THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE.

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More Earthquake Tales.

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ROME, Feb. 26.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the BEE.]—A few fugitives from Nice and Cannes are arriving here. The Riviera earthquakes have sent foreigners scuttling, however, northward to Paris, Milan and Germany. Hardly any Americans have thought it prudent to come south. I drove to several favorite American resorts here to-day but only found two who were present when the earthquakes took place. Among the number was Colonel T. Ash, of California, a friend of Mr. John W. Mackay. He had just arrived from Nice.

"It was a few minutes to 6," said he, "when I felt the first shock. I was in bed at the time, on the third floor, in a room of the Hotel de France. I heard men and women

SCREAMING AND GROANING

all around me. The screams seemed to be half suppressed, as if those who gave utterance to them could not get their sound out properly. Then I heard people rushing out of their rooms onto the landings. They were all in their night gowns. Of course I did not get up, for we Californians are somewhat used to earthquakes. I turned round on my side and waited for, as it seemed to me, the best part of a minute, till the house righted itself. The vibration ceased but the commotion was so great that it literally made me sick. The shock was far greater than any I had previously known even at San Francisco in 1856, where an earthquake occurred as I was playing billiards in a hotel one day with Colonel Floyd. I lay still and watched my field glasses fall down, but I was not hurt. When I went out I saw crowds of people

FLOCKING TO THE BEACH

and station. That night hundreds slept in bathing machines. I came on to Geneva the next day with a lady and some gentleman from Columbia. We were almost the only passengers. At the station I saw the Princess Colona and Colonel Hunterford, with whom, a few days before, I had been pelting the carnival folk with confecti. The princess behaved very pluckily. Her eyes flashed when I asked her if she was frightened, and she replied, 'Not in the least.' The prince was a bit nervous about his wife, which is only natural, as she is in a very interesting condition. They have since left for Paris."

I also chatted with Theodora Friedemburg, the well known courier, who was also at Nice during the earthquake.

"I don't want to be in another like it," said he. "I was not frightened, but I felt as if I were on board ship. The vibration was so intense I have not yet lost the sensation of the shock. It was at about a quarter to 6 that the first shock awoke me. It seemed to last about twenty seconds. One of my candlesticks fell crashing, another slid, or rather walked, slowly from one end of the chest of drawers to the other and toppled over. There was a stampede in the hotel of women yelling and men groaning. Out they all came

TREMBLING IN THEIR NIGHT SHIRTS."

"They were just scared, I can tell you. All the people in the streets walked about, pale as ghosts, and talked with bated breath. Thousands left for Paris, at once, among them a Mexican millionaire, who, they say, paid $10,000 for a special train. He fairly bolted, leaving his servants and traps behind him."

These earthquakes have rather damped the Roman season, and numbers of Americans, who were coming to Rome for Easter will stay away.

A Most Dramatic Experience.

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PARIS (via Harve), Feb. 26.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the BEE.]—Among all the earthquake refugees, none have had more dramatic experiences to relate than Mrs. Robert L. Cutting, jr., who arrived to-day from Nice. She was staying at the Grand hotel, on the third floor, her rooms fronting the east and south. Mrs. Cutting had been one of the leaders of fashion during the carnival, and her carriage was one of the most admired during the calvalcade on Monday. I found her to-day lying on a sofa in a crimson dressing gown of silk and wool. She was very bright and cheerful but still in a state of nervous excitement, having suffered greatly from sleeplessness, which was but little relieved by anodynes. She states that she was awakened by a great shock. The first thing of which she became conscious was the falling of a large screen of eight panels closely followed by a fall of plaster and wood from the ceiling. Luckily the mosquito net over the bed was strong enough to protect her. She was tossed from one side of her bed against the wall and then thrown on the floor. To use her own expression she

THOUGHT THE RESURRECTION WAS COME.

Rushing to the door of her room, she tried the handle, but the door was jammed. She next tried her sitting room door, climbing over the furniture of the room, which was scattered in all directions. That being also jammed, and realizing her terrible imprisonment, she screamed with all her might, until she heard a gentleman next door say: "For God's sake, come out; there's been an earthquake and the hotel is falling down." Shortly afterward some gentleman in the corridor broke in the door, and she escaped into the corridor with nothing on but her night dress, not even taking time to put on her stockings. On the first floor landing she found about a hundred persons in a similar state of undress crowding the stairs. She was assisted down by a gentleman, who complimented her on her courage, but on reaching the square

SHE FAINTED.

On recovering she remained in the open air till half past 8, when, being somewhat recovered she went up to her room to obtain clothing. She dressed herself hurriedly, and then remembered her diamonds, which, on the first hurried exit, she had forgotten. Just as she grasped them in her hand another shock came. She dropped the bag containing the diamonds, rushed down stairs, leaving the jewelry behind her. She was fortunately able to hire a closed carriage, in which she bivouacked until she got away from Nice. On arriving to-day in Paris she obtained medical advice and was warned that there was great danger of paralysis. During the whole time of her narrative her nervous twitching showed clearly that her danger was anything but imaginary. As soon as she is sufficiently rested she intends to go to London to take other advice. In any case, it will be long before she is restored to health.

More Shocks Felt.

ROME, Feb. 26.—Three more shocks of earthquake were felt at Torli, in the province of Campobasa, yesterday. The bodies of twenty-four persons killed by the earthquake Wednesday have been taken from the ruins in Diano-Marino, and it is known that 164 are yet under the fallen buildings. Almost the entire population of Diano-Marino are encamped on the sea shore. Three hundred communes were visited by the earthquake. As yet the reports of the casualities have been received from but sixty. The pope has sent $2,000 for the relief of the sufferers.

THE LABOR QUESTION.

It Still Excites Great Attention at Rome.

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ROME, Feb. 26.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the BEE.]—The labor question is giving Rome plenty of food for reflection just now. The pope seems fully alive to its importance and is studying it, if not with an altogether scientific mind, at least with sincere and earnest impartiality. It would be a mistake to suppose that even the question of organization of the American Knights of Labor has been prejudiced in Rome. All the prelates with whom I have had occasion to discuss the matter have shown a great wish to give it fair consideration. If the church has any bias at all, I am inclined to think it is in favor of the workingman. An eminent Roman prelate who has made special study of the labor question has favored me with his views on the subject. I have reason to think they embody the present opinion of those who will eventually decide what attitude the church shall adop towards American labor societies. He frankly admitted that workingmen had

MUCH CAUSE TO REBEL

against their present position. He did not marvel at their drifting into socialism, but he thought they did not fully grasp all sides of the problem, and were over prone to listen to the teachings of demagogues.

"The church is not socialistic," he said, "but is anxious to examine and probe the facts. It is doing so very conscientiously, but it may be some considerable time before it comes to the decision. With regard to the Knights of Labor, you cannot settle this matter on ordinary lines. Strictly speaking, of course, the workingman is only entitled to the money for which he contracts to do his work, but we see workingmen are really often oppressed by the capitalists. We would fain see

CHRISTIAN CHARITY

introduced into the discussion, irrespective of Catholicism or Protestantism."

"I fancy," said I, "that the workingman will be more ready to agree with you than the capitalists."

"I dare say," concluded the prelate, "but possibly in that case it might be well to bring a little legality to bear upon the capitalists."

It may be doubted whether Cardinal Taschereau's journey has shaken his opinion in regard to the Knights of Labor. He still seems to consider them

A SOCIAL DANGER.

Few Roman ecclesiastics probably have a very profound knowledge of the ins and outs of the social question in America. Indeed, the fact is frankly admitted, but the highest dignitaries of the church are ready to be enlightened and willing to help the working classes against the tyranny of the monopolist if they can do so without injury to Catholicism. I am assured that no news of Dr. McGlynn has reached the propaganda this week, but it is still hoped and believed that when his health allows he will come to Rome. According to Roman ecclesiastics the point at issue is not whether Dr. McGlynn's views are right or wrong, but whether he should assume them to be right when so high an authority as his archbishop has declared his opinion to the contrary.

GERMAN ELECTION RESULTS.

Government Supporters Saf Peace is Assured.

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BERLIN, Feb. 26.—[New York Herald Cable Special to the BEE.]—I was yesterday and to-day received by several influential members of the government party. In discussing the situation one of these men said:

"Germany will have no war in 1887. We have a large majority for the septennate, and a small majority for the other government measures. That means that United Germany is too strong to fear France. True, Europe still lives on a powder magazine, but we no longer fear that anyone will have the folly to set fire to the powder. There may come a flash of lightning to blow us all up, but in the ordinary course of events Germany is now

SECURE AGAINST WAR

during the present year. After 1887? Oh, well, that is hard to say. My glasses are only strong enough to see dimly the prospects of the present year."

Another of these gentlemen whom I interviewed said:

"We Germans are in much the same position as Balaam's ass was. We see a flaming sword threatening us, but have Russia belaboring our eastern and France our western flank. We spoke out so loudly in the recent elections that France heeds the warning. Russia, however, is deaf. You saw how every eye turned from France to Russia as soon as the results of the election were known. It is from the east we now fear war. You can assure the Germans in America that for some months peace seems to be reasonably certain, but no man can predict what Russia's action will be. Prince Bismarck desires peace—of that I am certain. From France we fear nothing."

RESULTS OF THE ELECTIONS.

A third one spoke more especially of the result of the elections. He laughed at any importance being attributed to the victory of the French party in Alsace-Lorraine.

"What can fifteen votes do in a reichstag of 400 members?"

"Obstruct, as Parnell did in the house of commons."

"You forget that Prince Bismarck is not an Englishman. He allows no foolishness, especially from men with French names."

"But the social democrats show greatly increased strength at the polls," I remarked.

"Well, that means that Prince Bismarck may pass some measure which will satisfy the reasonable portion of this party. The small remnant of anarchists are able to do nothing. Why, if an outbreak came these men would be forced to aid in shooting down their own comrades. If they refused to fire they would be instantly shot. Our army is too strong in its discipline and too powerful in force to allow us to fear socialists. If you want to measure Prince Bismarck's influence, observe the volks partei. Once it was influential; now it has been swept out of existence. Also the progressionists are cut down from sixty-seven to almost nothing. They are opposed to Prince Bismarck."

"That was great guns for the national liberals," I suggested.

"It is interesting when taken with the Catholic losses," replied my informant, "because it seems to indicate some popular disapproval of the modification of the clerical laws."

Few of the opposition leaders have yet returned to Berlin, but so far as I am able to judge they agree with the conservatives that the present danger of war is past. Prince Bismarck controls the speech of his followers so that until he announces his policy to the other government leaders they refuse to permit the publication of their opinions over their names.

BISMARCK WILL SPEAK PACIFICALLY.

"I hear on excellent authority that Bismarck will make early next session a speech as pacific as his last great speech was warlike. The enthusiasm over the recent elections caused curious scenes. Several house-bound veterans tried to vote by telephone. Others, too ill to go to the polls, sent their children with filled out ballot papers.

GONE TO FRANCE.

Minister Phelps and Wife Leave the London Legation.

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LONDON, Feb. 26.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the BEE.]—United States Minister and Mrs. Phelps, undismayed by the earthquakes, left here to-day en route for the south of France, for the benefit of Mrs. Phelps' health. The embassy has been put in the charge of Secretary White and Mrs. White. They will represent the United States at the approaching levee of the queen's drawing-room.

As I was chatting with the secretary, who so often did similar honors under Mr. Lowell, I saw on the table several numbers of the current Court and Society Review, containing a very good, large print of Mrs. Cleveland. "The lady who holds the Washington drawing-rooms," said Secretary White, smilingly. At the levee he will present young William Fullerton, the son of the ex-judge, who soon produces, as a composer, an opera.

"I shall also present," added Mr. White, "Mr. Wright Stuart, of New York. His wife is being presented by Mrs. White at the drawing room, together with Mrs. Charles F. Blake and Miss Blake and Mrs. Van Rensselaer."

Hitherto the legation has been embarrassed by the number of applications for presentations, as well as for seats in the gallery in the houses of parliament, because the number has been limited, but during the coming session, which opens early, so far as the social element of royalty are concerned, Minister Phelps has permission from the lord chamberlain to increase what may be called his supply of court presentations. The entrance to the galleries, however, must continue difficult, as the accommodations are ridiculously meagre.

A Sunday Socialistic Demonstration.

[Copyright 1887 by James Gordon Bennett.]

LONDON, Feb. 26.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the BEE.]—Not alone are the paps and Catholic church having disturbing issues with socialistic questions. The Established Church of England is having its troubles, too. The traditional tenet of the church is that worship must be public and free. Accordingly, arrangements have been made by the social democratic federation for a parade of the unemployed at St. Paul's to-morrow (Sunday) afternoon. The people will assemble to march in procession to the cathedral at Paddington Green at 1:30, in Smithfield, at Cleopatra's Needle, on the embankment, and in the Commercial and Whitechapel roads in the East end at 2:30. The fact has been communicated to the cathedral authorities, as also to the police commissioners. The cathedral officials have allotted to the federation the whole of the nave and one-half of the space under the dome. The other half is to be reserved for so much of the ordinary congregation as it will accommodate. The cathedral, by the way, could contain four Trinity churches. Special provision has been made for a number of children to take part in the gathering. The service takes place at a quarter past 3. The preacher will be the venerable Arch-Deacon Hessey. An offer has been made to the processionists to admit them by the western door, overlooking Ludgate Hill. Copies of the service have been printed on separate papers for the use of those unprovided with prayer books. The lord mayor will occupy his accustomed stall in the chair. Barriers have been placed throughout the interior under the charge of the city police. A large number will be in reserve in the crypt so that they may be able to enter the cathedral at any moment. I was talking with a prominent leader of the federation this evening. He said, "We are not heathen nor disreputable. We are not responsible for the conduct of a few hundred who lately misbehaved in other churches. We intend to show this by our gathering. We are as peaceable citizens as the Henry George men in New York City, and (here he gave me a quizzical look) we are going to be as solid voters some day as they are."

Death of Cardinal Jacobini.

ROME, Feb. 26.—Cardinal Jacobini died at 10 o'clock this morning.

Jacobini, His Eminence Ludovico, cardinal priest of the Roman Catholic church, was born in Albano, May 6, 1832. In 1862 Pius IX. made him prelati domestici and made one of the referendaries of the segnatura. Soon after he was made secretary of that section of the congregation de Propaganda Fide which is charged with the special supervision of the affairs of the eastern churches. He was subsequently appointed one of the "consultors" of the propaganda and his particular duty was to examine and report upon the decrees and ordinances of provincial synods. In 1867 he was made a member of the preparatory commission, who were charged with examining and arranging the business to be brought before the projected vatican council. When, in 1874, the nuncio at Vienna, Falcinelli-Antoniacci, was created Cardinal and withdrew from his post, Monsignor Jacobini was chosen by Pius IX. to succeed to the vacancy, which was at the time a position of no small difficulty. According to custom, he received Episcopal consecration with the title of archbishop of Thessalonica in partibus infadelium, and was accredited to the court of Vienna, where he remained until October, 1880. On September 19, 1879, he was created Cardinal; but it was judged desirable that he should continue at the Austrian capital in order to carry on the negotiations commenced some time previously with Germany and Russia, and also to regulate the new ecclesiastical arrangements for Bosnia and Herzegovina. But, in conformity with the strict etiquette of the papal court, which forbids a cardinal to hold the inferior rank of nuncio, Cardinal Jacobini, after his elevation to the purple, bore the title of pro-nuncio. His eminence was recalled from Vienna in October, 1880, and appointed by Leo XIII. to the office of papal secretary of state, in succession to Cardinal Nina. His latest and most successful work was effecting a complete reconciliation between Germany and the vatican.

SEISMIC SCIENCE.

Earthquake Talk with Prominent European Observers.

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ROME, Feb. 26.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the BEE.]—I have just interviewed Prof. De Rossio, the distinguished director of the Roman geodynamic observatory. He said: "There is nothing wonderful in the fact that an earthquake has occurred. The particular region most affected is one of the seismic regions of Italy. The last great earthquake there occurred in 1818. Since there has been occasional slight disturbances, but never anything like this. Yet about spring time one must look out for seismic commotions. At this moment there is a general disturbance, not, however, exceeding an average maximum. Etna and Vesuvius are also giving signs of activity."

"Was an earthquake foreseen?"

"That is rather a delicate question to answer. Seismic science has hardly reached a stage which allows on to be positively sure as to such points, although the science is on the way to it. Even now, thanks to microscopic observations, we are roughly enabled to foresee the approach of seismic disturbances. The occurrence either in this particular district or in Spain, was thought probable. We had observed microscopic disturbances at the Roman observatory since the 20th inst., but they ceased as usual in such cases before the earthquakes. I remarked, too, that the earthquakes came at the end of a period of moderate barometrical depression, which had its center in the disturbed district and coincided with a sudden and extraordinary rise of the barometer. The barometrical conditions evidently favored a disturbance."

"May fresh disburbances be expected?"

"I would rather not say positively. We certainly at this critical moment are passing through a maximum period; but after a disturbance of this kind has relieved nature, one cannot assert where there will be earthquakes outside of the region already disturbed. There, however, may be expected renewed, though slighter, commotions. The activity will gradually subside. On the whole, I am inclined to regard this as a local manifestation of interior force. It is impossible to say whether disturbances may be expected outside Europe."

ANOTHER INTERVIEW.

PARIS, (via Havre), Feb. 26.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to the BEE.]—I had an interview to-day with Admiral Mouchez, chief of the Paris observatory. I asked the admiral: "Is it probable that there will be any more earthquakes in the Riviera?" His reply was: "Yes, for the next three months we may expect occasional shocks there, but they are not likely to be so serious as those of Wednesday."

I afterwards called on M. Daubre, a member of the institute of France, and one of the first authorities on seismology. M. Daubre had already (in October) expressed his views in the Herald and had announced to the public the fact that never an instant passes in any twenty-four hours but what some earthquake is going on somewhere. I asked him the same question I had asked Admiral Mouchez. M. Daubre replied: "Yes, for the next three or four months seismic disturbances are likely to be felt in the Riviera. The present earthquake resembles in many respects that of 1846, in Tuscany. It is probable that both these earthquakes resulted from an explosion of subterranean steam by water from the sea reaching the rocks deeply imbedded in the interior of the earth, which were consequently very hot. The steam was generated under a high pressure and the slightest cause was liable to bring about an explosion. The earth's crust, then cooling, contracts and when it settles down causes perpetual changes in the positions of the lower strata of rocks."

"Could not the present earthquake have been foretold?"

"If all observatories had been provided with seismographs. The seismograph indicates to a careful conscientious observer certain movements of the earth's crust a few days or a few hours before the earthquake actually takes place, but science has not sufficient data as yet to do the work with."

I then called upon M. Fiquier, a member of the academy of science, and a professor of the college De France. I asked him if it was likely that there would be more earthquake shocks in the Riviera. His answer was, "Yes, but the first shock seems invariably to be more violent than the succeeding ones."

"If all observatories were provided with seismographs could this earthquake have been predicted?"

"Yes, but the prediction might have only preceded the catastrophe by an hour or so."

"Even then by sounding an alarm would it not have been given the people time to pack up their effects and get to a place of safety?"

"Yes, undoubtedly, and all observatories ought to be provided with seismographs. Until this is done it is impossible to acquire data enough to make a serious basis for further advance."

A known astronomer and popularizer of science publishes a long article in to-day's Voltaire, in which he develops M. Daubre's theory that earthquakes are caused by explosions of vast stores of subterranean steam caused by the sea water percolating down into a heated recess in the earth's crust. M. Flammarian concludes the article as follows: "Unfortunately, it is probable that more shocks will be felt from time to time in the Riviera, but it is to be hoped they will not exceed in intensity those which have just spread consternation in the delicious land so beloved by the sun."

NINETEEN DIFFERENT YELLS.

A Red-Hot Time at a College Society Banquet.

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—Four hundred and fifty men from nineteen different colleges assisted with nineteen different kinds of college yells at the Psi U dinner in concert hall, Metropolitan opera house, last night. The nineteen kinds of cheers were exploded simultaneously at intervals, and a fine racket they made. Michigan university and Union college would have won first prize for intricate harmony in the championship contest. On one occasion, when the 450 diners were engaged in a whistling chorus, with a tintinnabulating accompaniment played on their wine glasses with forks, Police Captain Williams and Sergeant Westervelt thrust their heads through the curtains that separated the hall from the corridors. Instantly the whole company rose to a man, gave three rousing cheers for the captain and his aide, and rattled their feet in a thundrous breakdown, that must have astonished the audience at the German opera. Just before Charles Dudly Warner, the president, rose to turn on the speeches, the Union college men rose in a body and in behalf of Theta chapter, the original chapter of the secret society, let their lungs loose in this remark: "We are fifty-four years old to-night. Chestnuts." To which the Lehigh university men, youngest in the ranks, good humoredly shouted: "One, two, three, Rats. Bully for Psi Upsilon."

Lawyer Joseph Choate came up from the high license meeting in Chickering hall to make a speech. He is president of the Alpha Delta Psi association. When he got up to speak the diners passed up to him a bottle of champaigne and a glass brim full. The orator couldn't help commenting upon this felicitous acknowledgement of his enthusiasm for the temperance cause. Also, he said, he looked forward to the time when the Psi Upsilon and Alpha Delta Psi would combine into one society throughout the country.

More Chinese Outrages.

VICTORIA, B. C., Feb. 26.—Thursday night at 10 o'clock a mob of Vancouver, B. C., men, proceeded to the camp of the Chinese who were clearing land. They burned the cabins of the Chinese, threw their goods into the fire and roughly handled the celestials. The police then interfered and the band dispersed at midnight. Several Chinese laundries were set on fire, but the flames were extinguished before serious loss occurred. To-day the Chinese left Vancouver and went to Westminster.

Adjourned Without Appropriating.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Feb 26.—The legislature adjourned this morning without passing a general appropriation bill. The appointment of a United States senator will be made before the legislature is reconvened.

LUBRICATED LAWMAKERS.

How the Railroad and Jobbers' Lobby Ropes Legislators Into Its Oil Rooms.

MOST DISGRACEFUL SCENES.

Midnight Orgies and Disgraceful Drunkenness Which Are Nightly Indulged in By the Weak and Venal Members.

Dangerous Political Work.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 26.—[Editorial Correspondence.]—The people of Nebraska hardly realize by what corrupting, immoral and dangerous influences their law-makers are surrounded at the state capital. Let them stroll with me through the headquarters of the railroad and jobbers' lobby at the old Commercial, now known as the Capital hotel. From sunrise every morning until 3 or 4 o'clock the next morning the bar-tenders in the hotel "sample room" are kept busy pouring out and mixing the wines and liquors for the so-called guests. While the outer doors are closed punctually at 10 o'clock under Lincoln city regulations, the busiest time has only begun at that hour. The effective and dangerous work of the politicians who are engaged in criminal work thrives best after the midnight hour, like that of the house-breaker and cracksmen. The generous and hospitable treat at the bar is followed up by an invitation to the oil-rooms, so-called. These rooms may be found in every story of the hotel during the session. They are engaged and paid for by the railroads and occupied by their political prostitutes. Here, all night long, the men who ply the infamous vocation of seducing weak and venal members of the legislature carry on their orgies. In the oil rooms members are inveigled to take a smoke and listen to a campfire story related with gusto by bottle-scarred warriors. The drinkers get more boisterous as the night wears away. Then the professional gambler and his capper take the boozy member in hand, and when his money is all gone and his watch has also been staked and lost, he is just in the frame of mind to accept a "loan" from the generous railroad roper-in who begs him not to trouble himself about paying it back. Once within the snares and foot-falls the member is very seldom able to extricate himself. He becomes the wretched creature of the bad and disreputable gang which keeps on tightening its grip and finally controls him soul and body. Last night I lay awake until half past 2 in a transomeless room of the third story. Every few minutes the bar porter walked along the corridor with his clinking tray of bottles and brandy glasses. The peals of laughter and hilarious shouts in the oil rooms on the opposite side of the hall made night hideous and sleep impossible. Within hearing distance in another room at the further end of the hall another crowd of dissolute lobbyists and their companions carried on their beastly debauch. Close by, on the other side of the oil room opposite to where I lay, an Omaha coterie was amending the charter between drinks. I could clearly distinguish the gentle voice of one of our paving contractors, who seemed to be dictating amendments for the judiciary committee, while Vandervoort and Charley Green put in an occasional proviso just to leave their imprint on the law. It was rather suggestive to hear these men say:

"We'll adjourn the senate to-morrow noon," and "we will get that committee to plaster the charter all over with amendments." "Don't you forget to have that fellow's salary reduced." "We'll have the city attorney elected by the people. We can nominate our men in both conventions and pull 'em through."

I was wondering mentally while listening to this gabble whether the legislators were mere jumping jacks of the railroad and contractors' lobby.

Early this morning I had to walk through rows of empty bottles, trays and drinking glasses which were shoved out of the oil-room doors sometime after the porters had gone to bed.

If this were the fanciful picture of an imaginative mind, it could pass for a sensation, but it is the sad and solemn reality which not only disgusts any man who values the reputation of this state, but affords an unutterable commentary upon the degraded condition of those of our law makers who have fallen prey to the wiles and temptations of the railroad anaconda.

Some of the brilliant birds of passage who have come down to the capital to represent the Omaha railroad press profess to be insulted because I have seen fit to express my disgust at their shameless disregard of all decency in associating and making common cause with the bar-room bummers and oil-room gamblers who are carrying on the villainous business of corrupting law makers and levying blackmail upon parties who have bills before the legislature. I am aware that down in the blue-grass region of Kentucky and up in "cool Minnesota" a man may wallow in the gutter with loafers, call himself a gentleman and sneer at sober, industrious and respectable people. In this uncultured and barbarian region, however, a man may remain a gentleman even if he keep company with reputable and law-abiding men. Passing from the sublime to the ridiculous I will remark that the Omaha charter still remains in the hands of such prominent citizens and heavy taxpayers as Frank Walters, Paul Vandervoort, John Sahler, George Crawford of Idaho, Will Gurley and Charles Fanning. With such a charter committee, the interests of the metropolis will be pronounced safe by Dr. Miller, and purer government is an assured fact for Omaha in the sweet by and by. E. ROSEWATER.

LEGISLATIVE DOINGS.

What Nebraska's Senate and House Accomplished Yesterday.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 26.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—The senate opened up in a spasm of economy this morning and passed a resolution requesting the president to appoint a committee of three to report upon the number and duties of the employes of the senate and recommend the discharge of all superfluous ones and the abandonment of all unnecessary outside committee rooms. The resolution was introduced by Mr. Brown of Clay, who said that the senate with thirty-three members had 108 employes, while the house with 100 members had only eighty employes. His committee had a room outside which was no longer necessary and he knew of others equally as useless. When the room was first rented there were two or three men sitting around in it, and upon inquiry he found one was the janitor, another the messenger, the third was the clerk he had appointed, who had had little to do.

Mr. Keckley asked why this state of affairs had not been reported before.

The president nominated Messrs. Brown, Snell and Bonesteel as such special committee.

The bill authorizing the churches to change their name was passed; also a bill relating to the care of cemeteries; also a bill to dispense with calling of grand juries in certain cases.

The senate adjourned till 10 o'clock Monday.

Doings in the House.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 26.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—In the house this morning Mr. Russell moved the adoption of a resolution that senate files No. 84 and 68, the Omaha and Lincoln charters, be made special order of March 1. The resolution was adopted. By another resolution the reporter of the supreme court was instructed to deposite a copy of each report of the court in the university library. The senate bill redistricting the state into judicial districts was brought up on a motion that it should be engrossed and ordered on its third reading. Mr. Randall objected to the disposition of the bill without regular treatment in the committee of the whole. He offered an amendment that the bill should be taken up in that form at once. The amendment was accepted by the mover of the original motion, and passed. The bill was talked of in laudatory and condemnatory terms for some time, until the indecision of the house narrowed down to consideration of a motion to report the bill back, with a recommendation that it be indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Whitmore made a vigorous fight for the bill, saying that with the exception of the charter bill there was no measure before the legislature in which the people of Omaha were so much interested. The motion to indefinitely postpone was lost. The motion was then made that the bill be recommended for passage. It was opposed by Mr. Fuller, who condemned the bill in its present form and said it was entirely in the interest of one section of the state. The recommendation for passage prevailed, 44 to 37.

After the committee arose a motion to recommit the bill, was almost unanimously carried. The situation really seemed to be, as Mr. Gilmore said, that the bill had been sprung on the house without preparation or expectation and while it was desirable to amend it no one knew exactly how it should be amended. Some one made a motion to adjourn until Monday, which called Mr. Whitmore to his feet with a protest. He said the house had been refusing to hold evening sessions in order to attend minstrel shows and lec shows.

Smyth—I would like to ask the gentleman—

Whitmore—I was there; I own up; I went there. (Laughter.)

The reference was to the appearance of May Vernon's dizzy blondes at the opera house last evening.

Mr. Whitmore continuing, made a serious objection to the house trusting upon the prospect of twenty days more session that was not yet sure. But it was sure that 200 to 300 bills needed consideration and if it was expected to get through half of them or one-tenth even, it would be necessary to get down to work.

The house then, upon motion of Mr. Fuchs, took a recess until 2 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

When the house reconvened in the afternoon the friends of the appropriation bills for charitable purposes endeavored to bring them up but they were postponed until Monday when they will come up as the special order of the day. A very pretty little fight is expected over some of the desired appropriations.

Mr. Gafford, who, by the way, is a young and ambitious physician, called up the bill creating a board of health and moved that it should be made the special order of this afternoon. The motion was decisively lost.

The house went into committee of the whole, Mr. Crane in the chair, Mr. Tracey's bill giving county boards power to construct necessary buildings and issue bonds to pay therefor was amended by requiring such action to receive the endorsement of a majority of the voters of the county and recommended for passage. Mr. Tingle opposed it, saying the best way to amend it was to cut its head off. Messrs. Harlan and Smyth also opposed it. The bill is especially designed to enable Gage county to get a court house.

The bill to require the stamping of the permanent school fund bonds so they will not be negotiable if stolen was recommended for passage.

The bill to give the owners of male animals a lien upon the progeny caused much and versatile discussion. As an amendment to the bill it was moved to substitute therefor another bill which contemplates a lien upon the mother of the progeny. Messrs. Tingle, Nichol, Dempster and Ballard opposed the amendment, the former characterizing it as a "damnable injustice" to a poor man who might only own a team of mares. Mr. Raymond said the house had been engaged in building up a lumber aristocracy, land aristocracies and other aristocracies and he believed everybody should be given a chance, and it would be consistent for the house to build up a stud horse aristocracy. To make the thing ridiculous he would vote for the bill.

The amendment was lost and the original bill was recommended for passage with slight amendment.

Upon the committee arising and the house resuming the regular session, Mr. Miller called up the Pat O. Hawes bill, moving that it be ordered engrossed and forwarded to third reading. Mr. Hayden and Mr. Fox objected to the irregular consideration of the bill, which raised up a "cloud of witnesses" in its behalf. The motion was carried with only one dissenting voice, and that was quite faint. The bill contemplates paying Mr. Hawes about $4,500 for collecting $18,000.

Uncle Jimmie Cannon, an old frontiersman and Indian fighter from Arizona, was granted permission to speak to the house. He made a disconnected address on Indian matters and urged the opening of the reservations. He was tendered a vote of thanks.

Mr. McConaughy moved that the bill providing for submission of the prohibitory amendment be made the special order of Tuesday, 10 a. m. The motion prevailed.

The house adjourned until Monday morning.

THE PENITENTIARY YARN.

Charges of Cruelty and Neglect Proven Utterly False.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 25.—[Special to the BEE.]—A stale and unprofitable yarn of three columns length that appeared in an evening paper in Omaha recited the woes of a convict who is temporarily respited from his sentence and lying in jail at Fremont. The article goes on to recite a series of alleged abuses at the penitentiary, and to-day Governor Thayer called ex-Warden Nobes, Warden Hyers, Prison Physician Carter and representatives of the BEE and other papers to his private office to consult concerning the alleged mismanagement. Mr. Nobes came bearing the documentary evidence to show who this man George J. Parks, who levies the charges, is. Parks was sent to the penitentiary from Dodge county for subordination of perjury. He was an alleged detective and had lived at Aurora. His history, as related by Representative Agee and others, was that he was a dead beat. He entered the prison under the name of Parks, but the warden soon ascertained that in other states he had gone under the name of Reynolds, Dodge, Winslow and other aliases. He reported himself a widower but Nobes has a bunch of letters from his wife (since divorced) who lives at Geneva, O. She volunteered the information to the warden that he was sharp and to look out for him. Letters came to the penitentiary from a married sister of Parks at Blue Hill which Parks refused to answer and denied the relationship. This is the man Parks' history as ascertained during his residence at the pen. During the year he was in the pen he was unruly and a bad prisoner. He was reported eight times for lack of doing proper work, for insolence to the guards, and staring at strangers. For this he was punished three times but kept in confinement only three days the longest time. As to the charges made, Parks stated that the prison fare and work was so hard that it nearly broke him down; stated in the three column interview that he weighed 190 pounds when he entered the pen and fell off to 140 when he came out. The prison record nails this statement, showing that he weighed 136 when he entered the place. The long representation of the fact of confinement in a hole and accompaning tortures was fully explained to the governor by the wardens that there was no confinement in a dungeon, that the dungeon built had never been used, that the punishment was given in a common cell with a closed door. A prisoner never had been kept in such punishment longer than ten days and on bread and water, and was daily examined by the physician. The aim of the prison official is to punish until men promise to do better.

Dr. Carter explained the death of McKellar, alleged to have been caused from neglect and lack of proper treatment, to have been from heart disease; that a substitute physician had years before diagnosed the case, and that McKellar was subject to the effects of the disease. The long statement of starvation, poor food, etc., made by Parks, and the terrible state of unhealthfulness, was answered by the comparative health statistics from all the penitentiaries in the land, showing that the death rate was less in Nebraska than any other state in the union. In fact, Dr. Carter stated that the food, in equality and amount, was of the most wholesome character. Meat was butchered at the pen, an ice house was used all summer, and milk and vegetables were always abundant.

Warden Hyers, who has recently assumed control, stated that a week ago he visited the prisoners individually, asking regarding their wants and complaints, and but one in the lot found fault with the food. Above all, the facts gleaned in the interview held by the governor is the additional one that the penitiary is open to visitors, that nearly, if not all the members of the legislature, have personally visited it and its workings this winter, and a great many of them have talked with prisoners whom they knew in former years. "If any one doubts the healthfulness and heartiness of the prisoners," said Warden Hyers, "all they need to do is to visit the institution and watch the men as they move in the grand march."

CHADRON BADLY SCORCHED.

Twenty-five Thousand Dollars Worth of Property Destroyed.

CHADRON, Neb., Feb. 26.—[Special Telegram to the Bee.]—This morning at 6 o'clock fire was discovered in the rear of Waller & Lyman's drug store on Main street, six doors south of the southwest corner of Main and Second streets. The alarm being given, the citizens turned out en masse to fight the fire. There being no fire engine or fire department organized, this was difficult and without avail. The drug store was soon abandoned and attention was given to the building adjoining toward Main street, owned by Felix Boznansky and occupied by Silverstein & Richards, clothiers. Efforts were made to remove this building, but the wind commencing to blow strong from the west, soon ignited this building, and it being partly demolished, gave the wind a chance to fan the flames, and it was soon a sheet of fire driving the workmen away. It was seen that all efforts to extinguish the fire were useless, and attention was given towards saving movable property. The fire now spread north, taking in succession L. W. Hall's grocery store, J. Sim's barber shop, G. A. Aekle's real estate and other office buildings, Ricker & Houghton's real estate and land office, Lake & Halley's bank on the corner of Main and Second streets. Then it spread west to Spargur & Fisher's building, the Chadron Democrat, and A. Joslyn's confectionary store, where it was checked. The Danielson house, adjoining Waller & Lyman's drug store on the south, was also burned, and several smaller buildings were either burned or torn down. There was little if any loss on movable property except Waller & Lyman's, who lost almost their entire stock and store fixtures. The Danielson house succeeded in removing about all their furniture. There were few guests in the house and what were there succeeded in removing all baggage and personal effects. P. B. Danielson's loss is about $8,000—insured for $2,000; Lake & Holley's, $3,000, insured for $2,500; Waller & Lyman's $3,500; partly insured. The others mentioned lost from $500 to $1,200 each. All were partly insured. It was feared at one time that the whole of Main street south of Second would go, and it was only prevented from spreading farther by hard work. Had it got across Main street it would have taken another block. The total loss is estimated at $20,000 to $25,000. The city recently purchased an engine and hook and ladder company fixtures, which should have arrived some time ago. Preparations are already commenced to rebuild the burned district and there will be a number of brick buildings erected.

Interesting Educational Meeting.

SUTTON, Neb., Feb. 26.—[Special Telegram to the BEE.]—An enthusiastic meeting of the Clay County Educational association was held to-day at Clay Center. Special trains were run over the Kansas City & Omaha railroad from Sutton and Fairfield, arriving at Clay Center at 10 a. m. This association is an organization of all the educational people of the