NEBRASKA.

A successful five days' bible meeting

was haid at Chadron. Henry Brockman, who lives four miles northwest of West Point, dropped dead in the kitchen at his home, from heart disease.

Andrew McCart was bound over to the district court at Indianola by Squire Beck, charged with assault with intent to commit rape on a Mrs. Eberling of Lebanon.

The state board of school lands and funds last week purchased \$100,000 worth of Saunders county 4% per cent bonds and the treasurer issued his check for the amount.

While running to a fire recently one of the members of the North Platte fire company fell and was run over by the hose cart. He was badly bruised, but not dangerously injured.

The McCook band, which played at the state fair in Omaha, had a concert recently, and the proceedings were wound up by presenting Director Sut ton with a gold mounted baton. Hog cholera has been raging in

Saunders county for some time, but is now abating. One man lost 122 head, another 137, one 47. In some localities there is not a pig left to tell the tale. The citizens of Long Pine are be-

coming very much interested in the culture of game fish, especially the rainbow trout and brook trout. At no place in the west have the reports been as favorable as there.

The Omaha Savings bank, the oldest of its kind in the city, has suspended. The liabilities are nearly a million dollars. The president claims that the deposits are well secured and that the bank will pay out in time.

Leander Jones, an old man who has been working at what he was able to do for a Pierce county farmer for several years for his board and clothing, froze his hands while at work some time ago. His injuries were neglected until it is feared he will not recover.

A farmer named Worth, living in north part of Burt county, was robbed by his hired man last week of \$61, the proceeds of a sale of cattle made the day before. Worth's son took the cattle to Lyons and returned in the evening with the money. His father not being at home the boy retained posseseion of the money. He slept with the hired man that night, and in the morning both man and money were gone.

Henry C. Zehrung, one of Lincoln's best known business men, committed suicide last week by hanging himself to a rafter in the loft of the barn at his residence on C street. Mr. Zehrung was connected with the Standard Glass and Paint company, and with his part ner had bought out all the other interests since the organization three years ago. The business is said to have been fairly prosperous.

The golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. John Maxwell was celebrated at the poor farm adjoining Nemaha, which has been kept by them for about twenty-five years. No people are more highly esteemed than Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell. About 125 people were present at the reception, besides the children, grand-children, and one greatgrandchild. Friends presented Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell with gold watches in addition to other valuable presents.

The case of the state of Nebraska against William Baker on a charge of burglarizing, was tried in the district court at Wahoo. The jury, after a having seemingly no regard for the pubshort deliberation, returned a verdict of guilty. Baker broke into a barn at Valparaiso, June 1, last, and stole a set of harness. He escaped to Lancaster county, where he was arrested by Sheriff Trompen, who found the stolen harness in Baker's wagon, and brought him to Saunders county, and he has lain in jail until now.

The records of the office of the county recorder show that in Otoe county twenty-two farm mortgages were filed during December, aggregating \$25,535 .-66. Fourteen releases were filed, in amount of \$17,766. Six city mortgages, amounting to \$2,553.38, and ten releases, \$3,945, were placed on record. The record for the year shows 295 farm mortgages filed, aggregating \$421,239.08; 241 releases, \$365,679.88; 79 city mortgages, in amount of \$59, 252.86; and 82 releases, \$48,970.13.

At Elmwood Rev. Pallister accused the church janitor of going through his desk and appropriating \$15 which he had left there. The janitor denied the charges and after a wordy war the minister struck him over the head with his cane, breaking it into three pieces, then he seized a chair and tried to complete the chastisement with that. During the encounter the janitor seized the stove poker and endeavored to return blow for blow. Later on the two met at the minister's house and each apologized for his hasty actions and bad conduct.

The Fremont beet sugar company was incorporated last week with an authorized capital of \$1,000,000 divided into shares of \$50 each. The articles were signed by Nils Johnson, L. D. Richards, L. M. Rene, B. W. Reynolds. R. B. Schneider, W. H. Munger and Wm. Ruwe. Work on the organization of this company has been in progress several months. It is not the expectation of the company to furnish money to erect a factory and carry on the business, but to be in shape to enlist the co-operation of capitalists elsewhere in the enterprise.

George Popp, a young man living with his parents five miles southeast of Sutton.committed suicide by taking strychnine. He left a letter in his pocket bidding his father and mother goodbye. They were in Lincoln on a visit at the time, and a messenger was sent for them.

The coroner's jury summoned to examine into the suicide of Henry C. Zehrung of Lincoln returned a verdict that the deceased came to his death by his own act, while laboring under a spell of temporary insanity. So far as ascertained the verdict seems to be sustained by the facts and meets the ap proval of those interested in the case.

A VERY LONG AND ABLE DOCUMENT.

The Nebraska Executive Discusses State Affairs Thoroughly and With Becoming Dignity-Defends the State and Makes a Number of Recommendations.

SECTION ONE.

To the Members of the Twenty-fifth Session of the Legislature of Nebraska .-Gentlemen: In the discharge of the obligation imposed on me as the chief executive of the state to communicate to you such information and recommendations as may suggest themselves. I deem it not inappropriate to express my gratification that this message is presented to a legislative body, a majority of the members of which I have reason to believe are in harmny and sympathy with the executive department; and that we can hopefully look for a hearty accord between the executive and legislative branches of this state government, in the respective capacities to which we, the servants of the people, have been chosen by their suffrages to act, respecting the plans to be adopted and the policles we shall pursue. The existence of such harmonious relations will, I am sure, enable us to accomplish much good for our state. I feel confident that every branch of our state government is imbued with an earnest desire to promote the general welfare of the people, advance the prosperity of the state; guard, protect and encourage every interest which will add to the development of its resources and preserve the rights of its citizens. I feel a deep sense of gratitude to my fellow citizens for the confidence manifested in me by my re-election, and desire only in the future to profit by the experience of the past and thus prove myself

In administering the affairs of the peopie in a government such as ours, those chosen for that purpose are but instruments to ascertain and then carry out the will of the people. This should be done with diligence and fidelity. The faithful servant merits and receives the approval of a sovereign people, and enjoys the satisfaction of mind which comes from the knowledge of a duty well performed in the discharge of weighty responsibilities, That the members of this legislature are impressed with the grave responsibilities resting upon each of them, and with the importance of the varied interests of this commonwealth which are for a time committed to their care, I believe and shall assume to be true; that you are determined to discharge your duties faithfully and fearlessly for the best interests of our beloved state and the welfare of our fellow citizens, I doubt not in the least.

worthy of the high honor bestowed upon

You will doubtless be called upon to solve many difficult and perplexing problems of grave interest to the state, and I feel sure you will give to each important question, as it is brought before you, that mature deliberation and wise consideration which should characterize all legislation affecting the welfare of a great common-

wealth. I am not in my judgment, overstating the case when I say that at no time in the history of the state has there been more urgent need for wise and intelligent action on the part of the lawmaking body; nor a more opportune time for the enactment of prudent legislation. Abuses and imperfections in existing statutes, which permit of inequalities, wrongs and hardships upon a part of our people, should be corrected, bearing ever in mind that the object of all legislation is to entirely eradicate, or reduce to a minimum, these various forms of evil in the enforcement of law and order.

As a nation we confidently assert that our people are among the most enlightened and progressive on the face of the earth; and you have the honor to represent the people of a state having the smallest percentage of illiteracy of any in the union, and who are the peer of any people in the land, in patriotism, intelligence, integrity and love of equality, truth and justice in the affairs of mankind.

ATTACKS ON THE STATE. Our public schools, our colleges and universities testify to the love of our people for education. Situated geographically in the center of the United States, we are afforded every opportunity for constant and mutually profitable intercourse with all parts of our common country. It is to be regretted that partisan newspapers, lic welfare, and with a spirit of intolerance entirely out of place where free institutions are admired, have attempted to prejudice the minds of men who are unacquainted with our state and its citizens, by the publication of mendacious and slanderous articles reflecting on the intelligence and integrity of the people of Nebraska. It has been intimated by men high in the councils of our national governmend as well as by some newspapers of general circulation throughout the country, that the present session of the legislature of Nebraska would undertake by vicious and hostile legislation to permit the repudiation of the debts of its citizens, to vitlate private contracts, and to discriminate in favor of one party to a contract so as to demoralize the business of the people of the state. These wanton attacks upon the free and enlightened people of Nebraska would not be worthy of attention were they not calculated to incite the filwill of a class of citizens of older and more populous states whose knowledge of Nebaskans is gleaned from newspaper comment and not from actual contact with our people. It has been threatened that the people of eastern states who have money invested in Nebraska property would withdraw their investments because the majority of our citizens have espoused a different political policy from that having general indorsement in the eastern portion of our country. REMEDIAL LEGISLATION MUST

COME. These unmerited reflections on the intelligence and integrity of our citizens will not, I am sure, deter you from discharging your full duty to your constituents by enacting any new laws or remedial legislation upon which you may determine. By wise and judicious action you will dispel any doubts which may exist of the determination of our people to be strictly just to all men; of their capacity, through their representatives, to enact legislation for the protection of all interests in the intimate relations of our citizens with each other, or with the citizens of other states, and for the conservation of all legitimate business interests.

Nebraska is not the child of any other state, or group of states. She is a sovereign state among the sisterhood of states of the union, with equal privileges, prerogatives, duties, and responsibilities. Her citizens are intelligent, industrious, honest and patriotic. She has within her borders the natural and acquired resources and all the elements of strength and grandeur necessary to maintain her proud position as one of the foremost states of the union. Nebraskans demand only the right, and that they will maintain, of governing their own affairs, without any desire to infringe upon the rights of any other people.

A sudden change in the business relations existing between citizens of Nebraska and citizens of other states would quite probably work much hardship and unnecessary suffering upon many of our people, yet I am of the opinion that ultimately greater permanent injury would be wrought to the states and communities adopting such an extraordinary and unusual course toward our citizens. Nebraska is not dependent on any one state or section of the country for the final or complete

M'CGOK TRIBUNE. | GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE fort and happiness of her citizens; and she fwo judges and one clerk on any election does not appeal as a dependent to have accorded to her citizens the fair treatment and consideration which should, and usually does, exist among the people of one common country, all having a mutual interest in the development of the whole. Rather, she demands this treatment because of the elements of strength in reciprocal relations which she possesses, and the ability of extending inducements to the business world, which make her territory an inviting field for the investment of capital and development of industrial enterprises.

PROPERTY RIGHTS SACRED. That all property interests now in exstence or that may hereafter be established will be treated with sacred regard and scrupulous honesty should not be questioned. To question it is to doubt the ionesty of mankind and challenge the integrity of a nation. Our people deserve friendly relations, commercially and socially, with the citizens of other states, and realize that in the maintenance and extension of mutual, cordial regard all are alike benefited.

One and a quarter millions of patrictic, law-abiding people inhabit the state of Nebraska. They have builded thriving cities and villages. They have broken the sod over which the Indians and the buffaloes roamed a few decades ago. They are a hardy, independent people, and are proud of the great fields and growing ommonwealth they have created. The fertile fields of Nebraska yield grain sufficient to supply the nation. Horses, cattle, and sheep fatten upon her broad prailies and meadow lands. Thousands of car loads of pork are shipped annually from her farms to feed the people of oth r states and countries. Her transportation facilities are unexcelled. She has factories for sugar, for chicary, for the manufacture of dry goods and various other commodities. She has mills for grinding grain; great packing houses and dairies ll over the state-in fact everything which makes a people prosperous in a great agricultural country, and goes to build up a great commonwealth.

These are the advantages which an inelligent, industrious, thrifty and energetc people present to the business world, and they will enable her to maintain, by virtue of merit alone, an honorable position among the great industrial communitles of our country.

The more important of the subjects to be considered by you were generally discussed during the recent campaign and the people made known their desires by the election of officers committed to reforms in the management of the state's affairs, thereby rendering less difficult for you to perform your duty in executing the will of the people thus expressed

I will merely call your attention to such

of these important matters as have come

under my observation during my term of office. By a wise provision of the constitution, the officers of the executive department and the heads of all the public institutions of the state, are required at least ten days preceding each regular session of the legislature to make a report to the governor concerning the condition of the state's business in their charge, so h reports in turn to be submitted to the legislature. These reports were not all presented to me within the time required by the constitution, and I have therefore been unable to give them the consideration I would have desired. They are submitted to you for your careful consideration as they contain much valuable information which will be of great assistance to you in determining the needs of the different departments of the state government and of the various institutions

Right of Suffrage.

coming biennium.

for their proper management for the

One of the most important duties de volving upon you as legislators is the amendment of the election laws of the state. The legislature of 1891 very wisely adopted the Australian ballot system and it has undoubtedly had an appreciable effect in purifying our elections. Experience in the use of the Australian system suggests many improvements which will have a tendency to render the perpetra tion of frauds still more difficult and give additional protection to the voter in the exercise of his right of franchise.

FORM OF BALLOT. I heartily approve the general form of our ballot and believe it to be vastly preferable to the so-called "blanket" ballot system, in which the party tickets are each printed in separate columns, with provisions generally by which the elector can vote the entire ticket by one mark or stamp. The independence of the voter is encouraged by our system which leads him usually to read the names of the candidates for the various offices before casting his ballot, and he is encouraged thereby not to rely solely upon party designation. It has been urged by some as an objection to the form of our ballet that it is in effect the establishment of an educational test for voting. I do not regard this as a very serious objection. The voter has become accustomed to this form of ballot, and any marked change in the general form, in my opinion, is entirely unnecessary and would serve no good purpose

PARTY DESIGNATIONS. Other objections, however, and more substantial which I regard more the result of abuses than of the law itself and which can be remedied by proper amendments. As an instance, William J. Bryan was nominated by the democratic party for the presidency. Afterward he was also nominated by the people's party for president. A convention of dissatisfied democrats met later and, styling themselves "national democrats," nominated John M. Palmer for president. The candidates placed in nomination by the Palmer wing for electors, as well as for state officers, were denominated on the official ballot in Nebraska as "democrats" with no means of distinguishing them from the regular democratic nominees. The result of such a course was necessarily the deception of many voters. I would respectfully recommend that such amendments be made to the law as would prevent the use of the party designation by "bolting" factions for the purpose of deceiving voters. The regular party nominees only should appear on the official ballot with the designation of the party which nominated them. Where one candidate has been nominated by more than one political party the party designations should be so arranged as to permit the elector to express by his vote his party preference as well as his preference for the candidate. Protection should be secured to the voter who, unacquainted with the names of all the nominees on the ticket, is desirous of casting his ballot for the nominees of the party he espouses.

ELECTION BOARD. I would also suggest that each party having a fair proportion of the electors in the state be given representation on the precinct election boards, and that no more than two members of any one political organization be made judges in any election precinct. The representatives of no one political organization should have entire control of any election booth, and, where competent men representing different political parties can be secured, the result must be more satisfactory to all concerned,

I believe this matter might be satisfactorlly arranged by vesting the power of naming the judges and clerks of election in the county clerks or boards of county commissioners (and the mayors of cities of the first and second classes). restricting them to a choice from lists furnished by the chairman of the county (or city) committees of the various political parties. Provision could be made allowing at least one representative on the election board to each political party receiving a certain percentage of votes cast at the last general election held in the state, and providing that, in no event, development of her resources and the com- should any one party have to exceed

NO COERCION.

In order to secure a free and untrammelled ballot for every elector steps should be taken to prevent coercion, intimidation and undue influence on the part of the employers. Every citizen, whatever may be his station in life, should have every protection thrown around him in the exercise of his citizenship. Other states have seen fit to enact very stringent legislation to prevent undue influence on the voter by his employer. As an instance the laws of Indiana provide that wheever, for the purpose of influencing a voter, threatens to enforce the payment of a debt, to injure the business or trade of an elector, or, if an employer threatens to withhold wages or to dismiss from service any laborer in his employment or refuses to allow employes time to attend to the place of election and vote, shall be fined not more than \$1,000 nor less than \$20, imprisonment in the sate prison not more than five years, nor less than one year, and disfranchised and rendered incapable of holding any office of trust or profit for any determinative perlod. The enactment and strict enforcement of some such provision in the election laws of Nebraska would lessen the intimidation of voters and give encouragement to a free expression of the will of the people at the polls. Provisions should also be made directing all employers to allow each voter sufficient time on election day to deposit his ballot. RAILROAD DISCRIMINATION

Some action might very properly be taken to discourage discrimination between political parties by railroad corporations operating within the state. The issuance of passes to an army of political workers and the giving of special rates for the political meetings make the railroad companies a power in shaping the political destiny of the state. Where this power is all wielded in the interest of one party and to the prejudice of another party, its weight cannot well be overestimated. Railroad companies do the business of the public and should be restrained by wholesome legislation from active participation in party politics. The officers and employes of such railroad companies should be free to vote as may seem to them for their own best interests. Charges of fraudulent registration in the larger cities of the state have been frequently made and I would suggest the advisability of having the last day of registration at least ten days prior to election day in order that the complete list of voters may be scrutinized by all inquiring citizens and ample time be afforded for the apprehension of those who fraudulently register.

THE USE OF MONEY. It is obvious that one of the chief sources of corruption in elections is the use of money in providing means or hiring the voter to go to the polls and vote, by this means placing him under obligation and thus unduly influencing his vote, or to hire the voter to stay away from the polls, thereby causing him to neglect his

duty as a citizen. In order to encourage and stimulate the free and honest exercise of the elective franchise it has occurred to me that it might serve a good purpose were a nonvoting poll tax of reasonable amount levied against each elector who may relieve himself by voting at the general election, or by producing a certificate of ickness or disability or by absene from the county or state. Such a provision might incidentally be made a source of revenue to the state and the burden fall upon a class of citizens who fail to discharge a very important duty devolving upon every qualified citizen. I suggest this idea to you for your consideration.

I hope that you will take the necessary steps for the remedying of defects in our election laws with a view to giving every possible opportunity for a free and fair expression of the will of the people at the polls.

Relief of Drouth Sufferers.

When I assumed the duties of the office of governor of the state, two years ago, the people of Nebraska were distressed. not only by reason of the general depression in business affairs, low prices and steady and continued depreciation in property values, but also from the result of an unprecedented and disastrous drouth. These adverse climatic conditions were not confined to Nebraska alone, but prevailed in various parts of the country. It was an abnormal condition and may not be experienced again during a generation of our people. Absolute want and distress could only be prevented by prompt and efficient organization for the purpose of supplying the pressing needs of the unfortunate drought sufferers until another season should bring the usual bountiful harvest.

GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS. I found that, under the direction of my predecessor, steps had been taken looking to a systematic method of collecting and distributing provisions to alleviate the immediate wants of the people in the affected portion of the state. When it became generally known that provisions would have to be made to relieve those impoverished by the drouth, there was a generous and spontaneous response from all sections of the nation. The contributions became so liberal that it taxed the ingenuity of those in charge of the distribution of these free offerings to place them in the hands of those most deserving of assitance and, at the same time, to not tax the generosity of the benevolent people to a greater extent than

absolutely required to prevent suffering. I deem it my duty, in behalf of the unfortunate people who were affected by this calamity to express to all who so nobly responded to their distress by contributions of provisions or money, and also to the railroad, express, telegraph and telephone companies which so liberally assisted in the work of alleviating suffering, our sincere gratitude and lasting thanks for their manifestations of human sympathy and benevolence exercised during this trying period. Since that unfortunate calamity, as before, Nebraska has been blessed with bounteous crops and the disagreeable experience she passed through appears to her people as a hideous dream.

THE RELIEF COMMISSION. After the organization of the legislature an act was passed creating a relief commission, composed of five well known citizens, giving to them entire control and management in the discharge of this important work. The report of the relief commission has been submitted to me and you will doubtless be supplied with copies. You will observe by this report, as well as by reference to the acts of the last legislature, that the state contributed \$50,000, which was placed at the disposal of the relief commission, and an additional sum of \$200,000, which was by the relief commission distributed among the several counties of the state where the people were regarded as being entitled to assistance of this character for the purpose of purchasing seed grain for the following crop season, making a total appropriation by the legislature of \$250,000. In addition to these cash donations by the legislature and the people of the country at large, an immense amount of supplies and provisions of different kinds were contributed, to obtain an accurate estimate of which requires a careful study of the report in detail of the commission. The work of the commission of necessity was of the most difficult character, carried on under trying circumstances and I am of the opinion that the work of distributing supplies was done in a most thorough and systematic manner. I was of the impression at the time, and have since found no reasons to change my views, that the organization and method of distribution of relief supplies was upon a cumbersome and expensive plan. By an examination of the report it will be observed that there were funds donated in the sum of \$28,999.38 and realized from the general and special appropriations of the legislature

the further sum of \$62,364.70, making a total of \$81,364.08. Of this amount there was expended \$48,113.82 in printing, travelling and transportation charges and office expenses. The freight charges amounted to \$36,809.03, divided into two items, one denominated "transportation" being in the sum of \$30,181.67, and the other designated "in-freight" being in the sum of \$6,627.36, leaving the sum of \$11,304.79 to represent the other expenses of the relief commission in carrying on this work from its inception until its

close.

NEBRASKA CONTRIBUTIONS It is perhaps proper to remark in this connection, and it is a source of gratification to myself, as I have no doubt it will be to all others who examine into the details of this work, that our own people who were more fortunately situated than their bretnren contributed most generously to this work of relief and did their full share in alleviating want and distress among their fellow citizens. With a generosity unequalled, the people of every section of our country vied with each other in doing everything necessary to prevent want and suffering. It is to be sincerely hoped that no such calamity will again reduce our people to the necessity of asking or receiving aid from their more fortunate fellow countrymen; nor is there occasion to believe that under the influence of the ordinary laws of nature they will ever again do be called upon to Appreciating the magnificent generosity of our fellow countrymen, displayed in this instance, Nebraska will ever stand ready to extend a helping hand to the unfortunate and suffering of mankind wherever they may be found.

DROUTH LESSONS. The drouth has not been without its lessons, which will doubtless add much to the material welfare and permanent presperity of our people. In no state in the union is the rainfall more uniform, both in time and amount, nor can the precipitancy of the moisture be determined with greater accuracy. In any portion of Nebraska a study of the climatic conditions will disclose with reasonable certainty the average amount of rainfell during the crop growing season, thus enabling the people to determine in what portion of the state they may safely engage in agricultural pursuits, relying upon the natural rainfall to cause the craps te grow to maturity and ripen in perfection. In the extreme western por ion of the state, experience has demonstrated that agriculture cannot be safely carried on with reliance upon the natural rainfall for a sufficiency of moisture to successfully grow and mature the crops. This condition has been made more apparent by the disastrous season of 18.4 and the recole have promptly turned their attention to irrigation, which has been developed with great rapidity and which has replaced partial failure of crops with its attending disappointment, want and suffering, with bounteous crops which can be relied upon with certainty as regularly as the seasons follow each other. The non-irrigable portions of the country within this territory being exceedingly well adapted to the raising of stock, the western part of Nebraska is thereby made ore of the most inviting fields for in ending settlers of any part of the great west.

Irrigation.

In the reports of the secretary of the ate board of irrigation will be much interesting and useful information. It is very gratifying to note the rapid development of this phase of agricultural industry. The work is as yet in its infancy, but so much has been accomplished it may confidently be predicted that that portion of our state which is in the semi-arid region will soon become one of the most attractive places in any agricultural community. Millions of acres of Nebraska hand will be brought under the favorable influences of irrigation and made to produce the most bountiful crop; and there is no limit to the development except by the exhaustion of the water supply before this result has been fully accomplished. The immense wealth, brought into existence through the development of irrigation and that which is created annually by the production of bountiful harvests, gives assurance of plenty and prosperity to the inhabitants of this favored portion of the state. NEW CANALS.

It will be seen from the records in the office of the secretary of the board of canals that there have been completed 2,740 miles of canals and that there are in process of construction 1,045.6 miles, making a total mileage at the present time of canals completed and in process of construction of 4,785.6. The estimated cost will exceed \$3,090,000, of which over half has already been expended. This will bring under irrigation 1,207,966 acres of land, increasing the value of the land legs, the inhabitants of the tropics nearly \$10,000,000. In addition to this there are applications on file for contemplated canals of a total milease of 2,946. These statistics can but impress you with the importance of giving to this subject such further consideration as may be necessary to correct any imperfections existing in the present law, and of providing for a continuation of the work so auspiciously begun. IRRIGATION LAWS.

The first general law upon the subject of irrigation was enacted in 1889. This law was found entirely inadequate for the proper development of the irrigation interests of the state. This law was superseded by a much more comprehen sive one enacted by the last legislatur since which the work has progresse more satisfactorily and with much great er rapidity. Many suggestions have be made respecting the wisdom of amending the present law. In considering the sul jects of amendments, however, I deem : advisable to call attention to the facthat no emendments should be made which would materially change the un derlying, essential principles of the present law, which has the sanction of th highest judicial tribunal of our land. Th principles involved in this subject have been forever settled by a judicial decision of the character referred to, it would seem unwise, except upon urgent neces sity, to so change them by legislation as to render less certain the principles in volved and perhaps invite further liti gation with its attending tediousness and wearisome delays. The advocates of irrigation interests, as I understand it, favor amending the law relating to the organiza tion of irrigation districts so as to provid for uniform issues of bonds under the direction of the state board of irrigation as well as legislation touching the issu and negotiation of the bonded obligations of the irrigation districts so as to affore the taxpayers all needed protection, as well as having due regard for the interests of those who purchase such obligations. It has also been suggested that an amend ment might properly be made with tel erence to the organization and control of irrigation districts so as to permit every resident freeholder to participate in and have a voice in the selection of officers and all other matters pertaining to the affairs of such districts; also that the officers of district treasurer and assessor might be abolished and the duties of these officers be imposed upon the county and township treasurers and a sessors. Other amendments to the prosent law of more or less importance have likewise been suggested, and will no doubt be presented to you for your consideraable to make such needful improvements as may seem advisable to encourage further and to the utmost extent this very important feature of the agricultural development of the state, and that all necessary appropriations may be made in order that the work may be carried on with renewed vigor.

State's Finances. I desire to earnestly call your serious

attention to the condition of the state's finances. This is a subject of more than

ordinary concern to every taxpayer in Nebraska. Several factors contribute to the unfavorable condition of the financial interests of the state as we at present find them. The very general depression in business and the low prices received for the products produced by the people of our state are of themselves sufficient to render the state's finances much more unsatisfactory than might be expected under normal conditions. This has prevented the prompt collection of taxes duethe state, and required in order to meet its necessary expenditures, so that at thepresent time it appears there is a very

arge amount of delinquent state taxes. In addition to this the method of handling the finances of the state and meeting its obligations, could, in my judgment, be very much improved upon. Not only is it commendable to secure the prompt collection of taxes levied for the purpose of meeting current expenditures, but also the prompt payment of the taxes thus collected in satisfaction of the state's obligations. Good business judgment would dictate the prompt discharge of the state's outstanding obligations as rapidly as money may be accumulated by the ordinary method of collecting taxes to meet the same

STATE OBLIGATIONS. From the report of the state treasurer a brief summary discloses the following as to the state's oblications:

Bonds outstanding, issued in funding the state's indebtedness at the time of the adop-

tion of the present constitution \$ 45,2 7 55 Bonds issued under the present constitution in 1891 and yet

outstanding Jeneral fund warrants outstanding\$1,904,060 13

STATE CREDITS. To meet these obligations we have the following credits: Sinking fund to meet bonds ...\$ 317,840 04

first above mentioned

Sinking fund to meet bonds last

above mentioned 324 39 Uncollected taxes due to the general fund\$2,320,692 78 ash in the treasury, general

fund In addition to the liabilities already incurred, and of which mention has heretofore been made, there is also the additional liability for current expenditures yet to be made for the remainder of the blennial period for which the last legislature made appropriations and which can be approximated by ascertaining the total unexpended balances as shown by the report of the state auditor. These will have to be met from the uncollected taxes

(CONTINUED)

above mentioned

DIFFERENT WAYS OF SLEEPING.

Europeans Like Soft Pillows, but Eastern Races Like Blocks.

Though it is true, as the author of a school composition once asserted, that "sleeping is a universal practice among all nations," it is also true that there is a great diversity in the methods of sleeping among people of different nations and different ways of life, says the Youth's Companion. The things that one needs to make him sleep are precisely the things which would keep another awake all night. Even the sedative medicines which put one person immediately into a heavy slumber excite another into a condition of nervous restlessness.

The European or American, in order to sleep well, ordinarily requires a downy pillow under his head; but the Japanese, stretching himself upon a rush-mat on the floor, puts a hard, square block of wood under his head, and does not sleep well if he does not have it.

The Chinese makes great account of his bed, which is very low, indeedscarcely rising from the floor-but is often carved exquisitely of wood; but it never occurs to him to make it any any softer than rush-mats will render

While the people of northern countries can not sleep unless they have plenty of room to stretch out their often curl themselves up like monkeys at the lower angle of a suspended hammock, and sleep soundly in that position.

The robust American often covers himself with a pair of blankets and throws his window wide open to the air, even in the winter time, and-he does not complain if he finds a little drift of snow across the top of his bed in the morning.

The Russian, on the contrary, likes no sleeping-place so well as the top of the big scapstone stove in his domicile. Crawling out of this blistering bed in the morning he likes to take a plunge in a cold stream, even if he has to break through the ice to get into it.

The Laplander crawls, head and all, into a bag made of reindeer skin and sleeps warm and comfortable within it. The East Indian, at the other end of the world, also has a sleeping-bag, but it is more porous than the Laplander's. Its purpose is to keep out mosquitoes more than to keep the sleeper warm.

While the American still clings to his feather pillow he is steadily discarting his old-fashloned feather bed in favor of the hair or straw matress. The feather bed is relegated to the country and many people who slept upon it all through their childhood find themselves uncomfortable upon it in their maturity.

The Germans not only sleep upon a feather bed, but underneath one. The feather covering used in Germany, however, is not as large or thick as the one which is used as a mattress, and the foreigner who undertakes tosleep beneath it often finds his feet suffering from cold, while his shoulders are suffering from heat.

A Big Shower of Meteors, Of the 14 huge masses of meteoric

iron which fell on a spot less than 64 square miles in area, near Fort Duncan, Mexico, the largest is bee-hive shaped and is buried five feet in the soil and rises four feet above the surface. The second mass in point of size has been moved to the national museum at Washington. It weighs over 4,000 pounds. The other 12 pieces weigh from 971/2 to 650 pounds. The whole mass of fragments as mentioned above are scattered over an area of 64. square miles with Fort Dancan at about the center of the point of dis-