

**DAKOTA LEGISLATURE.**

**BISMARCK, Dak., Special Telegram, Feb. 23.**—The legislative excursionists returned from Fargo this morning in good spirits, evidently determined to improve the time to-day in enjoying immunity from work, on the ground that legislative business transacted to-day would be binding, being Washington day. The sessions of both houses were, therefore, short. In the council the order of business was gone through, one bill being introduced by Mr. Nickens, offering a reward of \$3,000 for the discovery of a tract of land in the territory. In the house a little excitement arose when Hutchinson moved the reference to the committee on ways and means of his bill providing for the taxation of bullion. Martin of the Black Hills wanted the bill referred to the committee on mines and mining. Objection was made to this on the ground that the Black Hills delegates, Fair and Nurbur, composed a majority of the committee, and that, as the bill treated a matter of interest to the whole territory, that of taxation, it should go to the committee on ways and means. A motion to refer to a special committee was also lost. Finally, after some discussion, Hutchinson's motion was carried, the bill going to the committee on ways and means. The proposition to tax bullion is regarded by many as a means to bring the Black Hills men into the combination. Bills introduced in the council, amending sec. 229 of the Civil Code. By Mr. Sprague, authorizing the commissioners of Custer county to fund indebtedness. By Mr. Blakemore, leasing the location of the county seat of Sanborn county. By Mr. Coe, amending and providing for the organization of civil townships and the government of the same. By Mr. Barnes, providing for ascertaining the acreage of timber in the territory. By Mr. Pugh, authorizing the board of trustees of the incorporated town of Ellendale to donate aid to building a flouring mill. By Mr. Oliver, providing a school board for the city of Lisbon. By Mr. Larson, authorizing the commissioners of Union county to fund indebtedness. By Mr. Dawson, authorizing counties to give a bounty on wolf and fox scalps. House bills passed: Authorizing the trustees of Grotton county to extend the time for collection of taxes for 1883; defining the boundaries of the Fourth judicial district, and fixing the time of holding court therein.

The bill introduced in the council by Jud La Moore, and passed by that body some days ago, limiting the service of county treasurers to two terms, came up in the house to-day in committee of the whole, and after considerable discussion was recommended to pass. It is generally understood that the motive of the gentleman from Pembina in introducing the bill was to oust from office P. A. Wardwell, treasurer of Teton county, thereby accomplishing by legislation what he failed to do at the polls. McCall of the Black Hills, nothing daunted by the defeat of his

**COUNTY DIVISION SCHEME.**

has introduced another bill somewhat similar to the first, and it came up to-day upon a second reading and reference. The rest of the delegation appear on the ground to oppose any scheme of the kind, were again led by Martin, who moved its reference to the Black Hills delegation, pleading in support of his motion the precedent of other bills disposed of in like manner. His motion did not succeed, however, as the bill, after considerable discussion, was referred to the committee on counties by a vote of 26 to 20. The majority was composed of the northern members and enough from Central and South Dakota to make up the twenty-six. This may be declared as a test vote of the combination against the south. The present indications are that it will hold together throughout the session. It is possible, however, that some emergency may arise which will break it up and again throw the power in the hands of the south. One thing must be admitted by all, that Central Dakota holds the key to the situation and can dictate to a great extent the course that legislation shall take. The council held a brief session to-day, nothing of special importance being transacted. The following bills were introduced:

By Mr. Washburn, amending the political code relating to homesteads; it provides that the law shall be construed to give any gold or silver or mining plant. By Mr. Walsh, providing for the removal of the county seat of Traill county from Caladonia to Hillsboro. By Mr. Twomey, providing for the conduct and management of elections. By Mr. Cameron, authorizing the counties of Minnehaha, Miner, Lake and Kingsbury, to aid certain persons whose crops were destroyed by storms. By Mr. Pettigrew, amending sections 402 and 415 of the civil code and sec. 612 of the penal code. Council Bills Passed—Amending sec. 237, code of civil procedure; amending the charter of the city of Grafton; exempting volunteer firemen as firemen and from tax; legalizing the acts of John P. Boring sheriff. House Bills Passed—Creating a new subdivision in the Sixth judicial district; incorporating the city of Spearfish. Bills Introduced in the House—By Mr. Oliver, enabling the voters of La Moore county to vote upon locating the county seat. By Mr. Dewdney, changing the name of the village of Mina, Edmunds county, to Corland. By Mr. Helvig, amending sec. 1008 of the civil code. By Mr. Strong, creating the county of Hearsh and defining the boundaries of the same. By Mr. Larson, amending certain chapters of special laws of 1877, 1878, 1879, 1870, 1871, 1872, 1873, relating to Lincoln county. By Mr. Blakemore, providing for a uniform system of text books for the common schools. By Mr. Williams, authorizing the city of Bismarck to lease the lands for the purpose of erecting and furnishing a school house. By Mr. Pugh, legalizing the acts of the commissioners of Dickey county. By Mr. Southwick, abolishing the office of county assessor in certain counties. House Bills Passed—Prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors within three miles of the Dakota university, city of Vermillion; amending the act to annex certain territory to the Vermillion school district; creating Nelson county a legal subdivision and providing for a term of court therein; constituting Richland county a subdivision in the third judicial district; joint resolution for the payment of persons employed about the building used by the Sixteenth legislative assembly.

Council Bills Passed—Authorizing the treasurer of Traill county to transfer certain funds into county funds; authorizing School District No. 18, Cass county, to issue bonds to build a school house; establishing Independent School District No. 4, Lak; county; amending sec. 47, justice code, relating to the bringing of suits for the recovery of delinquent taxes; authorizing School District No. 8, Cass county, to issue bonds to build a school house; amending secs. 423 and 424, code of criminal procedure; amending sec. 3, political code.

**BISMARCK, Dak., Special Telegram, Feb. 25.**

The house went into committee of the whole at 10 o'clock this morning for the further consideration of the appropriation bills. The bills as reported from the appropriation committee after discussion, which lasted until nearly 1 o'clock, were recommended to pass. The only new institutions which received appropriations were: School of mines at Rapid City \$10,000 Reform school at Blankinship \$10,000 Central Dakota university at Ordway \$20,000 An effort was again made to kill Pettigrew's bill appropriating \$25,000 to the school for deaf mutes at Sioux Falls, but with no better success than yesterday, the bill being finally reported favorably, with the amount fixed at \$20,000. The bills will all come up for final consideration to-morrow, and most, if not all, of them will pass. The bills establishing new institutions will receive some opposition, on the ground that the territory has a sufficient number already and that the finances do not warrant the establishment. The bills establishing the Central Dakota university at Ordway will probably go through, thereby scoring a victory for Kennedy, who recently lost a similar bill in the council. When the new bill goes to the body there will be music. Gov. Pierce will send

**A BATCH OF NOMINATIONS**

to the council in a few days, probably before the close of the present week. The offices to be filled are: Auditor, treasurer, county superintendent of public instruction, and assistant. There are also a number of boards in which there are vacancies to be filled but no nominations for

those positions will be deferred until a later day. The prominent candidate for the auditorship are Col. George L. Ordway (the present incumbent), E. W. Caldwell of Sioux Falls, Charles D. Cronin of Huron, Col. S. W. Laird of Pierre and E. W. McKinley of Bismarck. These gentlemen are all pressing their claims for the position, but it is difficult to say who will win the prize, as geographical locations and other important matters are taken into consideration in making the appointment. The office of treasurer, W. N. McVay, who has filled the position acceptably for two terms, and whose term has now nearly expired, is one of the leading candidates. Other candidates are Col. Grigsby of Sioux Falls, and J. W. Raymond and G. H. Fairchild of Bismarck, the two last named being respectively president of the Bismarck National bank and cashier of the First National bank of Bismarck. It is generally understood that Alex. Hughes is a candidate for re-appointment to the attorney generalship. His enemies have been after his scalp, endeavoring to legislate him out by abolishing the office, but without success, the bill being defeated in committee. The reason for this onslaught was Hughes' position on the capital commission, where he was not notably unbecomingly to many. Hon. P. J. McLaughlin of Grafton, member of the present council, is understood to be a candidate for the office. So far as heard from, but one candidate of any prominence has appeared for the office of superintendent of public instruction, Gen. H. S. Blakemore, the present incumbent. Blakemore, of the house, would like the position, but it will not, in all probability, be thrust upon him. The council busied itself to-day with routine business, a large number of bills being passed. The bill relating to the GRADING AND TRANSPORTATION OF WHEAT comes up to-morrow at 3 o'clock. To-morrow, under special order, the house will consider the wheat bill drawn up by the joint committee thereto, which the bill will be referred to committee of the whole on Friday. What remains of the two bills after passage through the two houses may become a law, if the two bodies agree, but the extent during the remaining fifteen days of the session is doubtful in the council to-day. By Mr. Turner, establishing a superintendent school district of Howard, minor county; by Mr. Cameron, establishing a superintendent school district of Gilman, Lake county.

Council Bills Passed—Allowing boards of supervisors of townships to issue bonds amending sections 7 and 15, chap. 33, Civil Code; relating to the duties of county treasurers and register of deeds; authorizing commissioners of Turner county to fund indebtedness; authorizing the commissioners of Stutsman county to fund indebtedness; creating Eddy county and defining the boundaries of Foster county, subject to a vote of the people of the county; amending sec. 511, code civil, foreclosure; creating the independent school district of Canova, minor county; providing for the spread of contagious diseases; providing for the construction by owners and by overseers of highways, and levies a tax on land for the cost of destroying such weeds when the owner neglects to remove same; amending sec. 6, chap. 13, political code, leaving it in the power of the judge to appoint sixteen or twenty-three members of the grand jury; offering a bounty for planting trees on prairies; incorporating the village of Mayville, amending sec. 1008 of the civil code; authorizing the commissioners of La Moore county to issue bonds of \$10,000 to purchase ground and build a jail; authorizing Independent School District No. 75, Walsh county, to issue bonds to build a school house. Bills introduced in the house: By Mr. Johnson, creating a county board of auditors and defining their duties. By Mr. Williams, creating McLean, Stevens, McHenry and Sheridan counties a subdivision in the first judicial district. By Mr. Clark, creating Carbon county from the western part of Morton county. By Mr. Smith, preventing civil officers from entering into contract with towns, townships, cities or the territory. By Mr. Martin, amending sec. 1008, Civil Code; also, amending sec. 15, Justice Code; also, to protect buffalo, elk, prairie chickens, etc., between the 1st of January and 1st of September of each year.

Gov. Pierce sent two nominations to the council to-day, J. W. Raymond of Bismarck for treasurer and Joseph Ward of Yankton for superintendent of public instruction. The council spent some time in executive session, considering the appointments, and then adjourned until tomorrow. This was done either to wait for final action until all the nominations are in or to withhold action for a while in order to keep the capital removers so engrossed in watching the progress of the bill, that they would prevent their acting on the capital removal. The nominations give general satisfaction and will probably be confirmed. Mr. Raymond is president of the Bismarck National bank, has lived in Bismarck since 1872, and is the first banker in the territory. In case of his appointment the territory will secure a competent officer. Mr. Ward served twelve years as a justice of the peace, and is a member of the bar, and is now president of a college at that place. He is a man of marked ability, fine education, and well adapted to perform the duties of the office. It is understood that he would be appointed on the condition that he would be changed by outside parties. The bill of importance occupied the attention of either house to-day. Col. Smalley called up the house bill referring to the division of the county, and succeeded in so amending it to locate the county seat at Willmot. The bill revising the Fargo city charter was discussed in the house, the claim being made that the council amendments had been changed by outside parties. The bill was sent to the council, where it was carefully examined, found to be correct, and returned to the house. A committee has been appointed to investigate the subject. The house took up the income tax bill to-morrow, considering a few sections, but deferring final consideration until to-morrow. A bill will be introduced in the house to-morrow to divide Spink county by taking off two tiers of townships from the north, forming a new county from them and two tiers from the south of Brown; the question to be submitted to the voters of the proposed new county.

**THE COUNTY SEAT OF SPINK** is to be located by a vote of the people, and as two tiers of towns are to be taken from the north, thereby reducing Ashton's votes, Redfield feels confident of securing the prize. Bills introduced in the council: By Mr. Walsh, repealing chap. 36, Special Laws 1883; also, appropriating \$1,526 for the expenses of the joint grain commission and expenses of witnesses in the Anderson-Hutchinson contest. By Mr. Higgins, defining the boundaries of territorial institutions. By Mr. McLaughlin, vesting certain portions of Cooper's addition to Grafton. By Mr. Day, creating the office of auditor of Spink county. Council bills passed: Repealing chap. 36, Session Laws of 1883, fixing the salaries of county superintendent of schools in Grand Forks and Cass counties; amending the justice code, relating to the bringing of suits for the recovery of delinquent taxes; authorizing School District No. 8, Cass county, to issue bonds to build a school house; amending secs. 423 and 424, code of criminal procedure; amending sec. 3, political code.

**FESTIVITIES AT FARGO.**

The visit of the Dakota Legislature and Territorial Officers to the Metropolis of the Red River—A Ride About Town, Speeches, Dancing and Banqueting. FARGO, Dak., Special Telegram, Feb. 21.—The city's guests, including members of the Legislature, judges of the supreme court, territorial officers and invited guests, arrived on the 1:20 a. m. train from the west this

morning, and were immediately taken in charge by the committee on reception and assigned to rooms at the Headquarters and Sherman. The forenoon was pleasantly in looking around the city and in forming the acquaintance of Fargo's leading citizens. During the forenoon a band was stationed in the lobby of the Headquarters hotel and the visitors serenaded at intervals. After dinner some thirty or forty carriages were brought to the hotel, and the visitors taken out for an hour's drive about the city. On returning to the hotel a procession was formed, in the following order:

Yankee Band, Military Companies, Fire Companies, Grand and City Council, Committee on Arrangements, Executive Committee, Reception Committee, Committee on Transportation, Territorial Judiciary, Members of the Council, Members of the House, Representatives of the Press and Citizens. Proceeding to the reception on Northern Pacific avenue, the procession halted and the militia opened ranks and faced inward. The visitors passed between the lines and into the hall, where they were assigned seats on the temporary platform. At one end of the hall sat Mayor Yerxa and the executive committee, while the remainder of the hall and the galleries were filled with interested spectators, ladies and gentlemen of the city.

**ADDRESS OF WELCOME.** After music by the band Mayor Yerxa stepped to the front of the platform and introduced Hon. S. W. Laird of Pierre, who welcomed the distinguished guests. Hon. E. W. Martin, of the Black Hills, was called upon to respond, and spoke for some ten minutes, complimenting the citizens of Fargo on the enterprise shown in building such a flourishing metropolis in so short a time, and returning thanks for the reception given to her guests.

**CHIEF JUSTICE EDGERTON**, who was present, being called upon, said: No justice shall give instructions unless the court should be put in motion. Hence I am loath to speak at this time. In consequence of the practice to ask the junior judge to furnish his opinion first, if after all have spoken, the court is equally divided, the chief justice shall then speak. An informal reception followed, and Judge Francis spoke for a few minutes, after which the following telegram was read from Gov. Pierce:

Gov. Pierce says: I regret my inability to be with you to-day. I am glad that you are here and the legislature have an opportunity to become acquainted, and that they will separate with augmented respect for each other. I have no doubt that you will be able to congratulate the people of Fargo and the whole territory on the fact that thus far the course of our legislation compares favorably with that of any similar body in the Union. I am more and more convinced that the course which you will continue to be prudent and patriotic. Today marks the completion of that monument which commemorates the names and deeds of the Fathers of this Country. May your celebration terminate with increased respect for Washington, with wide-spread in your beautiful city, and with renewed confidence in the legislative body you so generously entertain.

**THE BANQUET.** In the evening a sumptuous feast was spread in the spacious dining room of the Headquarters hotel, where 250 places were laid. At 10 o'clock the doors were thrown open and the guests entered in the following order: Mayor Yerxa, territorial officers, members of the council, members of the house of representatives, of press invited guests, citizens of Fargo. The tables were well-laden with the most choice viands and delicacies. When the changing had been opened and the chairs passed around, ex-Gov. Horace Austin, master of ceremonies, seated at the head of the dining room, rose and announced the first toast of the evening: "The Dakota metropolis." The memory of Washington should make it a happy one to all free peoples." By R. A. Beard of Fargo repeated. The following toasts were then proposed: "Dakota a Home for Freedom." A fitting motto, a tradition and intelligence are found in greatest measure in countries where men would overtake, bank up their houses and elect the flies to the legislature," response by Speaker Hays. "Dakota, too large for one state, big enough for two, but not big enough to let us be united in fact, and give every section a fair shake," response by Hon. John R. Gamble. "The two extremes meet," the Red River valley to the north and the Black Hills to the south, the thought if you will give the rocks," Mon. J. E. Washburn. "The Dakota legislature, progressive and modern," response by Hon. J. M. Edwards. "The Dakota metropolis," response by Hon. J. M. Edwards. "The Dakota metropolis," response by Hon. J. M. Edwards.

**Office-Seeking Dakotans.**

WASHINGTON, Special Telegram, Feb. 23.—Dakota Democrats are looking for early worms. There is a brisk delegation of them here working for the nomination of the patron saint of the south in the territory. The governorship is a plum first sought, and they say Cleveland will not wait long to hear reasons why Gov. Pierce should be asked to resign and make way for a Democrat. So, also, is Baker Heman of Vermillion; but the man who wants the place least and is most generally conceded to be in favor is Capt. Benj. D. M. Koller of Jamestown in the active Bismarck lawyer, is a candidate for district attorney. Just at present all these gentlemen are busy looking after Dakota interests, and preparing for the coming of the two birds of prey, which will open the big Sioux reservation, and which has not been called up and must take its chances in the last six days of the session, when it can be taken up at any time under suspension of the rules by a two-thirds vote, and in its order by a majority. The Dakota delegation say two-thirds of the house are known by personal canvass to be in favor of the bill.

**A new renouement in vegetarianism**

has been devised. At a recent vegetarian banquet in England, after the usual amount of distensive food had been consumed, a malcontent had the courage to observe that if we left of rearing animals for food it would interfere with clothes. He was, however, instantly confuted, in the most practical manner, by a true vegetarian, who arose and asserted that he was completely dressed in materials which had involved no blood-guiltiness whatever. A cotton-velvet vest, a dark linen-drill waistcoat, corduroy trousers and lawn-tennis shoes constituted the array of this animal's friend. He also committed himself to the statement that he had never tasted animal food in his life.

**It is said that Louisiana has about**

48,000,000,000 feet of pine in her forests. As the great lumber states of Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin have only 82,000,000,000 it will be perceived that Louisiana is very rich in timber resources. It has, in fact, more than half as much as the three other states combined.

**HOMES IN DAKOTA.**

Business Transacted During 1884 by the United States Land Office in Dakota, Compiled from official Reports.

HURON.			
Class of Entries.	No. entries.	Acres.	Collections.
Homestead entries.	2739	372,638.77	\$37,575.52
Homestead proofs.	194	30,556.87	766.45
Timber entries.	1790	284,460.56	24,005.02
Warrant and scrip locations.	38	3,023.50	110.00
Pre-emptions.	3263	522,400.00	6,492.00
Soldiers' declarat'ns.	304	48,040.00	606.00
Cash entries.	5351	687,303.13	1,048,471.01
Totals 1884.	13881	1,948,730.83	\$1,118,987.96
Totals 1883.	27429	4,000,000.00	1,361,093.09

ABERDEEN.			
Class of Entries.	No. entries.	Acres.	Collections.
Homestead entries.	1291	204,000.00	\$18,044.00
Homestead proofs.	45	10,400.00	260.00
Timber entries.	1741	246,340.00	21,874.00
Pre-emptions.	1709	240,830.00	3,018.00
Soldiers' declarat'ns.	135	21,000.00	270.00
Cash entries.	2384	387,526.00	489,994.16
Totals 1884.	7125	1,111,646.00	\$533,160.16
Totals 1883.	8724	1,368,840.00	463,266.00

FARGO.			
Class of Entries.	No. entries.	Acres.	Collections.
Homestead entries.	1164	186,240.00	\$18,624.00
Homestead proofs.	433	69,280.00	3,031.00
Timber entries.	910	143,600.00	12,740.00
Final timber entries.	4	640.00	16.00
Pre-emptions.	130	215,840.00	2,698.00
Soldiers' declarat'ns.	35	6,600.00	72.00
Cash entries.	1519	243,040.00	455,700.00
Totals 1884.	5414	806,240.00	\$492,879.00
Totals 1883.	10454	4,740,190.00	894,616.32

MITCHELL.			
Class of Entries.	No. entries.	Acres.	Collections.
Mill, city land war'ts.	7	960.00	\$24.00
Homestead entries.	883	129,800.30	12,087.38
Homestead proofs.	114	114,230.38	2,837.38
Timber entries.	939	145,844.86	12,905.00
Final timber entries.	75	9,890.04	300.00
Pre-emptions.	950	150,000.00	1,890.00
Soldiers' declarat'ns.	28	4,000.00	50.00
Cash entries.	1794	260,441.71	328,231.00
Agri college scrip.	2	320.00	8.00
Totals 1884.	5403	822,658.29	\$55,933.68
Totals 1883.	3980	1,448,103.97	865,440.27

WATER TOWN.			
Class of Entries.	No. entries.	Acres.	Collections.
Homestead entries.	1239	191,550.41	\$17,214.12
Homestead proofs.	700	100,844.68	3,164.04
Timber entries.	780	133,807.33	10,770.00
Final timber entries.	2	320.00	8.00
Pre-emptions.	1091	172,960.00	2,182.00
Soldiers' declarat'ns.	58	9,280.00	116.00
Cash entries.	1651	240,665.00	302,854.48
Totals 1884.	5527	839,317.22	\$336,308.64
Totals 1883.	11892	1,630,355.00	487,473.00

GRAND FORKS.			
Class of Entries.	No. entries.	Acres.	Collections.
Homestead entries.	1055	164,634.62	\$14,433.00
Homestead proofs.	156	22,929.43	618.00
Timber entries.	1223	185,889.62	16,591.00
Pre-emptions.	2510	391,600.00	4,988.00
Soldiers' declarat'ns.	28	3,680.00	46.00
Mill, city land war'ts.	6	920.00	23.00
Cash entries.	1445	226,528.08	283,801.88
Totals 1884.	6418	908,180.77	\$319,590.88
Totals 1883.	7672	1,248,438.40	874,220.22

DEVIL'S LAKE.			
Class of Entries.	No. entries.	Acres.	Collections.
Homestead entries.	518	80,491.49	\$7,138.00
Homestead proofs.	14	1,760.99	48.00
Timber entries.	777	121,048.68	10,748.00
Pre-emptions.	1280	203,400.00	2,560.00
Soldiers' declarat'ns.	34	3,360.00	42.00
Cash entries.	661	124,747.66	155,392.65
Totals 1884.	3281	538,828.76	\$178,954.65
Totals 1883.	4381	683,500.00	172,089.00

YANKTON.			
Class of Entries.	No. entries.	Acres.	Collections.
Homestead entries.	424	69,629.72	\$5,341.00
Homestead proofs.	617	102,027.84	2,549.95
Timber entries.	279	54,112.64	5,012.00
Final timber entries.	84	9,548.62	280.00
Pre-emptions.	436	690,000.00	858.00
Soldiers' declarat'ns.	28	3,360.00	42.00
Cash entries.	882	119,920.24	149,187.99
Totals 1884.	2768	348,249.06	\$163,241.00
Totals 1883.	4381	683,500.00	172,089.00

RECAPITULATION.			
Land Offices.	Statement 1884.	Statement 1883.	
Huron.	1,948,730	4,000,000	\$1,118,987.96
Aberdeen.	1,111,646	2,368,840	463,266.00
Fargo.	806,240	4,740,190	894,616.32
Mitchell.	822,658	1,448,104	865,440.27
Water town.	839,317	1,630,355	487,473.00
Grand Forks.	908,180	1,248,438	874,220.22
Devil's Lake.	538,828	683,500	172,089.00
Yankton.	348,249	683,500	172,089.00
Deadwood.	318,680	2,292,553	190,628.30
Totals.	8,021,648	13,051,842	12,457,130

At the Huron land office the total number of entries since the opening of the office, Oct. 9, 1882, to Dec. 31, 1884, have been 41,295; total receipts during this period, \$2,480,081.42.

The receiver at Devil's Lake says: "But a small portion of the land in this district is subject to entry as all the plates of survey of last season's work are not yet filed."

Aberdeen is the only Dakota office that shows an increase of collections, and Bismarck the only one with an increase of the number of entries, as compared with 1883.

The largest receipts of any month in 1884, at Huron, were in March, when \$148,003.82 was paid in; and the lowest were in July, \$45,114.50.