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ANNOUNCE THEIR OPENING OF Spring Millinery Friday and Saturday of This Week

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—Second Floor.

SPECIAL SHOWING OF NEW SPRING GOODS.

Thompson Belden & Co.

SPECIAL SHOWING OF NEW SPRING GOODS.

Bee 2-18-09.

to have acted upon the amendments at once and if a failure to concur resulted, a conference committee would have been named. The backers of the bill said they did not want consideration of the measure to conflict in any way with the banking bill and hence referred it to the railroad committee for safe keeping. It is not in the province of the committee to make or suggest any amendments.

Oppose Constitutional Convention.
The bill providing for a constitutional convention, which has already passed the senate and which has yet to get through the "sifting" committee of the house before it will be discussed in the committee of the whole in the house, is being severely condemned by a number of legislators.

These members hold that needed amendments to the present constitution can easily be adopted and at the same time there will be saved to the people those sections in the present constitution which give the state the power to regulate corporations. Few amendments are needed now, these members claim, to make of the present constitution a most perfect instrument. These men realize, so they say, that the salaries of state officers should be increased, but this can be done without going to the expense of calling a constitutional convention.

Some members are anxious for the convention in the belief that only in that way will the people be able to declare for prohibition.

Just how much it would cost to hold a constitutional convention has not yet been figured and cannot be estimated accurately. The members may draw anywhere from \$5 to \$10 a day and the speaker may last anywhere from three to six months. The Oklahoma constitutional opponents of the proposition say, based for six months.

With the promise out to keep down appropriations and to lower taxes on the farmers many democrats are unable to figure out where it would be a good thing to call a constitutional convention.

Several bills proposing amendments to the constitution are already in a fair way to pass both houses and opponents of the convention favor these amendments, which can be adopted at little cost.

Even should a convention be called it would then be necessary to adopt the constitution which it drafted before it becomes the organic law of the state. For that reason also prominent members of the legislature are opposed to the proposition. Should the corporations control the convention as they have controlled legislatures the good sections of the present constitution would be eliminated.

Wants Bryan Political School.
Colonel Neil Brennan of O'Neill has a suggestion for Mr. Bryan and this democratic legislature. Colonel Brennan, who lives in O'Neill and who has in the window of his immense hardware store a box of dirt well sodded, which he brought direct from old Ireland, some hundred years or less ago, is anxious that Mr. Bryan's proposed school of politics be established at O'Neill.

"We can teach politics in O'Neill better than it can be taught in any place in Nebraska. It is the ideal place for Mr. Bryan's school and I am in favor of it being established there. We have Irish up one side of the street and down the other, and every Irishman is a born politician." Mr. Brennan did not say so but he could have pointed to Arthur Mullen as a sample of the graduates from the O'Neill school.

Hismarck Visits Legislature.
The Hon. Judge Altstet of Omaha, the best known justice of the peace in the west, the man who overruled the supreme court, who is the highest justice in Nebraska, cast his eagle eye over this democratic legislature today, but he steadfastly refused to make any comment.

Judge Altstet is a pocket edition of the present constitution. He has been introduced to the president as the "justice who overruled the supreme court."

"But I have never overruled any of your decisions," said the justice as he shook hands with the then presidential candidate.

"That is very kind of you," replied Mr. Taft.

Judge Altstet has never missed paying his respects to the legislature every two years, but this year he was delayed in getting here, owing to his business which keeps him constantly at his office. The judge said he would not be a candidate for police judge, though urged to do so.

Sunday Base Ball for Omaha—Maybe.
The house this morning overruled the judiciary committee and placed on general file the bill by Shoemaker to permit the people of Omaha to play base ball on Sunday providing the question is submitted to a vote and it carries. The committee reported the bill for indefinite postponement, but Judge Shoemaker went to the front in a masterly oration on the rights of the people and he was followed by Thomas. The house then voted the bill to the general file.

Backward Step on Revenue.
The senate today, by passing R. F. 23, by Fuller ofeward, took a step to place the revenue system of Nebraska back on the plane where it was for years before the enactment of the revenue law six years ago, that was generally recognized as being the best work of any legislature for

many years and one which has enabled the state to keep up in the department of government with the development of the state's resources. If the house should agree to the bill and the governor should sign it, the State Board of Equalization would be put to the necessity of merely equalizing the valuations returned by county boards, that is, raising in a few cases, but always lowering elsewhere to offset any raise made necessary by a low return. The aggregate assessment may not be raised for the state, though the returns of the county boards are manifestly lower than the cash value of the property.

Explaining his vote on R. F. 23, Senator King said:

"I believe that the amendments to the revenue laws provided by S. F. 23 will render it practically impossible for the state board to properly equalize the assessments of property between the various counties and make such assessments conform to the law, as intended by our present revenue system."

"I believe it will open the way for a large reduction in valuation in many counties and tend toward a return to the very bad practice existing in the valuation of property for taxation prior to the enactment of our present revenue law."

"If passed, it will strike at the very foundation of the present revenue law; induce competition among precinct and county assessors of some counties in trying to get their assessments lower than those of other counties, leaving the state board absolutely powerless to adequately remedy the discrepancies. It will also cause endless troubles and annoyance to county clerks all over the state."

"I therefore vote no."

Senator Randall said: "S. F. 23 is one of the most vicious measures ever introduced in this or any other legislature. Besides tending to cause much trouble to the officers in following out its provisions, it will have a further tendency to enable railroad companies to effectually reduce the payment of alleged excessive taxes, by making a showing before the courts that the assessment was not made in such manner that their property was valued for taxation on an equality with other property. I therefore vote no."

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS OF HOUSE
Number of Bills Passed and Sent Over to the Senate.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)
LINCOLN, March 18.—(Special.)—This was charter day for the house in the Ransom-Ryan democratic legislature and the usual disorder and confusion was one of the features. The Omaha and Lincoln city charter bills were both recommended for passage without being read and as they came from Mr. Ransom's senate, save in the Omaha charter, where a minor amendment was made at the suggestion of Mr. Ransom. The house turned down cold an amendment to the Lincoln charter, providing that it be submitted to a vote of the people before becoming operative and objection was made to the submission to the house of a petition signed by practically all of the heavy taxpayers and business men doing business on O street.

During the discussion on the Lincoln charter bill Elmer Brown said:

"Not a single friend of the charter desires to see it submitted to a vote of the people."

"I agree with that statement," said McColl of Gage, "because if it were submitted to the people the number of votes against it could never be counted."

But that did not foaze the Ransom-Ryan home rule legislature and neither did the protest of the business men of Lincoln have any effect.

In the matter of the Omaha charter Ransom had given his orders and the democrats in the house were in no position to disobey them. There is little doubt it was a case of either the Omaha charter or no banking bill and so no voice was raised in protest when the charter came up—save the voice of Holmes. But it had no effect.

The Omaha charter bill came up in the early morning session, but because there were few bills in the files the bill went over until 2 o'clock. Connolly proposed raising the salary of the mayor to \$1,200 and the health commissioner to \$2,500.

"We don't want any raise in salaries here as a compromise," yelled out Holmes. So the motion was lost, Edigh of Olney insisting that the charter had been amended in the senate and it should be taken that way.

Then Graff of Cumling headed in with a motion to limit debate to five minutes and this carried, with Elmer Brown, having in mind his speech on the Lincoln charter, trying to speak.

Thomas submitted one amendment which explained the senators had asked him to submit, which carried. This provided that the salary of the chief of police should be put back to \$2,500 and that the salary of the chief of the fire department be raised to \$3,000. By mistake the senate had raised the salary of the chief of police.

Then Connolly submitted his amendment for a bipartisan elective police board. He explained it would keep the police and firemen out of politics and Thomas explained it would not. While they were discussing this proposition Holmes offered his amendment for two appointive and two elective members of the board. This was promptly killed and then the aitchet was buried in the Connolly amendment, Denny Lynch a big enough democratic politician to force the senators to put him on the senate payroll, remarking:

"I will never vote for a democrat in Omaha."

Then Clark of Richardson informed the house that no one was paying any attention to the charter reading, therefore he moved that it be recommended for passage and this was done, 30 voting for the motion and 20 against it, Holmes only of the Douglas delegation voting no.

After the Lincoln charter had been recommended for passage, West of Hall moved that the report be not concurred in, but he lost by a vote of 49 to 32 on roll call.

The South Omaha charter is next on the general file.

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Taft's Eulogy on Cleveland
(Continued from First Page.)

nominated, but was beaten by General Harrison in a close vote. By that time the politicians of the old school in the democratic party had drawn away from him and had no desire to continue his leadership. But so strong a hold had he upon the affections and confidence of the rank and file of his party and so sure were they that he was stronger than the party in an electoral contest, that he was nominated in the national convention against the desires of most of the state organization leaders, and in the election which followed he led his party to the greatest victory in its history.

Aggressive on Tariff Issue.
"In this campaign Mr. Cleveland stood for an affirmative idea, that of a reduction of the tariff, so as to make it a tariff for revenue. He attacked the protective theory and system. He stood for something aggressive and affirmative."

"I do not need to enter into a discussion of that issue, but comment on it only as illustrating Mr. Cleveland's character. He was positive. He was affirmative. He was courageous. He believed in parties. He believed in policies and he believed in consistency in regard to them, and he did not believe in trimming down a policy to catch the votes of those who really did not agree with it."

"The first time Mr. Cleveland was in power he was opposed by a republican senate. He gave a little opportunity for any radical change by legislation in the previous policies of republican administrations, but it did offer an opportunity for Mr. Cleveland to point out to the country the fact that our government is a government of three distinct branches—the executive, the legislative and the judicial—and that the executive has a sphere which the legislative branch has no right to invade."

"We hear much in these days of the usurpation of legislation by the executive branch. As long as the legislative branch has the power of the purse the danger of executive usurpation is imaginary. The real danger arises from the disposition of the legislative branch to assume that it has the omnipotence of parliament and may completely control the discretion conferred upon the executive by the constitution. The country is under obligation to Mr. Cleveland for having pointed out in his controversy with the judicial—namely, that the executive has a sphere which the legislative branch has no right to invade."

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WESTERN VIEWS ON TARIFF BILL

(Continued from First Page.)

prove of the inheritance tax clause. "Probably the fact that coffee remains on the free list," said Mr. Hinshaw, "is a matter which gives more general satisfaction than anything in connection with the proposed tariff revision. The United States has, in reality, for years been paying an average of 2 cents per pound on coffee, the tariff laws of countries producing it and because of the export duty imposed by Brazil, from which country about 75 per cent of the coffee consumed in this country is purchased. We have been deprived of any revenue from the coffee tax. Now the Payne bill provides that the United States shall impose the same tax on coffee as the export tax of any country from which we receive it, otherwise it will be free. This provision is inserted in the bill in the hope that it may induce Brazil to abolish its export duties."

"The bill imposes a tax of 8 cents per pound on tea when coming directly from the producing country, and 2 cents when coming through another country. This latter provision is aimed at the middlemen, notably at Sir Thomas Lipton, the biggest tea jobber in the world. Data shows that tea can be laid down at our ports at 16 cents per pound. The retail price of first class tea ranges from 40 cents to 45 per pound, and it is now free. This enormous difference in price is due to combinations of wholesalers or jobbers. It is not believed the duty imposed on tea will increase the retail price."

Free Hides a Mistake.
Senator Brown, speaking of the bill said: "I think it was a mistake to put hides on the free list. I think a tariff should be taken off tea and put on oil paintings, which by this bill are admitted free. The reduction on lumber ought to be greater than it is. I approve of the reduction on steel and all metal produce."

"I cannot help but praise the house committee on tea and hides for bringing in so meritorious a measure. It will stand criticism better than any bill we have had in twenty years and will probably go on the statute books with less changes than any similar bill in our history."

Judge Kinkaid has three determined grouches against the Payne tariff bill, which he tersely stated as follows: "I don't like the tax on tea; don't like placing hides on the free list and, finally, don't like the lumber schedule. I am for free lumber."

The Omaha Commercial club is intensely interested in the treatment that is to be accorded wool in the new tariff. Commissioner J. M. Gault has requested the co-operation of Senators Brown and Burkett with the Washington office of the National Wool Growers' association, which will be established shortly. The club recently passed resolutions earnestly asking the Nebraska senators and representatives to labor for proper protection of the wool industry.

Shakeup in Committees.
When Senator Burkett made his speech in the senate, telling how the "elder statesmen," by finesse and diplomacy, held the best positions on the ranking committee, he raised such a fog that it has taken the committee on committees four days to lift it.

As a result of Senator Burkett's straightforward presentation of the facts which the congressional directory discloses there will be tomorrow such a shaking up of the old timers, and by that is meant the "elder statesmen, as hat not been seen in generations. The insurgent in the senate has won a notable victory in opposition to his By reason of Mr. Burkett's presentation of committee facts, six men from the west were placed upon the committee on committees, McCumber of North Dakota, Curtis of Kansas, Dixon of Montana, Borah of Idaho, Sutherland of Utah and Flint of California. There are three eastern men on this committee, Aldrich of Rhode Island, Kean of New Jersey and Crane of Massachusetts.

It is understood that among many other changes that occur in the makeup of committees of the senate that Senator Murray Crane goes off the committee on commerce and that Senator Cullom leaves appropriation, Senator Burkett taking Senator Cullom's place on the important committee. Senator Burkett will take the place of Senator Cullom on the committee on agriculture, and his chairmanship of Pacific railroads and will, in addition, hold his place on the committee on District of Columbia.

Senator Dooliver becomes the head of the committee on agriculture, while his colleague, Senator Cummins, will get the chairmanship of one of the select committees. The senate will create new committees which will have to do with conservation of natural resources and expenditures in several departments of government.

Minor Matters at Capital.
W. S. Clapp of Kearney, who is visiting in Washington, was introduced to President Taft by Senator Brown.

Ernest Jackson and E. O. Patterson of Dallas, D. C., are in Washington endeavoring to induce Secretary of the Interior H. I. Henshaw to reopen the case whereby Gregory was given the local land office in preference to Dallas. They claimed to be burdened with heavy petitions signed by a majority of those who drew lands in the recent opening of the Indian country. Tripp of Dallas is endeavoring to get the land office from Gregory to Dallas. They have had an interview with Secretary Ballinger, but that official is reluctant to reopen the case, and further, if he does consent to give a formal hearing to these gentlemen from Dallas, they will receive the benefit of a professor to overturn the decision in selecting Gregory. However, the Dallas men are not discouraged and are hard at work.

Postmasters appointed: Iowa—Hocking, Monroe county, James T. Cobley, vice P. G. Seever, resigned; Pilot Mound, Boone county, William P. Linn, vice G. O. Durrill, resigned; St. Charles, DeWitt county, Beadle county, Haskell D. Coursey, vice Herman F. Ackerman, resigned.

Rural routes established: Iowa—Cedar, route 3, Roy Eberle carrier, Ella M. Eberle substitute; Decora, route 3, Roy McMillan carrier, W. A. McMullen substitute. South Dakota—Ramona, route 1, William R. Corwin carrier, P. Delaney substitute.

MADAM HELENA MODJESKA ILL
Condition Would Not Be Serious But Her Advanced Age.

LOS ANGELES, March 18.—No immediate relief is felt over the condition of Mme. Helena Modjeska, the actress, who is ill here, although her advanced age rendered her ailment more serious.

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