

"A Little Spark May

Make Much Work."

The little "sparks" of bad blood lurking in the system should be quenched with Hood's Sarsaparilla, America's great blood purifier.



The Bismarck Tribune.

By M. H. JEWELL.

THE DAILY TRIBUNE. Published every afternoon, except Sunday, at Bismarck, North Dakota, is delivered by carrier to all parts of the city at 50 cents per month, or \$1 per year.

THE WEEKLY TRIBUNE. Eight pages, containing a summary of the news of the week—local and foreign—particular attention being paid to state news.

FOR THE SESSION.

The Bismarck Tribune will publish a synopsis of all measures introduced and as much of the proceedings of the legislature and lobby gossip as may be necessary to completely cover the field.

By a vote of 38 to 19 the senate ratified the Spanish treaty.

Mr. Bjornson's bill No. 80 does away with the publishing of the notice of rates of taxation. Just why these La-Moure county commissioners want to knock the printer is not quite clear.

Every newspaper in the state is entitled to the Bismarck Daily Tribune during the session of the legislature—if they want it—and if any have been omitted from the list it's not intentional.

Without any seeming regard for the feelings of biennial aspirants for clerkships the Cooperstown Courier advocates a change in the constitution so that the legislature may meet every four years only.

Col. Lounsbury endorses Senator Hansbrough—two years hence. It will be remembered that colonel endorsed M. N. Johnson three years ago but that was—only "one year hence."

The flag on the white house in Washington was placed at half mast as a mark of respect to the Queen—the first time such a demonstration was ever made following the death of a foreign ruler.

It is presumed that it is the intention of Mr. Anderson in his House bill No. 72, to amend section 717 of the revised codes so as to provide for the posting in a conspicuous manner at the place of holding annual election for school district officers, a copy of the annual report of district treasurers, in addition to the publication required by the board, and not in lieu of publication.

Two years ago section 527 of the revised codes was so amended that immediately after the canvass of the votes cast in any election the returns should be published in tabular form—giving the vote in each precinct—in at least one official paper in the county and the rate was fixed at the ridiculously low price provided by law for county commissioners proceedings.

Call and see the new colors in gents' hosiery at the Boston. Come on! Come on! Get next that great 10c Cigar. The Hannibal Hamlin.

LEGISLATIVE GOSSIP.

Gathered Here and There About Hotel Lobbies By Tribune Scribes.

J. D. McDougall was sworn in as a janitor of the senate yesterday.

The wind on capitol hill was high yesterday and the rattling of windows was one of the day's conspicuous noises.

J. D. Moulder, W. J. Westergaard and H. Donaldson were recipients of the courtesies of the floor in the senate yesterday.

There will be a chance for the press gang to interview Mr. Bjornson on his bill, by request, to repeal the law for publishing the election returns.

Samples of binding twine from the penitentiary plant were distributed yesterday among the members for their inspection. An excellent quality of twine is turned out by the state plant.

D. C. Tufts was circulating among the members of the senate yesterday getting their indorsement for the appointment of a North Dakota man as one of the Minnesota grain inspectors.

Senator Lavayea thinks Senator Noble will have plenty to do as chairman of the woman's suffrage committee when the women of the state come down to lobby against the bill the Grand Forks senator presented yesterday.

The LaMoure county newspaper boys must have been pounding the county commissioners else they would not be petitioning the repeal of the law for the publication of the election returns and treasurer's notices of taxes levied.

Senator Simpson says he introduced that bill to repeal the law making it a misdemeanor to defraud hotel keepers at the request of a former member from Grand Forks, and he thinks on second thought, that it's a scheme to make members of the legislature pay cash for board.

Senator Cox's bill amending the law relating to the salaries of state officers is intended to induce state officers to remain at the capital and attend more closely to office duties, and to this end it adds \$500 annually to the salaries of the principal officers and cuts down the clerk hire.

Members who haven't complete files of senate and house bills and journals have only to insist on the pages arranging their files. It is most always possible to get all the bills from the printer the day following their introduction but it is seldom the rush prevents more than a day's delay.

Attorney Robinson of Fargo is responsible for the legal procedure bills introduced yesterday by Mr. Leech. Mr. Robinson was a member of the bar association committee which drew up Mr. Little's Senate bill No. 1, but the committee was not radical enough in some respects for him, so he withdrew and is making laws on his own hook.

It is said that a new clerk in the house a day or so ago took the handsome and cherub faced Walter Cushing, who looks after the house report for the Tribune and represents a number of other papers for some deep-dyed villain who was trying to monkey with bills and refused to let Walter get the meat out of some of the measures that had been presented, for publication.

Senator LaMoure secured the printing of the Hale resolution regarding state expenses in the journal in order that the members may see what are the ordinary expenses of the state for various purposes. As chairman of the appropriation committee Senator LaMoure has been making some investigations as to the amount of funds required for the general expenses of the state under existing laws, and Senator Hale has also been conducting some independent inquiries and their figures agree closely.

No one would ever suspect Attorney J. E. Robinson of Fargo of wanting a state office, but the provisions of House 64, Mr. Leech, by request—stipulating that the proposed tax commissioner must have had five years' experience in tax litigation, makes it look as though our friend and the proposed job fitted each other nicely.

Mr. Robinson has probably had more experience in fighting tax laws than any attorney in the state and it would be a novelty to see him on the other side of the case.

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NEW LAWS

Trend of Legislation in the United States, Together With Summary and Index by State.

Matters that May Be of Importance and Benefit to North Dakota Solans this Winter.

New York State Library Bulletin.

The New York state library has just issued the eleventh annual comparative summary and index of legislation by states, covering the laws passed in 1900. This bulletin, prepared by Rev. H. Whitten, Ph. D., sociology librarian, digests and organizes the enormous annual output of legislation so as to render available with a minimum of labor the most recent experience of other states, enabling those interested in any specific law to find readily what states have passed similar laws.

Suffrage.

The constitutional amendment submitted to vote in North Carolina to disfranchise the illiterate negro was adopted and goes into effect in July 1902. The proposed plan is similar to that adopted by Louisiana in 1898 and makes ability to read and write a section of the constitution a qualification for voting. The provision applies to whites and blacks alike, but there is a proviso that it shall not apply to any person entitled to vote in any state prior to January 1, 1867, or to a lineal descendant of such person who registers before January 1, 1902.

Voting Machines.

The voting machine is rapidly gaining in public favor. The first state law authorizing its use was passed in New York in 1892, allowing towns to use the Myers automatic ballot cabinet at town elections. During the present year Rhode Island has created a voting machine commission to examine machines and make regulations for their use by cities and towns. Machines are to be bought by the secretary of state and furnished to cities and towns on application. In Iowa the use of voting machines has been authorized at all elections and a commission to examine voting machines created.

Public Libraries.

In Iowa a state library commission has been created whose duty it is to give advice to libraries and aid in their establishment, and to co-operate with the state library in the development of traveling libraries. New Jersey also has created a library commission. It is required to furnish advice to libraries and may give \$100 to such as expend an equal sum for books. Beginning with Massachusetts in 1890, special library commissions or authorities with similar duties have now been provided in fifteen states.

Trusts and Combinations.

Mississippi was the only state to pass anti-trust legislation in 1900. Trusts and combinations are now prohibited by statute or constitutional provision in twenty-nine states and territories.

Tax Inquisitors.

Iowa has followed the example of Ohio in providing for tax inquisitors to discover personally omitted from tax lists. The law authorizes the county board of supervisors to contract with any person to assist in the discovery of property not listed for taxation.

Taxation of Mortgages.

Missouri has adopted a constitutional amendment to exempt the amount of the mortgage in the assessment of mortgaged property. A mortgage is deemed and treated as an interest in the property and the value of the property less the value of the mortgage is assessed to the owner and the value of the mortgage to the mortgagee.

Stamp Taxes.

Virginia has provided for the collection of its tax of \$1 on the seals of all courts and notaries by means of an adhesive stamp to be affixed to the instrument requiring the seal, over which the seal shall be placed in such a way as to cancel the stamp. In so far as known this is the only instance of the use of stamps by a state for the collection of a tax. In 1815 an act was passed in Maryland imposing a tax on every bond, obligation, single bill or promissory note above the sum of \$100. This law was repealed in 1856.

Franchise Taxes.

New Jersey has adopted a franchise tax law similar in some respects to that adopted in New York in 1899. Like the New York law it provides for the taxation of persons and corporations using highways, streets and public places, except railroad and canal companies. The New York law, however, provides for the assessment of the property and franchises of such corporations by the state

tax commission and for its taxation for state and local purposes in the same manner as other property. The New Jersey law provides that the property shall be assessed locally and taxed at local rates as heretofore and that a tax of 2 per cent. on gross receipts shall be assessed annually and apportioned by the state board of assessors to the taxing districts in proportion to the value of property therein, on streets, highways and public places.

Insane.

In Iowa the state board of control has been authorized to supervise county and private institutions for the insane. Massachusetts has followed the recent example of New York, Wyoming and Ohio, in providing for state support and control of insane committed to institutions. After January 1, 1904, the Massachusetts state board of insanity may transfer the insane in almshouses or other institutions not maintained and controlled by the state to state institutions. Massachusetts has also provided for establishing a state colony for the chronic insane, for which 1500 to 2500 acres of land may be bought.

Convict Labor.

On expiration of the present lease, March 3, 1901, the system of leasing convicts in Louisiana will be abolished. A law of 1900 provides for a board of control of the state penitentiary consisting of three commissioners. The board may secure land for convict farms and factories and may bid and contract the same as a private individual for the building by the convicts of state and local public works.

Probation.

A number of states have provided probation officers who may recommend the convicted juvenile offenders be released on probation, and shall exercise supervision over those so released. Massachusetts in 1891 was the first state to extend this system to adult offenders. Vermont followed in 1898 and New Jersey during the present year.

Parole, Pardon.

An interesting Kentucky law provides that the board of prison commissioners may parole convicts in the penitentiary for the first time. Paroled prisoners are not required to remain in the state, but if they do so they are required to report their place of residence and conduct to the board of prison commissioners through the county judge at least every six months. This provision should be quite effective in diminishing the number of ex-convicts in the state. North Dakota has adopted a constitutional amendment establishing a board of pardons consisting of the governor, attorney general, chief justice of the supreme court and two persons appointed by the governor.

State Insurance.

South Carolina has decided to make an interesting experiment in state insurance. The state will carry its own risks on all state and county public buildings except schoolhouses. Beginning January 1, 1901, half the amount now paid for premiums on city and county buildings will be paid to the commissioners of the sinking fund for an insurance fund. When the insurance fund reaches \$200,000 no further premiums will be paid except to maintain the fund at this amount.

Department Stores.

In 1899 Missouri passed an act designed to prohibit department stores. The act classifies merchandise in 73 classes and 28 groups and prohibits the sale of more than one group in cities of 50,000 except on the payment of a license of from \$300 to \$500 for each additional group or class sold. Establishments employing not more than 15 persons are exempt from the provisions of the act. This act has been declared unconstitutional by the state supreme court on the ground that taxes must be uniform and that the legislature may not levy a tax for city purposes or deprive persons of liberty without due process of law.

Trading Stamps.

The use of trading stamps was prohibited by Maryland, Massachusetts, Virginia and Vermont in 1898, by New Hampshire and Rhode Island in 1899 and during the past year by Louisiana and New York. The Rhode Island law has been declared unconstitutional by the state supreme court on the ground that the act is not a valid exercise of the police power and that it deprives citizens of liberty and abridges their privileges and immunities.

Horticulture.

Ohio has authorized the board of control of the agricultural experiment station to inspect nurseries, orchards, gardens, etc., and treat trees infested with disease. Plants shipped into the state must bear a certificate of inspection. In Virginia the board of control of the experiment station has been constituted a board of crop pest commissioners with power to appoint a state entomologist, publish a list of pests and diseases of plants and provide for the quarantine and annual inspection of nursery stock. There are now twenty states that have created a board of horticulture or state entomologist to investigate diseases and pests, and with power in many cases to take the necessary measures to prevent their spread.

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