REPUBLICAN COUNTY CONVENTIONS

Returns Indicate That Senator Gamble Will Be Re-elected—State Convention Will Be Held June 5.

Returns from the Republican county conventions held throughout the state indicate the re-election of Robert J. Gamble to the United States senate. The insurgent faction of the Republican party of the state, of which he is one of the leaders, · ill have not less than 800 of the 1,369 delegates who will be entitled to seats in the state convention, which will be held in Sioux Falls on June 5.

The fight has been an animated one. The leaders of the stalwart faction are Senator Kittredge and Congressmen Martin and Burke.

The result of the county conventions also insures the nomination of Coe I. Crawford, former attorney general of South Dakota, as Republican candidate for governor, and, according to the insurgents, means the retirement of Congressmen Martin and Burke, and the substitution of men allied with the insurgent faction. Mr. Crawford has been the leader of the insurgents for several years.

The break between Senators Gamble and Kittredge attracted national attention, and has resulted in a deadlock over federal appointments in South Dakota, notably for the office of United States attorney. While on the face of the returns from the coun- conventions the insurgents have in neighborhood of not less than 800 delegates, the insurgents confidently expect that this figure will be increased 100 or more by the time the state convention meets, as several counties which were carried by the Stalwarts may go to the insurgents for the protection of their own interests.

Ex-Senator R. F. Pettigrew of New York will return to Sioux Falls, and will be a candidate to succeed Senator Kittredge two years hence. The statement that he would oppose Senator Kittredge at the next election on an independent liberal ticket is authorized by his closest friends.

Will Support Kittredge.

At the Republican convention held at Pierre to select delegates to the state and legislative conventions resolutions were adopted indorsing Congressman Burke and instructing the delegation for him. Senator Kittredge, Congressman Martin and Gov. Elrod also were endorsed. The legislative delegates were instructed for I. W. Goodner as senator from this district.

The only jar in the convention came in the way of a resolution from Delegate Downing of Blunt ,the only insurgent selected in the county, in which he desired to waive the majority right of his county in the legislative convention, and was ruled out of order.

Stalwarts Are Strong.

The Brown county Republican convention adopted resolutions indorsing Roosevelt, Elrod, the anti-pass law and other reform measures, and indorsed Judge Campbell for congress. The delegation elected to the state convention is solidly "Stalwart." The convention was largely attended. Former Governor Herreid presided.

The Campbell county convention surprised the "Stalwarts" by instructing delegates for Gamble. Edmonds county elected a "Stalwart" delegation by 103 to 29. McPherson sends a solid "Stalwart" delegation, as do Day and Marshall counties. Grant county went "Stalwart" by 70 to 48. The lively fight in Walworth county is not yet ended. The "Stalwarts" have a majority in the convention, but the insurgents are fighting to unseat three township delegations and secure control.

Vote Down Insurgents.

At the Republican county convention at Mitchell thirty-one delegates were elected to the state convention at Sioux Falls. The insurgents attempted to show their strength in trying to prevent the passage of the resolutions which instructed the delegates to vote as unit on questions and propositions. They were out-voted by 51 to 28. The delegates were instructed for Congressman Martin for senator, and for the nomination of Congressmen Burke and Gov. Elrod.

No Crawford Sentiment.

The Republican convention of Meade county was harmonious throughout. No Crawford sentiment developed. Strong resolutions were passed indorsing Elrod, Martin and other "Stalwarts." The convention elected fourteen delegates to the state convention and authorized those present at the latter to cast the votes of the entire county.

The Democrats also held a county conve- on, electing six delegates to their state convention.

Denounce Machine Rule.

The Spink county Republican convention was very harmonious. S. W. Clark of Redfield was unanimously indorsed for the position of attorney general. Resolutions were adopted indorsing President Roosevelt and his policies, denouncing machine rule and demanding that the state convention select men for party management and for the ticket who are "in full sympathy with the people."

Instruct for Crawford.

Clay county Republicans instructed for Crawford for governor, indorsed the record of Gamble as United States senator, condemned the so-called policy of political interference with the state educational institutions and voted that their delegates to the state convention should vote as a unit on all questions.

Turn Down Burke.

The Republican county convention at Miller indorsed Roosevelt's policies and passed a strong Crawford indorsement. Resolutions were passed favoring a state primary law, also an anti-pass law.

Insurgents Are Hopeful.

Thirty-four delegates were chosen and instructed for Crawford for governor by the Beadle county Republican convention. Reports from over the state are highly pleasing to the insurgents, and at Crawford headquarters it is claimed the insurgent strength in the convention will exceed 800.

For Gamble and Crawford.

At the Republican county convention held at Elk Point twenty-seven delegates were selected to the state convention at Sioux Falls, with strong instructions for Gamble and Crawford. The insurgents were in control and the stalwarts put up no fight.

LO MAKES GOOD ROADS.

Six Hundred Indians Are Working for Wages on Reservation.

The Indians on the Cheyenne river reservation again are at their road work for the summer, about 600 of them being employed this year. The workmen are paid in cash at the end of each month, and for this month about $15,000 will be paid, while the payment for next month is estimated at $10,000.

For the year ending July 1 the total amount paid to the Indians for road work will be $83,000. This is paid to them in lieu of government rations, the workmen waiving that bounty when they go to work, and while some of them were slow to make the change, it worked so satisfactorily from the beginning, the number of workmen is continually increasing. This work gives the Indians ready cash with which to purchase supplies, which they spend where they please, and puts them in line of earning their living by labor, and at the same time places a fine system of highways all over the reservation. As the gulches are filled in along the lines of the highways, it also locates pools of water at points all along their roads.

SEND CATTLE TO RANGES.

Great Herds Will Be Succeeded by Small "Bunches."

The first train load of Southern cattle for the ranges west of the Missouri river to arrive this season has passed through Aberdeen for Evarts. They were from New Mexico. Two more train loads are expected within two weeks. Owing to the rush of settlers to Butte county, the number of feeders on the ranges this season may not be as large as formerly, for the extent of the range will be materially curtailed. Settlers are pouring into the Butte county lands at the rate of hundreds a day, and the cattlemen already are preparing to seek other ranges. The newcomers quite generally will take a bunch of cattle, horses enough to till the soil, and a few dozen hens with them to their land. Probably as many cattle will be raised in Butte county under the new regime as at present, but they will be in small herds instead of the large numbers which now roam the ranges.

WILL TEST SUGAR BEETS.

Seeds Sent to South Dakota Farmers for Experimental Purpose.

Charles Bewick has spent a large quantity of sugar beet seed to R. F. Walters, engineer in charge of the reclamation work at Belle Fourche. Mr. Bewick has recently received a shipload of this seed from Germany, and has sent it West with the request that it be distributed among twenty farmers in the Belle Fourche, Redwater and Spearfish valleys. In September Mr. Bewick and a chemist will analyze samples from each farm to ascertain the per cent of saccharine matter.

Mr. Bewick has been looking over the ground here with the view to establishing a sugar beet factory, and this is the first step in that direction.

GOPHER ALUMNA TO CARRY MAIL

Says She Will Use Apron for Sack, if Necessary.

Miss Hattie Burnstad, a graduate of the University of Minnesota, is at this moment probably the most talked about young woman in South Dakota. As postmistress of a frontier town in which not a single house is built, she is the heroine of the tent-living population of the new town of Florence, one of the first to be opened on the new railroad extension. A board sign indicates where the postoffice is to be, but of the building itself there is not a sign. The new official, however, is not daunted by this fact.

As the daughter of Representative A. C. Burnstad of Codington county, Miss Burnstad knew something about politics as an inheritance. Possibly she had acquired a little practical knowledge in the contests of her sorority at college. At any rate, while the prospective politicians of Florence were wrangling among themselves as to who should have the postmastership of the potential city, Miss Burnstad quietly walked off with the commission. When she was informed of her success by the railroad company's townsite agent at Watertown, there was no more pleased girl in the Northwest.

"All right,' she said, with dimpling enthusiasm, "I will undertake the job even if I have to carry the mail in an automobile and deliver it out of my apron."

And this is just what she is going to do. The railroad will not be built into Florence until some time in the summer, but in the meantime the residents will get their mail, for Miss Burnstad will make her word good.

USE AUTOS TO SHOW LAND.

Real Estate Agents Overcome Lack of Railway Facilities.

The automobile has been called into service by the active land agent, who is using it to take prospective settlers to view land on which he desires to place them. Two Iowans are responsible for the scheme, and have just completed plans to take a party of fifty Iowa homeseekers to Butte county in automobiles. They are expected to arrive with their party in a day or two.

Some of the party will go to Evarts by rail and there embark in the "benzine buggies," but others will make the start from Aberdeen and will make the long trip overland in automobiles. There is no railroad into Butte county, and the trip has heretofore been made by team. The country is level prairie, and while there are few roads the automobiles will have easy going.

Most of the people being taken to the county already have secured land and the balance probably will be supplied before they return to their Iowa homes. There has been an immense influx of farmers into Butte county, and already two and probably three railroads are considering the advisability of extending their lines through that county.

KEROSENE CAN EXPLODES.

Hired Girl and Two Children Are Seriously Burned.

Miss Margaret Draper, a domestic employed by Charles H. Boedecker, is in an Aberdeen hospital, suffering fro mburns, and the twin children of Mr. and Mrs. Boedecker are suffering from burns of a less serious character, through the explosion of a kerosene can from which Miss Draper was trying to kindle a fire. Smoldering coals in the fire caused the explosion, and the girl was instantly covered with the burning oil. She rushed out of doors screaming for help, and was seized by H. H. McClusky who was passing by, and the flames were extinguished. Half-delirious from pain and terror, the girl suddenly remembered the twins, who were in the house alone, and cried that they must be saved. McClusky rushed to the house, but was driven back by the flames, which had enveloped the building. R. H. Mayfield and W. B. Jeffries, carpenters, who were working close by, forced their way into the house and succeeded in rescuing the children, who were seriously burned by the extreme heat of the room.

Woll Clip Will Pay Well.

While sheep shearing has begun in a few flocks on the range, most of that work will be done through next month. While wool buyers are appearing on the market, they do not expect to secure anything nearly so large a clip from this part of the state this year as they have in past years. The high prices paid for sheep last year were such a great temptation to many flock owners that 100,000 sheep were shipped off the ranges of western South Dakota last fall, which materially will reduce the clip for this year. Prices are satisfactory for this season, many of the flock owners contracting last fall to deliver this year's clip at above 20 cents, and the situation looks as if it would be another profitable clip to those who held their sheep last year.

Only 24 Cents in Till.

Since the first of the present month the state land department has received for the common school fund $99,390.76, and in the same time has sent out on loans all but 24 cents of this amount, which is the total sum lying idle in the permanent fund at this date.

Put on Soldiers' Home Board.

Gov. Elrod has appointed George A. Ludlow of Sioux Falls as a commissioner of the soldiers' home board, vice Charles A. Marshall, deceased.

FORTUNES MADE IN SO. DAKOTA SOIL

Newcomers Find Many Locations in Which to Repeat Successes of the Pioneer Settlers of the State.

"Land, land, more land." This is the cry of thousands of people who are swarming into South Dakota. They come from every point of the compass, but mainly from the Central and Eastern states. All kinds and conditions of men seek here an opportunity of bettering their fortune by investment in lands, and most of them find it. some of them are hard-handed, practical farmers, who have sold out their holdings in other states at big prices, and are here to reinvest their money in cheaper farms with the purpose of tilling them until the rise in values gives them excuse for another profitable speculation. Others are investors pure and simple, people who have idle capital and can find no better or surer safety deposit box than the soil of South Dakota, nothing that will yield them the same big income in the form of yearly rental and steady increase in valuation. Tradesmen, mechanics, professional men and plain workers are also here, all eager to find openings, and the competent ones invariably do so. But, whatever their vocation or means, the ambition of all is the same. They want land and they want lots of it. The few who don't have this ambition to begin with quickly acquire it after a few days in the state. They can't help it—it's in the air.

"It's not surprising," said one resident, "because all our wealth is based on land. Those who are not making money by what some economists call 'unearned increment,' get it by ministering to the needs of those who till the soil, and the result in the end is the same. The man who buys South Dakota land, or the one who tills it, or he who sells goods to either of them will get wealthy, and that's all there is to it."

People Joyful and Prosperous.

South Dakota is certainly a wonderful country, and those who make their homes here have ample excuse for their enthusiasm, which have attended their efforts. They came here poor and when land was cheap and untilled. They have seen the population increase by leaps and bounds, the prairies gradually brought under cultivation, and made to yield bonanza crops, and the comforts and luxuries of modern civilization secured. Is it any wonder they are proud and enthusiastic? Some unthinking strangers, thunder-struck by this universal spirit, call it egotism, but a few days of inspection makes them quickly change their minds. On a railway train I recently met a Chicago drummer, who is on his tenth year in this territory. He said:

"When I first began making South Dakota points I was considerably put out by what I thought was the buncombe, or egotism, of the residents. Their tales were of the Munchausen order, to my way of thinking. Now I'm fully as garrulous and confident in this kind of talk as any of them. I simply can't help it. I've seen the wonderful wealth of the state, have seen it increase at a rate which made my head dizzy ,and must admit that the stories one hears are, as a rule, well founded. Ever read the Arabian Nights? Yes. Well, of course you remember the yarn about Aladdin and his wonderful lamp? Say, that was a great story, wasn't it? Well, you take my word for it. Mr. Aladdin never did anything half so magical as the change which has been wrought in South Dakota within the last twenty-five years. His deeds were cheap and fakey. Here we have a profitable reality."

Something About Land Values.

It is the custom in South Dakota to refer to the times "when land was cheap." It's cheap to-day, considering its enormous productive capacity and the steady manner in which values kept on advancing. Like all comparatively new countries, the matter of values is largely one of location. In communities where the population is large and of desirable class the farms are well tilled, and churches, schools, banks, etc., reasonably numerous, lands are naturally held at higher prices than in neighborhoods less favored by the progress of civilization. All the lands in those western sections of the state are just as rich and just as susceptible of profitable improvement as the eastern. They are merely awaiting the coming of the settlers. Once under the plow, there will be no question about the future.

As I have already said, the onward march of civilization in South Dakota is a rapid one. The railway unloads a few families on the bare prairie, with nothing in view but a broad expanse of blue sky and an undulating stretch of grass covered land. Tents or sod houses go up, the sod is broken, and seed sown. The yield is encouraging and the hardy pioneers keep at work, gradually subduing the wild lands, intent on transforming it into a presentable farm. Some day he wakes up to a realization that he is an empire builder. His tent or sod house, like that of his neighbors, has grown into a comfortable, well furnished home. His farm is fenced and highly productive; instead of the primitive hoe and scythe, and around him have sprung up villages and even cities, teeming with life and prosperity. This is the record of the older part of South Dakota, and it is being duplicated today in other sections of the state. In it may be found an explanation of the increase in land values; of the fact that the holder of a farm is frequently surprised to learn that there are eager purchasers for his holdings at as much as $50 or $75 an acre, when it was only a few years ago they cost him nothing but the entry fees.

State Is on the Jump.

South Dakota is on the jump. The last census, taken in 1905, gives the state a population of 455,185, and this population is well distributed instead of being massed in one or two large cities. In other words, economically speaking, it is a healthy population. The largest city in South Dakota has only 12,282 people, while there are 200 cities and villages ranging from 5,000 down to 100 proportion of the entire population finds employment on farms and ranches, adding daily and yearly to the material wealth and prosperity of the state.

"I don't farm any more," said one man to me as we sat on the porch of his comfortable home in a thriving town of 3,000 people. "I don't have to. I did for a time and made money at it. This money I kept putting into land, and in a short time accumulated an extensive tract. Some of this I rent out, and some has been sold at prices which have made me independent. As you see, we live in comfort and don't have to worry about anything."

And this man's history has many, many duplicates all over South Dakota. The state is full of men who have grown wealthy in the same way, just as thousands of others are doing now.

In the western section of South Dakota is to-day the richest farming section of land that awaits settlers in the United States. Part of this is free homestead land; other parts have to be bought from owners, but at prices that are simply nominal. The drummer, whom I have quoted above in this article said to me:

"I recollect some years ago when I could have bought land in the eastern part of this state at $10 and $15 an acre. I didn't do it. Why? Well, it looked too cheap to me. To-day that same land is selling for anywhere from $60 to $80 an acre. It isn't worth 1 cent an acre more as far as productiveness goes, than it was ten years ago, but as population comes in land values go up.

"I'm not going to be left again, however. I've got a section of land out here in the western part of the state, and what I missed in the eastern part I am going to make up in the western."
—Herbert Vanderhoof, in Minneapolis Journal.

STORK FAR IN LEAD.

Noble Bird's April Record Over Twice Size of Grim Reaper's.

The report of the bureau of vital statistics for the month of April, which has just been completed, shows 758 births and 329 deaths, pneumonia being the most fatal ,with 41 deaths; heart failure being next, with 36; tuberculosis, 17; accidents, 16; cancer, 13; suicide, 4.

There were 267 marriages and 67 divorces, five of the divorced couples being residents of the state and 62 non-residents. There were 251 naturalizations.

On account of politics or some other equally potent reason the clerks of the counties of Bon Homme, Charles Mix, Day, Fauly and Sully did not get their reports in, and they are not included in this summary.

STATE HOLINESS CAMP MEETING

Will Be Held Through Ten Days Near City of Mitchell.

The fourteenth annual camp meeting of the South Dakota State Holiness association, auxiliary to the national, will be held in the beautiful natura lgrove on the James river near the mouth of Rock creek, three or four miles east of Mitchell, July 13 to 22.

Rev. J. L. Glasscock of Cincinnati will be the evangelist. Mr. Glasscock is an able preacher and a man of large experience.

Judge Declares Bonds Valid.

The suit brought by George V. Ayers & Co. et al. against the Hidden Fortune Gold Mining company was decided at Deadwood in the circuit court by Judge Rice, who held the first mortgage bonds to be valid. The lien holders come prior to the bonds to the extent of 3$00,000.

Congress.

Resume of the Week's Proceedings.

Monday.

Washington, May 22. — Notwithstanding that the leader of the minority, Mr. Williams of Mississippi, insisted upon the presence of a quorum throughout the day, delaying as much as he could the orderly procedure of legislation, the house yesterday passed twenty-two bills, six senate and sixteen house measures.

The executive, legislative and judicial appropriation bill was passed by the senate yesterday within three hours from its first reading. It carries appropriations aggregating $29,815,259, an increase of $59,345 over the amount reported to the senate.

Tuesday.

Washington, May 23.—The senate devoted the greater part of the day's session to consideration of the immigration bill, but before it was taken up Senator McCumber made a personal statement contradicting an article printed in the New York Tribune to the effect that the railroad rate bill had been so amended at his instance as to render it ineffective. Previous to that time also the senate adopted a resolution directing the committee on privileges and elections to consider the course to be pursued in the case of Senator Burton.

For an hour or more yesterday the house of representatives could not decide whether to go into committee of the whole on the diplomatic and consular bill or to follow the lead of Mr Gardner of Massachusetts and take up consideration of the immigration bill. After the smoke of battle lifted the consular bill was taken up and a general debate begun.

Wednesday.

Washington, May 24.—In addition to passing half a dozen bills to which no objection was made the senate devoted its entire session yesterday to the immigration bill, which was passed just before the hour of adjournment. The bill consists of a series of amendments to the existing law, all of them intended to permit stricter regulations for keeping out defective classes of aliens. The head tax is increased from $2 to $5.

The day's proceedings in the house were closed with a speech by Mr. Longworth of Ohio, who talked upon the merits of the diplomatic and consular bill.

Thursday.

Washington, May 25.—After considerable debate the senate yesterday passed the bill relieving denatured alcohol from the internal revenue tax and then took up the agricultural appropriation bill, which was still under consideration when the senate adjourned.

Well filled galleries and a large membership on the floor listened with great attention yesterday in the house to two leaders of opposite schools of politics—Charles A. Towne of New York and John Dalzell of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Towne's strictures on the president were received with applause on the Democratic side. Mr. Dalzell spoke in favor of "letting well enough alone," his speech being enthusiastically applauded by the Republicans.

Friday.

Washington, May 26. — The house was turbulent during the consideration of the rule sending the rate bill to conference, the fear of many members being that the rule which disagreed to the senate amendments en bloc might have an influence on the conferees and give them an opportunity if they so desired, to vote out the express company amendment, the amendment relating to pipe lines, and the sleeping car amendment.

With the assurance that the wishes of the house would be considered on all the amendments, the rule was adopted.

The senate passed the agricultural appropriation bill, carrying an appropriation of $7,800,000, and without a word of debate or an objection from any source added to it as an amendment the bill providing for an inspection of fresh meats intended for domestic consumption.

The provision is along the general lines of the law for the inspection of meats intended to be shipped abroad, and the work is delegated to the bureau of animal industry.

SHOOTS LOVER; KILLS SELF.

Because She Would Leave Him, Man Wounds Handsome Companion.

New York, May 27—Because she had threatened to leave him and had shown him a photograph of her new lover, John Kindrovics yesterday shot and wounded Cecilia McGarry, a handsome woman, in their apartments in West Forty-fourth street. When the police broke into his apartment, Kindrovics killed himself by a shot in the brain. Miss McGarry will recover.

Goll Works With Bigelow.

Leavenworth, Kan., May 26.—Henry G. Goll, former cashier of the First National Bank of Milwaukee, serving a ten-year sentence here, was yesterday assigned to work in the identification bureau. Frank G. Bigelow, former president of the bank, works in the same department.

Acid Is Thrown Over Girl.

Billings, Mont., May 26—In a fit of jealousy it is alleged that Joe Grady threw acid at Anne Stanley here yesterday. She was frightfully burned.

The people of Clark county are so lawabiding that it has been found necessary for Judge Marquis to postpone the regular May term of state circuit court until September, not enough cases being on the calendar to warrant the holding of a term at this time. It even is doubtful if there will be any jury cases by next September, and Judge Marquis states that it is not likely that a jury will be called at that time.

Several hogs belonging to N. M. Christiansen of Ashton died recently from a mysterious disease thought to be rabies. The disease has reappeared, the victim this time being a fine thoroughbred bull owned by Christiansen. The animal became violent and bit several horses in the pasture before he was killed.

Old Man Giddles says that when he hears a young man say of married life, "It is the only way to live," he knows right away the young man has been married for a whole week.

An old Indian from the Southwest has been in Washington for a while and spends a good deal of his time in the senate gallery. He seemed to pay special attention to Senators Spooner, Teller and Beveridge. The other day he felt that he ought to express his thoughts to some one, so he picked out Capt. Riley, the veteran who runs the elevator. "Senat he Spoon, heap good talk," he said. Riley agreed with him. After five minutes Lo got another idea shaped up. "Senat he Teliah, heap good talk, too." Riley assented to that also. By the time the elevator got to the bottom of the shaft on its return trip the brave had another sentence ready. He said: "Senat Bev, not worth cuss," and stalked away gravely.

M. Z. Guthrie, a young attorney of Pierre, is suffering from a painful accident which may cost him the use of one eye. While getting breakfast for himself at his homestead the lid flew off a can which he was using in making coffee, and the scalding liquid was thrown into his face, severely burning him.