

## THE LEGISLATURE.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24.

Today a NEWS representative interviewed a number of members of both houses on the question of uniting the University and Agricultural college. There is less reticence upon the subject than there has heretofore been, and it has been so much discussed among members that their views upon it are becoming crystalized, and many of them no longer hesitate to state their attitudes. It is conceded by nearly all of them that union is a foregone conclusion. Only one member is known to be opposed to uniting the two institutions, while many are emphatically in favor of it, and others who have not yet definitely taken that position lean towards it.

The public may dismiss any doubt about the union taking place, but there is a contest on for the location. Only three sites so far have been prominently mentioned, viz., some point between Ogden and Salt Lake, perhaps in Bountiful, a strip off the west side of the Fort Douglas reservation, and the present Agricultural College at Logan. The first site would be desirable because of its being central, easily accessible from all parts of the Territory, and on the line of trans-continental travel, and for the further reason that plenty of land could be obtained for the purposes of the agricultural department, which would be rich, well watered, and in an average climate for this inter-mountain region. It is urged that an experiment station should by all means have an average climate of the region which it is designed to benefit.

The Fort Douglas reservation site has every argument in its favor as a location for a great university, except possible scarcity of land and water for irrigation. Given these two requisites, and both may be obtained if Congress will be sufficiently generous, and it will receive more support than will the first named site, among members of the assembly.

But it is not to be denied that a strong sentiment exists among members of the assembly at the present time in favor of having the Union take place at Logan. The principal argument in favor of this proposition is economy. It is argued that the present Agricultural College plant can accommodate all the students of the University, with only slight expenditures for any needed increase in the capacity of buildings, and in the faculty. The contest on this question is one for location from now on.

The medical contest is fairly under way in the Assembly. The House committee on public health, in whose hands are several petitions for the amendment or repeal of the present law regulating the practice of medicine, is devoting much time and attention to the subject. A member of that committee today recounted some of its labors to a NEWS representative. He went so far as to say that the present law would undoubtedly be revised if not repealed, and intimated that the committee would very likely prepare a bill with a view to meeting the objections to the present law. He cited the fact that, at present, one school had control of the medical board, and ex-

pressed the opinion that this ought not to be.

In conversation with a NEWS representative today, a member of the House committee on ways and means, a gentleman of marked business ability and thorough business training, deplored the harm that was resulting from the printing muddle. He said the Assembly was working in the dark as to the Territory's financial condition, which could not be known until the reports of the auditor, treasurer and other public officers and institutions could be examined, and this could not be done until those reports are printed. The printing muddle makes it impossible to get the printing done, and the interests of the Territory are suffering in consequence. He spoke of the resolution offered by Varian on Monday, and adopted by the House, calling upon the ways and means committee for a report on the financial condition of the Territory, but said the committee were helpless to comply with it until certain public documents were made accessible by being printed.

On Monday evening last the House committee on counties gave a hearing to persons interested in the proposition to create the new county of Carbon, and the hearing was continued until this evening. The petition asking for the creation of the new county which, as previously stated in the NEWS, is intended to include the northern part of Emery county, bears about 600 signatures. A protest has been filed bearing 62 names. It seems a foregone conclusion that the committee will report in favor of making the new county, and the contest before it is mainly in respect to the location of the county seat. A man named Crowley, who lives in this city but owns a saloon in Helper, argued in favor of that place, but a delegation from Price, embracing Mr. A. Ballinger, formerly county attorney, and Mr. S. J. Paradise, editor of the Price Telegraph, insisted that Price should be made the county seat. Price is a town of permanent and varied industries and resources, whose population is steadily increasing, while Helper is only a railroad town.

The House claims committee is very busy. It has so much to do that the chairman, Mr. Sears, was obliged to ask an addition of two members, which the House granted yesterday, making the membership seven. Some of the claims that have been presented are of a character to call for thorough investigation and the taking of considerable testimony, and if reported upon favorably at all will be cut down very much in amount by the recommendations of the committee.

## THURSDAY.

Up to 10 o'clock this morning the Council chamber was locked, and ingress was prohibited, although a number of Democratic members were within, and the chaplain and other officers had, for some time prior to that hour, been in attendance. At 10 o'clock the doors were open and a number of spectators entered. The roll was called, but there was no quorum. Williams called for a report from the sergeant-at-arms, which was to the effect that none of the missing members had been found.

Hart stated that Seeley had been seen in the corridor of the building by Mr.

Backman. The latter is a committee clerk, and was one of the six sergeants-at-arms sworn in to arrest the absent members.

President Breeden requested W. H. Payne, the watchman and another of the six recruits, to bring in Mr. Backman.

Hart objected to sending Payne after Backman, for the reason that the two were in collusion. It then transpired that it was Payne who had seen Seeley, and on motion of Williams, Payne was interrogated before the bar of the house. He replied that he had seen Seeley in the corridor, and had forthwith notified the sergeant-at-arms, but before the latter could act he had disappeared.

It was decided that employees of the Assembly could not lawfully act as assistant sergeants-at-arms, and Payne with others was discharged from the latter position.

Shortly after 11 o'clock, the missing members came in and took their seats. Thereupon H. E. Booth was arraigned before the bar of the Council for contempt; and was given an opportunity to purge himself by stating the reasons why he had absented himself without leave. Williams and Hart assumed the right to cross-examine the accused, and J. E. Booth claimed they had no right to do so, holding that all questions put to the accused must be propounded by the president. The latter overruled J. E. Booth's objection, and Hart proceeded to question the prisoner at the bar.

The latter replied that the reasons why he absented himself were two in number: To get some official statistics, and to prevent the defeat of the lead memorial.

While H. E. Booth was under cross-examination, Eldredge attempted to interpose. Williams rose to the point of order that Eldredge was himself in contempt, and had no right to speak until purged. The Chair sustained the point of order, and ordered Eldredge to remain silent.

Williams and Hart made speeches, insisting that the prisoner's excuse was wholly insufficient. The former urged that it was the duty of the President of the Council to fine the prisoner in a sum commensurate with his offense. This point was debated, and the Chair ruled that the matter of fixing the punishment ought to be left to the house. Thereupon Williams presented a resolution, reciting the facts comprising the contempt, and presenting the punishment as a reprimand by the President of the Council, and a fine of \$100, the prisoner to remain in custody until the fine should be paid to the chief clerk.

An important amendment, offered by J. E. Booth, was lost, when a question arose as to whether the members, whose arrest had been made, had the right to vote on the resolution. The chair ruled that all members of the Council except the prisoner had the right to vote, and in reply to the objections of Williams and Hart, stated that the only member of the Council who had been arrested was Lund, a Democrat, who had absented himself without leave, last evening.

Williams then said that, in view of the ruling of the chair, he desired to withdraw his resolution. The with-