

SCANDINAVIAN NEWS

Interesting Notes From Across the Ocean.

HAPPENINGS IN THE FATHERLAND.

Principal Events that Have Occurred in the Old Countries About the North Sea Within a Week or So Just Past.

NORWAY.
The grip is so prevalent in Kristiania that in many cases the letter and paper carriers cannot deliver their goods promptly.

The proposed bank in Tromsø did not materialize for lack of funds.

The manufacturers at Lillestrøm have raised \$7,000 for the erection of a public hall for their workmen. A library will also be located in the building.

The Kongsberg silver mines, which are operated by the government, came out with \$25,000 on the wrong side of the ledger at the close of the old year.

Efforts are made to establish a new bank in Voss.

The Storting appropriated \$13,500 for the inter-parliamentary peace congress which is to take place in Kristiania next summer. The opposition to the measure was very weak.

The stocks of the Bergen mekaniske verkskerst (iron works) drew a dividend of six per cent last year.

The reindeer company keeps about 3,000 head of reindeer in the mountains around Hallingskarven. A few days ago a lot of them were butchered. This is done by going into the flock and shooting down the fattest animals and skinning and parting their carcasses at once. The fawns are not parted, but their carcasses are sent whole to the large cities. The price of the stocks of the company is rising.

Kristiania had about 220,000 inhabitants at the beginning of the present year. The increase for 1898 was 15,000. Stockholm has about 300,000 inhabitants, but the former city is growing so much faster that it is calculated that in 1914, the centenary of the independence of Norway, the two cities will have 460,000 inhabitants each.

The crown prince is booked for a trip to Norway in the first part of March, and he may spend some time in Kristiania.

The committee of ways and means proposes a national appropriation of \$2,700 for the erection of a monument to Abel, the greatest mathematical genius produced by Norway.

Eidsberg, Smaalenene, has become famous on account of a unique boycott declared by a number of its citizens. They have agreed to pay a fine of \$13.50 for every time they buy something at an auction conducted by the local sheriff.

The object of the boycott is to starve out the present sheriff in hopes of the appointment of a more satisfactory man to fill the vacancy.

Fridtjof Nansen recently wrote a contribution to the London Times, deploring the inability of Norway to maintain its position as a nation in relation to other nations, and suggesting the dissolution of the present union and establishing a permanent defensive alliance in its place.

The Dreyfus controversy has made Bjornson believe that the French people must go down, down, as a nation.

A Mr. Michelet of Kristiania, has sold the patent on a new horse shoe invented by himself, for \$2,700.

The conservative members of the city council of Kristiania were in favor of permitting a German syndicate to build a new street car line to Rodelokken; but one man turned against his party, and now the line will be built by the city.

A snowslide from the "Saddle" mountain at Hammerfest, buried several houses and killed one man.

The Storting has appropriated \$9,000 for the publication of a souvenir volume on Norway, for distribution at the Paris world's fair in 1900.

The Norwegian Industri og Veksel bank cleared \$120,000 in 1898. This is equal to 10 1/4 per cent on the capital stock.

A number of new manufacturing establishments have been built in Drammen, and that city is already an important manufacturing center. There is a general lack of dwelling houses for workmen.

The magistrate of Kristiansand recommends that the present local option law be repealed.

SWEDEN.
The voluntary contributions for the benefit of the wives and children of the fishermen who were lost in a storm at Kivik and Hvittemolla amount to \$13,000.

A joint committee representing the different insurance companies has convened in Stockholm to revise the rates.

The real estate transfers in Stockholm for the month of January, aggregated \$2,835,000.

The papers boast of the ice on the ponds at Landskrona. "It is from four to five inches thick, and solid." Indeed!

The year 1898 was an era of labor strikes in Sweden. There are already tokens of similar troubles for the year 1899. Malmo takes the lead, about one hundred and twenty journeymen shoemakers in that city, having struck for higher pay.

Gothenburg is in need of a large central railway station, the cost of which will exceed \$2,500,000.

A Hedin has been unable to occupy his seat in the riksdag on account of an attack of neuralgia.

One hundred and twenty-one thousand signatures had been secured for the woman's peace petition up to Feb. 1. A large number of lists are still in circulation.

The armored cruiser Niord, has had a test trial, developing a speed of 15 knots with natural draft, and 16 knots with forced draft.

Blossoming violets were picked Jan. 29 in the open air in a garden at Ostraby, Skane.

The Stockholm branches of the patriotic society (fosterlandska forbundet), assembled to discuss the Norwegian flag law, passed the following resolution by a unanimous vote: "Regretting that the Norwegian storting, in regard to the controversy about the flag, cast its vote in a one-sided manner and contrary to mutual agreement, this meeting declares, as its unanimous sentiment, that said vote ought to lead to no result regarding Sweden and the union, wherefore the meeting also cherishes the sure hope that the government of Sweden will vindicate the rights of Sweden and the union, and oppose every unostentatious endorsement of this vote and, consequently, its promulgation in foreign countries, particularly because a contrary course would have to be looked upon as a decisive step towards the dissolution of the union."

Russification of Finland. An Imperial ukase has been issued, compelling the senators, governors and other higher officials to use the Russian language.

Hilder Lagerstedt, formerly employed as engineer at the Copenhagen electric light station, has been appointed head engineer at the Darmstadt electric station. He had 146 applicants to compete with.

Boras and Orebro are growing faster than any other Swedish cities. The population of the former is 14,000, that of the latter, 20,000. In both cases the population has been doubled during the past ten years.

Bishop Von Scheele is acting as religious instructor at the Visby public school.

A motion has been made in the riksdag to set aside a large sum of money for building houses for homeless workmen.

No snuff or tobacco will be served to the inmates of the Swedish prisons after April first.

A German paper claims that a stenographic dispatch was tied to Andrea's carrier pigeon which the captain of the Norwegian hunting vessel Aiken shot shortly after the ascent of Andrea's balloon, but that the captain threw away the dispatch because he could not understand it. We do not believe this statement is correct, however.

F. Milberg took an overdose of liquor and lay down on the railroad track near Motala. A train came, of course. The engineer tried to stop, but could not do so until the engine and five cars had passed over the man. But it was found that he was not only uninjured, but he was even enjoying a profound sleep, his head resting comfortably on his satchel. He was waked up, however, and handed over to the police on account of sleeping in an uncongenial place.

DENMARK.
The journeymen sausagemakers in Copenhagen are on a strike.

About a score of young Danes have been expelled from Slesvig in the course of the past few days.

A brewers' union has been organized in Copenhagen. The aim of its promoters is to unite all brewers of Denmark in the new organization.

The journeymen butchers of Copenhagen are on a strike. A majority of them have been making from eight to ten dollars a week, but they have to work too many hours, and their pay is too irregular. They demand a minimum pay of \$6.75 a week; a maximum time of 10 hours; and only two hours on Sundays.

Rev. Ussing, of Copenhagen, officiated at the funeral of a young man and a young woman who committed suicide together. He denounced the method of "dying in beauty" (an expression used by Ibsen), whereupon the social democrats present became restless and noisy. They also tried to display a red banner in the church-yard, but Rev. Ussing prevented them from doing so. When he left the church-yard many people shouted "Hurrah!"

A twenty-year-old student of Copenhagen has suddenly disappeared. He left his home one forenoon to go to the university to be examined, and that was the last he has been heard of. He is supposed to have gone to Germany, either to have a good time or to enter the battle of life in earnest.

The women tailors in Copenhagen have kept up a successful strike for some time. They show no signs of weakening, and nine establishments are crippled by the strike.

A number of owners of fishing smacks in Grimsby, England, have requested Premier Salisbury to protect their interests in the Faroe Islands. The trouble originated in a clash between Grimsby fishermen who were trawling near the shore, and the local authorities, the former being arrested at the instance of the latter. Mr. Doughty, the member of the house of commons from Grimsby, also wrote to the premier, urging him to send a gunboat to the islands to protect the English fishermen. Mr. Doughty complains that the trawlers were convicted according to a law which had been in force only four days, and of which the trawlers were ignorant when they violated the law. He finally reminded the premier of the fact that similar arrogances in Iceland ceased as soon as an English gunboat was sent up there.

The city council of Aarhus has resolved to build a fine hotel for tourists in the Marselisborg city park, at the expense of the city. When the establishment is completed it will be rented out to private parties.

LEGISLATIVE GOSSIP

Our Special Correspondent Tells of the Solons' Doings.

The Members are Busily Engaged, as the Session Draws Towards Close, in the Discussion and Passage of Various Measures.

St. Paul, March 7.—There were many vacant chairs in the house yesterday, many members being absent on the junketing tours to St. Cloud, Moorhead and Red Wing. The senate barely had a quorum and no serious attempt was made to transact important business. The senate has its work well in hand anyway, and was able, after a short session in the forenoon to adjourn for the day.

But in the house the proceedings dragged their weary way until eight o'clock. Toward the close of the session only 43 of the 119 members were present. But there were no less than fifty-five bills on general orders, and so it was considered necessary to let the work go on. But everybody was looking painfully spiritless, and progress was slow. It is understood that arrangements are being made for a race between the house of representatives and a barrel of molasses.

St. Paul, March 4.—The governor's veto of the sugar bounty bill seems to be indirectly bearing fruit, notwithstanding both houses passed it over the veto. He called attention to the bad character of the bounty bill and asked its repeal before he signed an appropriation. The legislature has apparently adopted a reverse method, and after making the appropriation they now propose to repeal the bounty bill. The senate yesterday, in committee of the whole, recommended the repeal of the bill unanimously. The uncertainties of legislation had an amusing illustration in the senate. A bill to prohibit disorderly conduct on the street cars received 32 votes, the exact number necessary for its passage. One senator changed his vote to no in order to move a reconsideration. The bill really had 33 votes at that time, but one senator changed his mind and asked to be re-recorded, so that when the other senator changed his vote for the purpose of reconsidering, it defeated the measure. Then the senator who wanted to reconsider if it was defeated, changed back and saved the bill. Later it was discovered that the roll call had not been verified, and when it was called over for that purpose, one senator who favored the bill had stepped out and left with only 31 votes. Then a senator who had voted for it originally discovered that he had not been recorded as voting at all. This discovery saved the bill for the third time. That bill seems to have enough saving qualities to become a law.

A pretty lively debate occurred in the senate over the bill granting the oil inspector's office a fee to a salary of five cents. Some of the senators argued that the basis should not be changed simply because the politics of the governor's office had changed. When the bill came back from the judiciary committee yesterday it had an amendment which was designed to relieve it of seeming partisanship. The amendment provided that it should not go into effect until 1901, which would be after the term of the present incumbent had expired. The fees amount to \$20,000 per annum, and are paid by the Standard Oil Company. Some argued that it was a salaried office, much oil would escape being inspected at all. After a long debate it was recommended to pass as amended, but it is doubtful if it goes through in the final round up. The bill providing a commission to visit the state institution and report, instead of having the legislature go itself, does not meet with much favor, as the legislature seems to like junkets. It went back to a committee "just to kill time."

The house yesterday emasculated Robert's election bill and then passed it. One section allows the voter to vote for all of the presidential electors by placing an X against the first name. The oft-repeated attempt to establish a board of immigration was again inaugurated by a bill providing for an immigration board of five members who are to name three immigration agents in each county. The bill carries an appropriation of \$15,000. Another bill offered provides for a state highway commission of three members, to be appointed, the same as the proposed immigration board, by the governor. Their duties would be to lay out all the state roads and bridges and also to apportion the road and bridge fund.

St. Paul, March 6.—The proposition to change certain offices, the holders of which are appointed by the governor, from fees to salaries, bore fruit Saturday by a bill presented in the senate to cut off the fees of the clerk of the supreme court and make his salary \$2,400 flat. As it is now, his salary is \$1,500, and the fees add \$2,000 more.

Another bill offered, which is likely to create considerable interest, relates to food products, and requires all baking powder containing alum to be so marked on the package, and that all vinegar must be labeled with its ingredients and the name of the manufacturer. These matters have been fought over several times in the legislature, so that it is the old story in a new form.

Another bill offered allows foreign railroad corporations to consolidate with local roads. The object of the bill is said to be to allow the Milwaukee & St. Paul road to acquire the St. Paul & Duluth, and the Chicago, Burlington and Northern to consolidate with the Burlington & Cedar Rapids.

An amendment was proposed to the game and fish laws which will allow the use of gill nets in all of our lakes during all the months of the year except April and May.

One of the bills passed requires any narrow gauge railroad to change to the standard gauge upon order of the railroad commissioner. This would affect but one road in the state, that running from Wabasha to Zumbrota.

The bill which would allow the Younger brothers to be paroled and leave the state was considered in committee of the whole, but no conclusion was reached.

In the house the bill amending the probate code so that the sale of property under execution shall wipe out the dower right, was defeated by a vote of 47 to 48.

The bill requiring the current tax on timber or mineral lands to be paid before the timber or minerals can be removed, produced a lengthy debate, but was finally passed.

Other bills passed increase the appropriation for county schools to \$25,000, and allow counties to buy grounds for agricultural fairs. An unsuccessful effort

MINNESOTA NEWS.

Leprosy.

According to the biennial report of the state board of health, just issued, there is but little danger of the spread of leprosy in Minnesota. There are at present only thirteen lepers in the state, and the total number of cases recorded is fifty-one. Only nine of this fifty-one were females. Thirty-four cases have been reported since 1890, and twenty-one of these are known to have been married. It is a peculiar fact that seventy-eight children have been born to these persons, most of them after one of the parents was recognized as being a leper; and that not one of them has been affected by the disease. For some reason the disease does not spread in this state.

The records show that most, but not all, of the lepers in the state came from Norway, and the report suggests that it is unsafe to quarantine against the disease by watching immigrants. It recommends an investigation of the family history of all persons coming from parts of the world where the disease is known to be prevalent, before the immigrant is allowed to enter the country. The report adds that it is quite possible for leprosy to die out in this state if no more afflicted persons are allowed to enter.

Has Money But is Destitute.
Mrs. Lena Gembe, a St. Paul widow with three small children, though heirless to a third interest in a \$20,000 estate left by her husband, Francis M. Gembe, who died in 1893, is in destitute circumstances. Agent Moak of the Humane Society and a neighbor of the destitute woman, urged the courts to do something to aid her in recovering what is due her from the estate, claiming that a previous order of the court directing the administrator of the estate, Francis C. Gembe, a stepson of the woman, to pay her \$35 a month from the income of the estate had not been obeyed, and that the woman and her family had been compelled to live on \$1.50 per week earned by one of the children, she herself being crippled and unable to get about except with great pain. Mr. Gembe, the administrator, is a traveling man and is absent from the city. It is said an attempt will be made to have the probate court disallow his account as administrator, and, if possible, remove him from that position.

Elevators Crowded.
The Consolidated Elevator company of Duluth has awarded to the Barnett & Record company of Minneapolis a contract for an addition to its elevator "E" of 500,000 bushels capacity. The contract includes a 1000-horsepower engine. The work is to be completed by July. Both the Globe and Great Northern Elevator companies, with a combined capacity of about 8,000,000 bushels, have notified customers that they can take in no more grain, the capacity being exhausted.

The Superior Terminal and Belt Line company's elevators are nearly full, and the Consolidated company has about 3,000,000 bushels of room yet unoccupied. The question of storage for grain will be a vexed one before many weeks.

College Burned.
Fire totally destroyed the three-story stone building at Kitsondale occupied as a dormitory by Concordia college. The loss is estimated at \$7,000 on the building and \$1,500 on contents. It is thought the fire started from an overheated chimney. When the fire department came nothing could be done to save the structure, and all efforts were devoted to adjoining property.

Prof. Buenger, director of the institution, was badly burned about the hands. The building was purchased by the Evangelical Lutheran Synod in 1894 for \$23,000. It was one of St. Paul's landmarks, having been erected in 1867.

Hits Minnesota.
The promotion of Lieutenant Hobson ten numbers in the list of naval construction lieutenants, making him third in the list and carrying him from 1407 to 1397 in the list of officers of the navy has a particular interest to Minnesota people on account of the backset it gives to two Minnesota boys, Robert Stocker and Frank W. Hibbs, who were appointed to the naval academy from Minnesota, are constructors with the rank of lieutenant, their numbers being 1404 and 1400 respectively. Each will lose a number and will consequently be a longer time attaining the rank of captain, while Hobson will be a captain in a few years.

Heavy Expenditures.
A large amount of work is expected to be done on the government locks and dams in the Mississippi river between Minneapolis and Fort Snelling during the coming summer. Congress has set aside \$150,000 for the work this year, and Engineer Abbott has \$100,000 left over from last year. It is expected that 500 men will be at work on the coffer dam for lock and dam No. 2 by the middle of May. The preliminary work has all been completed for this dam, and it will be built before the other.

W. W. Erwin.
W. W. Erwin, the well known criminal lawyer, will leave St. Paul shortly for St. Louis, Mo., where he will join a law firm. Mr. Erwin took a prominent part in the defense of the Home-stead rioters, and gained a national reputation in his defense of E. V. Debs after the great A. B. U. strike of 1894. He has cut quite a figure in local politics, and last spring was a candidate for mayor of St. Paul.

Indian Census.
Major James McLaughlin, the Indian inspector who is taking the census of the Medawakan tribe of the Sioux, will soon have his work completed. The whole of the remnant of this once numerous and powerful Sioux tribe now lives in various towns in Minnesota. Altogether they number about 900. Of this number 200 are full-bloods.

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MINOR NEWS ITEMS.

For the Week Ending March 9.

The Kansas legislature has adjourned sine die.

Kentucky democrats will hold their state convention in Louisville on June 21.

W. P. Sprague, former congressman, died in McConnellsville, O., from blood poisoning.

Two men were killed and 13 injured in a collision on the Lake Shore road at Westfield, N. Y.

John D. Clews, aged 102 years, was married at Franklin, Pa., to Sarah Jennings, 100 years old.

The British cruiser Talbot, with the body of Lord Herschell on board, left New York for London.

All the hotels and a large number of business places at Tuya, Alaska, have been destroyed by fire.

The Sixty-first general assembly of Indiana adjourned sine die after the usual two months' session.

The bubonic plague is raging at Bombay with unparalleled severity. There were 1,000 deaths in one week.

William Noble, a well-known builder in New York, filed a petition in bankruptcy with liabilities of \$1,027,460.

Dr. H. B. Bagley, a prominent physician in Seattle, Wash., fell on a stone sidewalk in Chicago and was killed.

A project is on foot in the east to unite the principal rolling mill interests of the country, north and south.

The governor vetoed the bill passed by the legislature prohibiting the practice of Christian science in Oklahoma.

President McKinley has appointed Dr. Fred H. Wines, of Springfield, Ill., to be assistant director of the census.

The total number of post office nominations sent to the senate by President McKinley during the last session was 838.

Mrs. Sarah Stevenson, mother of the former vice president, Adlai E. Stevenson, died in Bloomington, Ill., aged 90 years.

Fire destroyed the Hungarian elevators in Denver, Col., containing 300,000 bushels of wheat, the loss being \$200,000.

The Mary Holmes college for girls and cotton press sheds were burned at West Point, Miss., the loss being \$400,000.

Ambrose A. Ranney, a member of the Forty-seventh, Forty-eighth and Forty-ninth congresses, died in Boston, aged 77 years.

J. M. Cook, the head of the well-known Cook's excursion tourist agency, died at Walton-on-Thames, England, aged 65 years.

Rear Admiral Lord Charles Beresford declared in London that there would be war unless the "open door" policy in China was adhered to.

Waterbury & Marshall, formerly members of the cordage trust, filed a petition in bankruptcy in New York with liabilities of \$13,000,000.

Fifty masked men rode into Missouri City, Mo., visited the homes of seven men and gave each 40 lashes. The victims were accused of petty crimes.

Gen. William S. Littlefield died in New York, aged 66 years. He studied law in Abraham Lincoln's office in Springfield, Ill., and was prominent in the civil war.

Henry M. Burt, founder of the paper published on the top of Mount Washington, known as Among the Clouds, died at his home at Springfield, Mass., aged 68 years.

Eight Persons Meet Death.
Louisville, Ky., March 8.—Two strange fatalities occasioned by the flood and cold occurred in Kentucky Tuesday. Hiram James, a young farmer, started for Frankfort to secure a marriage license for a friend. In riding across a swollen stream his horse slipped and he was drowned. Seven persons were drowned by high water Tuesday and the damage in the south will reach \$2,000,000. The cotton crop, according to specials from the south, is a total failure, and the floods will ruin three-fourths of the planters along the Mississippi.

Many Drowned.
Vancouver, B. C., March 8.—Mail advices from Tien Tsin, China, report that 200 persons fell through the ice where three rivers meet outside the western gate of the native city. One hundred and six were drowned.

THE MARKETS.

New York, March 9.		
LIVE STOCK—Steers.....	\$4 55 @ 5 50	
Hogs.....	3 50 @ 4 15	
Sheep.....	4 00 @ 4 75	
FLOUR—Winter Straights.....	3 55 @ 3 65	
Minnesota Patents.....	3 50 @ 4 20	
WHEAT—No. 2 Hard.....	83 00 @ 87 00	
May.....	75 00 @ 76 00	
CORN—No. 2.....	42 00 @ 45 00	
May.....	40 00 @ 42 00	
OATS—No. 2 White.....	26 00 @ 28 00	
BUTTER—Creameries.....	15 00 @ 20 00	
Factory.....	12 00 @ 14 00	
CHEESE—White.....	11 00 @ 12 00	
EGGS.....	21 00 @ 22 00	
CATTLE—Choice Steers.....		\$3 30 @ 5 85
Texas.....	3 40 @ 4 80	
Butchers.....	3 75 @ 4 10	
Feeders.....	3 40 @ 4 50	
Bulls.....	2 70 @ 4 30	
HOGS—Light.....	3 65 @ 3 85	
Mixed.....	3 85 @ 3 90	
SHEEP.....	2 90 @ 4 50	
BUTTER—Creameries.....	14 00 @ 19 00	
Dairies.....	12 00 @ 17 00	
EGGS.....	16 00 @ 17 00	
POTATOES—(per bu.).....	50 00 @ 60 00	
POULTRY—May.....	9 00 @ 10 00	
LARD—May.....	6 40 @ 5 47 1/2	
GIBBS—May.....	4 75 @ 4 85	
GRAIN—WHEAT, MAY.....	70 00 @ 71 00	
Corn, May.....	35 00 @ 35 00	
Oats, May.....	27 00 @ 27 00	
Rye, No. 2, Hard.....	83 00 @ 87 00	
Barley, Choice to Fancy.....	30 00 @ 31 00	
MILWAUKEE.		
GRAIN—Wheat, Northern.....	\$3 84 @ 70 00	
Rye.....	25 00 @ 30 00	
R		