

CAUCUS FINDS A SPLIT IN PARTY

House Republicans Fail to Agree on Copper Issues.

Sixty Minutes of Persuasion Fail to Bind 65 Members.

LABOR COMMISSIONER FIGHT

Meeting Blew a Tire When This Matter Was Discussed.

Differences Among House Administration Members.

An hour's session of house Republicans Wednesday evening failed to bind the 65 members to any rule caucus agreements and the meeting adjourned with individual members carrying their own opinions as to policies. The Republicans of the lower branch of the legislature will help Governor Capper put through his program if that program pleases them. Otherwise, the fact that they were elected as Republicans will not bind them to any agreement which a caucus majority may determine.

MAY HAVE A CASE

If Great Britain Confesses Hauling Down Our Flag

The United States Will Surely Demand Reparation.

Washington, Jan. 21.—If Great Britain admits charges of hauling down the cotton steamer Greenbrier's American flag, this government undoubtedly will demand reparation. The state department today had its international law experts busily engaged in searching for precedents to determine whether this alleged act constitutes an insult to the stars and stripes.

Some doubt exists as to whether Great Britain was not within her rights when she replaced the stars and stripes with the union jack, following detention of the Greenbrier. But the state department insisted that Great Britain's general procedure was apparently arbitrary.

The Brit consul had certified the cargo. There was no good reason, the department believes, why under these circumstances the British ship should detain the neutral Greenbrier, cotton laden, searching her and subjecting her to the hauling down of her ensign.

NEW HIGH MARK.

May Option in Wheat Touches \$1.45 1/2 in Chicago.

Kansas City, Jan. 21.—Wheat prices rose rapidly 2 cents in the early dealings of the market here today. May delivery selling for \$1.38, 7 cents above yesterday's low level, after which a moderate setback occurred. The market was nervous.

Chicago, Jan. 21.—Wheat prices for wheat touched a new high level today—1.45 1/2 a bushel, May delivery. These figures surrounded by one-eighth cent the top previous record, which was made on January 15.

STRANGE STORY OF BULLETS.

Paris, Jan. 21.—Remarkable wounds are caused by ricocheting bullets and secondary projectiles.

Not only are deformed bullets frequently found in wounds, but with them such unusual substances as bits of bone from the bodies of other men, metal and medals and money, pieces of cloth and other articles.

LENIENCY IS ASKED FOR RAILROADS IN KANSAS

Petitions Against Drastic Legislation Are Filed in House.

Kansans Believe That Measures Will Not Benefit Public.

SOMETHING NEW IN STATE

First Time in Years That Citizens Have Taken Such an Interest.

Mercy for Transportation Companies Comes as Big Surprise.

Downtrodden railroads had an inning in the house today when four members introduced petitions from their constituents asking the lawmakers to handle the corporations gently. Petitions asking the legislature to defeat drastic anti-railway legislation were introduced by Representatives Noble of Labette, Mahurin of Coffey, Fannin of Woodson and Williams of Sedgewick county.

PAY FOR CONVICTS

Bill Giving Prisoners Chance to Earn Money.

Wages of 10 Cents a Day Proposed by J. W. Howe.

An effort will be made at this session of the legislature to get through both houses a bill which will effectually give prisoners in Kansas penal institutions a chance to earn a little money while serving prison terms.

NON-PARTISAN BILL.

More Proposed Legislation in House Introduced Today.

Following out the campaign for removal of party lines in elections, bills were introduced in the house today providing for non-partisan ballots for state superintendent of public instruction, county commissioners on a non-partisan ballot. The three bills by Mahurin, Stauffer and Nelson will go to the committee on elections.

DISTRICT JUDGES HERE

Eighth Annual Convention in Topeka Last of This Month.

The eighth annual meeting of the district judges of Kansas will be held here from Tuesday, January 26, in the supreme court room.

WHAT THE STRAPHANGER HEARD.

It was on a Santa Fe car coming up town from the station. A man with a grip was reading the amusement column of the noon edition. He turned to a Topekan who shared his seat and put this question: "I am going to be here today and tonight. Where will I go to spend an afternoon of amusement—a few hours of frivolity—a place where I can settle back in a seat and forget my business affairs?"

PROBE OF BRIDGE FIRMS IN STATE

Searching Investigation Ordered by Resolution.

Would Place Companies Under Attorney General Fire.

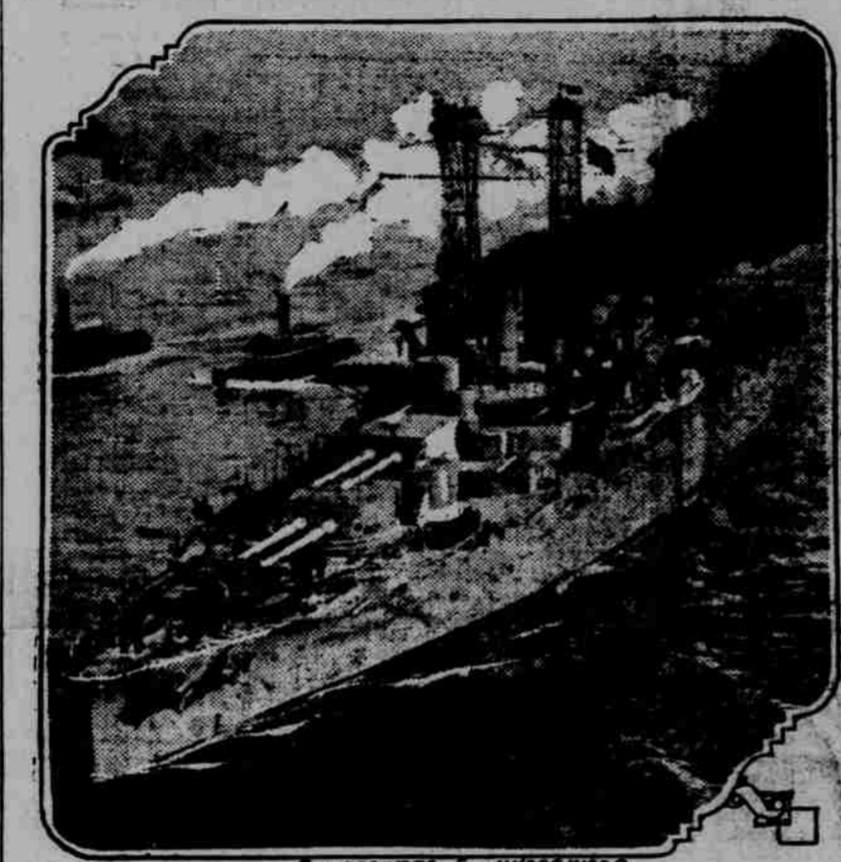
M'MILLAN CALLS FOR CHANGES

County Bridge Laws, Auto Licenses Concerned in Bill.

Measure to Put State Highway Engineer Out of Business.

A searching investigation of the practices of bridge companies operating in Kansas by the attorney general, who shall be provided with funds ample to make his probe effective, is demanded in the senate concurrent resolution presented today by Lambertson of Brown, who announced that he expected to make his fight for a thorough public inquiry into the bridge building business in Kansas, the most

OFF FOR PANAMA TO TAKE PART IN OPENING OF CANAL AND EXPOSITION



Battleship Kansas leaving New York for Panama.

This interesting picture of the battleship Kansas was taken from Manhattan bridge, New York, last week as the vessel pulled away for Panama. The Kansas will take part in the celebration at the official opening of the canal and will then go to San Francisco

serious effort of his term as a state senator.

The Lambertson resolution makes charges of the violation of the state and national anti-trust laws by bridge companies operating in this state. It points out that bridge building in Kansas involves an expenditure of millions of dollars each year and alleges that the admission is made by men familiar with the procedure connected with awarding bridge contracts that contractors in this line fail to bid against one another.

McMillan's Bills. At the request of the county commissioners' association of Kansas Senator Harry McMillan of Ottawa county today introduced a bill calling for a thorough revision of the county bridge laws: a bill creating the office of state highway engineer with an office at Topeka, and a third bill putting into the hands of the state highway engineer the business of issuing license tags for motor vehicles in Kansas, thereby taking that duty out of the hands of the secretary of state.

Von Hindenberg is trying to relieve the situation by resuming again his efforts to cross from the south to the north bank of the Vistula and use part of General Mackenzie's army, now west of Warsaw, to carry out the delayed Franco-Russian offensive. The movement was begun about a fortnight ago but the difficulties are enormous and no progress has been made.

Seen From the Gallery

BY HARVEY PARSONS.

Suffrage offers other complications, aside from the worry of guessing how the women will vote. It brings up questions calculated to keep the well regulated he-person awake o' nights. In a wild effort to overbid his hand for that jackpot known as the "female vote," the legislator is liable to start something of a serious nature which cannot be headed off at the end of the lane because it bears a petticoat brand.

RUSSIANS AND GERMANS PLAY SEESAW IN POLAND

The Vistula River Separates Great Opposing Armies.

These Forces Are Moving in Opposite Directions.

STREAM IS AN OBSTACLE

Half a Mile Wide and Too Swift to Cross.

Every Effort to Bridge It So Far Has Failed.

(By J. W. T. Mason)

New York, Jan. 21.—The renewal of offensive and counter offensive are developing in Poland and are making the Vistula operations the most complicated of the war. The center of the maneuver is between the German frontier fortress of Thorn and Warsaw, measuring a stretch of 125 miles along the Vistula. The Russians are about 35 miles from Thorn on the north bank of the Vistula, and the Germans are the same distance from Warsaw on the south bank.

SHOOT IN BATHROOM.

Wilson County Woman Killed on Eve of Her Divorce Trial.

Altoona, Kan., Jan. 21.—Mrs. A. E. Ryan, wife of a wealthy farmer living three miles southeast of here, was mysteriously shot and killed in the bathroom of her home Wednesday night. The shot was fired through a window and the officers have no clue. Mrs. Ryan has not been living with her husband for some time and trial for divorce was to have come up at Fredonia today.

DELAY BADDERS' TRIAL

Two Jurymen Disqualified, Holding Up Testimony in Kansas City.

Kansas City, Jan. 21.—The discovery that two of the men who had questioned the jury in the trial of George S. Badders of Topeka, charged with using the mails to defraud, were disqualified from serving on any federal jury during this term of court delayed the testimony in the federal court at Kansas City, Kan., today.

SNOW AND COLDER.

Disagreeable Weather Is Here—Snow Tonight?

The forecast calls for a drop in temperature tonight and indicates the probability of snow with fresh winds. There was a penetrating wind from the northeast today. The minimum temperature was exactly normal, but the weather needle failed to soar today, and the temperature for the day was below normal.

FOUGHT WITH FISTS.

Petrograd, Jan. 21.—German and Russian troops came to fistfights on the Polish front recently.

A Russian aviator, having completed a reconnaissance over the German lines, was returning to the Russian position when he found his supply of gasoline suddenly cut off by a German bullet which had gone squarely through the feed pipe. This forced him to plane down, and he had to land about half way between the opposing trenches.

STAYING IN THE HOUSE.

Washington, Jan. 21.—Senate Republicans continued their attack on the administration shipping bill. Work on the rivers and harbors bill was begun in the commerce committee.

Senator Martine attempted successfully to get up his bill to prohibit employment of armed guards by corporations. House debate was begun on the army bill.

POLITICAL RING TO SCRAP HEAP

Bill Today to Do Away With County Politics in State.

Provides Non-Partisan Nominations for All Officers.

COUNTY CLERK TO CORONER

Only Office Not Mentioned, Clerk of District Court.

Three Per Cent of Voters for Nomination Petitions.

Breaking up of county political rings through the taking of all county offices out of politics is the plan of Representative Mahurin of Coffey county. Mahurin today introduced a bill providing for non-partisan nominations for all county offices.

ABOLISH A BOARD

Speaker Stone Has Bill Knocking Out Board of Control.

Consolidate It With Board of Corrections of 3 Members. Speaker Stone today introduced in the house a bill providing for the consolidation of the state board of control and the state board of corrections under the latter name. The bill means the abolishment of the board of control, now in the hands of the Democrats.

PAY 'EM \$6 A DAY

That Is Legislative Plan Offered by Senator Hinds.

Reduce Mileage to Actual Traveling Expenses, He Says. Senator I. M. Hinds of Labette county has declared war on the mileage graft which has for many years been the one sure thing which a member of the legislature could count on to show a profit in his official accounts.

PEOPLE WANT WORK

NOT CHARITY, HE SAYS

Guggenheim Tells Industrial Relations Commission That the Poor Do Not Care for Philanthropy. Unless the Laboring Men Be Dealt With Justly. Government Should Tax Fortunes to Care for the Needy. New York, Jan. 21.—Taxation of large fortunes, upon the death of their owners, to aid the poor, the establishment of government agencies to find work for the unemployed, and provision for the comfort of aged workers, were advocated by Daniel Guggenheim, president American Smelting and Refining company, in testimony today at the inquiry before the commission on industrial relations into the great philanthropic foundations and the causes of industrial unrest.

STEAM ROLLER AGAIN ACTIVE

Russians Make a Three-Fold Assault on German Lines.

Austrian Resistance Declared to Have Broken Down. Transylvania Lies Open. An Early Invasion by Rumania Is Looked For. Berlin insists That the Situation Is Unchanged. London, Jan. 21.—Russia's three-fold assault on the German allies has, in the opinion of British observers of the war, resumed its steam roller characteristics alike in the north, the center and the south.

RUSSIAN RESISTANCE DECLARED TO HAVE BROKEN DOWN.

In the north the advance into East Prussia is reported as threatening the German lines of communication and in Poland the trench warfare continues with small results for either side, but the Russians confidently dwell on what they call large German losses in efforts to hold present positions. In the south the Russians declare that the Austrian resistance seems to have been broken down entirely, and that Transylvania lies open to them.