

The Coconino Sun

VOL. XIX.

FLAGSTAFF, DECEMBER 6, 1902.

No. 49

FOR OKLAHOMA ONLY

The Senate Committee on Territories Reject the Omnibus Bill—Recommends the Admission of Oklahoma.

The senate committee on territories Wednesday agreed to report a substitute for the house omnibus bill. The substitute provides for the admission of one new state to comprise the territory now included in Oklahoma and Indian territories, the new state to take the name of Oklahoma. The bill as reported makes no reference whatever to New Mexico or Arizona.

The decision of the full committee is in accord with the conclusion reached by the republican members, except Senator Quay.

The session of the committee at which the bill was ordered reported did not exceed fifteen minutes in duration.

There was no discussion and as soon as the substitute bill was presented it was submitted to a vote. The votes of all the republican members except Senator Quay were cast for the substitute, and of all the democratic members against it. Senator Quay voted with the democrats. The vote stood six to five. There was also a vote on reporting the bill as it came from the house, the division being on the same lines as that on the vote on the substitute.

Early in the day Mr. Nelson, from the committee on territories, reported a substitute for the omnibus statehood bill with the recommendation that Oklahoma and Indian territory be admitted into the union as one state under the name of Oklahoma.

THE BOND PROPOSITION

Some Reasons Why the Town Should Own the Sewer System.

The Gem says the bonds are for payment of interest on the warrants, and there is no law for payment of such interest. No interest will be paid out of the proceeds of these bonds, and if any one wishes to enjoin the council from paying interest on the water warrants out of the water funds, they can do so whether bonds are voted or not. But the town received the money or work for these warrants, and we believe there are few people who will be in favor of repudiating any part of the debt.

The sewer system now benefits everyone in Flagstaff, regardless of where they live, because it provides drainage for the business part of town and the public buildings, and prevents cesspools, pestilence and disease.

The men who built it did not build it to make money out of, but to help the town. The town should own it, and they are now willing to sell to the town, so that the town may control it, and extend it from time to time as necessity requires, and the citizens in any part of the town desire. It has been shown that the net income from the sewer system, will create a sinking fund which will pay the interest on the proposed sewer bonds, and pay the bonds in fifteen to eighteen years, at least twelve years before they are due, when the city will own the sewer system, without a dollar's cost to the town. How any one, having the interest of the town at heart, can vote

against either propositions, we fail to see.

The whole question is clearly stated by the Council in the statement signed by members of the Council and published in the SUN.

A TAX-PAYER.

IN GOOD CONDITION

Are the Financial Resources of Arizona—Report of Auditor Nichols Has Been Submitted to Governor Brodie.

The report of Territorial Auditor Nichols has been submitted to Governor Brodie and is ready to be presented to the legislature. It is an exhaustive treatise on the financial affairs of the territory and covers 154 type-written pages.

During the past year the report shows that warrants amounting to \$528,521.09 have been drawn. The floating indebtedness amounts \$119,839.01; the net indebtedness to \$1,065,461.90, a decrease of \$5,388.17. There are sixteen incorporated banks in the territory and six building and loan associations. There are seven national banks.

Banking was never so prosperous as it is this year. On June 30, 1902, the aggregate deposits in territorial and national banks was \$7,015,087.98, a gain of \$789,607.98 over 1901. The loans and discounts amount to \$4,178,116.16; stocks, securities and claims, \$799,776.98; United States bonds and premiums, \$408,819.01; cash and due from banks, \$3,085,060.91; United States redemption fund, \$10,685; banking house furniture and fixtures, \$146,642.60; surplus and undivided profits, \$459,112.68. The resources of the building and loan associations in the territory as represented in the loans on real estate are \$435,812.38.

What It Will Cost.

The following is a list of nineteen roads which have increased the wages of their employes and what their increase will cost them annually:

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Pennsylvania..... | \$3,916,072 |
| New York Central..... | 2,811,809 |
| Erie..... | 1,704,418 |
| Baltimore & Ohio..... | 1,862,774 |
| Union Pacific..... | 1,416,900 |
| Missouri Pacific..... | 1,400,160 |
| Southern Pacific..... | 2,759,340 |
| Wabash..... | 790,694 |
| Denver & Rio Grande..... | 430,751 |
| Rio Grande Western..... | 190,429 |
| Philadelphia & Reading... .. | 1,113,981 |
| Lake Shore..... | 1,058,232 |
| Cleveland, Cin'nati & St. L. | 812,878 |
| St. Louis Southwestern... .. | 273,101 |
| Del., Lackawana & West'n. | 2,030,523 |
| Texas & Pacific..... | 460,278 |
| Southern Railway..... | 1,490,694 |
| Wheeling & Lake Erie..... | 121,957 |
| Pittsburg & Lake Erie..... | 375,539 |
| Total..... | \$25,010,533 |

The wedding of Ira D. Reedy and Miss Addie Bury was consummated Monday night at the Methodist church, Rev. Cowan officiating. A large number of invitations were sent out and a large attendance resulted. The groom was attended by Paul Brizzard as best man and the bridesmaid was Miss Katherine Christy. After the ceremony, a reception was held in the office of Dr. Lentz, in the Fleming block. Mr. Reedy and wife will be at home to their friends at Cananea, where the former is employed in the services of the railroad.—Gazette.

INTERESTING REPORT

The Secretary of the Interior's Report—Public Lands—Irrigation—Forest Reserves—Grazing.

The report of the Secretary of the Interior for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1902, has just been made public. It refers to the passage of the law for the reclamation of arid lands at the last session of congress, and says:

"In the day following the passage of the act, plans were submitted by the directors of the geological survey for putting it into effect, and these approved by me, survey parties were at once put into the field to obtain all of the facts concerning the feasibility of various projects.

"Great care is being exercised in selecting projects which will be of the greatest benefit to the country; which will settle upon the land the greatest number of people, and which will return to the treasury the cost of the undertaking, keeping intact the fund for new works. No considerations of expediency or sentiment can be tolerated, but only those of making the work a success from a business standpoint."

PUBLIC LAND DISPOSAL.

The report shows that there were disposed of during the fiscal year public lands aggregating 19,488,535.30 acres, an increase of 3,925,739 acres, as compared with the aggregate disposals for the preceding fiscal year. The cash receipts for the fiscal year from various sources, including disposals of public land, \$5,880,088.65, aggregate \$6,216,927.18, an increase of \$1,289,766.39.

The total area of public land is approximately 1,809,539,840 acres, of which 893,955,476 acres are undisposed of. Continuing the report says:

"The avowed policy of the government to preserve the public domain for homes for actual settlers has no more implacable and relentless foe than the class that seeks to occupy the public lands for grazing purposes by maintaining unlawful fences thereon. The fight between this class and the government has been going on for years, and resulted in the passage of the act of February 25, 1885, which provides for the institution of civil proceedings for the removal of such fences and criminal prosecution of the trespassers, and authorizes the President, if necessary, to call out the civil and military authorities to remove such unlawful enclosures; but, notwithstanding the passage of said act and efforts of this department to enforce it, the abuse has continued, and the beneficiaries thereof have grown so bold and arrogant that they practically defy the efforts of the department and the government to execute the law.

OBJECTIONABLE BILL.

"There is now pending before congress a bill entitled, 'A bill to provide for the leasing, for grazing purposes, of the vacant public domain, and reserving all rights of homestead and mineral entry, the rentals to be a special fund for irrigation.' Should that bill become a law, the public domain in the sixteen states and territor-

ies mentioned therein, aggregating an area of 525,000,000 acres, practically all of the vacant public domain west of the Mississippi, would be subject to lease at 2 cents per acre for ten years, with a privilege of renewal for ten years more.

"It is needless to say that such a bill, if enacted into a law, would place the last acre of desirable public land out of the reach of the homeseeker and defeat the purpose of the government to preserve the public domain for homes for actual settlers. It would also defeat the operations of the reclamation act, and make possible the formation of a land monopoly never contemplated by the public-land system, but which, on the contrary, it is one of the purposes of the system to prevent."

The secretary intimates that there are numerous other objectionable features to the bill. Discussing other work of the department, the secretary's report says:

"New forest reservations has been established during the year, the forestry service extended, a better and more thorough system of patrolling the reservations has been perfected, and the work of reforestation on the various reservations has been entered upon with satisfactory results. There are now fifty-four forest reserves, embracing 60,175,765 acres. During the last fiscal year, four existing reserves have been enlarged, four have been reduced and fifteen additional have been established.

"The adequate protection of the forest reserves and the extension thereof to other public timbered land, as occasion arises, must of necessity go hand in hand with the operations looking toward the reclamation of the arid lands of the west.

"Timber on the unreserved public lands cannot now be properly protected; existing laws relating thereto, and especially the act of June 3, 1878, known as 'the Timber and Stone act,' if not repealed or radically amended, will result ultimately in the complete destruction of the timber on the unreserved public lands. The situation demands the passage of remedial legislation.

"In the Indian services, regulations have been adopted providing for the consideration of sealed bids for leases of Indian grazing lands and awards made to the highest responsible bidder, thereby securing to the Indians a just return for the use of the leased lands. Under the old method of permitting the tribes to indiscriminately enter into contracts for the use of their lands, such a result was not practicable."

Governor Brodie on Saturday issued a certificate of election to J. F. Wilson, delegate to congress, and Territorial Secretary Stoddard issued a certificate of election to J. Knox Corbett. Mr. Corbett will represent Pima and Santa Cruz counties in the Territorial council, being the only member of that body representing two counties.

Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt, wife of the president, donated a snug sum of money to aid in purchasing Christmas things for the Indian children at the Truxton Indian school. The donation was made through Miss Fannie Calfee, matron of the school.—Mohave Miner.