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THE CUSTER COUNTY FARMER'S INSTITUTE WILL BE HELD AT BROKEN BOW, WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14 and 15. Make arrangements to attend.



Letter from the National Capitol

A Batch of Newsy Notes from Our Special Correspondent.

Washington, D. C., January 29, 1906.

An echo of the old days when Nebraska was a territory and its settlers were harried by the Red Men, was heard in Congress last week when Senator Burkett presented a petition adopted by the legislature of his state, praying for recognition of the militia that held back the Indian hordes between 1862 and 1864. The recognition is asked in order that these Indian fighters may be eligible to pensions. They were enlisted by the Territorial officers, who were appointed by the Federal government, and thus practically are of the same legal statute as those men who followed Grant or Sherman. The Federal government in those days could not spare troops to insure the safety of the stream of settlers pouring westward; it needed all the men it could muster in the south for the war of the Rebellion hung in the balance. The bill was ordered printed and referred to the Senate Committee on Military Affairs. There is every reason to believe it will be acted on promptly and favorably by the committee, of which Senator Warren of Wyoming is chairman. Senator Burkett also presented a petition of the Commercial Club of Omaha, which urges that the consular service be reorganized.

David E. Thompson has plucked a plum from the political tree, the ambassadorship to Mexico. The Senate this week confirmed the Presidential nomination, which transfers the Nebraskan from the position of ambassador to Brazil to the post of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Republic south of us. Lloyd C. Griscom, of Pennsylvania, will succeed Mr. Thompson at Brazil.

A number of Nebraska editors have been recognized by the administration. On the same day that it sanctioned the transfer of

Ambassador Thompson, the Senate confirmed the appointment of M. A. Brown to be postmaster at Kearney. Mr. Brown is well known as the editor of the Kearney Hub, and the postmastership of his home town comes, in a large measure, as a reward for his tireless support of the republican party. Other editors who have been appointed to care for post office interests in their home towns are Alfred L. Brande, one of the proprietors of the Pierce County Call at Pierce, and William H. McNeal of the Wayne Herald. Both Mr. Brande and Mr. McNeal succeeded themselves in office. Others appointed to postoffices this week are Charles A. Warner, to be postmaster at Geneva; Wellington A. Post at Stromsburg, and Delbert E. Sherman at Valentine.

Secretary of the Treasury Shaw has dropped a bomb in the ranks of the government clerks. He has publicly announced his belief, based on a study of the subject, that clerks in the government employ should be retained no longer than six years. Six years in Washington, the secretary declares, is a liberal education, but sixteen or twenty-six years in one department is paralysis both to mentality and ambition. The mental paralytics whose jobs are endangered are thinking more earnestly now than for years past.

Under the iron rule of "Uncle Joe" Cannon the insurrection in the House, precipitated by the Philippine bill and carried through the Statehood measure, has been stamped on. The rebellion caused the republican leaders in the House several sleepless nights, however, and for a time it seemed as though party measures were doomed to defeat. One the eve of the ballots on both bills the insurgents weakened and although coalition with the Democratic minority promised to crown their plans with victory, the call of party loyalty proved too strong. Then, the pork barrel would have been sealed, so far they were concerned, if they had carried the feud to a conclusion. Through it all "Uncle Joe" sat complacently on the lid of the barrel and waited for the break in the insurgent ranks. If he was anxious he concealed his feelings admirably, for his serenity was so unruined as almost to be ominous. Those who stuck to their guns to the last and refused to sacrifice their individuality to party law, included the representatives from Colorado, Kansas and Wyoming.

Members of the lower House are chuckling over the predicament one of their colleagues finds himself in. It seems the unsophisticated private secretary of this especial Representative forwarded to Washington by mail three parts of a sectional book case, using his employer's postal frank. The bookcases contained private books, and one of them is said to have concealed a miscellaneous kitchen utensils, intended for the owner's home here. The entire collection was "unfrankable," and the local postmaster has called on the Representative to pay postage on his property to the amount of \$72. The name of the Representative is being kept secret, but that doesn't soothe his feeling to any great extent.

Squalls that threaten to develop into storm, are raging around the navy department and Congress. American naval experts are striving to impress on Congress the fact that this nation needs the swiftest and heaviest battleships that can be built, and refer to the fact that Japan is about ready to float the greatest fighting machine that ever rode the seas, the Satsuma, of 19,000 tons. Secretary Taft calls the attention of Congress to the fact that the army is practically made ineffective for use in case of a foreign war or if trouble should break out in our insular possessions, because of

the total inadequacy of the transport service and the scant number of American ships that could be pressed into service for the transportation of troops. In reply Congress has pointed out that the navy department is exceeding the appropriations each year by hundreds of thousands of dollars and that such extravagance must cease. Last year the officials of the department not only expended the entire amount allowed them for "repair and maintenance of machinery," but exceeded that amount by \$1,000,000. Chairman Tawney and the members of the House Committee on Appropriations have just refused to entertain the plea that Congress make good this deficiency. To all appearances there is promise of Congress taking some drastic action to curtail naval expenses.

"The American navy, ship for ship and man for man, could whip the Japanese navy, or any other navy that rides the seas." This is the declaration of President Roosevelt. He meant it, too, but the fact that it was given wide publicity has induced him to follow it with the enlightening declaration that "the Japanese ships and men are wonderful and brilliant fighters, but not so good as the Americans." The president's defense of the United States squadrons was made in a conversation at the White House with Dr. James Scherer, president of Newberry College and for five years a resident of Japan. Dr. Scherer believes the Japanese navy is invincible, and said so. Then followed the presidential broadside. Dr. Scherer ran up the white flag and withdrew, to make the story public.

There is woe in Washington society—woe and heart-burnings. The trouble lies in the fact that there are to be only 1,500 cards issued for Miss Roosevelt's wedding. Only 1,500! There are at the lowest estimate 15,000 persons in society who are hoping to receive an invitation. And thus the burning question of the hour is not statehood or tariff or rate regulation, but "Am I on the List." The wedding presents that will be showered on Miss Roosevelt will transform the White House into a museum of rare and rich treasures. The Rough Rider regiment is said to have chosen a silver service of rare design, the diplomatic corps of Washington is planning a magnificent gift, the jewelers and silversmiths of New York are working over time on jeweled trifles and exhausting their skill in fashioning precious metals to grace the wedding collection, while all sorts of "freak" presents are being made ready. Among these is a picture of the "Madonna and the Christ" wonderfully executed in white and brown butterfly wings by Fred Krempel, a shoemaker-naturalist of Milwaukee.

Western cattlemen are striving before the House Committee of Interstate and Foreign Commerce to have favorable action taken on the bill extending the time for unloading cattle in transit from twenty-six to thirty-six hours. The cattlemen contend the longer period works less hardship on the animals.

W. C. CRAWFORD.

Ryno.

The surveyors are busy just now finding the section corners in the Finlen pasture.

Mrs. Boehman has returned from Kansas and is staying with her sister, Mrs. Cooper.

Charley Conley made a trip north-west the other day to add some young cattle to his herd and to vary the monotony of picking corn.

Arthur McBurnie, of south of Broken Bow, was renewing acquaintances in the neighborhood this week. He has had a varied experience in the Philippines and China with the army since his former residence here.

HOT WATER BAGS

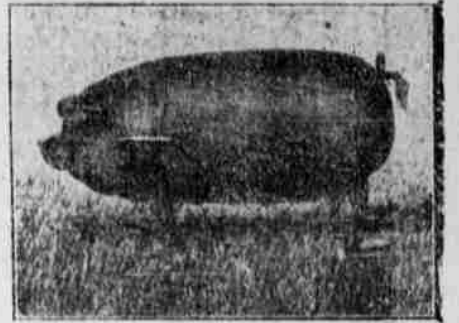
During these chilly days and cold nights there is much sickness in the family. A cold, or ache, or even a more serious ailment. One of our Hot Water Bags will often relieve these. Get one now. Don't wait until the last minute.

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Successors to J. G. Haebler

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Come and see me,

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must not neglect his eyes. He may think he hasn't got the time to have them examined to-day and tomorrow they may give him serious trouble. Examination of the eyes are made here without unnecessary delay, but sufficient time is taken to obtain accurate information. Eyeglasses and spectacles fitted by us will bring about the desired result in every case. Our charges are moderate.

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JEWELER AND OPTICIAN

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Pure Scotch and Scotch-Topped Short Horn Cattle. My herd numbers 40 cows. Will compare in breeding and quality with any west of Chicago. My experience has taught me that to give good satisfaction, breeding cattle must be raised in this climate. I expect to raise them here the equal of anything raised in the U. S. I now have 25 bulls suitable for this and next year's service. My cows weigh from 1400 to 2000 pounds. Come and see her.

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