Lincoln Bureau of The Omaha Bee

P. A. Barrows, Correspondent

COMMISSIONER OF LANDS MADE ELECTIVE OFFICE

Action Taken on Executive Bill by Constitutional Convention—Hope to Finish Work This Week.

Lincoln, Neb., March 13.—(Special.)—The constitutional convention took a recess Saturday until next Monday at 1 o'clock when it is hoped that the members will be able to finish things up by the end of the week.

Saturday morning the executive bill came back long enough to reinstate the land commissioner as one of the elective state officers.

Proposal 319, which gave the legislature the power to petition the governor to call special sessions of the legislature, was killed.

Passed to Third Reading.

The following proposals were passed to third reading and final passage:

No. 221—Providing for jury verdicts in civil cases by a five-sixth vote.

No. 326—Declares the English language to be the official language of the state for official records, "and the common school branches shall be taught in said language in public, private, denominational and parochial schools.

No. 108—Signatures to petitions to initiate a law to be 7 per cent of the voters at the last general election; to initiate a constitutional amendment 10 per cent, and to refer a law passed by the legislature 5 per cent. Only the title of bill being referred, to be printed on the petitions for signatures.

No. 314—Legislature of 1921 shall divide the state into representative and senatorial districts, one representative and one senator to each district, on basis of federal census, state not to be redistricted oftener than every 10 years.

Limit Legislative.

No. 315—House of representatives to contain not more than 100 members and senate nor more than 50, sessions to be biennial.

No. 316—Raises pay of legislators from $600 to $800 for session.

No. 318—Bills before legislature to be read by title first two times and in full on third reading.

No. 73—Members of legislature shall not be appointed to civil office during term for which elected.

No. 71—Legislature shall not grant extra compensation to any public officer after services have been rendered, nor to contractor after contract is entered into, nor shall any public officer, including officers whose compensation is fixed by the legislature be increased or diminished during his term of office.

No. 320—Minerals, salt springs, coal or oil on land belonging to state shall never be alienated, but provisions may be made by law for leasing or developing the same.

No. 317—In passage of bills through legislature; concurrence in amendments of opposite house, and adoption of conference committee reports, requires the same number to vote for it as does the original bill.

High Court Objects to $10,000 Award for Breach of Promise

Lincoln, March 13.—(Special.)—From a judgment awarded Mabel Rich of $10,000 in the district court of Pierce county, against John M. Fulton, on a breach of promise suit, the supreme court takes exception and sends the case back for another trial.

The case is one in which the plaintiff alleged "deceit, resulting in debauchery, humiliation and loss of husband." The plaintiff alleges that the defendant represented to her that her husband was dead when he really did not know whether he was dead or not.

The defendant was 56 years of age and the plaintiff 44. She had two children and worked occasionally at the farm home of the defendant in doing the house work. Illicit associations began and the defendant was induced to bring action for divorce from her husband, which was dismissed 29 months later.

The high court holds that a marriage contract entered into within five years from the time that either the husband or wife shall have absented themselves is void as against public policy, unless such absent wife or husband was dead or divorced.

Eight Filings Made to Get Names on Ballot in Primary Election

Lincoln, March 13.—(Special.)—The following filings were received at the office of the secretary of state:

G. M. Hitchcock for the democratic nomination for the presidency.

Willis G. Sears and James M. Fitzgerald of Omaha for district judge in the Omaha district.

James T. Begley for judge of the Second district.

Merton Young of Pickrell for republican nomination for representative, Thirty-fourth district.

Thomas Hill of Beatrice for republican nomination for state senate in the Fourteenth district.

David C. Patterson of Omaha for democratic nomination for congress Second district.

Ward M. Randol of Wayne for representative in the Twentieth district. Mr. Randol is a republican and a returned soldier.

Interesting Postoffice Fight Expected in Lincoln

Lincoln, March 13.—(Special.)—The death of Postmaster Sam Hudson of Lincoln, will bring out a fight for the appointment which may cut some figure in the coming election, according to politicians here.

It is already understood that Sam Whiting, who organized the "Bryan Home Guards" in one of the memorable battles put up for William J. Bryan for the presidency, and a candidate before for the postoffice appointment, may again enter the race. The appointment will come under civil service regulations and this may cause some trouble to some of the faithful who may look with longing eyes toward the $5,000 job.

Reciprocal Demurrage Law Is Unconstitutional

Lincoln, March 13.—(Special.)—The supreme court holds in an appeal from Douglas county on the validity of the reciprocal demurrage act by the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad company in a case brought by the Sunderland Brothers company of Omaha that "where a statute makes makes a railroad company liable for $1 per day per car in forwarding, giving notice or delivery, and in addition thereto, imposing liability for actual damages caused by such delay, by necessary implication, it is in violation of section 21, article 1 of the constitution."

Circus Not Allowed in Lincoln Before State Fair

Lincoln, Neb., March 13.—(Special Telegram.)—The city commission here looked with favor on a request of E. L. Danielson, secretary of the board of state fair managers, who asked that no circus or similar organization be granted license to show in Lincoln during the two weeks previous to the State fair.

Changes Made in Heads Of State Institutions

Lincoln, March 13.—(Special.)—Miss Lena E. Ward, who for 13 years has been superintendent of the girl's industrial home at Milford, has been appointed superintendent of the Girls' Industrial school at Geneva to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mrs. Treat.

Miss M. E. Meyer, who has been bookkeeper at the Milford institution for the same number of years, has been made superintendent of the Milford home.

DeWitt Farmers Plan to Build Big Stock Pavilion

Beatrice, Neb., March 13.—(Special.)—The farmers and stock raisers of the Dewitt vicinity have decided to build a large stock pavilion. A committee has been appointed to secure estimates on the proposed structure.

No Accident Week Unlucky For Lincoln Car Company

Lincoln, Neb., March 13.—(Special.)—"No accident week" has been unlucky for the traction company here. A traction automobile truck and a Butternut Bread wagon crashed at Eleventh and Washington streets at 8:30 a. m. Saturday. The wagon was badly damaged. George Ellis, driver, narrowly escaped injury. The traction company suffered a smiliar collision with one of its trucks Friday.

Lone Thief Makes Haul In Lincoln Fraternity House

Lincoln, Neb., March 13.—(Special.)—A lone thief made a neat haul at the Delta Phi fraternity house here last night. Funds belonging to the fraternity, amounting to $250, were stolen from M. E. Beck. A scarf pin valued at $125 and $35 in cash was taken from H. D. Matthews, and another diamond pin valued at $35 stolen. The total loss aggregated nearly $500.

Give to Hospital Fund

Lincoln, Neb., March 13.—(Special.)—Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Jeary gave $1,000 to the city hospital fund today. The total now raised nears $100,000, and the city has voted $100,000 in bonds.

Ask Kinkaid to Aid in Getting War Trophy from France to Burwell

Washington, March 13.—(Special Telegram.)—"Uncle Mose" Kinkaid, who has all sorts of requests for assistance was called upon recently to enlist the War department's help in transporting a German cannon from France to Burwell, Neb., which has been presented by the French government to Maj. L. B. Fenner of that town in appreciation of the latter's meritouous work in behalf of French prisoners returning from Germany.

Major Fenner, who held a commission in the army, was also a deputy commissioner of the Red Cross in Europe, spending six months of his European service in the Balkan states.

Shortly after the return of Major Fenner to Burwell he received a letter from the French government stating that the secretary of state for France had placed at his disposal a 105 German cannon, which is an exceedingly large gun, weighing about 9,000 pounds. This trophy will be delivered at shipside by the French government but how to get it across the sea is a serious question. Congressman Kinkaid took the matter up with the War department and was advised that if the French government will deliver the trophy to the joint transportation office at Antwerp, charges paid, arrangements will be made for shipment on a United States shipping board vessel, from Antwerp to New York.

This is the second request the War department has had since the termination of the war to aid in the transportation of a cannon captured from the Germans to the United States, the first request coming from Los Angeles.

Bee Want Ars Are Best Business Boosters.

Doubt Arises Over Scheduled Opening of Omaha Air Mail

Indications were yesterday that W. J. McCandless, director of the Omaha-Chicago aerial mail service, would not be able to carry out his promise to start operation of the service Monday, March 15.

No word has been received from him here since he went east two weeks ago with the announced purpose of rushing completion of rebuilding of eight War department planes, which were to be put into service immediately on the Omaha-Chicago aerial route.

Postmaster C. E. Fanning was dubious yesterday over prospects of the service opening Monday. He thought Director McCandless probably had encountered unforeseen difficulties and would find it necessary to postpone inaugurating regular daily service.

H. E. Smith, chief mechanic for the Omaha air mail station, said Saturday it was possible emergency planes at Chicago might be pressed into service for trips between Omaha and Chicago, until the planes assigned to this division could arrive from New York City and Cleveland, where they are being prepared for mail service. He had no definite information to that effect, however.

West Point Awards Contract For $450,000 High School

West Point, Neb., March 13.—(Special.)—Contracts were awarded to Henry Olson & Sons of David City for the construction of the new $450,000 high school building here. The building will be completed and ready for occupancy in 1921.

Bee Want Ads Are Best Business Boosters.