

FREE HOMES VICTORY.

BILL PASSES THE SENATE BY A BIG MAJORITY.

Vote Was 35 For, 11 Against—Senator Cockerell of Missouri Opposed the Measure—All the Other Western Senators, Excepting Vest and Vilas, For It.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—The Oklahoma free homes bill was passed by the Senate late yesterday afternoon. Only forty-seven senators voted on the proposition. Of the number thirty-five were for the bill and twelve against. The list of senators who voted against the measure is headed by Senators Cockerell and Vest of Missouri. Senator Cockerell also spoke against the bill.

As passed by the Senate, the bill gives title to over 12,000,000 acres of land in Oklahoma now occupied by nearly 9,000 settlers, who were unable to prove up their titles.

It is a measure of far-reaching importance, particularly to the west, and the interest in it was shown by the fact that a plank concerning it was a feature of the several national platforms. The effect of the bill is to open to settlement all the public lands acquired from Indians, free of any payments to the government beyond the minor office fees, and to release from payment those who have heretofore settled on those lands.

The number of acres involved, according to an estimate made by the commissioner of the general land office, is 33,252,451, which would have yielded the government at the prices heretofore established, \$35,303,000. To offset this statement, it was brought out during the debate that the lands were mainly arid, and that those who had settled upon them were unable to make payment by reason of the scanty products of the soil.

MAY KILL THE BILL.

Speaker Refers the Free Homes Measure to an Adverse Committee.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—The supporters of the free homestead bill fear that measure has been killed, so far as this Congress is concerned, by the action of Speaker Reed in referring it to the House committee on public lands for consideration of the Senate amendments. The bill's supporters fear that if the committee does not make an adverse report, it will keep the bill and take no action on it before adjournment, which course would effectually dispose of it.

PACIFIC LANDS WITHHELD

Secretary Francis Will Issue No Patents Until the Debts Are Settled.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—Secretary Francis this afternoon sent to the House his reply to the resolution of Congressman Broderick asking why the department refused to issue patents to the Union Pacific railway for over 300,000 acres of land in Kansas, embraced in the Pacific grants, and why the land officers at Topeka were permitting homestead entries to be filed on this land, as most of it had been sold to bona fide settlers by the Union Pacific.

Secretary Francis said that the United States land officers at Topeka had no authority to permit entries on these lands and had been so notified, and that the rights of settlers of bona fide purchasers would be protected, but that no additional land would be patented to the Union Pacific railway until its pending indebtedness to the government should have been settled.

TO USE THE CORN STALKS.

Edwin S. Cramp Preparing to Start His First Factory in the West.

CHICAGO, Jan. 15.—Edwin S. Cramp of the Philadelphia ship-building firm completed plans here today for the opening of a factory at Rockford, Ill., about February 1 for the manufacture of ship padding and cattle fodder from cornstalks. Before the harvesting of the next crop it is expected that several factories will be erected in the corn belt and material which has been heretofore practically worthless will become a source of revenue to the farmers.

Mr. Cramp said that the price to be paid for the stalks will be \$2 a ton.

Francis Allows the Claim.

COLUMBIA, Mo., Jan. 16.—The agricultural college of the Missouri state university was notified yesterday that Secretary of the Interior Francis had allowed the claim of the college for 24,000 acres of government land, which has been pending some time. When the public land was distributed to the various agricultural colleges in 1862, the Missouri college was charged with 24,000 acres more than was actually received, and the college authorities have been at work some time to have the discrimination removed, with the final decision as stated above. The land is valued at about \$25,000.

Student Dies for Love.

LIBERTY, Mo., Jan. 14.—W. D. Harmon, a college student of this city, was run over and horribly mangled by a Hannibal freight train yesterday. He was seen lying on the track by the train crew, but not in time to stop before passing over him. It is said that he was to be married shortly to a girl in Chillicothe, and letters found in his pocket showed that she had broken the engagement and returned his ring. Disappointment in love is the probable cause of his throwing himself upon the track with suicidal intent.

Prize Fighters to Be Examined.

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 16.—Mr. Horton has introduced in the Assembly an amendment to the anti-prize fighting bill, compelling all persons who take part in a sparring exhibition to have physicians' certificates of physical fitness, based on examinations made within two hours of the fight.

Excuse for Another Land Steal.

LONDON, Jan. 16.—The Chronicle says it is authorized to announce that it has been determined to annex the Benin kingdom, and to depose the king, on account of the massacre of the British expedition.

CONGRESSIONAL.

Jan. 9.—The debate in the House on the Pacific railroad funding bill came to a close at 5 o'clock. Mr. Broderick, Republican of Kansas, offered an amendment extinguishing the Union Pacific's right-of-way through the Delaware and Potawatomi Indian reservations in Kansas. The amendment was accepted by Mr. Powers and agreed to during the day Mr. Northway, of Ohio, offered an amendment to the Harrison substitute, providing for a national commission to effect a settlement, which, on being approved by the President, shall become operative.

Jan. 11.—The chief event of the Senate's session was an impassioned speech by Mr. Mills of Texas in favor of a resolution introduced by him to declare the recognition of a foreign government a congressional prerogative, and to recognize the independence of Cuba and appropriate \$10,000 for the salary of a minister. In support of the first proposition the Senator quoted a long line of precedents and speaking in the latter question denominated the administration, charging it with favoritism towards Spain. He spoke contemptuously of Castellar and Weyler, and of Signor Crispi because of his declaration that Europe could not look without concern upon the pretensions of the United States. The question was then taken on the spirit of the nation against its honor, he declared. Mr. Proctor made a speech in favor of a constitutional amendment to limit the President to one six-year term, and Mr. Allen of Nebraska, made a statement on the question of the adoption of a resolution calling upon the secretary of the navy for information as to whether contractors' men in the Brooklyn navy yards are made to work more than eight hours per day.

The Pacific funding bill was defeated in the house by a vote of 102 to 164. An analysis of the vote shows that eighty-six Republicans and sixteen Democrats voted for the bill and ninety-nine Republicans, fifty-eight Democrats and six Populists and five Independents against it. With the exception of Calderhead and Long of Kansas and Haney and Moseley of Missouri, the entire Kansas and Missouri delegations present in their seats voted against the Pacific funding bill. Representative Miller being absent.

Jan. 12.—Some lively political sparring marked the later hours of the Senate session. The free homestead bill was under discussion, and Mr. Allen found opportunity for questioning Mr. Vilas of Wisconsin concerning the party differences of last fall. It brought out much difference of opinion as to whether the Democratic platform was adopted at Chicago or at Indianapolis. Mr. Vilas declared there was almost nothing in the Chicago platform not inimical to the interests of the government. He insisted that the Indianapolis platform was founded throughout in Democracy. Mr. Allen charged the Indianapolis convention as a "rum affair." The controversy became very lively and took a wide range. The homestead bill was further debated, but a vote was not reached. Mr. Vilas attacked it as a measure giving away \$35,000,000 of government money. Mr. Nelson, Republican of Minnesota, Mr. Allen of Nebraska, and Peffer, Populist, of Kansas, spoke for the bill.

Jan. 13.—In the House a bill to make oleomargarine, butterine and other imitations of dairy products subject to the laws of the states into which they are transported was bitterly opposed by Mr. Williams, Democrat, of Mississippi, on the ground that it would establish a dangerous precedent, inasmuch as it would place it in the power of any state to prohibit entirely the sale of a wholesome product by the exercise of its police powers. The house adjourned at 4:45 p. m., leaving the bill undisposed of.

The open session of the Senate was much curtailed by an executive session lasting two hours. After this the balance of the day was given to Mr. Bacon, of Georgia, in a speech attacking the power of Congress to recognize new governments.

Jan. 14.—The House spent almost the entire day debating the Grant bill, to subject oleomargarine and other imitation dairy products to the laws of the states into which they are transported. The advocates of the measure took the view that the states should be allowed to regulate the sale of a product selling under false colors and the opponents the view that the bill would establish a dangerous precedent and invade the power of Congress to regulate interstate commerce. The bill was passed, 126-95. Among the pension bills passed was one granting a pension of \$50 per month to Martha Curtis Carter, widow of the late Rear Admiral S. P. Carter.

The Senate passed the free homes bill by a vote of 35 to 11. It goes to the House for conference.

Jan. 15.—The day in the house was devoted to private pension bills. The widow of the late Major General John Gibbon was the beneficiary of one of the bills passed, carrying \$100 per month, and the widow of General W. A. Nichols of another carrying \$75 per month. Mr. Blue, Republican, of Kansas; Mr. Crowther, Republican, of Missouri and others argued against granting pensions of more than \$50 per month to the widows of general officers. At the evening session fourteen private pension bills were reported with a favorable recommendation. Among them were bills granting a pension of \$50 per month to the widow of General Green Jay Smith and \$75 a month to the widow of General Henry A. Morrow.

Petitions for Lower Rates.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Jan. 16.—From the number of petitions that have been pouring in, the legislators of Missouri will have reason for believing that their constituents are unanimously in favor of a two cent passenger rate. This morning the chief clerk's desk was covered with petitions asking for a reduction of passenger rates.

Congressman Sued for Divorce.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—Representative David F. Wilbur of New York was sued yesterday for alimony and the support of his child by Mrs. Myra C. Wilbur. She alleges that he abandoned her a year ago and that the income of her property is now being collected by her husband. She demands the custody of the child.

For the Younger Boys' Release.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Jan. 15.—Captain Walt Bronough of Henry county is in Jefferson City obtaining the signatures of senators and representatives to a petition to the Governor of the state of Minnesota to pardon the Younger brothers, now in the penitentiary at Stillwater. It has been said that he has obtained 115 signatures to the petition.

Rich Mine Owner Missing.

CHICAGO, Jan. 15.—Millionaire Mine Owner George S. Hammond, of the San Juan mining district of New Mexico, is missing, and it is feared he has been foully dealt with.

In Jail for Wife Murder.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Jan. 14.—Willard Friend, a wealthy farmer residing near Hopkins, Mo., was arrested last night by detectives from St. Joseph on a charge of wife murder and taken to Bedford, Iowa, for safe keeping. A week ago Mrs. Friend died under peculiar circumstances, with indications of arsenic poisoning.

Fatal Shooting at Oak Mills, Kan.

ATCHISON, Kan., Jan. 16.—Nellis Waltham, colored, aged 19, shot and fatally wounded Lulu Thompson, also colored, this morning. The cause is not known.

M'KINLEY AND CUBA.

HE WILL FOLLOW CLEVELAND'S POLICY.

There Will Be No American Interference, Says Senator Sherman, Who Will Be Secretary of State in the Next President's Cabinet.

PITTSBURG, Pa., Jan. 16.—The Cuban policy of the McKinley administration will differ very little from that which has been laid down by President Cleveland and his secretary of state. This statement is based on remarks made to a reporter by the man who will be premier of the next administration, Senator John Sherman, at the Union depot last evening.

The veteran statesman was on his way back to Washington from Canton, where he had had a conference with Mr. McKinley and had accepted the portfolio of state in his cabinet. After stating that his position in the next cabinet had been determined, Senator Sherman said, in answer to a question: "I think the United States government should not interfere with the Cuban war, either to aid in its settlement, or do anything which would make a peaceful government of the island a charge on this country. I understand, on highest authority, that Prime Minister Canovas has outlined a programme of governmental reforms which will be applied both in Porto Rico and in Cuba. These reforms will give the Cubans practical autonomy, and will, I hope, settle the question."

Excitement in Havana.

KEY WEST, Fla., Jan. 16.—Reports from Havana are that the police officials exhibit unusual excitement, and that numerous secret orders have been issued to commanders of troops in the city. Two troopships have been ordered up to the piers and several battalions were embarked last night, whose destination is unknown. General Weyler refused all information as to the news either from the West or East.

Death of a Remarkable Woman.

CHILlicothe, Mo., Jan. 16.—Mrs. Mary P. McNeil, a highly respected lady, long a resident of Chillicothe, died last night at the home of her son, E. C. McNeil, in Polo, Mo., aged 84. Mrs. McNeil was born in Oswego, N. Y., was a cousin of ex-Senator Platt of New York and a cousin to Judge Parker of the Supreme court of New York. Among her charitable deeds was the raising and education of General B. F. Tracy, ex-secretary of the navy, who acknowledged in a letter to her while in the cabinet of President Harrison that he owed all his success to her training when he was a boy.

Murder and Suicide.

SEDALIA, Mo., Jan. 16.—Crazed by jealousy, John Snodgrass, a prominent business man of Tipton, blew his wife's brains out with a pistol and then turned the deadly weapon on himself with fatal effect. Both were dead before anyone reached them. The husband's suspicions that his wife was unfaithful caused the two to separate a short time ago. The husband closely observed the actions of his wife, and the visits to her residence of two young men confirmed his suspicions. He was seen to go to the house occupied by his wife, and a few minutes later the shots were heard.

A Preacher's Head Punched.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Jan. 16.—Attorney Joseph Woodson punched the head of the Rev. Thomas Cooper in a justice court yesterday during the trial of a case, and the pastor reached for a revolver with the intention of using it on the lawyer. The justice got between the men and no further damage was done. Mr. Cooper was defendant in a civil suit brought by a physician for medical attendance. The pastor thought the bill too high and refused to settle. He says Woodson, attorney for the physician, falsified the facts, and called him a liar. Then the fight began.

Attempted Jail Delivery.

LEXINGTON, Mo., Jan. 16.—A very bold attempt at jail breaking was made here last night. The prisoners secured a large iron bar, tore a hole through the steel roof of their cell, had cut through the sheeting under the tin roof of the building and would have been out within ten minutes. The leaders, Alexander and Wait, are charged with stealing harness and are awaiting the action of the grand jury. This is the fourth attempt they have made in two months.

Had Sixteen Wives.

DENISON, Tex., Jan. 16.—Deputy United States Marshal K. C. Birchfield of Durant, I. T., has arrived in the city, having in charge Tom Lowe, 26 years of age, who is wanted in this county under indictment in two cases for disposing of mortgaged property. Lowe, in the presence of Officer Birchfield and Policeman James, confessed to being the husband of sixteen wives, all of whom he has married within the last eight years.

Salvation Army Captain Shot.

SEDALIA, Mo., Jan. 16.—Edward Bernard, captain of the Salvation army of Sedalia, was accidentally shot and killed about two miles from the town of Sweet Springs yesterday morning. The captain and a companion were preparing to go hunting, when the gun was discharged, the ball entering the back of his head and coming out over his left eye.

Civil Service Retirement Bill.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16.—A House bill introduced yesterday provides that offices in the service shall hereafter become vacant when the person holding it becomes 65 years of age. Veterans of the civil war and their widows are excepted from the provisions of the bill.

Indiana Manufacturers Assign.

MUNCIE, Ind., Jan. 16.—Because of its inability to meet an obligation of \$83,000 the Common Sense Engine company has made a voluntary assignment. The estimated assets of the company are \$200,000; liabilities, \$150,000.

BOMBAY'S PLAGUE.

The People Literally Running Away by Thousands.

BOMBAY, Jan. 16.—The plague continues as bad as ever, and there is little prospect of its abating for some time. The panic has been renewed, and the exodus from the city has commenced with a vengeance. Indeed, it may fairly be stated that thousands of people are literally running away, large crowds being seen running along the road carrying bundles of their belongings and dragging their children behind them. A few of them were asked the reason of their haste, and the answer was that they were going off to their villages down the coast to get away from the plague and the authorities, who were anxious to secure the lives of 10,000 people for the recent outrage of the queen's statue.

ADRIFT ON THE LAKE.

Michigan Fishermen Carried Out on an Ice Floe—No Hope for Them.

MENOMINEE, Mich., Jan. 16.—Last night nine or more men were clinging to a block of ice a few rods square that was being driven out of Green Bay into Lake Michigan by a fierce southerly gale. The men are fishermen, clad only in the none too heavy clothing worn while tending their nets, and unless the ice floe has been blown against Chambers' Island or Green Island there is little possibility that they will be saved.

Kansas University Bill.

TOPEKA, Kan., Jan. 16.—Representative Haekney of Cowley has introduced a bill covering appropriations for the state university. It provides for a general appropriation of \$200,000 for current expenses for the institution for the years of 1898 and 1899, and additional appropriations as follows: \$60,000 for the erection and equipment of a new chemistry building and to equip the old building for a school of pharmacy; \$100,000 for the erection of a fireproof museum building; \$25,000 to erect a shop for the engineering department. The same bill was introduced in the Senate by Senator Johnson.

Bradstreet's Trade Review.

NEW YORK, Jan. 16.—Bradstreet's says: Except at a few Southern cities, as reported last week, wholesale merchants throughout the country report no noticeable change in trade features, and few, if any, indications of improvement in the near future. Mercantile collections continue slow or moderate. Some jobbers at Chicago, St. Louis, Baltimore and other large cities report increased demand for dry goods, hats, shoes, hardware and groceries for spring delivery, but that, in other lines, business is very dull.

Wedding Deferred Over Forty Years.

COLUMBUS, Kan., Jan. 16.—Forty years ago E. W. Coates was engaged to a young woman in Missouri and wrote to her often, as she did to him, but all the letters were intercepted by an uncle, who was postmaster and disapproved of the match. She was married to a man named Haley and was also married. Yesterday, Mrs. Haley having become a widow and the uncle's conduct being known, she and Coates were married at Trenton, Mo. Both are sexagenarians.

Each Believed the Other Rich.

NEW YORK, Jan. 16.—Ethel Assnes has sued her husband, Abraham Assnes of Cleveland, for divorce, alleging that he led her into marriage by false representations that he was wealthy. The husband sets up a similar complaint. They were married two months ago as a result of a Hebrew Schatchem, who made each believe the other was rich.

Veteran Kansas Editor Dead.

PITTSBURG, Kan., Jan. 14.—William Moore, the veteran editor of the Pittsburg Daily Headlight, died in this city at 6:15 yesterday morning at the age of 77. Mr. Moore has published dailies in Illinois, Iowa and Indiana, and was connected with papers at American and Emporia, Kan., prior to coming to Pittsburg in 1887, since which time he has been proprietor of the Daily Headlight.

Penitentiary Shoe Company Falls.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Jan. 16.—This afternoon the proprietors of the Standard Shoe company, which manufactures shoes in the penitentiary, filed a conveyance in trust to John W. Edwards for preferred creditors for \$34,000. The total liabilities are \$75,000 and the assets about \$100,000. The company has been in business for fifteen years.

J. Pierpont Morgan's Gift.

NEW YORK, Jan. 16.—At a meeting of the board of governors of the New York lying-in hospital, a letter was read from J. Pierpont Morgan, offering to erect a new building for the institution, to cost \$1,000,000. The only condition that Mr. Morgan makes to the magnificent gift is that funds sufficient to insure the work of the hospital be raised. The board accepts the gift with thanks.

Flooded With Bad Dollars.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Jan. 16.—The police are still piling up counterfeit dollars which are coming in as a result of the work of the gang of counterfeiters who have been operating here for some weeks past. The counterfeiters, however, are still at liberty, although the United States officials are joining efforts with the police.

Federal Income Tax Wanted.

TOPEKA, Kan., Jan. 16.—Both houses of the Legislature adopted resolutions requesting the senators and representatives from Kansas to vote to amend the United States constitution so that an income tax law could be passed. The Senate adopted resolutions of sympathy for Cuba.

Driven to Death by Shame.

OWENTON, Ky., Jan. 16.—Brooding over her shame, Jennie Browning, a young girl, jumped into the Kentucky river near Monterey with her illegitimate child, and both were drowned. The author of her ruin failed to keep a promise to marry her.

KANSAS LEGISLATURE

Jan. 12.—The Kansas Legislature assembled at noon. In the house Secretary of State Bushy Swartz read the new members and in the senate Lieutenant-governor Harvey. The house elected the following officers: Speaker, W. D. Street of Decatur county; chief clerk, L. P. Giffin of Lincoln; assistant chief clerk, Louis McKenzie of Morris; journal clerk, S. G. Stewart of Coffey; assistant journal clerk, S. F. Roudiez of Cowley; docket clerk, Sidney B. Wood of Chase; assistant docket clerk, William Cederberg of Jewell; postmaster, Mrs. Mae Cox of Ness; assistant postmaster, A. H. Johnson of Stafford; sergeant-at-arms, J. M. Dunmore of Neosho. Governor's message was then read and the house adjourned.

The Senate elected the following officers: Secretary, M. Watson of Reno; assistant secretary, F. S. Frith of Montgomery; sergeant-at-arms, Solon Gray of Rice; reading clerk, W. H. Ferguson of Miami; chaplain, the Rev. L. S. Looftower of Rawlins.

Jan. 13.—Thirty-three bills were introduced in the Senate in fifteen minutes. Senator Cooke of Mitchell, scored first with a bill to vacate Fairmount park addition to the city of Beloit, and followed with another to invest the sinking fund of Mitchell county in county bonds, and another to loan the endowment funds of the state university, agricultural and normal school to citizens of Mitchell county. Forney of Sumner introduced eleven bills. One was to create the office of county assessor. Another of Forney's bills was to prohibit the importation of homeless children into the state. Mr. Farrelly of Neosho introduced seven bills. One was to remove the political disabilities of all ex-Confederate soldiers in Kansas. Mr. Lewelling of Sedwick had only one bill—for a normal school at Wichita. Mr. Crossen of Miami had two bills. Mr. Matthews of McPherson had one. Householder of Cherokee had three. One was his old charitable institutions bill, which passed the senate in 1895. Another was to amend the Australian ballot law by increasing election boards from five members to nine so as to keep the count up with the vote, and provide for the square, in which the voter marks at the right of the ticket instead of the left. Mr. Jumper of Osage had six. One was to reduce passenger rates on railroads to 2 cents a mile and to prohibit the use of asses. Another was to abolish the foreman of the jury. Mr. Mitchell of Labette brought up the rear with a bill to employ idle labor on the roads and to pay for it in county notes.

Lieutenant-Governor Harvey announced the following committees: Finance—Cooke, Frith, Farrelly, Campbell, Ryan, Forney, Hart, Hesson, Coleman, Lamb. Ways and Means—Lewelling, Harris, King, Jumper, Sheldon, Stocks, Sterne. Elections—Young, Benson, Cooke, Coleman, Feilten. Federal Relations—Shaffer, Pritchard, Caldwell, Morrow, Wallack. Railroads—Harris, Lewelling, Householder, Heimick, Forney, Hanna, Johnson, Fulton, Morrow, Wallack. Assessment and Taxation—Benson, Bradlock, Caldwell, Matthew, Stocks.

Jan. 14.—In the House seventy-eight bills were introduced. Among those of general importance are these: To repeal the Metropolitan Police law; to adopt state law for the city of Topeka; to prevent crime; to license ex-Union soldiers to sell wares anywhere in the state; to abolish fees of the Supreme court clerk and provide a salary of \$3,500 a year for same; to abolish the board of pardons and require for the governor, attorney general and warden to act on all pardon applications; to provide for a maximum rate of taxation; to assess mineral reserves; to improve county roads; to prohibit the sale of coal mined at a penitentiary; to provide for the monthly payment of wages by corporations; to abolish office of state accountant; to elect fire marshal, engineer, street commissioner, assessor and license inspector by direct vote of people in cities of the third class; to prevent importation of pauper children; to require the marking of convict labor goods; to prevent corporations discriminating against labor unions; for weekly payment of wages; to establish trust deeds; to amend divorce laws so that defendant can testify for plaintiff; to prevent blacklisting of employees by corporations; limiting hours of service of employees with corporations, and establishing state normal schools at Concordia, Fort Scott, Ness City and Norton. Representative Trueblood introduced a resolution for amendment to the constitution for holding elections every four years instead of every two, and making terms of state officers four years and limiting officers to one term.

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Jan. 15.—The house convened at 9 o'clock, and over fifty bills were introduced. At noon an adjournment was taken until Monday morning. Among others, the following bills were introduced: To appropriate \$100,000 to purchase additional land for the Topeka insane asylum; an act to prevent the killing of quail except during months of November and December; an act defining trespass, and providing penalty for violation; to control and improve county roads; to prevent blacklisting of employees; to assess telegraph and telephone lines; to disorganize townships having less than fifty inhabitants; to remove political disabilities of certain ex-Confederate soldiers; an act to enable counties and cities owing titles owing to any railroad company to unite in any action against such corporations to enforce its rights. Senator of Atchison called up his resolution providing for a resubmission of the prohibitory question to the people at the general election in 1898, and the same bill is being considered in committee of the whole. Brown of Pratt moved that it be referred to the temperance committee. After an animated discussion it was so referred by a vote of 89 to 23.

In the Senate a large number of bills were introduced. Senator Cook introduced a sweeping anti-pass and rebate bill. It carries a penalty of \$500 to \$1,000. A bill to prevent deception in the production and sale of milk, butter and cheese was introduced by Senator Hanna. Milk to be standard and skimmed and adulterated milk must be sold for what it is. Boarding houses and hotels must not use oleo for butter, and employers who board their employees as a part of the compensation must not use oleo with- out announcing it to the employees. Both branches of the Legislature adjourned until 4 p. m. Monday.

Judge J. R. Shields at Rest.

WICHITA, Kan., Jan. 14.—Judge J. R. Shields of this city, who had been employed in the pension department at Washington for the past two years, died at his home here to-day. He is well known in Southern Kansas and practiced law here for many years.

Old Detroit Shoe Men Fall.

DETROIT, Mich., Jan. 14.—The old established firm of H. S. Robinson & Co., boot and shoe manufacturers, filed three chattel mortgages to-day, securing creditors for liabilities aggregating \$138,365.

Killed on Learning of Good Luck.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Jan. 14.—While standing on a St. Louis, Iron Mountain & Southern track absorbed in reading a letter, Laborer Theodore Aldenhoevel was killed by a locomotive. The letter was from a sister-in-law in his native Germany stating that he had inherited \$600.

No Oklahoma Divorce for Him.

PERRY, Ok., Jan. 15.—William J. Nay aged 70, a wealthy Californian, failed to get a divorce from his wife, Margaret, aged 65 here, and the judge assessed \$3,000 alimony against him. He has left the territory.

FIVE PERISH IN FLAMES.

Boys Die in the Burning of the Dallas Orphans' Home.

DALLAS, Texas, Jan. 16.—At a late hour last night the boys' wing of Buckner's orphans' home, five miles from the city, was destroyed by fire. Five boys perished in the flames, and several others were burned. The dead are: Carlos Jones, Birdie Britton, Milton Britton, Martin Britton, unknown child.

Before Mrs. Britton, the boys' matron, retired for the night, she had the boys clean out and prepare a stove situated in the room just under her, for the morning fire. This was her usual custom. She then sent one of the large boys, upon whom she depended regularly for work of the kind, to see if the work had been properly done. He reported that everything was all right and she then retired.

She had been in bed but a short time when she smelled smoke, and immediately jumped up to investigate. Even then the floor under her feet was almost too hot to stand on. Perceiving this, she immediately raised the alarm, and runners were sent to all the rooms to alarm the children and get them out of the buildings as quickly as possible. In her anxiety to get the children out she neglected to assist those who were in her room. After seeing a large percentage of the children had been removed from the building and that others would be out in a few minutes, she suddenly remembered her own children, and, running to her own room, endeavored to rescue them.

She was too late, however. The fire had already entered her own room, and although she fought the flames with desperate zeal, she was compelled to retreat with the afflicted cries of her children ringing in her ears, knowing they were doomed to death.

FIREBUGS AT MILAN, MO.

Incendiaries Start a Blaze That Destroys \$75,000 Worth of Property.

MILAN, Mo., Jan. 16.—Fire-bugs visited this city at 8 o'clock yesterday morning and almost caused the loss of the finest business block in the city. This is the fifth time in nine years that the business portions of the city have been ruined by fire, each time by incendiary origin. Several people are suspected of starting the fire, and if reasonable proof is found, a lynching is sure to follow. The total loss, as near as can be estimated at present, is \$75,000. The insurance will probably reach \$30,000. The Phoenix of Hartford will be the heaviest loser.

FILLEY TURNED DOWN.

Missouri Republicans Name E. C. Kerens for Senator.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Jan. 16.—The Republicans of the Thirty-ninth general assembly held a caucus last night and decided to honor with their votes Colonel R. C. Kerens for United States Senator next Tuesday.

The first ballot resulted in Mr. Kerens' nomination by this vote: Kerens, 10; Kennish, 2; Gardner Lathrop, 1; Filley, 26.

PLATT FOR SENATOR.

The New York Boss Nominated Almost Unanimously—Seven Votes for Choate.

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 16.—Without the usual formula of a nominating speech, with no word of eulogy, but with a strength of votes that was overwhelming, Thomas C. Platt was named as the Republican candidate for United States Senator last night by a vote of 147 to 7 for Joseph H. Choate.

MINISTER WILLIS DEAD.

United States Representative in Hawaii Succumbs to a Long Illness.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 16.—Advice from Honolulu by the steamer Monowai, just received, are to the effect that United States Minister Willis died at 8:30 o'clock on the morning of January 6, as the result of a severe cold contracted in San Francisco while returning to the islands.

Bank Officers Are Liable.

CLINTON, Mo., Jan. 16.—Judge Lay, in the circuit court, sustained an attachment brought by G. F. Lehman against the individual officers of the defunct