. Currie thinks this is the best didn't happen to Westberg was not worth

Curious and Romantic Capers of Cupid

OW Miss Mary Ann Lawrence of a man and a woman promise to love each H single blessedness, became the they promise. Burkhard, a widower, is being discussed as at present constituted, was intended for with interest by her friends and neighbors, the ideal marriage, but as ideal marriages

this capacity for Miss Lawrence. The couple are now living in a beautiful \$10,000 house recently built and furnished by the bride. It adjoins the tract that was formerly the Lawrence farm, which within the last five years has been cut up into

building lots and sold at high figures. About a year ago there were rumors that Miss Lawrence and Burkhard were to be married. These rumors reached the ears of her two married sisters, who occupy prominent positions in Brooklyn society, and they called upon her immediately to know what all the talk meant.

"Nothing at all," answered Mary Ann. "John is a good man about the place, but I had never thought of him as a husband."

Burkhard has two daughters and two

Wants "Love" Cut Out.

Rev. Ezra J. Riggs, pastor of the Congregational church at Kensington, a small town a few miles from Exeter, N. H., has tendered his resignation to take effect at the end of the present month. Mr. Riggs balleves that the marriage service contains some words that may just as well be He suggests that the words love" and "obey" be cut out of the service. He says:

'It is some time since the word 'obey' has been practically eliminated from the marriage service. With a view of relieving the parties contracting marriage from still further temptation to insincerity I would suggest that we also strike out the word 'love' from the marriage service. There is far more reason for this than his future pa, and declares that the latter the other. A woman could promise to seared ten feet through the air. Andy obey her husband and it is possible she makes some dire threats yet, but it is

Elmhurst, L. I., the possessor other 'until death us do part' there is no of \$500,000, after fifty years of certainty that they will be able to do as

bride of her farm hand, John "It is evident that the marriage service, The bridegroom was employed as a farm are comparatively rare the service proves hand by the present Mrs. Burkhard's father a misfit in a large proportion of cases. and upon his death continued to work in What clergyman has not feit the incongruity of exacting from some people well advanced in years a pledge 'to love and to cherish,' when it was evident the man's chief motive in marrying was the desire to economize in household expenses by providing himself with a companion whose keep would be less costly than the services of a housekeeper? Or what mockery to require a couple to pledge themselves to a lifelong affection for each other when it is only too clear that marriage has been sought solely because of some supposed advantage of wealth or social position."

Fire Breaks Up a Wedding.

Frank Drew, a member of the Fort Worth hook and ladder company, was married the Nevertheless, last Sunday night she and other night to Miss Sallie M. Ruckman of Burkhard went to the house of one of that city. At the special request of the Burkhard's sons in Brooklyn and were bride the ceremony took place at the central fire station, and just when all was all in readiness the company was called out by sons, all of whom are married. He is about an alarm. The bridal party was broken up 60 years old, and has been a faithful and for a short time, while the fire laddles made trusted man on the Lawrence piace for ten a brief run to the scene of a small conflagration. On their return the ceremony proceeded, Fire Chief Maddox giving away the

Rough Road to the Alter.

Al Mennifield and Mrs. Hodge Page were married last Monday night, relates the Oskaloosa (Kan.) Independent, Judge Davis performed the ceremony. Through some misunderstanding Mennifield was kicked out of the home by Andy Hodge, son of the bride, earlier in the evening, and went to his own home town out of-humor and out of the notion of marrying. The other boys, however, went out and pacified him and gave him such assurances that he came to town and went through the ordeal. Andy exhibits new half-soles on his shoes and says the old ones were torn off when he kicked could do so in such a degree as the most hoped he will be reconciled and peace will exacting husband might require. But when reign.

Celebrate Twenty-Five Years of Happy Married Life



MRS. HENRY HILLER.

entertained a large company of friends at the Metropolitan club Saturday evening in commemoration of their silver wedding anniversary. The hall was redolent with floral decorations suitable to the occasion and the banquet room was made especially beautiful for the auspicious event. Mr. Henry Hiller and Miss Rosa Riegelman were united in marriage in Des Moines, January 7, 1880, where Mr. Hiller was at the time engaged in the mercantile business. In 1885 they removed to Omaha, which has since been their home. Immediately upon their settling in Omaha, Mr. Hiller embarked in the dry goods business. which he conducted very successfully for a number of years. Then disposing of that business to an advantage he engaged in the wholesale liquor business, establishing the house which bears his name find has continued in it since. Long a resident of Omaha, he has constantly been identified with the city's advancement and ranks high among Omaha's most public spirited and progressive citizens. Four children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Hiller, and they still make their home under the parental roof. Saturday evening's event was taken advantage of by Mr. and Mrs. Hiller's friends to attest their love and regard with a large number of handsome presents. The evening was given over to a delightful reception, in which Mr. and Mrs. Hiller were wished many happy returns of the day and sincere congratulations over their happy wedded life of a quarter of a century. Refreshments, both dainty and elegant, were served during the evening, and the happy affair continued until a late hour.

