

TO REIMBURSE DONORS

HOUSE WILL PASS THE BILL FOR THE OMAHA EXHIBIT

FIGHT MADE WAS FUTILE

Some of the Members Thought the Proposed Law Established a Bad Precedent, but it Secured a Majority in Committee of the Whole

The house in committee of the whole, Mr. Laybourn (Rep.), of St. Louis, in the chair, spent nearly two hours yesterday discussing the bill appropriating \$21,500 to reimburse the persons who put up the amount for the Minnesota exhibit at the Omaha exposition last year.

The bill, as introduced by Mr. Staples (Rep.), of Dakota, had been recommended to pass by the committee on appropriations and an effort was made Thursday to suspend the rules and pass the bill on its passage. This was opposed and the bill took its regular course.

After it had been read Mr. Staples moved that it be recommended to pass. Mr. Lampe (Union), of Hennepin, moved for indefinite postponement on the ground that the legislature two years ago had refused to make the appropriation and the passage of the measure would establish a precedent which would give rise to much trouble in the future.

Mr. Staples said the business men of the state had banded together and raised the money for an exhibit which had been of great interest, and of benefit to the state, and this in the face of the fact that the legislature had denied the appropriation. He had voted against the appropriation two years ago, but he was glad to say that he had broadened out a little since then and the state should be benefited at the Omaha exposition. The question was whether the parties who had signed notes and made the exhibit a success were to be held personally responsible for the expenditure. He read a report of the prizes awarded to Minnesota at the exposition and stated that the dairy exhibit alone benefited the state more than the amount appropriated asked for. He knew of his own knowledge of persons who, by reason of the exhibit at Omaha, had been interested in the state, and two colonies would be located here from Nebraska. In view of the splendid work and benefits derived from the exhibit he favored the appropriation.

Mr. Abbott (Rep.), of Faribault, inquired how many would be held personally responsible for the expenditure. He read a report of the prizes awarded to Minnesota at the exposition and stated that the dairy exhibit alone benefited the state more than the amount appropriated asked for. He knew of his own knowledge of persons who, by reason of the exhibit at Omaha, had been interested in the state, and two colonies would be located here from Nebraska. In view of the splendid work and benefits derived from the exhibit he favored the appropriation.

Mr. Staples read a long list of the counties and the amounts raised by each and contended that it showed that all parts of the state took an interest in and took part in the exhibit. Mr. Plowman (Pop.), of Otter Tail, questioned if the appropriation was not voted down in the house at the last session on the ground that the state could not afford the expense. This, Mr. Staples said, was not correct.

Mr. Guttererson (Rep.), of Blue Earth, offered an amendment to cut the appropriation in two and give \$12,250. He was opposed to pledging the credit of the state in this way. The exhibit at Omaha had been a benefit to the state, but he favored the state having sufficient parties who pledged the credit of the state in this way a lesson. If the legislature should be asked this year to make an appropriation and should be voted down it would make no difference and parties would do the same thing as they had in the Omaha exposition matter. He had been approached during the campaign and requested by parties who signed the notes in his district and asked not to oppose the appropriation. He had stated that he would not make any promises. The lesson, he thought, would be sufficient. If the state paid half the amount and allowed the signers of the notes to pay the other half.

Mr. Staples favored the state paying all or nothing. The plan suggested by Mr. Guttererson was a milk and water stand. Either vote the bill up or down. Mr. Umland (Dem.), of Ramsey, thought the amendment proposed by him well divided among the counties. His idea was that the greater number of those who signed the notes did not expect to be reimbursed, but they did for the benefit of the state. If they did not do it with this idea then it was a mercenary one and they should not be paid.

Marin (Pop.), of Pope, said all the men who signed the notes were fully aware of the action of the legislature in denying the appropriation. He pointed in the report of the gentleman who had charge of the exhibit that the secretary had drawn \$150 per month and an additional \$1,688 was given him. He thought some one had had a sharp principle was all wrong and the appropriation should be turned down.

Mr. Roberts (Rep.), of Hennepin, said the affair showed that all the intelligence of the state was not lodged in the legislature. The result showed the hindsight of the members of the legislature and the foresight of the business men who had taken charge of the exhibit. The amount, asked for to reimburse those who had made the exhibit a success was a mere bagatelle. The legislature would be asked to pass bills asking for appropriations, asking for things untried, while here was one which had proved a benefit to the state. The business men had put up their money for the benefit of the state and not for their own good, and it would be penny wise and pound foolish not to reimburse them.

Mr. Jacobson (Rep.), of Lac qui Parle, was glad to see such a spirit of economy on the floor. There would be a chance later in the session for the gentlemen to show the same spirit. The question was should the state or 100 or 1,000 persons pay for the exhibit? The state was not in honor bound to pay.

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If the same method had been used in the Chicago deal, the appropriation would not have received a vote of a single member, a much better exhibit had been made at Omaha for \$25,000 than had been made at the world's fair for \$175,000, and more credit had been reflected on the state. The Chicago commissioners were appointed and the money spent with little if any result.

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Hennepin, relating to licenses for steam threshers, and H. F. 107, by Mr. Galt, relating to repeal of law governing partition fences, were also recommended for indefinite postponement and the report was concurred in.

MORE OF THE BOOKS WANTED. A communication from Commander Schiffman, of Gen. Ord post, G. A. R., of St. Paul, containing a resolution of the post requesting the state to publish 5,000 additional copies of Minnesota in the Civil and Indian war, was sent to the committee on appropriations, but afterward, on motion of Mr. Silvers (Dem.), of Crow Wing, it was referred to the committee on military affairs, with the understanding that it go to appropriations afterward.

ONE IS A LAW. Gov. Lind notified the house that he had signed H. F. 80, by Mr. Mallette, relating to the salary of the judge of the probate court in Mill Lake county.

CHANGES TAX METHODS. H. F. No. 128, by Mrs. Foss (Rep.), of Grant, makes it the duty of register of deeds to deliver to the county auditor on or before April 15 each year, a list of all mortgages, land, contracts, or other real estate securities, showing names of owners or agents and amount remaining unpaid on each instrument. The intention of the bill is to tax real estate securities as real instead of as personal property. The bill went to the committee on taxes and law.

NEW STATE BANKING LAW. A bill to regulate the business of private banking, H. F. No. 127, was introduced yesterday by Mr. Argetzinger (Rep.), of Blue Earth. The provisions are that in towns of 500 inhabitants or less the cash capital of such concerns shall not be less than \$5,000, and in towns of over 500 inhabitants the capital is to be not less than \$10,000. The entire capital is to be paid in cash before the bank commences business, although the superintendent of banks may accept of not more than 75 per cent of such capital good assets of any solvent institution heretofore doing business as a private bank, which proposes to continue in business under the provisions of the new law.

The banking concerns under the act are required to have at all times an available fund of 20 per cent of all immediate liabilities and whenever the available funds fall below the 20 per cent the bank shall not make any new loans until the fund is restored. Banking without authority of the superintendent of banks is punishable by a fine of \$1,000 or imprisonment for one year, or both. Private banks are made subject to the same laws as regulate the state banks. The measure went to the committee on banks and banking.

DOUBLETS PRICE OF A LIFE. Mr. Wheaton (Rep.), of Hennepin, has a bill which makes the legal limit subject to the same laws as regulate death by accident, \$10,000 instead of \$3,000, as the law now provides. The

Joint Subcommittee Will Meet Tuesday Evening. Senator Myron (Rep.), of Norman, chairman of the joint drainage committee, has appointed the following members of the subcommittee to draft a drainage bill to be presented later in the session.

Senators Grindeland (Rep.), of Marshall; Dart (Dem.), of Meeker; Representatives Henderson (Rep.), of Ellsworth; Hayes (Rep.), of Olmsted; and Elwell (Rep.), of Hennepin.

The subcommittee will meet Tuesday evening.

PUBLIC WILL BE HEARD. Committee on General Legislation to Meet Thursday Night. The house committee on general legislation will hold a public meeting Thursday evening at 8 o'clock, when the following bills will be considered: H. F. No. 36, by Mr. Dunn (Rep.), of Ramsey, providing for a retirement fund for school teachers.

H. F. No. 30, by Mr. Guttererson (Rep.), of Blue Earth, prohibiting common carriers from asking or requiring payment for internal revenue stamps affixed to bills of lading and telegraph messages.

H. F. No. 31, by Mr. Guttererson (Rep.), of Blue Earth, putting telegraph companies as common carriers under the direction of the railroad and warehouse commission.

LEGISLATIVE ODDS AND ENDS. The use of the hall of the house was granted the American Law and Enforcement league, for the evening Feb. 17.

There may be some question with the senate about that \$120 salary for a strong boy to keep blue books out of the state capitol clear about six weeks every two years and election ballots one week the alternate year.

A Republican should seek to abolish the fire-wardenship immediately after the election of an adverse governor, does not imply personal malice.

The Minnesota senate spent an hour in listening to itself talk about expansion. It was sort of a senatorial wind-lantern, in which the Republicans voted solid because the whip was there.

The use of the hall of the house was granted the Minnesota veterans on the afternoon and evening of Feb. 22 for a business meeting and campfire.

Can it be true that the resolution appointing the reporters for certain Republican papers to legislative clerkships is being held up because certain other reporters on papers of the same party—barring Mayor Kiefer—have

REPRESENTATIVE VONDERWEYER, MINNEAPOLIS. William J. Von der Weyer, representative of the Forty-fourth district, was born in Germany and came to this country with his parents when a young boy. He located on a farm in Wright county. At the age of 12 they sent him to Minneapolis to

attended the public school, and after that gave him a business college course. He was employed as grocery clerk for two years; then as salesman in a dry goods store and in 1885 he opened a dry goods and millinery store in Minneapolis, where he is now.

Some gossip has been caused by the holding up of the report of the senate committee on legislative expenses favoring the appointment of a gentleman from Twin City newspaper men to be clerk of committees in the senate. W. W. Jermaine, of the unsullied Evening Journal of Minneapolis, not desiring to be contaminated by association with other newspaper men, was shrewd enough to slip through a resolution bearing the name of a gentleman from St. Louis was equal to the occasion and disposed of the business with rapidity and precision.

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Duze, of the Pioneer Press, and W. E. Verity, of the Tribune, of Minneapolis, were given assignments by the party caucus, but the legislative expenses committee, instead of passing the requisitions for jobs promised by the caucus, proceeded to institute a little retrenchment and reform, and gave retirement and reform, and gave three of the men half a dozen clerkships each. Verity's list included the committee on finance, of which Senator Knatvold is chairman. The Freeborn county orator had calculated on a young man from his constituency being clerk of his committee, but the legislative expenses committee seems to have concluded that the chaplaincy was spoils enough for that district to corral.

Senator Knatvold fought the resolution, as reported by the committee, and as a result, Van Duzee and Blom were hung up along with Verity. Senator Daugherty, of Duluth, was also stirred up at what he found out what had been done, for one of the committees included in the report was one on which he had expected to land Milne Gunnell, a Duluth newspaper man. So the committee clerkships are still tied up.

There is an estrangement between Representatives Jacobson and Guttererson, which may turn out to be more serious than it looks. It will be remembered that when the Blue Earth county man was a candidate for the speakership, one of the things that promised to stand in the way of his securing the nomination was the supposed friendliness of Jacobson, one of the most prominent men in the Second district, for C. F. Staples, who was also a candidate, presumptively at least. Thomas Torson, who was in Guttererson's party, had been entrusted as a leader of its caucus, but when it became necessary to make a truce with the man from Lac qui Parle, Torson took second place on Guttererson's campaign ticket, and Jacobson became Guttererson's manager, nominally, at least. It soon became apparent, however, that the Dare people were getting things rounded up in pretty good shape, and when it came around to Guttererson's district the committee spoils had been pretty well put up, and the Second district did not get the slice that it had usually been provided with. Representative from Blue Earth, it seems, has been doing some tall thinking for a month or so, and when he saw the fat places that Staples and Jacobson got on Dare's committee, he may have wondered whether or not he had been thrown down by his supposed friend. He rested quietly under the chafing arrogance of Jacobson, however, until Friday afternoon, when at the hearing of the committee on taxes and law, Jacobson tried to ride over Guttererson's express company tax-ation bill rough shod. Then Guttererson declared himself and plainly, too, so plainly, indeed, that Torson, who is something of a peace-maker and a believer in harmony, even at the cost of fighting for it, was moved to suggest that the committee go into executive session before the breach became a public scandal.

TO DRAFT DRAINAGE BILL. Joint Subcommittee Will Meet Tuesday Evening. Senator Myron (Rep.), of Norman, chairman of the joint drainage committee, has appointed the following members of the subcommittee to draft a drainage bill to be presented later in the session.

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H. F. No. 30, by Mr. Guttererson (Rep.), of Blue Earth, prohibiting common carriers from asking or requiring payment for internal revenue stamps affixed to bills of lading and telegraph messages.

H. F. No. 31, by Mr. Guttererson (Rep.), of Blue Earth, putting telegraph companies as common carriers under the direction of the railroad and warehouse commission.

LEGISLATIVE ODDS AND ENDS. The use of the hall of the house was granted the American Law and Enforcement league, for the evening Feb. 17.

There may be some question with the senate about that \$120 salary for a strong boy to keep blue books out of the state capitol clear about six weeks every two years and election ballots one week the alternate year.

A Republican should seek to abolish the fire-wardenship immediately after the election of an adverse governor, does not imply personal malice.

The Minnesota senate spent an hour in listening to itself talk about expansion. It was sort of a senatorial wind-lantern, in which the Republicans voted solid because the whip was there.

The use of the hall of the house was granted the Minnesota veterans on the afternoon and evening of Feb. 22 for a business meeting and campfire.

Can it be true that the resolution appointing the reporters for certain Republican papers to legislative clerkships is being held up because certain other reporters on papers of the same party—barring Mayor Kiefer—have

REPRESENTATIVE VONDERWEYER, MINNEAPOLIS. William J. Von der Weyer, representative of the Forty-fourth district, was born in Germany and came to this country with his parents when a young boy. He located on a farm in Wright county. At the age of 12 they sent him to Minneapolis to

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