

GOV. HARDING COURTS QUIZ IN RATHBUN CASE

Iowa Legislature to Take Up Investigation at Once; May Appoint a Special Committee.

Des Moines, Ia., March 6.—Following the address of Governor William L. Harding, who crossed from a sick bed today long enough to tell before a joint session of the Iowa senate and house his version of the Rathbun pardon case, which has been the cause of a national sensation, the house decided to take up the investigation of the affair at once.

At a special meeting the house judiciary committee will vote on a recommendation to the house to further action. The appointment of a special committee, empowered to incur expense to make a thorough probe, is expected.

"I had acted corruptly, that fact should be determined and I should be punished," the governor said. "If I had acted contrary to provision of statute or upon a false record, those questions could have been raised before me in a direct proceeding and my error in law pointed out, or false record corrected by providing me with a true one and I tell you gentlemen, without any reservation whatever that if I had found myself in error, either in law or upon the fact, I should have been glad to be corrected and should have thanked those who pointed out the error. The state has a right to know whether I have acted corruptly or whether I have acted honestly in granting this pardon and it is for you to determine and inform them and in this search you have my undivided support."

Thus did the governor sum up his statement before the joint session of the thirty-eighth general assembly held in the house chamber. The chamber was crowded to the limit during the entire time the governor was reading his message. He began by declaring that many innuendoes are floating about that possibly the governor was bribed or accepted money in connection with the granting of the pardon.

"Let me say to you," he urged, "that if these innuendoes have assumed such proportions in your minds as to create even a doubt, it is your plain and imperative duty to trace them to the utmost limit to ascertain their foundation." He further declared that if the investigation convinced them that the governor did not err, it was the duty of legislature to announce same so that people know the truth. The governor then went into the law concerning the pardon authority of the governor, saying that a mere reading of the statute shows the right of the governor to pardon on record without going through the board of parole. He said it was on this law and on the records as submitted to him that the pardon was granted.

"It is reported that the pardon was set aside as void by the district court of Ida county, one of the grounds being that I acted illegally," said the governor. "If this statement was started by any one who was present at the court in Ida Grove at the time the Rathbun pardon was before the court, it is a malicious falsehood," said the governor, and "if it started by someone who was not present it is simply an ignorant falsehood."

He declared the court records show that "the pardon was set aside by a stipulation between the attorney representing state, and the attorney representing the defendant or the defendant himself."

"Investigate Settlement." "In other words," he said, "the settlement of this more criminal matter appears to have been made between the attorney general and the accused, and it might be interesting to investigate fully the consideration which prompted the defendant to acquiesce in it."

He declared that threats were made by the attorney general and his assistants that if the members of the Rathbun family did not enter into this stipulation surrounding Rathbun, and invoking his pardon indicts, prosecutions would follow.

In discussing the pardon further he said: "You thought from the requests coming in as they did that the supreme pardoning power of the state was properly invoked to save from the penitentiary a boy who had committed an immoral act, but who was not guilty of the crime of rape as charged in the indictment."

Attorney General Haver submitted a letter to the investigating committee today announcing that he was ready to furnish the names of witnesses and other information to the committee.

Charge Brought Woman Here; Held Under White Slave Act

Kansas City, Mo., March 6.—(Special Telegram.)—Fred Botts, whose home is at Stewart, Neb., was arrested here Thursday by a deputy United States marshal on a charge of white slavery. The complaint was issued by the United States district attorney at Omaha. Botts was arraigned before Roy B. Thomson, United States commissioner, who fixed his bond at \$3,000. His preliminary hearing is set for next Thursday.

Former Naval Secretary Dies at Age of 85 Years

Tampa, Fla., March 6.—Hilary A. Herbert, secretary of the navy during Grover Cleveland's second term, died here today at the age of 85 years.

Dr. Dixon to Return.

Spartanburg, S. C., March 6.—Dr. Clarence Dixon, prominent American Baptist minister, has resigned as pastor of the Spurgeon tabernacle, London, and will return to the United States in July.

HOT WORDS FLY AS SENATORS KEEP UP PROBE

(Continued from Page One)

the committee on a legislative inquiry of Milford at the instance of the civics department of the Lincoln Woman's club, and that they had been invited by Senator Bradstreet to assist in the investigation.

Mrs. Jay on the stand, testified that the only knowledge she had of immorality at the institution was the story told her by a girl whom she had interviewed at Milford, who accused a young man, a soldier living at the institution of being the father of her unborn child.

Mrs. Jay testified that the girl had been in a delicate condition for about two months. She said that she had heard from other sources that within the past 18 months there had been three other instances where girls had become in the same condition at the home and had compelled the authors of their shame to marry them. She knew of no names nor absolute facts concerning this; it was all gossip or rumor.

She testified that the girl now living at Milford who was in a delicate condition had become an employee of the Soldiers' home last August. The young man whom she accuses lived at Broken Bow and she had caused a complaint to be issued against him and planned to be married after he had been arrested.

Hensley Discharged Girl.

Commandant Hensley testified that he had discharged the girl in question some time before because of her immodest conduct in the sleeping rooms of the institution and that she had not met with her mistress at the home. He said she had made frequent trips toeward while the young man was there and that the mistress must have occurred at that point.

He testified that the girl's brother was engineer at the institution and was in charge of the sleeping quarters as a sort of monitor at night.

Eli Shultz, postmaster for the legislature, an old soldier, whose home is at Steele City, Neb., testified that certain members of the legislature had told him there was to be a vacancy in the executive office of the Milford Soldiers' home and advised him to apply for the post.

Shultz knew. Mr. Shultz said that he and his wife went to the institution to investigate conditions and it was his opinion that the adjunct was the cause of all the trouble.

He turned to my wife and told her so, said he, "after I had seen the adjunct. I was a detective for a whole year in the union army during the civil war and my observations are never wrong."

He testified that he found everything at the institution in first-class shape and all of the inmates perfectly contented. Things were neat and the men well fed and everything done for their comfort and well being. The only complaint I could find against Hensley was from a few fellows who complained that he did nothing but walk around and draw his salary.

Mrs. R. M. Walsh of Lincoln, former matron of the home, testified that she had found everything satisfactory at the home with the exception of the housing of the help.

Veterans Like Hensley.

Dr. Emerson Atstun, who had been at the home as an inmate for five years, and W. L. Ozman, 82 years old, a veteran at the home, testified that Commandant Hensley was the best executive that had ever been at the place.

Dr. Atstun, with a knowing smile told of the visits of noisy automobile parties and certain scandals at the institution, the latter coming to him as rumor, under a former commandant, but he said, "since Commandant Hensley has been in there has been absolute peace and quiet and

all are satisfied. There has been no scandal and all are satisfied."

Commissioner Mayfield, when all the evidence was in, and after all of the arguments had been made, called Senator Bradstreet on the carpet. "I wouldn't be a man," said he, "if I did not take exceptions to what the senator says."

"No man can say to me," Mayfield, "you make that man resign his office or you get out of this. I will go as far to protect the purity of womanhood as any man, even to the sacrifice of my life, if necessary. To this moment the housing conditions for the help at Milford were unknown to us. Not because of any ultimatum or threat that has been made, but because it is right we will order this condition to be removed at once. I will say to Senator Bradstreet I will not be intimidated nor will I sue in justice. I will do my full duty and pass judgment on the evidence and the verdict will not be swayed by threats of anyone to cause my removal."

PARTY LEADERS' PLAN ATTACKED BY LONGWORTH

(Continued from Page One)

known as manager of the Chamber Commerce, paid tribute to the members in attendance by assuring them that they represented the "flower of the business interests of the city."

He detailed a portion of the work performed by Chamber of Commerce members during the reconstruction period and assured the members of the committees that with the war ended, there remains plenty of work to do during the reconstruction period.

The duties of the various bureaus of the chamber were explained and stress laid upon the importance of some of them particularly those having to do with publicity, industrial and traffic bureaus.

Mr. Brogan related the story concerning a speech made by the late A. J. Poppleton, something more than 50 years ago. At the time when Mr. Poppleton delivered the address, it was upon the occasion when the news was flashed to Omaha that the eastern terminus of the Union Pacific railroad had been located here on the west bank of the Missouri river.

Following the receipt of the news, there was a jollification and Mr. Poppleton, as one of the speakers, climbed upon a drygoods box and made the assertion that within half a century from that date, Omaha would be a city of 50,000.

Protect Nation's Business.

During the course of his remarks, Mr. Brogan urged the Chamber of Commerce to protect and foster the business interests of the city, do everything in its power to aid in the employment of labor, giving special attention to the returned soldiers, adding that the greatest service that can be rendered the boys is to create employment for them, so that they will not be singled out as special beneficiaries.

Readjustment of conditions with reference to capital and labor was urged, the assurance being given that members of the chamber are always ready and willing to promote the best interests of employer and employee.

It was pointed out that during the war labor was one of the chief bulwarks of the country. During those years labor was patriotic and, with reference to the welfare of the country, it occupies the same position today.

In discussing transportation questions, Mr. Brogan contended that right now there is the need of more lines of railroad to the north and the south, thus enabling the business to and from these sections to be handled in a better and more expeditious manner.

While upon the subject of railroads, Mr. Brogan expressed the hope that the time is not far distant when the Burlington will be released from the domination of the Northern Pacific and the Great Northern. Then, and when that time comes, he asserted, it will be operated in a manner friendly to the country through which its lines pass, as well as being friendly to the people whom it serves.

Hard Surfaced Road.

Mr. Brogan urged the construction of hard surfaced roads, a pipe

ONCE-A-YEAR HEARS BENEFIT BIG CONGRESS

(Continued from Page One)

Majority Leader Fight in House Grows in Interest

Washington Bureau of The Bee. Washington, March 6.—The rest of the house is beginning to take a lively interest in the fight between Representative Mondell of Wyoming and Representative J. Hampton Moore of Pennsylvania, the majority leader in the Sixty-sixth congress. The suffragists and the prohibitionists are commencing to bombard republican congressmen to stand by their party platform and prevent both ends of the capitol from the domination of Massachusetts and Pennsylvania. They point to the fact that Lodge and Penrose will control the senate, while if Moore should be elected floor leader, it would be Gillett of Massachusetts and the Pennsylvania who would shape legislation in the house.

While they avoid the suggestion of the house, they point to the record of both Gillett and Moore upon suffrage and prohibition, good roads and lastly upon the efforts made by the gentlemen to defeat the \$1,000,000 bill to stabilize the price of wheat. Mondell is showing unexpected strength and it would not surprise anyone who has made a study of the situation, to see him win out.

Allyn, Andrews' Secretary.

Congressman Andrews today announced the appointment of A. E. Allyn of Hastings as his secretary until July 1, when Mr. Allyn will become a part of Governor McKelvie's administration as a member of the State Board of Control. Mr. Allyn is now chairman of the Adams county republican committee and secretary of the Fifth congressional district committee.

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Half Million Dollars Back Pay to Electric Workers

Lynn, Mass., March 6.—An award to employees of the General Electric company in this city by a conference board was announced today. Its terms provide for back pay of approximately \$500,000 under a retroactive agreement.

The award abolishes all bonuses except one of 5 per cent to men employed five years or more. Night workers' hours will be on the basis of a 10-hour day, instead of 12 hours.

One year ago President Gamble of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce inaugurated the plan of a "once-a-year-gathering" of chairmen and as many members as possible of the working committees of the organization for the purpose of briefly outlining the work performed during the previous 12 months and such that might be expected in the reasonably near future.

Copper Producers to Handle Government's Surplus Stock

Washington, March 6.—A tentative agreement has been reached between copper producers and the War department under which the producers will sell the government's surplus stock at prevailing market prices, charging only the actual cost of selling.

About 1,000 Wyoming Men Failed to Answer Draft

Cheyenne, Wyo., March 6.—(Special.)—The war has just begun for approximately 1,000 Wyoming men, listed as delinquents in the draft call. Provost Marshal Ray K. Olds, acting under instructions from the War department, has completed investigation of the draft records for Wyoming and has reported 411 as failing to report for duty when called. The list will be turned over to the U. S. District Attorney, C. L. Rigdon, who announces that all delinquents will be given an opportunity to explain in court why they failed to return their questionnaires or show up for physical examination.

Some new Sport Skirts arrived—and such interesting modes they are—in Fan-ta-si, Kumsi Kumsa, crepe de chine, Georgette and Baronet satin. The prices are from \$25 to \$39.50.

Do You Stand Up All Day?

Does your work make you tired and worn out at the end of the day? A Corset ought to give you the comfort that will overcome this condition. We suggest that you try one of our

Elastic Girdles

They fit snugly but give perfect freedom of movement. Priced \$2.50 and more.

Satin Oxfords

Voguish Oxfords of black satin are greatly favored for Spring. A Sorosis model with turnsole, \$10 high covered heels, \$10 Fitted by Experts.

When Teacher asked what becomes of all the corn we raise I said Post Toasties

FRANCES ALDA

Another of the great musicians of today—appears in recital this evening at the Auditorium. It will be found that the famous ALDA also, prefers the

STEINWAY

The Foremost Piano Produced in This Age. And why? Because she finds it the truest instrument for the accompaniment of her art—as have practically all of the great musicians of past and present. If you'll accept our invitation and see our exhibit of STEINWAYS, you too will understand.

Schmoller & Mueller

1311-13 Farnam St. Telephone Doug. 1623. Exclusive Steinway Representatives for Nebraska and Western Iowa.

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Established 1886 The Fashion Center for Women

Fashions for Spring

Newest Ribbons

You may fancy the novelties mostly or the plain shades may be interesting—no difference—for we have both kinds and in such variety that a selection is easy. New ones come to us nearly every day.

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As lines were depleted new lots have been brought from our regular stocks to keep the sale at full interest at all times. Join the crowds tomorrow and get your full share of these most extraordinary savings.

\$22.50 TO \$27.50 DRESSES, NOW—
Choose from Serges, Taffetas, Georgettes in all the favored colors. Styles you pronounce to be the cleverest ever offered in any sale at..... **\$15**

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Dresses for afternoon and street wear, fashioned from Serges, Satins, Taffetas, Georgettes, Crepe de Chines. Values that have no rival in the city at..... **\$20**

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Richly Beaded and Embroidered Dresses, modeled in Georgettes, Taffetas, Serges, Tricotine, Crepe Meteor. Beautiful new colors, all sizes. Choice at..... **\$25**

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Assets \$14,300,000.00

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Bankers Life Insurance Company of Nebraska,
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Gentlemen: This will acknowledge the receipt of your check for \$1680.68, the full cash settlement on my \$2,000.00 Ordinary Life Twenty Year Distribution Policy that matures today.

I paid an annual premium of \$74.70 or \$1494.00 in the twenty years: Your settlement gives me all of my money back and \$186.68 for interest besides I have been protected for the full \$2,000.00 for the twenty years during the time I was building my estate. I thank you and Mr. Gooden for your promptness.

Very truly yours,
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The great strength of our Company, combined with the incomparable settlements made to policy holders, mean certain success for an agent. We will be pleased to receive your agency application. Write Home Office, Lincoln, Neb., or call at 1020 W. O. W. Bldg., Telephone Douglas 2949.

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Amount of policy.....\$2,000.00
Total premiums paid.....\$1,494.00

SETTLEMENT.
Total cash paid Mr. Willis.....\$1,680.68
And 20 years' insurance for nothing.