

PLATTE ON RAMPAGE

Largest Portion of Fremont Inundated and Two Hundred Houses Abandoned.

PEOPLE ARE TAKEN FROM THEM IN BOATS

Flood Comes So Suddenly Personal Effects Are Abandoned in Homes.

NO LIVES KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN LOST

Rogers, Schuyler and North Bend Also Suffer Damage.

UNION PACIFIC TRACKS INUNDATE

Burlington Bridges Across the Platte River at Columbus and Schuyler Are Taken Out by the Ice.

FREMONT, Neb., Feb. 13.—(Special Telegram.)—Fremont was by far the worst affected of the city...

A portion of the refugees are quartered at the city hall, others at the freight depots of the various railroads...

The river at 10 o'clock was stationary, at midnight it had commenced to decline and continues to recede slowly.

The family of A. B. Wightman of Englewood telephoned for assistance, saying that there had been two feet of water in the house...

The Burlington grade north of there has held the water in town and if it should be carried out would relieve the situation somewhat.

Ames, six miles west, is under water for the first time.

The Northwestern bridge over the Platte is still intact, but it is feared the Burlington's will go out.

SCHUYLER, Neb., Feb. 13.—(Special Telegram.)—One of the largest washouts ever known to the Platte river at this point occurred today.

The water is very high at Mercer, No. 5 on the Union Pacific is sidetracked here.

ABINGTTON, Neb., Feb. 13.—(Special.)—The ice in the Elkhorn river has not commenced to break up yet...

ROGERS, Neb., Feb. 13.—(Special Telegram.)—It is reported here that Union Pacific passenger trains Nos. 15, 14, 10 and 6 are stranded here...

WATERLOO, Neb., Feb. 13.—(Special Telegram.)—Workers for the Union Pacific to the number of fifty are posting the new bridge over the Elkhorn river...

VALLEY, Neb., Feb. 13.—(Special.)—On account of the thaw and probable breaking up of the river, a force of men began work at the Platte river bridge last night.

Water flowing over the track of the Union Pacific between North Bend and Rogers blocked the main line of the Union Pacific.

SUMMARY OF THE BEE

Thursday, February 14, 1907.

1907 FEBRUARY 1907
SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT
3 4 5 6 7 8
10 11 12 13 14 15
17 18 19 20 21
24 25 26 27

THE WEATHER

FORECAST FOR NEBRASKA—Fair Thursday and Friday. FORECAST FOR IOWA—Fair and colder Thursday, Friday fair.

LEGISLATIVE

House at Lincoln passes by a vote of 15 to 46, in committee of the whole, a bill to tax mortgages...

Greater Omaha bills are held back by committee for amendment to allow the South Omaha officers to serve out their terms.

Senator Aldrich presents a measure designed to secure publicity for transactions of corporations...

Subcommittee of Nebraska legislature has completed primary bill and will report it to full committee Thursday evening.

South Dakota reform forces seek to get together on policy of railroad control.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—(Special Telegram.)—The Nebraska bill providing for an additional judge of the federal court in Nebraska is favorably reported to the house.

House committee reports bill regulating the disposal of government coal lands, but not in line with the president's proposed leasing scheme.

Conference committee amends immigration bill to permit the president to exclude all aliens whose presence would be a detriment to labor conditions.

House committee reports bill favoring leasing of public coal land and laws for better control of grazing land.

Railroad agents find little encouragement at York in their opposition to the 2-cent bill.

Great volume of water out of Loup river breaks ice in Platte forming gorges.

Connecticut Baptist association Jones heavily by endorsement of New Britain bank cashier.

Telegraph operators employed by the Western Union are given a 10 per cent advance.

Wife of juror in Thaw case is ill and indefinite postponement of case may be necessary.

Bodies of seventy-two victims of the wreck of the steamer Larchmont are recovered.

Great crowd gathers at London station to wish James Bryce, the new ambassador to the United States.

Count Itagaki proposes the abolition of the Japanese peage because he thinks it interferes with progress of the nation.

Bassett divorce case begins in district court. Mr. Bassett was granted divorce yesterday from his wife at Washington.

W. D. McHugh announces that the terms of Count Creighton's will will not be made public until it is ready for probate.

Lent begins with usual services at the churches.

Rev. Julius F. Schwartz of Conservatory, Ind., will be pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Omaha.

The street railway company has tentative plans for conduit on Farnam street to carry current to substations.

Thirty-five buildings in Omaha are found not to be equipped with fire escapes as required by law.

Omaha live stock market. Omaha grain market. Omaha general market. New York stocks and bonds.

MOVEMENTS OF OCEAN STEAMERS. NEW YORK. Arrived. Stated.

NOTHING STRANGE IN WILL. No Unusual or Sensational Features in Last Testament of John A. Creighton.

We have discovered nothing whatever unusual or sensational in respect to Mr. Creighton's will.

Work at Valley. VALLEY, Neb., Feb. 13.—(Special.)—On account of the thaw and probable breaking up of the river...

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JUDICIAL BILL REPORTED

Measure as Finally Agreed Upon by Nebraskans Goes to the House.

SETS OUT NEED OF A NEW JUDGE

Committee, Under Lead of Eastern Members, Opposed to the President's Scheme for the Leasing of Coal Lands.

(From a Staff Correspondent.) WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—(Special Telegram.)—Representative Tirrell of Massachusetts today reported favorably the judicial bill recommended by an additional federal judge to the district of Nebraska.

The report filed by Mr. Tirrell is rather voluminous, going into the whole subject of the creation of additional judges for federal districts and among other things it states:

"On July 1, 1906, there were 177 criminal cases on the docket in the Nebraska districts and on the same day there were twenty-six civil cases in which the United States was interested."

There were on the docket 23 civil cases which the United States was not interested in, making the total number of cases pending in said districts 226.

On July 1, 1906, there were pending civil cases 230, criminal cases 120, Total 350.

"Excluding Sundays and legal holidays court was in session 180 1/2 but forty-five days, and in 1904 all but thirty-eight days."

"Notwithstanding the fact that the district judge of this district has held court practically every day in the year and has been assisted by several outside judges, they have by their combined efforts been unable to dispose of the business as fast as the cases are filed."

A comparison is made with Iowa, which contains two judicial districts, and during one fiscal year the total judgments in said district in these two judicial districts in Iowa amounted to \$7,267.

During the same period the total judgments rendered in the district of Nebraska amounted to \$67,583.

Judge Asks for Help. The report recites that Judge Munger has said that he is very much in need of help and that it is practically impossible for him to do the work of the district.

He stated also that the work in the circuit is increasing very rapidly, sixty-eight more cases having been commenced than were disposed of during the year ending June 30, 1906, and that it will be more difficult in the future to obtain assistance from other judges in certain cases thereof.

The report further says that the Department of Justice made very exhaustive and complete investigation of conditions in the district of Nebraska and as a result of the investigation recommends that an additional judge be provided for this district.

"All of the judges of the Eighth district, who must be assumed to have personal knowledge regarding this matter, have advised against a division of the rate into judicial districts."

It is suggested by the report that the enacting clause of Senator Burket's bill be stricken out and Judge Norris' bill be substituted.

The report further calls attention to the fact that the marshal for the district of Nebraska has been appointed, but without salary.

The salaries of marshals in the states of North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, northern and southern districts of Iowa, eastern and western districts of Missouri, Kansas and Colorado receive \$4,000.

The committee recommends an additional section that after July 1, 1907, the salary of the marshal for the district of Nebraska shall be \$4,000 per year.

Bill Regulating Coal Land. Almost at the moment the president's message urging legislation for the leasing of government lands was being read in the house this morning the speaker announced, being in session, ordered a report on a bill which does not contain the leasing clause favored by the chief executive.

The bill which the public lands committee decided to report simply amends the present coal land laws, compelling entrymen to spend \$50 for water on each section.

Each quarter section; it increases the amount of land which may be taken to four sections, or 2,560 acres, and that patents issued under the homestead law shall contain a provision reserving coal lying thereunder for twenty years.

Homesteaders are given the privilege, however, of buying the coal lands at the lawful price of \$3 an acre.

Major Lacey, chairman of the public lands committee, had a conference with the president along the lines of leasing the public domain for coal mining purposes and told the president that the western members were in opposition to the leasing scheme.

The president called attention to the manner in which forest reserves were being leased for grazing purposes, to which Major Lacey replied that he had not the western members see the disadvantage of the present law.

Major Lacey said that the leasing of public lands for grazing purposes might be in favor of his coal land suggestions contained in the message of today, but he had very serious doubts whether the western members of his committee would agree with him on his recommendations.

During the discussion of the Martin bill today in the committee on public lands, and having no knowledge as to the first name of the president sent today to congress.

Representatives Volstead of Minnesota, Gronus of North Dakota and Robinson of Arkansas voted against the Martin bill in committee and will submit a minority report in which they will offer a draft of a bill carrying out the suggestions contained in the president's message today.

They will urge the repeal of the present law and will provide in their proposed bill for the reservation of coal lands with the leasing clause attached.

Barke Turns a Trick. Congressman Burke of South Dakota turned a trick today that may result in a favorable report being made on his bill opening the Rosebud Indian reservation to settlement.

Owing to the absence of several members of the house committee on Indian affairs there was extreme doubt whether there would be a quorum of the committee present to do business tomorrow.

Mr. Burke, realizing that the time was growing extremely short to get his bill through congress, induced the speaker to appoint Congressman-elect Dixon of Montana to the vacancy created by the election of Mr. Curtis of Kansas to the senate.

Mr. Burke had a conference today with the speaker on the merits of his bill and he re-arranged the prospects of consideration and passage extremely bright.

It is understood that Inspector McLaughlin and Agent Keenan, who were in the city yesterday, returned to their homes today.

Count Itagaki Requests the Nobility to Return their Titles to the Emperor.

LONDON, Feb. 13.—A great crowd of personal and political friends gathered at Euston station this morning to bid farewell to James Bryce, the ambassador to the United States, and Mrs. Bryce, who proceeded to Liverpool in a car attached to the regular steamer train.

At Liverpool they boarded the Oceanic for New York. The ambassador's sendoff was enthusiastic.

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CHICAGO, Feb. 13.—A special to the News from Tokyo says Count Itagaki has issued a circular to the nobility in which he proposes the abolition of the peerage.

He says that the presence of a distinct class between the imperial house and the people is injurious to the progress of the nation.

The count thinks the existing peers should enjoy their titles for one generation and then the peerage should cease to exist.

He therefore advises the peers to return their titles to the emperor just as the old feudal barons of Germany relinquished their prerogatives at the time of the abolition of feudalism in 1871.

This radical suggestion coming from a man of Count Itagaki's standing causes great excitement and wonder.

TELEGRAPHERS GET ADVANCE

Ten Per Cent is Added to Wages of Employees of the Western Union.

NEW YORK, Feb. 13.—An increase of 10 per cent in the salaries of telegraph operators at the company's principal offices throughout the country was announced by the Western Union Telegraph company today.

William H. Baker, vice president and general manager of the Postal Telegraph company, today issued the following statement:

"The Postal Telegraph Cable company has always paid as good or better wages than any other telegraph company and we shall continue to pay living wages and we shall do so in the future."

The fact is that we have been increasing the wages of our employees right along and shall continue to do so.

The Western Union has undoubtedly been benefited by the policy of the Postal Telegraph company and we shall continue to pay living wages and we shall do so in the future."

The company retains the friendship of all its men. We have endeavored to pay them as well as we could and we have received faithful and efficient service.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—President Roosevelt today received a dispatch from a representative of the telegraph operators who were threatening a strike in Chicago, inquiring whether anything can be done toward settling the differences arising between the Western Union Telegraph company and its operators at Chicago.

President Roosevelt turned the message over to the secretary of the labor bureau.

It is said at the White house that as the strike had not taken place there is nothing to be done at this time.

If the strike should be officially declared the government might be able to offer its aid in settling the differences.

The following message was received in Omaha Wednesday:

NEW YORK, Feb. 13, 1907.—J. C. Nelson, Omaha, Neb., says that he has received information within the last thirty days from sixteen offices in the west and southwest that the Western Union Telegraph company has been given careful consideration of the demands of the public for ever increasing facilities and more rapid service.

The company has declined to increase the salaries of operators, at its principal offices throughout the country, 10 per cent from \$3.00 to \$3.30.

ROBERT C. CLOWRY, President.

HALF MILLION DOLLARS GONE

New Britain, Conn., Bank Treasurer Loses Vault of Securities and Disappears.

NEW BRITAIN, Conn., Feb. 13.—More than \$500,000 worth of securities were taken from the vaults of the Savings bank of New Britain by the missing treasurer, William F. Walker, according to a statement issued today by the board of directors of the institution.

There is left a surplus of about \$14,000 above the amount due to depositors. The directors believe the greater part of the securities will be recovered.

George M. Landers has sent a letter to Governor Woodruff asking that Commissioner Kendall be removed from office on the ground of neglect of duty and incompetency.

He pointed out in this letter that when Kendall began an examination of the affairs of the bank last Thursday, Treasurer Walker on a plea of illness left the bank and Commissioner Kendall did not continue his work.

But returned home to await Walker's convenience, knowing at the time that the latter did not return home that day.

That William F. Walker, missing treasurer of the savings bank of New Britain, who is alleged to be responsible for a \$500,000 shortage at that institution, made big inroads into the \$75,000 fund of the Connecticut Baptist convention last week.

President Thompson of the society said today that railroad bonds valued at \$700 in Mr. Walker's hands are missing.

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EMPLOYES POORLY COACHED

Burlington Brings Them in to Protest Against Bill They Do Not Understand.

ARGUMENT ON TWO-CENT FARE BILL. Subcommittee Has the Primary Bill Completed and Will Report it on Thursday Night to the Full Committee.

(From a Staff Correspondent.) LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 13.—(Special Telegram.)—The Burlington railroad sent 180 men to Lincoln tonight to protest against the passage of the employers' liability bill now pending in both houses.

The men came in on a special train of two coaches from Havelock and no fares were collected before the train left Havelock.

The Burlington officials timed the arrival of the employes to get the senate chamber just as a Burlington lobbyist was making a speech in denunciation of the press of Nebraska, and they roundly cheered him when he finished.

The spokesman for the employes sent in were C. W. Holmes, foreman of the boiler works; D. E. Lucas, general foreman of the boiler shops, and H. E. Kepner, inspector of piece work west of the river.

Finally Conductor Macomber, Senator Joseph Burns kindly invited Mr. Kepner to explain why the employes of the Burlington were opposed to the passage of the liability act.

At the conclusion of the 2-cent passenger rate discussion, Mr. Kepner informed the legislators that he and his fellow employes were here to protest against any legislation which would affect the Burlington Relief department, and that was all he came for.

Gibson, who sponsors the bill in the senate, at once asked Kepner in what way the bill affected the relief department and when he hesitated, Burns and Jim Kelly of the Burlington, came to his assistance and began to fire question at Gibson.

This turned the meeting into a free-for-all and the brought-in employes started answering and asking questions from the rear of the house.

Finally Conductor Macomber, who is here in the interest of the bill, explained that it in no way damaged the relief department, but it enabled the injured employee of a railroad to collect damages therefor.

The Burlington employes at this time, he said, that road made its employes pay their own damages. This he said was a number of brought-in employes to tell incidents of what the Burlington Relief department had done for them.

Patrick Barry came to the help of Gibson and assured the employes they had no right to be in the senate chamber and that it would be in no way affect them.

The section they opposed, he explained, provided if an employe was injured or killed, he or his relatives could prosecute suit for damages providing the amount paid by the relief department should be deducted from the judgment.

Apparently the men had not been well posted by the Burlington officials and a great many of them left with the expressed belief that the bill in no wise affect the relief department.

Two-Cent Fare Bill Discussion

Ben T. White, general attorney for the Northwestern, and Garret Fort, assistant passenger agent of the Union Pacific, addressed the senate committee on railroads tonight in opposition to the 2-cent rate bill.

Mr. Fort made in substance the speech he made last night, but laying special emphasis on the statement that to reduce rates would save very little money to the traveling public individually.

But would reduce the revenue of the seriously injured employes on railroads of the passenger department of the Union Pacific.

Mr. White took his hearers back to the time when the Elkhorn lost money in Nebraska for the same reason; when the legislature through a trucking practice, when the legislature made a 3 cent a mile maximum rate, which, he said, at that time was not fair.

Now that times were prosperous he believed the railroads should be permitted to enjoy the prosperity with the people.

He wanted his road to be considered as another business, and if it is fast for banks and manufacturers and farmers to make 10 and 20 and make 2 or 7. At this time the Northwestern, he said, was making 4 1/2 per cent on its stock.

His road, Mr. White said, would suffer more than any other under the 2-cent rate because it did not have the transcontinental business.

Burlington representative, J. E. Kelly, also spoke. He put tears in his voice and in general, his talk was interesting in that members of the senate had an opportunity to see a real live lobbyist begging and pleading where once he commanded and obeyed.

Agreed on Primary Bill. At a meeting of the subcommittee today in preparing the state-wide primary bill to amend the constitution relating to the details of the bill were settled and the measure in its final form agreed to.

The principal difference was over the rotation of names. Dodge of Douglas insisting on rotating.

At the meeting tonight a compromise was effected which would rotate the names in the order of the counties the names will appear alphabetically without rotation.

The section of the party platform was also changed. In its present form the nominees in each county are to select a committee in each precinct in the county.

These committees meet and select a delegate to a state convention which will meet and compile a platform and select a state committee and chairman.

This convention is held every other year in the years when governor and other state officers are to be elected.

The bill provides for a filing fee of \$10 for candidates for county offices and \$50 for congressional and state office.

Applications for places on the ballot are to be filed with the county clerk for county offices and with the secretary of state for state offices.

The bill also made for candidates independent of any party. The name of a candidate can appear only on the ballot of one party.

The primary is to be held nine weeks before the election and the polls are to be open from 11 noon to 5 p. m.

The draft of the bill will be presented to the joint committee at a meeting to be held Thursday night and it may be introduced in the two houses Friday or the first of next week at the latest.

Battleships in Collision

LONDON, Feb. 13.—The British battleships Albemarle and Commodore, which were maneuvering off the coast of Portugal, were in collision the night of February 11 and were so damaged that they were obliged to proceed to Gibraltar for repairs.

Nobody was injured.

REFORM FORCES SEEK UNITY

Leaders Hold Council and Attempt to Get Together on Policy of Railroad Control.

Pierre S. D., Feb. 13.—(Special Telegram.)—The reform forces are attempting to get together on a policy of railroad control. The leaders, including Governor Crawford and Railway Commissioner Rice, held a council last night and at a late hour adjourned without reaching any definite conclusion.

Some of them wanted to place the whole matter in the hands of the railway commissioners to act under the power which is given them by law, if they considered such action justifiable after a full and thorough investigation.

Others desired to push legislative action at once, and stand a suit on the results of that action if necessary. Just what line will be carried out is yet indefinite, but the house 2-cent rate bill is being carried along at the foot of the calendar.

Glass today introduced a bill to require the railway commission to ascertain the actual value of railways in the state by a thorough investigation of records and property. This places the material at hand to take either track as finally decided upon.

The house killed the bill to elect county commissioners by the vote of districts, which bill had passed the senate, and was supported by Eastman and the democrats in the house and opposed by Cable and Brown.

Volkmuth introduced a bill in the house providing for public care and control of liquor and morphine fiends, to be looked after by Eastman and the democrats.

Farmley and Glass tangled up again this afternoon on the report of the Gamble investigation which was printed in the house journal yesterday.

Carley, chairman of the committee on journal, presented his report, and Farmley at once moved that it be not printed in the report so far as the Gamble investigation is concerned had been garbled by cutting out that part of the answer as to whether it is customary for senators and representatives at Washington to place their sons on the pay roll.

The answer, Farmley claimed, had been changed, the original being cut from the sheet and a satisfactory answer written in at the top of the next page on the printer's copy.

Glass defended the report of the committee and said it was just as taken by the stenographer, with a few slight corrections where it was in error.

The original delay of a day in action on the journal.

The bill to prevent the running of raw sewage into streams, the water of which is used for domestic purposes, was indefinitely postponed on motion of Hare.

Isenhour again got out his fire marshal bill only to be defeated a second time after he had explained it. The bill to appropriate lands to the insane asylum at Le located at Watertown was tabled on a motion of Peterson of Lawrence by a vote of 6 to 23.

The senate wrangled over the report on the Gamble investigation and finally adjourned at 11 o'clock.

WOMEN RAID PARLIAMENT

Subsurgists Make All-Day Demonstration and Sixty Are Placed Under Arrest.