THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

SIXTEENTH YEAR. OMAHA, WEDNESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 12, 1887. NUMBER 208.

A SENATORIAL DEAD CALM.

No Changes in the Contest at Lincoln and Van Wyck Hopeful.

SNEAKING GAMES OF CAPPERS.

Contemptible and Infamous Schemes to Entrap the Unwary Member—Doings in the Legislature—An Important Measure.

Detestable Railrogue Tricks.

LINCOLN, Neb., Jan. 11.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Dr. Miller's attempt to corner the democratic vote during the senatorial contest has proved a wretched failure from the start. The dictator's frantic appeals have fallen upon deaf ears. The latest effort to corral and handcuff the democrats by binding them to throw away their votes on McShane is doomed to prove a dismal failure. McShane is very popular, and if there was a ghost of a chance to make him senator he could count on a united and enthusiastic support of the thirty-eight democrats in the legislature. But McShane is too level-headed to be a candidate. Beyond a complimentary support on the first ballot next Tuesday, he is not likely to hold the body of his party friends from their individual preferences. The pressure for a straight democratic senatorial candidate first, last and all the time, comes entirely from railrogue headquarters. It is Wall street in Nebraska clamoring for party caucusses. The democratic monopoly henchmen that are hounding democratic members are in constant close communion with the republican railrogues, who are bedeviling and bewildering republican members with appeals for "straight goods." Translated into plain English, "straight goods" means brass-collared candidates. Talk about party loyalty, when the men who talk it loudest are notorious bolters and reprobates, who never yet failed to betray their party and trample its principles under foot whenever it suited their interest. It was "straight goods" for the anti-Van Wyck republicans to organize the senate by the help of two democrats, but it would have been party treason in the eyes of these apostles if the opposite faction, by the aid of the same democrats, had organized the senate and made up its committees. It would have been in accord with the eternal fitness of things and perfectly satisfactory from Dr. Miller's democratic standpoint for the democrats to cast a solid vote for some railroad republican, but it were high treason to democratic principles if any democrat dares to cast his vote for Van Wyck. It is unpardonable for Van Wyck to allow any democrat to vote for him, but it will be strictly "straight goods," according to Saint Gere, for Van Wyck's opponents to bargain through the railroad bosses for democratic support.

The same corporation that controls republican and democratic organs has mustered the most disreputable and villainous gang of bulldozers, shysters, whisky sots to harrass and importune members of all parties. At every step these members are beset with pitfalls and snares. Private gambling rooms have been opened in which members are entertained, dined and wined. A brood of dissolute women has been imported to play their part in trapping the unwary and playing upon them in collusion with a low gang of debauched hirelings. Only three days ago a prominent member was invited by one of the railroad cappers to a strictly private assignation place. Everything was very nice, retired. Nobody should know anything about his visit. The member, who had been here before, declined the kind invitation, and the stool-pigeon was foiled in his infamous scheme.

What was the object of such a proposal? Simply to get the member into the power of the villains, whose purpose was to terrorize him and compel him to vote as they direct for fear of exposure. Ten chances to one the member would have been arrested by a bogus policeman, who is always on hand for such service, and released by the timely and generous interference of the gang who play the member's friend. From this moment he is theirs and can't escape their blackmailing clutches. This is not a fancy sketch, but a reality. The game was played here during legislative sessions four and two years ago.

An ex-revenue official, who came in last night, remarked that within thirty minutes after he had landed at the capital that in the great jam he noticed five B. & M. detectives and fifteen or twenty underlings and hirelings of that one railroad alone. The B. & M. oil rooms, 66 and 67, are presided over by Mr. Marquett's partner, Dewees. Here, one by one, the members are invited to call and see the elephant. Mr. Dewees has not made converts so far, and occasionally catches a tartar as he did this afternoon, when he wanted Representative Fuller, of Gage county, to "walk into my parlor." Is it any wonder that members who have never taken part in a senatorial fight are sick at heart and disgusted to death by the beastly crew that gives them no peace?

There is literally a dead calm in the senatorial horizon. No changes have taken place in the relative positions of the contestants. Van Wyck feels hopeful and confident, and his opponents are waiting for something to turn up.

E. ROSEWATER.

Senate Proceedings.

LINCOLN, Neb., Jan. 11.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The senate reconvened at 10 o'clock this morning with President Meiklejohn in the chair. At 10:30 the entire calendar had been disposed of, which led some of the members to wonder what business would engage their attention during the afternoon session. Mr. Snell, of Jefferson, moved an adjournment until 10 o'clock to-morrow morning, but his motion was voted down, and an adjournment made to 2 o'clock this afternoon.

After the usual routine, Mr. Colby, of Gage started the music by offering a resolution to refer to the standing committee on privileges and elections in the matter of the contested seats of Holmes, of Johnson county, and Vandemark, of Saunders, and requiring an early report. The resolution was adopted.

Mr. Duras of Saline introduced a resolution requesting the house committee on ways and means to introduce the general appropriation bills on or before January 20. Adopted.

Mr. Heartwell of Adams offered a resolution that each member be furnished a statement of the population of each county. Adopted.

Mr. Sterling of Fillmore offered a resolution instructing the board of railroad commissioners to furnish the senate a copy of all statements made of the railways of the state to the board. Adopted.

Twenty-seven bills were introduced:

By Colby—Governing elections in cities and towns.

By Colby—Providing attorney fees in certain cases.

By Colby—Providing arbitration in disputes between laborers and corporations.

By Snell—Regulating the sale of liquors by druggists.

By Snell—To amend section 561 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

By Snell—To protect property rights of widows.

By Duras—To amend the act entitled, "An act to provide general election laws."

By Robbins—To amend the act entitled, "Liquor" and restraining applications to sell.

By Robbins—To repeal sections one to fifteen of article eight, chapter seventy-two, compiled statutes, entitled, "Railroads."

By Higgins of Cass—To provide a board of railroad commissioners and to repeal the law creating the existing board.

By Robbins—Amending the act entitled "Revenue."

By Keekly—To prohibit grain dealers partnerships, companies, corporations or associations from combining or entering into any agreement or contract to pool or fix the price to be paid for grain, hogs, cattle or stock of any kind whatever, and to provide punishment for violation of the same.

Bills numbering from one to twenty were put upon second reading.

Mr. Conger of Sherman offered the following:

Whereas, Death has removed from the associations of this world, General George M. O'Brien, once a member of this body and senior vice commander of the G. A. R. of this state, and an influential, honorable, generous and kindly man.

Therefore, be it resolved, That the senate hereby declare its sense of the loss sustained in the death of General O'Brien, and extend its heartfelt sympathy to the widow and children made desolate by that calamity. Adopted.

By Lindsay—To enable husband and wife to convey property to each other without intervention of third party.

By Lindsay—To prohibit banks about to become insolvent from receiving monies and other valuables on deposit.

By Casper—To establish freight rates on railroads and fix maximim charges.

By Casper—To makes notes valid bearing interest at other than established rate per cent.

By McNamar—To repeal section 378, code of civil procedure, entitled "Depositions."

By McNamar—To protect the property rights of widows.

By McNamar—To amend section 1039, code the civil procedure, entitled "Replevin."

By Sterling—To repeal article 8, chapter 72, revised statutes, entitled "Railroads."

By Shervin—To provide for the disposition of school taxes paid by railroad and telegraph companies.

By Shervin—To propose amendment to article 8 of the constitution, relating to liquors.

By Snell—To amend the statutes relating to the government of cities of the first and second class, and elections therein.

By Fuller—To require railways incorporated in other states and doing business in this state to incorporate under laws of Nebraska.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The following bills, whose titles have been given in these columns, were referred to committees:

S. F. 1, 9, 10, 13, 16, 17, 20—Judiciary.
S. F. 2, 3, 5, 6, 7—Labor.
S. F. 4, 8—Railroads.
S. F. 11—Federal relations.
S. F. 12—Revenue.
S. F. 14—Constitutional amendments.
S. F. 15—Apportionment.
S. F. 18—Miscellaneous corporations.
S. F. 19—Medical legislation.

Mr. Lindsay of Furnas presented a petition from 205 citizens for a better law to prevent the spread of contagious diseases, which was referred to the committee on live stock and grazing.

Mr. Meiklejohn of Nance introduced a bill requiring foreign corporations to be incorporated under the laws of Nebraska. Also for a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution prohibiting the sale of liquor.

The chair announced that he would, during the afternoon, locate the committee rooms of a few committees who will have immediate work. A number of rooms heretofore used have been placed at the disposal of some of the state officers, which will require going outside for others.

Frank Ripple and T. A. Wright were appointed bill clerks.

A. W. Forbes was appointed janitor of the room of the committee on printing.

Mr. President recommended retrenchment in the matter of employing committee clerks and renting committee rooms. He thought it would be wise to let one clerk act for three or four committees and a number of committees might arrange to occupy one room at respective intervals. He took it that no committee desires a clerk or a room without there is a necessity for them.

Mr. Moore of Lancaster offered a resolution that a committee of two be appointed to act with a like committee of the house upon joint rules of the senate, to govern through the session. The chair appointed Messrs. Moore of Lancaster and Bonesteel of Dakota as such committee.

Mr. Lininger of Douglas introduced a bill to provide for a state school for dependent children. Also, a bill to authorize churches to change their names at any regular annual meeting.

Mr. Fuller of Wayne introduced a resolution to refer to committees the appointments made by Governor James W. Dawes, January 5, as follows:

C. J. Nobes, warden penitentiary—Committee on state prison.

J. C. Burney, G. W. Barnhard, Daniel G. Johnson, members live stock commission—Committee on live stock and grading.

Charles Gerth, jr., state veterinarian—Same.

Church Howe and J. W. Love, members board of education—Committee on state university and normal school.

W. S. May, fish commission—Committee on miscellaneous subjects.

Dr. W. Knapp, superintendent Hospital for insane—Committee on insane hospital.

Mr. Meiklejohn of Nance took exception to referring the nominations to such committees, under rule thirty-one of the standing rules of the senate. As an amendment he moved that the nominations be made a special order for confirmation next Monday at 2 o'clock.

Mr. Fuller of Wayne then moved as an amendment to the amendment that the matter be made a special order for Tuesday, January 25, at 2 o'clock, which was carried.

Mr. Kent of Kearney moved the adoption of a resolution to print 350 copies of each bill ordered printed.

Mr. Casper of Butler moved to amend and make it 500, which was carried.

The committee to whom Senate File 15 was referred, for the protection of girls under fifteen years of age, reported in favor of its passage.

The committee to whom was referred Senate File 2, to make eight hours a day's labor, recommended its passage.

The committee to whom was referred Senate File No. 6, to aid mechanics and laborers in satisfaction of liens, recommended its passage.

Adjourned till 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

NOTES.

The committee on privileges and elections met at 3:30 this afternoon in the rooms of the live stock commissioner to consider the contest for the seats of Holmes of Johnson and Vandemark of Saunders.

The president advised the senators to lock their desks as a measure of precaution against the crowds expected at the governor's reception to-night.

Many pretty ladies graced the galleries to-day.

The Western Union Telegraph company proposes to run a wire to the capitol building, which will be a great benefit to the press gang and members. The Omaha papers will derive the greater benefit, as by this means the proceedings of the legislature will be telegraphed immediately upon adjournment and be in type in less than an hour after. The readers of the BEE will profit greatly by the convenience. The line, however, should have been built before the legislature convened.

The acoustics of the senate are much better than those of the house, probably because the chamber is not so large, yet there is no reason why this should be the cause. A member whose voice is not unusually weak, is heard plainly in all parts of the senate. The slower he talks, the better. One or two of the senators talk like chain-lightning, and they must not be surprised if the reporter, in quoting them, omits all space between words and ignores the rules of punctuation as they do when they get to belching forth the subtle sparks of genius.

Electric lights hang in the senate chamber. They will be needed by the third house soon. Later in the session the senate will probably have use for the light. It will have a penetrating effect upon the intellects of two or three of the senators, without doubt.

The day may be somewhat delayed, but sooner or later the members of this senate will be called upon to gallantly devote a day to the ladies who want to vote. I remember, when Lieutenant Governor Shedd was speaker of the house, he listened attentively to the advocates of woman's rights. The expression on his face, however, as the hours wasted slowly away, was one of tender, patient suffering. He looked as though a motion to adjourn would be in order.

Doings in the House.

LINCOLN, Neb., Jan. 11.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The morning session of the house was uneventful, being devoted chiefly to the introduction and second reading of bills. The house roll of bills is already quite large, over eighty having been introduced.

The first committee to meet is that on finance, ways and means, which was called together at 1:30 p. m. to-day. The purpose of the meeting is to provide for the mileage of members, in order, as Chairman Nichol facetiously said: "That we can pay our board bills."

The speaker announced immediately after the conclusion of the preliminary formalities, the appointment of the following additional employes: Harry P. Roggen, bill clerk; Miss Zeora Matthews, assistant postmaster; M. J. Bell, messenger; J. S. Edwards, custodian and janitor of the room of the committee on public lands and buildings. These appointments were given the sanction of the house, upon a unanimously carried motion.

The report of the committee on rules was received and adopted. It creates two additional standing committees, viz: on labor and on apportionment. A resolution providing for the appointment of a night watchman for the house end of the capitol was presented. It led to considerable discussion and elicited vigorous opposition. The resolution was finally tabled.

A resolution that the clerk of the house be instructed to report as present all members who should be engaged in committee work at roll call was adopted.

A motion by Mr. Miller of Butler that the chairman of the committee should report the names of their employes to the clerk of the house who shall announce them, was adopted.

The speaker announced that he would probably appoint no additional employes and that applicants for places should bear this in mind. Any further employment of house assistants would have to be done by the house itself.

The following bills were introduced and ordered to a second reading:

By Sweet, House Roll No. 48—To prevent cruelty to animals.

Also, No. 49—To print 2,000 copies of the fish commissioner's report for 1886.

By Cannon, No. 50—To establish, locate and maintain a normal school at Broken Bow within the state of Nebraska and to appropriate the sum of $20,000 from the general fund of the state for the purpose of constructing and furnishing buildings for the use of school institution.

By Pierce, No. 51—To amend sections two (2) and four (4) of article five (5) of an act entitled: An act to fix a maximum standard of freight charges on railroads and to prevent unjust discriminations therein or secret rates, rebates or drawbacks therefor, approved February 28, 1881.

By Kenney, No. 52—Granting liens to landlords.

By Fuller, No. 53—To amend sections 27 and 29 and to repeal section 33 of chapter 57 of the compiled statutes of Nebraska entitled, "Mills and Milldams," and to repeal said original sections 27 and 29.

By Fenton, No. 54—To amend section 9 of chapter 34 of the compiled statutes, entitled, "Guardians and Wards."

Also, No. 55—Providing for the removal of guardians of insane persons and spendthrifts.

By Lord, No. 56—To amend section two hundred and fourteen (214) revised statutes of Nebraska.

By Sullivan, No. 57—Providing for the election of supervisors in cities of the second class in counties under township organization.

Also, No. 58—To amend section 1 of the criminal code and to repeal said section.

Also, No. 59—Declaring stipulations for attorneys' fees contained in certained written instruments to be void.

By Barrett, No. 60—For the relief of O. V. Owen.

By Cameron, No. 61—Relating to evidence in actions upon open accounts in certain cases.

Also, No. 62—To provide for the revivor of dormant judgments to provide when the lien of the same shall attach and to repeal section 473, title 13 of the code of procedure.

By Ewing, No. 64—To amend section 97, article 1, of chapter 77 of the compiled statutes of 1885, entitled "Revenue," and to repeal the said statutes so amended.

By Cameron, No. 63—To provide for the allowance of attorneys fees in certain cases.

By Hayden, No. 65—To amend section 7 of chapter 28 of the compiled statutes of Nebraska entitled "Fees."

Also, No. 66—To amend section 83 of subdivision, one of chapter 77 of the compiled statutes entitled "Revenue."

By Raymond, No. 67—For the relief of Sarah D. Gillispie, of Lincoln, Neb.

By Caldwell, No. 68—To provide for the appointment of a deputy attorney general.

By Yutzy, No. 69—To amend section 3 subdivision seven (7), chapter 79 of the computed statutes of Nebraska entitled "Schools."

Also, No. 70—To amend section 177 and section 202 of chapter 25 of the compiled statutes of Nebraska entitled "Decedebts."

By Ewing, No. 71—To amend sections 63 and 64 of article 1, chapter 77 of the compiled statutes of 1885 entitled "Revenue," and to repeal the said sections so amended.

Also No. 72—To amend sections 40, of article 1, chapter 4 of the compiled statutes of 1885, entitled "Animals" and to repeal the said section so amended.

By Garvey, No. 73—To amend sections 21, 22, 29, 56, 62, 63, 70, 72, 75, 76, 77, 80, 83, 91 and 92, of chapter 77 of the compiled statutes of 1885, entitled "Revenue."

By Randall, No. 74—Authorizing the auditor of public account, to draw warrants on the unexpended balance of appropriation for taking of census of 1885.

By Andres, No. 75—To amend section 985 of chapter 7 of the compiled statutes "Trial."

By Wilhelmsen, No. 76—To amend section 132 of chapter 44 compiled statutes, 1885.

By Young, No. 77—To prevent the employment of children in workshops, factories, mines, etc., and providing for a penalty for its violation.

By Agee, No. 78—For a joint resolution to amend sections 1 of article 15 of the constitution of the state of Nebraska.

By Agee, No. 79—For a joint resolution proposing an amendment to section 1 of article 3 of the constitution of the state of Nebraska.

Also, No. 80—To establish a state normal school at Aurora, Neb., and making an appropriation therefor.

By Whitmore, (introduced by request of the Farmers' alliance,) No. 81—To regulate transportation corporations and make freight reasonable and stable.

John Mills was announced as the appointed clerk of the committee on public schools. Mr. Nichol of Antelope was called to the chair. The bills introduced yesterday were read a second time and referred to the appropriate standing committees. Recess was taken until 2 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

A significant test on the senatorial question was made in the house in the afternoon. The Cullom-Reagan inter-state commerce bill, which is now pending before the United States senate, had been the subject of a resolution requesting senators and representatives in congress to vote for its passage. The resolution had been considered in committee of the whole, and was subsequently, as will be seen by the following detailed report, adopted by the house. As soon as its adoption was announced Mr. Cole of Adams moved the adoption of a resolution requesting the attendance in Washington of senators and representatives of the state in order that they might be able to vote upon the bill when it comes up for final passage. The apparent object of the resolution was to obligate Senator Van Wyck to Washington. The attendance of Congressman Weaver at Washington would not have been made obligatory by the resolution, as the bill has not as yet reached the national house of representatives, and it will probably be several weeks before it comes to a vote there. Substantially, therefore, the resolution was a covert slap at Senator Van Wyck.

Mr. Watson of Otoe moved to table the resolution and Mr. Caldwell of Lancaster seconded the motion. The ayes and nays were called for and resulted as follows:

Voting to Table—Abrahamson, Andrews, Babcock, Ballard, Barrett, Bick, Bowman, Caldwell, Cameron, Cannon, Crane, Dempster, Diller, Elsley, Fuller, Gafford, Harlan, Helmrod, Horst, Jeary, Kenney, Knox, Latta, Leisveld, Lord, Marshall, Matthieson, McCann, McGrew, Miller, Newcomer, Newton, Overton, Pemberton, Randall, Roper, Russell, Satchel, Shamp, Simms, Simanek, Slater, Thornton, Tingle, Turner, Tyson, Underhill, Watson, Wetherald, Whitmore, Wilson, Wilsey, Wolenweber, Wright, Yutzy, Young—56.

The vote in the negatixe, or against tabling, was headed by Agee and only mustered thirty-eight names, of which ten or more are those of gentlemen known to be favorable to Van Wyck but who voted through a misunderstanding as to the real character of the resolution.

Upon the opening of the afternoon session the announcement of a postponement of the meeting of the third house until Monday evening next was made.

A resolution instructing Nebraska's senators and representatives in congress to vote for and use all honorable means to secure the passage of the Cullom-Reagan inter-state commerce bill, now pending before the senate, was introduced. The method of procedure regarding it excited some discussion. Mr. Agee moved to refer the resolution to the committee on federal relations.

Mr. Caldwell hoped that this delay would not be taken but that the sentiment of the house would be expressed to-day.

Mr. Watson offered an amendment which was to make it a joint resolution of house and senate. He believed it should be made a concurrent resolution to give it the proper weight of perfected legislative action.

Mr. Smyth could see no object in referring it to a committee, to then lie there four days. It was an important resolution and one which should be passed by the house. The majority of the people of the state were strongly in favor of it.

Mr. Whitmore offered as an amendment to the amendment that the resolution be referred to the committee of the whole, and that its consideration be made the special order of the hour. It appeared to him important to act upon the resolution now, as the bill referred to was already before congress, and it would be the height of foolishness to wait until one branch of congress had acted upon it and then send a request to Washington that the senators of the state should vote for its passage. If the resolution is to have any force the house should adopt it to-day. He objected to the joint resolution amendment, as such a resolution would have to take the usual course, which meant delay. The house was the popular branch of the legislature, and a resolution coming from this branch alone would have all the effect a concurrent resolution would have.

Mr. Cole was in favor of prompt action but desired that it be taken in the most sensible way. The senate, he understood, had already adopted a similar joint resolution. He thought the house had better wait until that was received from the senate.

After further discussion, participated in by Messrs. Pemberton, Horst, Miller, Knox and Ballard, Mr. Whitmore's amendment was carried and the house went into committee of the whole, Mr. Whitmore in the chair.

An amendment by Mr. Smyth that the word "requested" be used instead of "instructed" as more courteous to the senators and representatives, was adopted after miscellaneous discussion. The amendment by Mr. Watson, making it a concurrent resolution, was defeated. A motion that the committee of the whole report favorably to the adoption of the resolution was carried.

Mr. Cole offered a resolution that the senators and representatives of the state be requested to be in Washington prepared to vote upon the bill, but Chairman Whitmore decided it out of order in committee of the whole.

The committee then arose, reported, and the resolution was adopted by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Cole introduced his resolution regarding the presence of senators and representatives in Washington. As above reported, the resolution was effectually tabled.

Mr. Fuller of Gage introduced a resolution that a special committee of seven be appointed to prepare a bill relating to township organization. It was adopted, and as such committee the speaker appointed Messrs. Fuller, Kenna, Cole, Cannon, Rief, Andres and Wilson.

A resolution providing for the appointment of Burt McKee, an orphan, as page was adopted.

A resolution by Mr. Andres that no page or minor in the employ of the house should be permitted to use tobacco about the capitol while engaged in the performance of his duties, and that the speaker be empowered to discharge any such employe for violation, was adopted.

In conformance with a resolution adopted the speaker appointed Messrs. Wilson and Elsley as members of a joint committee on rules.

A resolution that the chief clerk be instructed to secure 600 copies of the legislative manual adaptable for use at the present session, containing the house and joint rules—such manuals to be procured from the lowest bidder—was adopted.

By a resolution introduced by Mr. Cole and unanimously adopted, the house granted its permission to the state department of the Grand Army of the Republic to use the capitol building on Wednesday evening, January 19, for memorial services upon the death of General John A. Logan.

The following bills were introduced:

By Douglas, No. 82—To amend sections 523, 324, 327 and 337 of the code of civil procedure.

By Nichol, No. 83—To provide for the payment of the incidental expenses of the twentieth session of the legislature, appropriating $40,000.

Also, No. 84—To provide for the payment of officers, members and employes of the twentieth session of the legislature, appropriating $50,000.

By Shamp, No. 85—For the relief of Mary Simmons et al.

By Tracy, No. 86—To regulate the hours of labor and the payment thereof. (An eight hour law).

By Rief, No. 87—Requiring of the county clerk in each county of the state to cause a map to be prepared showing the correct number of miles of each railroad and telegraph company in each county, for the purpose of aiding and assisting the state board of equalization in arriving at a just and proper assessment and taxation of railroad and telegraph property.

By Slaughter, No. 88—For the relief of Charles A. Johnson.

By Raymond, No. 89—To amend section 354 of the code of civil procedure; also, No. 90—Amending sections 60 and 61 of the code.

By Horst, No. 91—To regulate the rate of passenger and freight transportation, to declare the duty of railroad corporations and to provide a penalty for violation of the same.

By Underhill, No. 92—To authorize the state to copyright school books for the appropriation of $10,000 or such part thereof as may be necessary to pay the expense of the same and to provide for the distribution of the same.

By Watson, No. 93—To establish a state board of health, etc.

By Wilsey, No. 94—To provide for loaning money lying idle in the treasury of the several counties in the state.

These bills were all read and ordered to a second reading.

Adjourned to 9:30 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Governor Thayer's Reception.

LINCOLN, Neb., Jan. 11.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The reception by Governor Thayer and state officials to members of the legislature and citizens at the capitol this evening was a popular success and brilliant affair. Fully two thousand attended, conceded to be the largest gathering ever known on a similar occasion. The executive chambers, attorney general's offices, and senate hall were thrown open and brilliantly lighted. The formal reception was held in the executive chambers. Attorney General Leese introduced the visitors, assisted by Lieutenant Dudley. Governor Thayer and wife, ex-Governor Dawes and wife, Auditor Babcock and wife, Secretary of State Laws and wife, Land Commissioner Scott and wife, Superintendent of Instruction Lane and wife, and Lieutenant Governor Shedd and wife received. The ladies and gentlemen passed through in a continuous unbroken line for three hours. The ladies assisting in the reception were richly and elegantly attired. Governor Thayer manifested the greatest cordiality and bore the ordeal of handshaking with less fatigue apparently than any of the gentlemen assisting him. In the senate hall the university cadet band of sixteen pieces discoursed excellent music to the edification of the gathering of people who tested the hall and galleries to their fullest capacity. Many notable gentlemen were present, noticeable among whom were United States Senator Van Wyck, Congressman Weaver, Justice Cobb, Chief Justice Maxwell, and all the state senators and representatives. While the whole affair was delightfully informal, many handsomely costumed ladies were observable and the display of diamonds was profuse. The reception is conceded to be on a hitherto unapproached scale and an unqualified success. The large attendance and enthusiastic congratulations indicated the popular pleasure at greeting Governor Thayer as Nebraska's executive.

Governor Dawes Remembered.

LINCOLN, Neb., Jan. 11.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—After Governor Thayer's reception to-night a pleasant event occurred in the office of the board of public lands and buildings. Ex-Governor Dawes was requested to come there to meet "a gentleman who desired to see him especially," and when he entered the room he was greeted by a select company of ladies and gentlemen, while on two tables were displayed a handsome gold-headed, ebony cane and a costly dinner set, solid silver, nine pieces, ornately engraved and gold-lined. Ex-Superintendent of Public Instruction Jones made a pleasant presentation speech, to which ex-Governor Dawes responded with evident emotion, but very happily. The only inscription on the gifts was on the head of the cane, as follows: "Presented to Governor James W. Dawes, by the state officers and employes of the state house, January 11, 1887."

An Important Measure.

LINCOLN, Neb., Jan. 11.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Among the most important bills that have been introduced since the opening of the session is Senator Keekley's bill to prohibit pooling and traffic combinations among grain and stock buyers. This bill is especially designed to break up the grain elevator pool which has for the past two years destroyed all competition and made arbitrary rates for grain at nearly every point on the trunk lines in Nebraska. Under the constitution and by laws of this elevator pool grain buying members are prohibited from paying a higher price for grain than that fixed by the governing committee, which rate is telegraphed to each member in cipher.

The principal provisions of this anti-pooling bill are substantially as follows: All grain dealers, whether persons, partnerships, companies or corporations, are prohibited from combining to fix the price to be paid for grain, hogs, cattle or stock of any kind, and in case of such pooling each day of its continuance shall be deemed a separate offense.

Section 2 provides that in case of violation the offending person shall be liable to the injured person or persons to the full amount of damages sustained, including costs. It also provides for bringing the offender's books and papers into court as evidence.

Section 3 fixes the penalty for violation of this act upon conviction a fine not to exceed $1,000 and imprisonment not exceeding six months, or both. This bill has been referred to the committee on agriculture, of which Mr. Keekley himself is chairman.

Endorsed, Not Rebuked.

LINCOLN, Neb., Jan. 11.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The great hue and cry which has been raised by some of Jim Laird's boomers since the legislature convened about the black eye which Van Wyck was to receive in congress upon the passage of the famous Knevals land bill, has received its quietus. The following dispatch speaks for itself:

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—Hon. Charles H. Van Wyck, Lincoln—I procured the passage of the Knevals bill this morning as reported by the senate committee amidst opposition and yea and nay vote.

(Signed) CHARLES F. MANDERSON.

Thus another roorback is exploded and the promised rebuke which Van Wyck was to receive at the hands of Edmunds has failed to materialize.

Considering Omaha's Charter.

LINCOLN, Neb., Jan. 11.—[Special to the BEE.]—The Douglas delegation held its first meeting this evening to consider the new charter. The main features of the charter as prepared by the charter committee at Omaha will doubtless be adopted. Some changes will be made, however, upon points which were not fully considered, and where the decision of the committee has not been in accord with known public sentiment and the interest of a large number of taxpayers.

Penalty of a Spree.

OAKLAND, Neb., Jan. 11.—[Special to the BEE.]—Fred Witte, the German who got so gloriously full of Oakland's beverage a month ago and laid out on the prairie for eighteen hours and froze himself, is still lingering. Dr. Thompson, of West Point, was called in consultation with Dr. Leeper yesterday, and both came to the conclusion that both hands and one foot would have to be amputated. Application has been made to place Witte on the expense of the county as he has no money, nevertheless he has received constant attention from Dr. Leeper.

A Drunkard Suicides.

OAKLAND, Neb., Jan. 11.—[Special to the BEE.]—Henry Mason, of Craig, committed suicide at that place Sunday evening by taking an overdose of chloral. He had been on a prolonged spree and took the chloral to quiet his nerves and not with suicidal intent. Mason was about thirty-eight years of age, a son of Judge Mason, of North Bend, and was considered the best brick mason in Burt county.

Death of an Old Resident.

EXETER, N. H., Jan. 11.—Dr. William Perry, the oldest graduate of Harvard college, died this morning, aged 98. He was the sole survivor of the passengers of Fulton's first steamboat ride down the Hudson river seventy-nine years ago. He was born in Norton, Mass., in 1788, and was a member of the class of 1811, in Harvard.

An Attorney Insane.

BLOOMINGTON, Neb., Jan. 11.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—E. S. Chadwick, who for some time has acted queerly, became so thoroughly a maniac to-day that a commission adjudged him insane and he was taken to the Lincoln asylum. He was once a prominent attorney here.

Rhode Island's Coal Famine.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Jan. 11.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The strike of coal handlers about New York threatens to have serious consequences for this city. The visible coal supply is not sufficient to last more than two weeks and already the price has advanced 75 cents a ton. Manufacturers are in bad shape and many of them are trying to buy coal and are refused. If the strike continues much longer some of the mills will have to suspend operations. The situation throughout the state is similar to this and the famine is said to extend through New England.

MOUNT CARMEL, Pa., Jan. 11.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The strike of coal handlers at shipping points resulted to-day in a suspension of operations at the Bell, Moore, Morris, Ridge, Logan, Centralia and all other collieries in the district dependent solely upon the Lehigh Valley railroad for cars. Two thousand men are thrown out of employment.

The Fisheries Question.

HALIFAX, N. S., Jan. 11.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—United States Consul General Phelan proceeds hence to Washington in two weeks' time. The consul general regards the latest position assumed by the Canadian authorities on the fisheries question as a thing not to be tolerated by this government. If Canada endeavors to carry out the statute to which her majesty recently assented, and undertakes to arrest American vessels wnenever and under whatever circumstances they are found within the three-mile limit, he believes the United States government will utter an indignant and forcible protest. The new law empowers Canadian officers to pounce upon any American fishing vessel discovered within three miles of the shore, run her into the nearest port, search her and examine her officers under oath, and all this notwithstanding there may have been no illegal act committed or intended. Consul General Phelan predicts a lively season when the Dominion fishery protection fleet open the campaign.

THE ARMY BILL MUST PASS.

Prince Bismarck Lays Down the Law to the German Parliament.

HE MAKES A POWERFUL SPEECH.

The Peace of Europe Hanging in the Balance Awaiting the Action of the Reichstag—The Government's Demands.

The Iron Chancellor Talks.

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BERLIN, Jan. 11.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the BEE.]—The veil is lifted. The sphinx has spoken. There was little outward excitement in Berlin this morning, though two continents were breathlessly awaiting the outcome of to-day's debate on the second reading of the German army bill. A hundred idlers hung about the entrance of the reichstag. A hundred more men have been scattered between the chancellor's palace and the Leipziger strasse. That was all. But the excitement, if suppressed, was intense. All understood that the peace of Europe hung in the balance.

About noon, when the reichstag opened, there was a rush for seats. I fought my way in with the rest and looked around. Every corner of every box was crowded before the deputies began to arrive. Among the spectators were scores of officers and ladies whose uniform and bright toilets somewhat relieved the monotony of the great building. In the place of honor, just above the president's chair, hung a black, white and red banner, a tribute to Germany from the Germans of New Orleans.

At five minutes past 22the deputies began to drop in. One of the first was his little excellency Dr. Windthorst, who rambled about like a lost spirit for a few moments. He sighed and then disappeared. Soon after Herren, Rickert and Richter, stars of the Deutsche freisinnine party, entered, followed by Freiherr Von Stauffenberg, a big, bold, bespectacled gentleman with a sandy beard, and by a group of conservatives, first and foremost among whom was Von Moltke. Ten minutes later the house was filled. On the ministerial benches sat the minister of war and several of his colleagues, but there was no sign of the iron chancellor. Was Hamlet to be played without Hamlet? Patience.

Hamlet came. He spoke not only once nor only twice even, but four times. What he said has made a pretty noise already. It will make much more beyond the western frontier to-morrow.

But first we heard Horatio. Silence fell upon the house when Von Moltke rose. Tightly buttoned in his new blue uniform, he folded his hands and, in faint but steady tones, began: "Meine Herren: None of us will deny the seriousness of the times. The whole world asks, is war coming?"

Von Moltke's face was impenetrable as he uttered these words. He paused, put himself in a grave and Napoleonic attitude, bent his head and, thrusting his right hand into his tunic, answered the question thus: "If this measure is rejected war will come surely."

Conservative cheers rang out; the opposition grew attentive. The only man in the reichstag who seemed indifferent was Windthorst. He had buried his nose into his waist coat and all you saw was his forehead and a pair of glistening spectacles. Von Voltke was far milder than he was a month ago. He uttered no threats, he hurled no defiance. No statesman would willingly assume the awful responsibility of kindling the tinder with which the entire country was filled, said he, but if Germany was to keep the peace, she must be strong and ready for war.

As Von Moltke sat down Von Stauffenberg rose to defend the counter proposal of the army bill committee. The government wanted an increase of 41,000 men and seven years certain. The committee had reluctantly given way to the increase but could not grant the septenate, and so on. Von Stauffenberg rambled on sensibly enough for a good hour, but small heed was paid to him, for in the middle of his speech a great form in a general's uniform strode into the house and walked to his usual raised seat on the right of the president. It was Bismarck. The chancellor looked marvellously fit and fresh. There was a healthy flush on his cheeks, his step was elastic and there was power in his face, his walk and his manner a German Sampson. But a bolder comparison is not much strained, for like Sampson Bismarck was ready to pull the house down on the heads of his enemies.

"If this measure is not passed as it stands without the slightest alteration," said the chancellor twice to-day, "the reichstag will be dissolved."

This, however, was said late in the afternoon. Early in the debate Bismarck was less Cæsarian. He rose to make his first and most important speech at about 2 o'clock. Standing erect, he towered above the reichstag. In one hand he held a bundle of notes. Knitting his eyebrows, he began in a characteristically quiet, matter-of-fact kind of way, often halting and bungling in his periods and speaking as if he were merely arguing a rather nice point with himself over a pipe and glass of beer and not uttering words which might decide the fate of Europe. A dozen times he raised a laugh by bits of scathing irony, tossed off in a jocular, careless manner. He was coolly contemptuous in his reference to his opponents as "the German friends of Bulgaria who have been trying to embroil Germany with the czar." Later in the day, in replying to Windthorst, he became hotter and rather lost his temper.

Windthorst was almost as interesting to watch as Bismarck. At first he pretended to go to sleep, then he seemed to collapse under his desk, next he hid himself behind a book, and when the chancellor spoke of Russia he left his seat facing the president, and paced thoughtfully up and down the aisles of the reichstag.

Bismarck's four speeches, including a social reply to Deputy Von Huene, may be summed up thus:

Germany wants peace. To have peace she must have a stronger army. If the reichstag kicks against fresh sacrifice, the reichstag must be replaced by a more respectful reichstag. Germany is anxious to keep on good terms with Russia. She runs a chance of being dragged into an Austro-Russian war about Bulgaria, but the chief danger, the chancellor believes or affects to believe, lies westward His references to the burning longing of France for revenge were frequent, plain and menacing. "Germany," he said, "will never begin war with France, but France certainly will directly. She fancies herself the stronger—even before, if any adventurer finds it convenient to emulate the third Napoleon. If the reichstag remains blind and deaf to these facts the government will appeal to the country in the name of the grand old kaiser."

Von Moltke, the taciturn, and Bismarck, the bold, by their speeches on the seven year army bill, have outflanked Windthorst and company, who wish for a three years' bill, for now it is certain that if the government bill be beaten, even on the question of time for operation, Bismarck will dissolve the reichstag and go to the people, whose patriotism will get the better of any fear of taxation.

Bismarck spoke with eloquent animation and evident personal magnetism. He closed with these sentences, pronounced not menacingly yet firmly:

"If we cannot agree about an army on a peace footing, then the constitution, which prescribes that every man subject to military service shall serve three years, will come into use. The constitution, moreover, says that the