

KILLING TIME.

A Day Wasted in Useless Work by the Legislature.

Woman Suffrage in the Senate and Begus Railroad Legislation in the House.

The House Railroad Committee Charged With Smothering Important Bills.

Which is Indignantly Denied and a Demand Made to Take it All Back.

The Whole Forming a Pathetic Farce for the Cappers.

Special Dispatch to The Bee.

LINCOLN, February 16.—It will be a blessing to the tax payer of Nebraska when this legislature adjourns.

The senate frittered away nearly a whole day in the frivolous debate over the dead issue of woman suffrage, and the house outraged decency and disgraced itself by its shameful disregard of the popular demand for the abolition of the present system of railroad assessment and relief from extortion by restrictive railroad legislation.

Nine-tenths of the legislature pledged their sacred honor before the election to carry out these needed reforms, but, recent to this trust, they have not only shirked their duty, but added insult to injury by devising a railroad bill through the cappers of the house committee that has not a single redeeming feature.

This bill, amended in unimportant particulars, will in effect simply take \$12,000 out of the treasury for a bogus commission that is to gather statistics most of which are already embodied in the reports of the United States commissioner of railroads.

No provision is made for a reduction of passenger or freight rates and no relief is afforded from legalized highway robbery by monopolies in any direction.

In other words, Nebraska is to submit for nearly three years longer to the arbitrary and rapacious exactions of railroads. True, there is decided opposition to this brazen attempt to legalize the plundering of the people for three years longer, but there is a lamentable want of leadership and backbone in the house.

Lawyers, with the exception of Roberts, are all actively enlisted in the railroad interest. Speaker Humphrey, Bierbrocker, Grout, Whedon, Field, and even Holman, are obstructing every effort to redress the grievance that caused the anti-monopoly revolt last fall.

While the republicans must bear the responsibility for the failure of this legislature to redeem its pledge, there are more rotten democrats in it according to their number than there are republicans. These democratic jobbers and monopoly stool pigeons have shown their hand at every stage.

GENERAL FOREIGN NEWS.

Special Dispatch to The Bee.

THE PARIS EXPULSION. PARIS, February 16.—In the chamber of deputies, Marcon, reporter of the committee on the expulsion bills, read the report and demanded immediate discussion.

The minister of justice said President Grey, on account of the illness of Fallieres, had not yet accepted the resignations of the ministers. The cabinet, Deves said, was ready to place itself at the orders of the chamber.

Franco reports the arrest of Lepetit, director of the Credit de France. IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS. LONDON, February 16.—In the house of lords Wolsley took the oath and seat amid cheers.

In the debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne the Marquis of Salisbury (conservative) complained that the queen's speech did not state when the last of the British troops would quit Egypt.

Earl Granville, secretary of state for the foreign department, said the criticism of Salisbury was based on gossip and after dinner speeches. A LETTER FROM HEALY. Complaints of needlessly irritating prison rules at Kilmalsham. THE QUEEN'S SPEECH. My lords and gentlemen, I am happy to state that the improvement in the social condition of Ireland to which I referred in December continues.

Agrianar estate is sensibly diminished, and the law is everywhere upheld. Measures will be promptly submitted to you for the establishment of a court of criminal appeal for preventing corrupt practices and perpetrating and amending the ballot act.

You will also be invited to consider a proposal which will more effectively secure tenants in England and Scotland compensation for agricultural improvement. You have provided in recent years by a liberal devotion of your time for the most urgent needs of Ireland, and claims on general legislation and other parts of the kingdom.

THE TRIBUTE ON SENATOR MILLER. Special Dispatch to The Bee. CHICAGO, February 16.—The Tribune says: "Senator Miller, of California, had his ox gone on Wednesday. Despite his remonstrances, the senate maliciously put a tax of 75 cents a ton on coal. A large part of the coal of the state is imported. Miller protested. He thought this not fair, it was unjust. It is not. It is the same way we protested when this senator from California voted to tax every farmer working man and mechanic of the restless states for the further enrichment of a few lumber bosses, but Mr. Miller then thought that taxes were fair. It did not touch him or those he represented. This country is evolving a new species of statesman, whose only standard of action is the narrow selfish interest. The constitution has something to say about levying taxes for the general welfare. These protectionist bosses act as if they thought these words of pleasant sound referred to the name of one of the forgotten heroes of the revolutionary war."

THE CAPITOL CURSE.

Special Dispatch to The Bee.

Voting the State in Debt Through All Eternity.

Explanations for Record of Senatorial Votes on the Railroad Bill.

Topographical Division of the Proposed New Deal of Judicial Perseverance.

Some of the Hogs Who Hope to Feed Off the Miscellaneous Appropriation Bill.

A Lively Skirmish in the House Over the Railroad Bill.

Special Correspondence of The Bee.

LINCOLN, Neb., February 16.—Your correspondent overheard a little conversation in which Capt. Lee, of Furnas county, participated. The Captain said: "We are voting this state in debt to an extent that will curse us to all eternity. Nebraska will never see daylight again, she will never be out of debt." "Yes," said the other, "I notice that THE BEE is making that kind of a charge." "THE BEE?" said the Captain, "Damn THE BEE. From this it must be apparent that the former said the best and the latter not so probable that he has been voting for the steals mentioned and his course has not been endorsed by the newspaper. If the captain can reconcile his course with the statements here made, we will turn him over to his constituents and let the reconstruction take place in the county of Furnas."

In the senate yesterday the senate resolution by Brown, of Douglas, providing for the admission of an amendment to the constitution allowing women to vote upon the suffrage amendment, came up in the committee of the whole, and occupied half the afternoon. Brown, of Douglas, spoke in favor of the resolution and Ex-Governor Butler spoke an hour and a half or two hours, keeping the senate in session till 7:30 p. m. Senator Dech also spoke at length in favor of the resolution. McShane, Schoenholt and others opposed it. Before a vote was reached the committee arose, and the senate adjourned. It is understood that this resolution will come up again to-day.

When the vote was reached yesterday upon the senate railroad bill the following explanations of votes were sent to the secretary of the senate that they might be made a matter of record. Senator Kinkaid.—I believe that this bill is not the best which could have been offered. Expenses, doubt, he passed. Senator Connor.—I do not believe this act will meet the just expectations of the people. Its provisions are not complete and ample enough to properly restrain and control railroad corporations, but, believing it will be impossible to enact more thorough legislation of this character at this session of the legislature, I cast my vote in favor of the act.

Senator Brown, of Douglas.—In explanation of my vote upon this bill, I wish to say that I entertain grave doubts respecting the constitutionality of section five and section seven; yet I am constrained to resolve these doubts in favor of the bill, trusting that the bill, should it become a law, will be instrumental in correcting the gross abuses and unjust discriminations as practiced by the railroad companies doing business in this state.

Senator Butler.—I desire to say, in explanation of my vote upon this bill, that the railroads of this state were called, in their construction by subsidies from the national and state governments to an amount exceeding their cost to the companies, that I am convinced that the freight rates of such roads as now and heretofore charged by such companies, are largely in excess of the amounts necessary to pay a rate of profit on the capital invested equal to the average earnings of invested capital in this country.

THE WIVES DEMOCRATIZATION. Special Dispatch to The Bee. CHICAGO, February 16.—The Western Union officers here say the democratization of the wires is now complete, and extends from Buffalo to Omaha, and from St. Paul to Cairo. The poles themselves are washed away in some localities, and the prevalence of a fog causes such a rapid escape of electric fluid and such induction that when the wires are intact business can with difficulty be done.

A MALIGNANT PENSION AGENT. Special Dispatch to The Bee. WASHINGTON, February 16.—Wm. Hood, appointment clerk of the interior department, said to-day that he had received a number of letters in regard to charges against Pension Agent Cox at San Francisco, the great majority of them being in favor of Cox and in denial of the charges that there was any crookedness done, or intended. He said Mr. Cox's side of the case was a thorough denial of the charges, and if there was nothing else received Dr. Cox would remain in office.

THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

Special Dispatch to The Bee.

The Japanese Indemnity Bill Agreed to by Both Houses.

Sections of the Tariff Bill Discussed and Acted Upon by the Senate.

Being Confined to Grades of Iron and Imported Wines and Liquors.

Burdell Turns States Evidence and Gives Away the Whole Gang.

Other News of Importance From Washington.

CONGRESSIONAL.

Special Dispatch to The Bee.

SENATE PROCEEDINGS. WASHINGTON, February 16.—The conference report on the Japanese indemnity bill was presented and after discussion agreed to. At 2 p. m. the tariff bill was taken up. The pending question was the amendment offered last evening by Mr. Conger, providing for a duty of half a cent per pound upon charcoal iron advanced in iron manufacture beyond pipe, in addition to the duty on iron made with other fuel.

The senate proceeded to consider certain portions of the bill which had been temporarily passed over. Senator Jones moved to reconsider the vote by which Section B, providing that in respect to all articles in the sugar schedule not shall take effect April 1st, 1883, had been agreed to. The motion to reconsider was lost—28 to 29.

Senator McPherson moved to take up the paragraph embracing iron ore and pyrites. He moved to make the rate on foreign ore one dollar per ton. Motion lost—18 to 36. Senator Conger moved to make the duty 75¢ per ton on iron ore, including manganese iron, but not on pyrites. Lost—28 to 33.

Senator Mitchell moved to make the rate 60¢ a ton. Lost—27 to 30. The amendment made in committee of the whole in relation to the duty on sulphur ore as pyrites or sulphate of iron was agreed to—31 to 24. The duty on card clothing was made 25¢ per square foot.

Senator Beck moved to amend the paragraph embracing wines, brandies and other spirituous liquor imported in bottles by striking out the proviso laying an additional duty of 3¢ on each bottle. Lost—25 to 27. The proviso was adopted in committee of the whole on motion of Senator Allison as an amendment to the salt paragraph. It provides for refunding duties paid on imported salt used in curing meats.

HOUSE PROCEEDINGS. At the house evening session, Bragg, Dawes and Wheeler obtained leave to have printed in The Record, their remarks upon the Fitz Join Porter bill. The house resumed in committee the consideration of the legislative appropriation bill.

ACCIDENT IN A MINE. Special Dispatch to The Bee. CHICAGO, February 16.—A special to The Daily News from Joliet says a mine at Bralwood, a mining town, twenty miles south of that point, caved in and imprisoned 75 men. A subsequent dispatch to the same paper says 45 of these miners are dead.

TINKERING WITH THE STATE DEBT. Special Dispatch to The Bee. NASHVILLE, February 16.—A caucus of democratic members of the legislature, last night, adopted a motion to increase 3 per cent as the rate of interest on the state debt proper.

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MEMORIALS AND PETITIONS.

Special Dispatch to The Bee.

Senator Grover to-day presented in the senate a memorial of the Oregon legislature asking an appropriation to pay additional expenses of the Indian war of 1855 and 1856 in the territories of Oregon and Washington.

He also presented a memorial asking for the incorporation of the Nisaranung canal, and General Rosecrans presented in the house to-day petitions of dealers of mines of San Francisco, asking for extension of the period of holding spirits in bond. The petition says that the neglect or refusal of congress to pass the bill asked for will ruin many houses in the wine trade and bring widespread contraction of credit and eight months' consideration of the matter.

THE JAPANESE INDEMNITY. The conference committee appointed last session have agreed on the difference between the two houses in regard to the Japanese indemnity bill. The senate refused to pay the interest, while the house wanted to pay the interest and principal. The agreement reached provides that only the principal shall be paid. This is the greatest possible disappointment to those who have been urging the passage of the bill for so many years and one of the leading lobbyists of the bill said to a correspondent to-night that he had been working for eighteen years to get the bill passed as his fee was contingent upon securing the interest. He said, "I am to-day having given eighteen years of work to the damned bill and get nothing in return." As there was a number of others who depended upon the interest for their fees. There is much complaint.

Hazen's Investigation. WASHINGTON, February 16.—The secretary of war has written Gen. Hazen a letter calling his attention to the gross discourtesy of Mr. Hazen's letter of yesterday in asking the senate to appoint a commission to investigate charges by Representative Belthoover in regard to Hazen's mismanagement of funds of the weather bureau. He reminds Hazen that he should have asked the war department to investigate the matter, or the house committee, in which body the charges originated. Hazen refused to allow a correspondent to see the letter, although the secretary of war said he was perfectly willing it should be made public if Hazen desired to. It is understood that the charge of Belthoover will be investigated through the medium of a committee, which will inquire into the matter, which may be any other way of settling the matter.

LINCOLN TO HAZEN. WASHINGTON, February 16.—Gen. Hazen yesterday addressed the secretary of war in which the latter replied: "Sir—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst., in which you refer to the statements made by Hon. Mr. Belthoover, of Pennsylvania, in a speech printed in the Congressional Record, and ask that the president and senate be requested by a resolution to appoint a committee of the members of the senate to investigate matters alleged in the speech, and on any other matters that any person may see fit to bring up relating to the signal service.

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MICHIGAN'S SENATOR. Special Dispatch to The Bee. DETROIT, February 16.—On to-day's ballot for senator Ferry received 13 votes out of 108.

THE COMPROMISERS. Special Dispatch to The Bee. DUBLIN, February 16.—The exclusion of the general public is absolutely necessary on account of noise in the court room. To-day it was so great it was almost impossible to hear the witnesses. Kavanagh's horse and cart which used to carry the witnesses for the crown attracted great crowds. It is expected Edward O'Brien, present at the murders in Phoenix park, will turn informer on Saturday. The rumor is unfounded that two Irish members of parliament were arrested here.

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