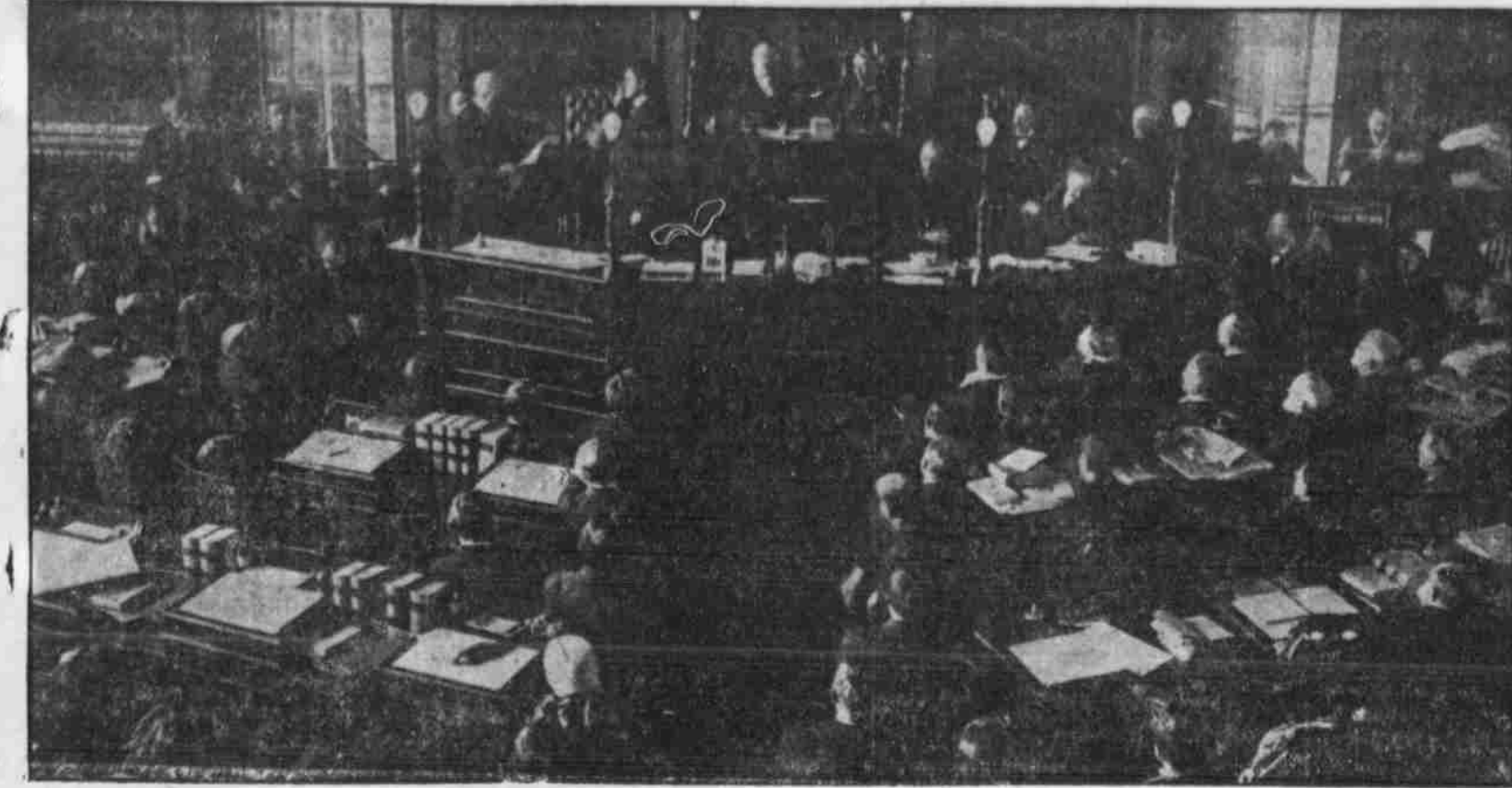
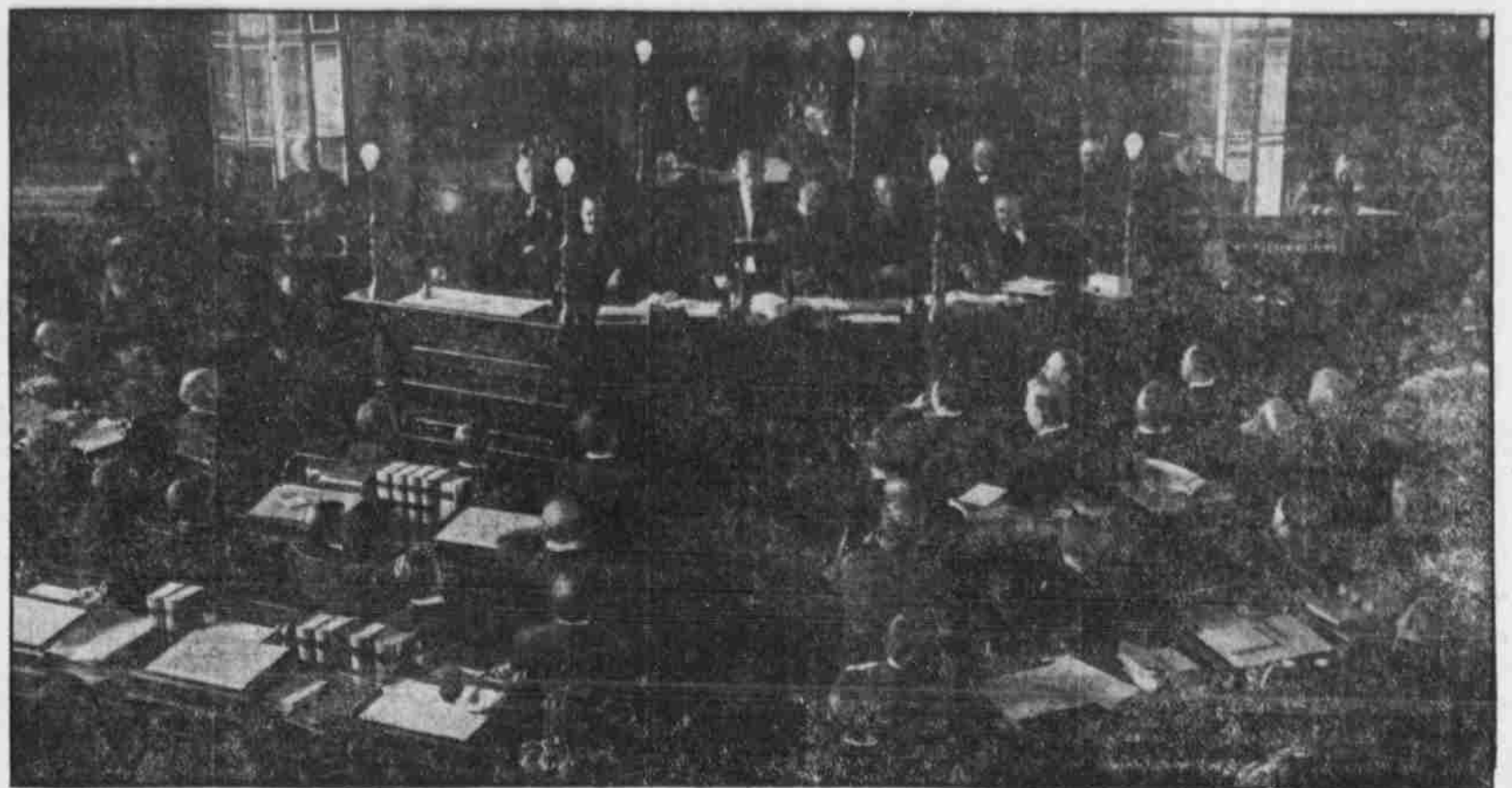


Ceremonies Attending Opening of Nebraska General Assembly



GOVERNOR SHELDON TAKING THE OATH OF OFFICE.



GOVERNOR MICKEY READING HIS MESSAGE.

THE first breathing spell in the legislative session of 1907 came Thursday, January 3, when, according to long-standing custom, the two houses took advantage of a lull in business and adjourned until Tuesday of last week. Those members who did not remain for the inaugural reception in the evening hurried away to catch the first train for home to make their first report to an inquiring constituency and to fight over before groups of their neighbors the exciting battle of ballots that resulted in the organization of the campaign in the lobby of the hotel will furnish themes for many interesting conversations. The feverish excitement of the canvass for support by the various candidates for speaker and their friends and the final culmination of the campaign in the almost frantic mass meeting in the lobby where the different candidates were called out and forced to declare their principles from the top of a table, and finally the rush for the caucus room, where the fight was kept up through three exciting ballots, are features that always accompany the opening of a legislative assembly. They also furnish the topics of conversation for the first two or three days of the session or until the subsequent developments crowd them out of the mind.

"Opening" Done in the Open.
In some respects the opening of the session this year is in marked contrast to the first days of former sessions. The first great difference developed at the caucus for the nomination of the speaker of the house, when everyone who wanted to attend did so. Formerly the members, apparently afraid to be frank with their constituents, say that the doors were locked and all possible peep holes guarded before they started the business of selecting the man who would have more influence than any one else in the state on the legislation which would come up before the legislature. It is generally conceded by the leading members that less secret work will be done this year than usual. The members of both houses have announced their intention of carrying out the will of the people as expressed in party platforms, and this being the program they apparently are not as timid as the members of former sessions have been about taking the public into their confidence.

There is little pomp or ceremony that is not absolutely required by ordinary rules of good manners about the formalities attending the opening of a legislature. About the only portion of the ceremonies that make any pretense to elaboration is the inauguration of the new governor that follows the organization of the two houses. The presence of the members of both houses, the state officers, the members of the supreme court and the real seriousness of the formalities give a dignity to the ceremony that is not found in the opening sessions of the two houses.

New Lieutenant Governor.
The presence of former Lieutenant Governor E. G. McGilton added to the dignity of the opening session of the senate. His tall, finely proportioned form in the president's chair and his stately bearing in directing the deliberations of the body were always features of the sessions. Lieutenant Governor Hopewell hasn't the powerful physical frame to compel respect, but his presence and the president's chair have convinced the spectators that he would always be able to command attention. The new lieutenant governor has a kindly but dignified bearing, this latter being increased by his full beard and strong features. He was a constant attendant at the sessions of the senate which were held before the inauguration and took a deep interest in them. His experience as a presiding judge will be in his favor when



CHIEF JUSTICE SEDGWICK ADMINISTERING OATH TO NEW STATE OFFICERS.

It comes to deciding the merits of parliamentary controversies, which are sure to arise in meetings of bodies like the senate. His announced policy of maintaining a relationship between himself and the members of the senate similar to that existing between the judge and the attorneys in court is just about what one would expect after studying his face and his actions a few minutes. He declared he would try to be as fair in his decisions of mooted points as a judge would be, and that he would expect the members to assist him in unraveling knotty problems just as attorneys are called on to assist the court in determining the law. The lieutenant governor will be one of the interesting characters in the present session.

Mr. Speaker and Others.
One of the most interesting men about the legislative halls is the tall, lank leader of the house of representatives, Speaker Nettleton. The speaker does not lay claim to physical beauty, and very frankly says so, after his selection for the place it was a common remark about the lobby that the house had discovered a second Abraham Lincoln. His resemblance to the martyred president is frequently spoken of. This likeness does not lie so much in similarity of features as in the tall, angular form and his laconic way of expressing himself. Those who know him predict he will put the house through one of the most strenuous sessions on record.

Over in the senate the rotund form of President Pro Tem Saunders of Douglas county is always the center of more or less interest. Being one of the six members of the body who were members of the 1905 senate and having a wide acquaintance and influence among politicians over the state, he is taking a very prominent part in the early sessions of the upper house. His influence is widened by the fact he is at the head of the committee on the senate standing committee. His suavity of manner and the fact he has kept himself comparatively free from aggressive fights has made him a power in the senate. The other old members are Thomas and Gibson of Douglas, Epperson of Clay, Gould of Greeley and Wilsey of Frontier.

Senator Epperson ever since he has been in the senate has done his share to keep the proceedings from becoming stale and monotonous. It was he who moved that a committee be appointed to poison a certain editor's dog because of some harsh criticisms which had appeared in his paper. This suggestion came at the end of a heated discussion of the editor's remarks, when nearly everyone in the senate was worked up to a high pitch of excitement. It had the same effect as oil on troubled

waters. The statesmen laughed and then went back to work. Senator Epperson is big and genial and is one of the most popular of the old members.

The patriarch of the legislature is courtly not found in the upper body, but in the house, in Representative Barnes of Douglas. Mr. Barnes was in the legislature two years ago and is known to all men who are around the halls of the capitol much by his flowing white beard. He is 77 years old, but is active for a man of his age and is able to accomplish considerable work in the house. He wears the patriarchal honors with becoming dignity, which is well set off by the long black Prince Albert coat he usually dons. His nearest competitor for the title of father of the house is W. B. Raper of Pawnee city, who passed the chloroforming age fourteen years ago. Both Raper and Barnes refuse to concede they are getting too old to serve their constituents and they both contend they are capable of doing as much real work as many of the younger members.

While they are not given as much atten-

tion as their presiding officers, the secretary of the senate and the clerk of the house are really two of the most important personages about the legislative halls. This year both places have fallen to men who worked their way into the confidence of the two houses two years ago as assistants. Secretary Goulding of the senate was an assistant secretary two years ago and has all of the details of the office down to a fine point. In addition to his work before the senate he has an office force to look after and his work requires considerable executive ability.

Clyde Barnard, whose efficient work in the house two years ago has been rewarded by his promotion to the chief clerkship. Two years ago he demonstrated he was practically indispensable and this year at the caucus he was given the place without any very serious opposition. Besides being accurate and painstaking he is accommodating and agreeable in personality.

One of the interesting developments of the first days of the session grows out of the fact the railroads have cut off passes



LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR M. R. HOPEWELL.



E. H. GOULDING, CHIEF CLERK OF THE SENATE.



CLYDE BARNARD, CHIEF CLERK OF HOUSE.

Engineer Livingston's Story

WHEN the conversation turns upon the remarkable development of the railroads of the world, of the United States, of Nebraska, considerable practical enlightenment can be obtained if "The" Livingston happens to be around, for he has pulled the throttle on all kinds of engines, from the dinky little "General Grant" which was brought up the river to Omaha on a steamboat in the early days, lifted out on a track laid in the sand and sent spluttering over the little rails to the great pride of the old-timers, from that down to the magnificent monster mogus of the "Big" series, now used by the Union Pacific. Livingston knows every good and bad point of every kind of engine.

After more than forty years of continuous service, Theodore C. Livingston is now in the pension roll of the Union Pacific and lives at ease in his comfortable home at 108 Howard street.

He began his railroad life during the war and his first duties were in the midst of the great battle ground where for three years he helped Uncle Sam's generals get their blue coats to the places where they would do the most good. This was at the Chattanooga & Nashville railroad. It was dangerous work railroading through that part of the country. It was no crime to wreck a train, everything being fair in war, and, therefore, the engineer was without the protection of the swartzen et al. law which protects him in civilized communities in time of peace. Twice his train was "ditched" by the rebels, but each time he escaped serious injury and, as soon as possible, went on with his duties un-daunted.

After the war he came west. That was in 1866 and Omaha was only a small frontier town. The activities of the Union Pacific had already begun, however, and H. T. Durant was struggling to build his "first forty miles" of road and to get out into the Platte valley, where he could easily push on to the west. Livingston secured a position with the road and was one of the first to run engines out of Omaha.

"The track wasn't in those days what it is now," says Mr. Livingston with a reminiscent smile. "There was no rock ballast and no Sherman gravel. The road wasn't much else than dirt and ties, with little light rails nailed to the ties, and the ties were not very close together. The object of Durant was to string iron rails over a couple thousand miles of country and do it as quickly and cheaply as he could. It would be easier and more profitable to do the improving after the road was built and in operation.

"Stations were about fifteen miles apart. Few as they were, they were not much to talk about, just little, poor towns, filled largely with tough characters that had come from the east, where they were too bad to stay and escape the law. We used to have lots of floods in those days and it was a very ticklish business running over the tracks when they were on a road-bed made of mud. At the bridges there were watchmen to prevent the Indians from setting them afire. All the bridges

were made of wood in those days, of course."

Livingston had the honor of "pulling" the private cars of some of the great men of Omaha's early history. Among these were H. T. Durant, the man who built the Union Pacific road, George Francis Train and Sidney Dillon. He also took a delegation of United States commissioners out to "receive" fifty miles of the newly constructed road. This stretch was beyond North Platte. There was little ceremony about it. The commissioners came from Washington whenever the government was notified that another half century of track had been built. An odometer was fastened to the axle of the car and the car run over the track until the odometer showed that fifty miles were passed. Mr. Livingston also pulled the funeral train of General

Thomas from Grand Island to Omaha.

"Yes, Omaha has made remarkable progress in the last forty years," says the old engineer. "I never thought to see it the city it is today. When I first came here there were no paved streets. There was not even a bridge across the river. We had to come across on the ferryboat.

"A part of the equipment of each engine in those days was a rack containing two rifles and twenty rounds of ammunition for each gun. This was for protection in case the Indians should attack. Many engineers needed them, though I was so fortunate as to escape any fighting with the redskins.

Livingston had a run on the Union Pacific from Omaha to Grand Island for thirty-three and a half years, beginning in 1867 and lasting until 1901, when he was retired on a pension. He was born in 1829.



E. C. LIVINGSTON.

from legislators and place seekers. The natural result has been to reduce the number of applicants on the ground and to relieve to some extent the pressure on the members. Many of those who are looking for jobs did not go to Lincoln at all, but left their cases in the hands of their senator or representative. In one way this has made the opening of the legislature this year a little less strenuous from the standpoint of the members themselves than other sessions have been. The difference is especially noticeable around the cor-

Lobby in Bad Odor.
To mention the word "lobbyist" in a crowd of legislators this year is to start something. This much abused individual is the bane of the lawmakers. Of course, they cannot be denied the hospitality of the hotels used by the legislators and, being guests of the same hostelry, must, of course, mingle more or less with the statesmen. Being men of wide acquaintance, it also happens frequently that they occasionally see some legislator of their acquaintance. It is not surprising that they should stop to renew old friendships and perhaps engage for some time in conversation new and then with a lawmaker. But the conversation is of a purely social nature, both the lobbyist and the legislator will hasten to explain and as for any at-

tempt to influence the legislator, heaven forbid.

This attitude assumed in public at least is the reason why some of the well known lobbyists of former years are not as prominent as they have been. Some of them even failed to go to the state house, but it is predicted by those who have watched other legislatures that even if the lobbyists have to change their tactics the alteration will be mostly on the surface.

The scarcity of place hunters and the timidity of lobbyists are two of the distinctive features of the present session.

The fundamental difference between the two houses of the legislature is shown in the opening sessions. The senate and more or less dignified senate got down to work without any show of oratory or what is sometimes derisively called "hot air." The president of the senate rapped on the desk with his gavel, prayer was said and the motions began pouring in from the floor of the chamber without any more ado. The only approach to the practice, the house came when Lieutenant Governor McGilton gave up the chair to Lieutenant Governor Hopewell. Both made brief addresses, but there were no spectacular accompaniments. It is only occasionally that the senators engage in flights of oratory.

The house on the other hand opens with a series of speeches and the tendency to talk stays with the members all through the session. Of course there is a natural explanation for this. The senate already has a presiding officer, when it comes together. It does not have to go through the formality of forming an organization. The house on the other hand has to select from its own number the man, who will preside over its deliberations for the entire session and naturally the occasion, coming after a hard campaign for the place is a good time for aspiring orators to make their first flights. The temporary chairman makes a speech, the speaker assumes the gavel after an address, the presentation of a gavel to the presiding officer is made the occasion for some more oratory and opportunities are bobbing up every little while, which the members never fail to take advantage of.

American Women Dress Well

AMERICANS dress well, says the Paris correspondent of Truth, and it seems to me the least wealthy dress in the best taste. Their great defect is a love almost amounting to a passion for what is pretty, dainty, stunning and amusingly fanciful. The latter, I admit, is first cousin to chic. But prettiness is the negation of higher beauty, and this most French women are artistic enough to see.

Spanish-American ladies and Brazilian are also infatuated with the passion for what is pretty, and the same is true in Europe, which is not the American often does.

They get bitten with it in the chapels of convent schools under Jesuit direction.

Nuns love insipid prettiness. The pretty Christmas card originated in Belgium convents. If you want grand style in lace do veils, go to Belgium. But to Venice, and if you want admirable simplicity in feminine dress look for it in the portraits of the great Italian masters. It will put you out of conceit with the modern creations of the Rue de la Paix.

I never saw the late Sybil Sanderson in a prodigally costly stage or drawing room dress. She knew she had a neck, shoulders and arms that spoke for their own matchless beauty. To dress them up and deck them out would have been profane.

A light elastic undergarment, a braceless silk undershirt, and a gathered corsege, sleeveless and with a gathered tassel, were all she needed. She had no taste for jewelry or for any sumptuousness except when out driving or sledding in snowy weather. Her faith in the beauty undorned maxim was absolute.

The present trailing skirts are to hide large and not too well shaped feet. American ladies who have generally rather small feet with high insteps often object to the awkward long dresses in which couturiers and couturieres find their advantage and femmes de chambre too often lung and throat diseases.

The best way to cover over the eyesore of too large feet is to go to the best shoemakers. They should be directed to furnish the finest leather, to make the shoe or boot an easy fit, and to employ German workmen.

The French make the best gloves, the Germans the best shoes. Stockings ought to have thick soles and fine uppers. The boot or shoe should never squeeze the foot.

A tightly imprisoned foot checks and often kills amiable gaiety, reddens the nose, and is productive of a constrained manner in details. Most of the couturiers are now German or Vienna Jews. But all the fashions they employ and the other undergarments are French; their inventive faculties are not allowed to remain idle.

Three Little Stories Told to Be True

THIS real hard luck story is related by the Emporia (Kan.) Gazette: Henry Good, who lives northwest of town, had a sore neck the other day and wanted to be unusually careful not to jar himself in any way, as a slight jolt hurt. He started across a field of plowed ground, and fell on his face and nearly fainted from the pain. He got up and went home, and started to town to see a doctor. Mrs. Good drove, so he would be jerked by the horses pulling on the lines, and she drove into a ditch and threw them both out on their heads. Mr. Good finally saw the doctor and went home, and that night at the supper table, both front legs of his chair fell out and he landed on the floor.

Fresh Kansas Dope.
Here is the real Kansas "dope," fresh out of the dream book, and the fondest hopes of the man who loves his schnapps and beer are being realized. A Topeka man has discovered how to make and sell beer without coming into conflict with the prohibitory law and also without having to pay a share of the profits to Uncle Sam's internal revenue collectors.

This is the age of concentration and also beer are being realized. One can purchase a tin of beef broth for 15 cents that will feed a whole family a week. But this extract of beer is the real thing. It is put up in plugs about the size of a dime's worth of plug tobacco, and it has a strong resemblance in looks to the afore-

Pen Wound Kills Soldier.
A fatal verification of the saying that the pen is mightier than the sword was recorded at Bueyrus, O., in the death from a pen wound of Major E. C. Moderwell. Near the close of the war, while at the head of his regiment, a bullet struck a pen which Mr. Moderwell had in his pocket. The bullet glanced, but the pen shattered and the pieces were driven into his body. In the hospital most of them were removed, but fifteen years ago it became evident that some remained. They had worked up to the head and were lodged near the brain. Mr. Moderwell's brain was finally affected, and of late years he has been a mental wreck. His death resulted from the bits of pen.