IRRIGATION IN NEBRASKA.

It Interests All Classes of Citizens in Every Section of the State.

OF THE ARID REGION. POSSIBILITIES

Western Nebraska Compared with Western lowa-Settlement of Nebraska in the Last Ten Years and in the Next Ten.

ARTICLE VI.

Irrigation is the problem of Nebraska's development. It is not alone the problem of a few starving homesteaders on the frontier. It should have the attention and support of every man and interest having anything at stake in the future of this state.

In the last six months Nebraska has been the victim of a national advertisement of the wrong kind. It is now the interest of everybody having his home or capital here to wipe out the memory of last summer's catastrophe with some grand achievement. The eastern public draws no nice distinctions between this and that section of Nebraska. It knows that a committee has been sent to Washingten to ask the national government for \$1,000,000 for destitute settlers in this state. There is not a railroad, banker merchant or real estate speculator who is not almost as much interested in the present effort to prevent a recurrence of the drouth as the settlers in the semi-arid region themselves. Thus irrigation becomes a subject of vital interest to the state. If it is so regarded it will be a success, as it already is in every state which has adopted it as a necessary means to successful agriculture.

There is another aspect in which irrigation is interesting to the state as a whole. Thi is the fact that it will some day be generally adopted between the Missouri river and th 100th meridian, as well as to the west of tha mystic line that is now supposed to mark the limits of the semi-aric region. This, of course, is not a generally accepted theory, but it will be within the next ten years. When the arid region becomes fat and sleek with prosperity. when the demand for breadstuffs begins to crowd close upon the supply, when the eastern farmer finds the products of his labor unable to compete as to quality and quantity with the irrigated products of western Nebraska, of Wyoming, Colorado and Idaho, then we shall see the ditches creeping slowly

DAWES

BOX BUTTE

9.690 I SHERIDAN

DEVEL

2165

SICUX

SCOTT'S BLUF

1.886

BANNER

2,435

KIMBALL

of cultivating the soil.

are as arid as their lands.

it didn't rain this year it certainly would next year. The result has been that in the last decade the region west of the 100th meridian has increased 330 per cent in population and that we have found out at last that irrigation is absolutely necessary to the retention of these settlers and the further development

of the state In the presence of widespread distress we come at last to the work of organizing a movement which was in the beginning the only means of making this region productive It has a rich soil, a delightful climate and a charmingly picturesque landscape, but all this counts for nothing without water. It is interesting and important to consider the possibilities of this section when the missing link shall be supplied.

IL-WESTERN NEBRASKA AND WESTERN IOWA It certainly requires little hardihood to say that the twenty-five counties in western Nebraska, if they can be made productive by irrigation, will be in time as populous and rich as twenty-five counties in western Iowa. Western Iowa is a rich country, but it would bear no comparison either in the value of its lands or the amount and quality of its products to the irrigated farms and ranches of Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Idaho and California, it does not possess the wonderful climate and unclouded skies which make western Nebraska derightful. All it has it has earned from a good soil, enriched by a fairly even rainfall and constant cultivation, and with good means of transportation. And yet it may serve to illustrate the possible future of western Nebraska.

In making up the following table to indicate the population of twenty-five counties in the extreme western portion of Iowa. those containing large cities, such as Woodbury and Pottawattamie counties, are omitted. Nothing which has been accomplished in the following counties of Iowa is impossible in western Nebraska if our people cease to pray for rain and begin to dig

- 1		The second secon
n	Lyon 4,007	Cherokee 12.58
5	Sioux	O'Brien 8,381
2011	Plymouth 15,481	Osceola 3.00
y	Monona 12.178	Clay 6.438
e	Monona 12,178 Harrison 2 ,530	Buena Vista 11.53
311	Milk	Sac
t	Fremont	Carroll
0	Page	
4		Adams 12.140
	Cass 1.819	
d n	Shelby	
e	Crawford	
đ	Ida	
140		

These figures are from the census of 1880. Adding 20 per cent for the increase during the last ten years, which is a trifle less than the average in Iowa during that period, we have a total of 378,067, which is nearly four times as many people as live in a similar district in western Nebraska. Figures are not at hand for a comparison of the aggregate

CHERRY

6,420

GRANT

58

ARTHUR

KEITH

2,548

CHASE !

4.803

DUNDY

4.000.

novement for irrigation. The figures represent the population by the latest census.

91

HOCKER THOMAS

METHER SON LOGAN

394 1,372

LINCOLN

10,434

HAYES FRONTIER

8,950

WILLOW RED WILLOW

6,471

426

and pressing necessity, not only because it | will attract new capital and population, but | because it will prevent, in a large degree, the loss of capital already invested and help to retain the people already there. To develop the region for what it may hereafter become, is a duty to the state. To develop it for the sake of the men and women who are now struggling for existence on its rich but and acres, is a duty to humanity. Both duties

are urgent, but one is sacred. Much more could be written of the possioilities of the arid region. It would be easy to fortify these predictions with facts from the history of similar regions in other states. But it hardly seems necessary. It must be perfectly plain to every thinking man that rrigation is essential to prevent the present distress from becoming chronic, and to keep Nebraska moving along in the upward path.

IV .- IRRIGATION AND STATE DEVELOPMENT. On June 26, 1889, a large and enthusiastic convention, representing every county, met in Omaha and organized a state development society. After one or two futile attempts to get it on its feet, this organization rolled over and died. It was based on the vague idea that Nebraska ought to be doing something. It passed awry because it had no specific thing to do. While, certainly, no humane person would think of dragging this respectable society from its grave, it must still occur to those who have not forgotten the incident of its organization that the time has come to do the work it meant to do.

As has been said at the beginning of this article, irrigation is not a narrow sectional question, but the broadest and most pregnant factor in the problem of state relooment. The resources of Nebraska are purely agricultural. We have no mineral wealth to explore, no forests to hew down, nor navigable rivers to improve. Manufacturing will be a plant of slow growth, except as it utilizes our agricultural products in making sugar, Starch, linea, twine, glucose and similar articles. What, then, have we to develop except to make our rich acres capable of sustaining the largest agricultural population and thereby jucreasing the wealth of the people! Irrigation is the only means which can be used to this end.

Look at it in another light. For the past ten years Nebraska has been competing with Kansas and Dakota for immigrants. Henceforward she must enter another class, for in the next ten years Kansas and Dakota, unless they join us in the present movement, cannot hope to compete with Colorado, Wyoming, Utah and Idaho in the matter of attracting new farmers.

It must be remembered that Kansas and Dakota have been put before the eastern public in an unfavorable light in the last few years, and that in the last few months Ne-

AN INTERESTING TREATISE.

On a Question of Vital Importance to all Citizens.

A FACTOR IN FINANCIAL DEPRESSIONS.

Old Line Life Insurance in all its Phases-Pacts and Figures in Redundant Quannn e tities.

Editor Omaha Dally Rex: As a subscriber of your valued journal, and as a citizen of this commonwealth, permit me to thank you for the publication of the article in your issue of January 21, entitled. "The Investment Penture of Life Insurance Policies." It is really refreshing to note that said article was contributed by no less an authority than the renowned Jacob L. Greene, president of that famous institution the Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance company. It is also a good omen for public interests when a great daily newspaper like The Ber devotes so much of its valuable space to life insurance interests. Why? Because so many imagine it a subject dry and meaningless, except to life insurance actuaries and agents. But such an impression is a great error. That there are intricate problems underlying the foundation of such insurance as Mr. Greene dubs "investment policies," "bonis," "consols," etc., there can be no dispute, yet that there should be any mystery or misunderstanding in the minds of people of even ordinary intelligence as to the system and operation of straight legitimate life insurance is a mystery of mysteries, and there would be none were it not that solicitors too often resort to mystifying statements in order to cover up the defects in the plans of their respective companies.

It is a substantial factor in the growing intelligence of business men to note that at no

order to cover up the defects in the plans of their respective companies. It is a substantial factor in the growing intelligence of business men to note that at no period of our commercial existence have they taken the decided interest in life insurance that they do today. This is as it should be, for no trust or corporation of any character can secure so thoroughly and practically an efficient competency; to a man's family upon so small an annual outlay as a sound, reliable life insurance company is enabled to grant. Owing to the numerous safeguard surrounding the interests of policy-holders in our life insurance corporations, by state legislative enactments, it is fair to assert excluding certain co-opera-It is fair to assert (excluding certain co-opera-live and assestment associations) that a busitive and assessment associations that a business man cannot err in patronizing the duly chartered life insurance companies and associations of this country, so far as their ability goes, to perform and carry out to the letter the conditions stipulated and named in each policy or certificate of straight life insurance. Wherein, then, do business men need to exercise precaution to ascertain whether they are contributing too much money for the competency named? CAN THE PREMIUMS BE REDUCED

which level or old line life insurance companies charge their policy holders, and yet fully guard and protect the perpetuity of those institutions; is a vital question to every policy holder in these United States, and, indeed, to the body politic of the whole country. For a long period of time those level or socialied old line companies have dominated the business of life underwriting, and at premium rates; absolutely profligate in character. If not so, how could they have maintained such enormously expensive establishments, with presidents, many of whom receive more salary enormously expensive establishments, with presidents, many of whom receive more salary per annum than the president of the United States. Would you, sir, have a few facts and figures for your consideration and that of your readers? Selecting a limited number of those old line or level premium life insurance companies, it will be found that in a few years they have collected from their policy holders and above the amount, necessary for annual protection. It is not unfrequently the cuse that at certain periods there is business depression, and contraction of the money market, may not this system be a most potent factor in superinducing such depressions.

IN THE YEAR 1889

superinducing such depressions.

IN THE YEAR 1889

twenty-six of these "old line life insurance companies did business in Nebraska. They collected from citizens of the state (their policy holders) \$7.28,500,03. This large sum, nearly three quarters of a million dollars, was sent out of Nebraska and into most of the Atlantic states. A natural question would be, what percentage of this sum was paid back into the state, to the estate and devisees of the policy holders of said twenty-six level premium or old line companies, only \$170,175, showing that the premiumsthey collected and took away from Nebraska exceeded the death claims by \$5.8,25.5.0, being over \$500,000 in one single year. Is it then not high time for our business men to wake up and investigate this huge financial measter, working its victims under the guise of protecting the widow and orphan, against the premature decay of their brend winner? The Hon. John K. Tarbox, late insurance commissioner of the state of Massachusetts, a gentleman of large financial experience and an actuary of distinguished prominence, has aptly and truly said:

"A less number of people in the United States are insured in the old style life insurance companies today than in 1870, and yet we are a nation of \$15,000,000 more people now than then, and all the while the advantages of life insurance have been urged upon the people, with great labor and at vast expense, by a IN THE YEAR 1889

then, and all the while the advantages of life insurance have been urged upon the people, with great labor and at vast expense, by a numerous army of skilled and able advocates, by the all-persuasive press, and by all the instrumentalities of public influence. The people want life insurance. This is testified by the fact that within a few years, and with scarcely an effort, voluntary associations for life insurance have organized throughful the country, and easily obtained a membership largely in excess of that of the life companies. For some reason the old system, excellent although I believe it to be under proper administration and laws, has failed to win the confidence and satisfy the needs of the public.

the needs of the public.
"If that plan of insurance is to hold the field the future it must adjust itself to modern addition."

in the future it must adjust itself to modern conditions.

"The conclusion is that the accumulation of a life combany, by exactions from its policy holders, of a fund incapable of ultimate distribution to the persons whose contributions create it. In excess of the arrount which the law, the principles of the system and the history of every well ordered institution of life insurance in the country avouch as sufficient to assure the full accomplishment of its contracts, is not justified by any prudent reason, and is an injustice to the insured public the law should redress.

"Such a surplus serves no legitimate use, and is a perpetual temptation to wastefulness, speculation and corruntion in the management of the corporation."

"Such a surplus serves no legitimate use, and is a perpetual temptation to wastefulness, speculation and corruntion in the management of the corporation."

So it will be seen that the able Tarbox could see no good or wise purpose in taking from policy holders sums so largely in excess of absolute needs. What will ultimately become of nearly \$500,000,000 called "surplus," "reserve," now held by old line companies in this country alone? Who contributed this money? To whom does it rightfully belong? Are policy holders who read this article willing to have their payments thereto confiscated to posterity and pass into the hands of strangers?

But you ask, sir, what there is better to offer than the style of insurance condemned by President Jacob L. Greene in his article, and that class of insurance herein unfavorably spoken of by this contributor?

Mr. Greene condemns investment and speculative life insurance. This writer also casts his vote against such insurance as being most dangerous to policy holders, holding contracts predicated upon such methods because of such system being permeated with mercenary motives of a most pernicious character. But while the undersigned is not backward in denouncing investment and speculative life insurance, he is also strongly opposed to the system established by level premium or so-called old line life insurance companies, not alone for the unnecessary extravagance of the system, but the falacy of its excessive reserve element. Bear in mind my language "excensave reserve element" this at once admits that the writer realizes the necesity of some "reserve." Most certainly, because the foundation of all legitimate life insurance, must and does provide for an adequate provision against the increasing risk year by year, owing to the advance in axe of the membership, and without some reserve, call it by whatever game you will, whether "surplus fund." "indemnity or guarentee fund" the principle, use and need for such a fund in life insurance companies they established a system of "loadin

cessive reserves or level premium or old line life insurance companies:

"THE CONCLUSION IS that the accumulation of a life company by exactions from its policy holders, of a fund incapable of ultimate distribution to the perincapable of ultimate distribution to the persons whose contributions create it, in excess of the amount which the law, the principles of the system, and the history of every well ordered institution of life insurance in the country vouch as sufficient to assure the full accomplishment of its contracts, is not justicided by any prudent reason, and is an injustice to the insured public the law should redress." Does the excessive "reserve clement" under the level premium system contribute to the reduction of present or future payments? Does it, during the life of a policy holder, or any time. In whole or in part, revert to his use, or can it be used in payment of losses?

LET THE TESTIMONY of the following eminent actuaries answer in

of the following eminent actuaries answer in their own language: "The reserve can be used for no purpose whatever, while the original

policy is in force, save for accumulation."—M. Tabor, consulting actuary and compiler of "The Three Systems of Life Insurance."

"The fact is the reserve is simply and purely a bank deposit, belonging for life or death to the depositor, and having no more real connection with the insurance risk than a corresponding deposit in a bank across the street would have."—Emory McClintock, actuary Mutual life insurance company. New York; the targest old line life corporation in the world.

"No part of the reserve can be used to pay a "No part of the reserve can be used to pay a

death claim on any policy save the one to which it belongs, any more than a bank of de-posit can use the funds of one depositor to make good its losses to any other."—E. D. Williams, actuary

position use the funds of one depositor to make good its losses to any other."—E. D. Williams, actuary.

The authorities here quoted from, have time and again urged these level premium or old line companies, to change their plans with reference to the reserve element, but evidently they will not harken to any overtures to modify their methods, until such time as the people with-hold their petronage and thereby cause a reduction of the present rates of from one-third to fifty per cent.

President Greene in his article, quotes the rate his company charges for one of their twenty year investment policies, age thirty and amount of policy \$10,000, as being \$100 per annum for twenty years. He does not furnish the rate in his company for ordinary straight life policies for same age and amount, but the writer can supply the information, it would be \$22.50 per annum, and as every premium paid into Mr. Greene's company or into any other level premium company is divided into or apportioned into three elements, it may be interesting here to aduce a small. portioned into three elements, i teresting here to addee a small

TABLE SHOWING THE ELEMENTS Combined in making up the gross premium charged by level premium or old line com charged by level premium or old line com-panies, upon \$1,000 insurance at different ages

10.85 13.48 17.22 12.18 24.83 TABLE SHOWING THE ELEMENTS

TABLE SHOWING THE ELEMENTS
combined in making up gross premiums
charged by natural premium companies.

Note—Ordinarity, with natural premium
companies there are but two elements in each
premium, viz: the expense and mortuary or
death claim element, but for a fair comparison, three elements are here exhibited:

Emergen—Gross

Emergen-Mortality Expense

Here the reader will notice: 1. That both tables provide for the same amount, at same age, for mortality element, hence the natural premium system exacts the same amount from the insured for paying death ciaims as does the level or old line companies: Indeed the mortality element in both cases is the natural premium, and any amount charged in excess of the natural premium must have in view some other factor or element. In the first table above given, it will be observed that at age 25 the level plemium companies add for expense \$1.68 at age 35, \$7.51 at age 50, \$13.81 and at age 60 \$22.18. Are not such discriminations unreasonable and unwarranted, and if practiced by any merchant or firm would be termed disany merchant or firm would be

DOES IT COST MORE TO WRITE

policies for men at age 40 than age 25, or at age 60 than at age 40? Certainly not. Yet the level premium system charges the man at age 40 for expense element \$8.25 per each \$1,000. for the same service performed for \$5.65 at age 25, and the man at age 60 has to contribute \$22.18 per each \$1,000, while the man at age 30 gets off by paying only \$6.49. Contrast this feature with the same element in natural premium companies. The latter charge the same per each \$1,000 at all ages, viz: \$1.00 per thousand, and why any more? It has been found by experience that \$4.00 per thousand is sufficient to defray all legitimate current expenses and that it costs no more to transact business for a man at age 45 than it does for a man age 25.

ness for a man at age 45 than it does for a man age 25.

Now as to the reserve or emergency element it will be not iced that at all lages, the level premium or old line companies have their insured contribute to that element more than twice the amount that the natural premium companies require their policy holders to pay. All of which is gross injustice, because that such unnecessary exactions are not warranted and experience has proven the fallacy of the system and yet, it so far has not been remedied by those level premium or old line companies. The natural premium companies find that the leading added to the natural premium for expense and emergency element, are um for expense and emergency element, are not only ample but do admit of returns to their polley holders, in the way of dividends, cash surrender values, continuadividence, cash surrender values, continua-tion of policies under certain conditions with-out further payment, and many other admir-able features. Natural premium companies hord the respective amounts contributed by their policy holders as sacred for the individ-uals contributing same and at no time is it confiscated to posterity to pass into the hands of strangers.

in his article refers to the cost of a \$10,000 policy at the age of thirty in one of those level premium companies, as being \$190.00 per an-nur, for 20 years and should the insured agree his application to leave all his savings and in his application to leave all his savings and interest earnings, during the 20 year period such companies have estimated that at the end of said period (20 years) the policy might be worth \$7.000, which would (if realized) beeculvalent to compounding the insured's payments at 4.92 per cent. Mr. Greene certainly deserves great credit for his honesty, for while president of one of those old line or level premium companies, and one too, which has, and does issue such policies and contracts as above stated, yet he frankly and manly, and over his own signature informs the public that no such earnings have been made as those estimated, and that in the nature of things, such talked of and boasted estimations as to earnings can not be realized now or in the future. But suppose Mr. Greene's own words be ailowed to speak for themselves, he asks in his article herein aliuded to and referring to level or old line companies, writing such investment or speculative policies.

"HOW MUCH CAN THEY DO? nterest earnings, during the 20 year period "HOW MUCH CAN THEY DO?

These companies under present conditions can hardly hope to decrease their expense account or to earn more than 5 per cent interest on their assets for the next twenty years. Assuming that they are certain to earn that much, and taking out 20 per cent of premiums and of interest for expenses, and providing for expected losses, the result at the end of the "investment period" would be just \$0.517, instead of the estimated \$17,000 a shrmkage of \$3.243, a result not equal to the premiums compounded at i per cent. In what sense can this be called a profitable investment for one's self? How can any purely financial operation—one that is not a manufacturing, mining or otherwise productive business adventure—that has to bear such an expense account, be considered as a profitable investment? How can they make up the shrinkage of \$6.243, to realize which would require them not only to do business without any expense at all, but also to earn for twenty years a greater rate of interest than they have any reasonable hope of doing? years a greater rate of interest than they have any reasonable hope of doing? But another unfortunate and unjust feature of such planof insurance is the forfetture of all cardings and savings to the estate of the insured should he die prior to the investment period. For the benefit of illustration, be it known that under such a form of policy, should the insured die prior to the end of the investment period, and thereby his policy become a claim, the level premium or old line companies would only pay its face vaine, and all the savings and carnings belonging to the policy of the deceased is confiscated, no matter if such savings have accumulated up and into the thousands of dollars.

BUT SUPPOSE THE MAN, ture of such plan of insurance is the forfeiture BUT SUPPOSE THE MAN.

BUT SUPPOSE THE MAN,
age thirty, has used his \$495 differently—
had he put \$165 of the amount into a catural
premium insurance company, and continued
to pay same to such a company for twenty
years he would be insured at the time for
\$10,000. Then assume that the man
pay the balance of the \$105
per annum into an investment company, viz:
\$331 he could get a guaranteed certificate that
his \$331 paid annually for 20 years would be
compounded at 6 per cent interest, which
would at the end of 20 years equal \$12,906.68 together with a participation in the earnings of
the investment company quite likely to increase the \$12,906.68 at least \$4,000 or \$8,000
more, should the future earnings equal even
50 per cent of past experience. Should any
reader doubt this statement he is invited to
call and interview the writer for further information and proofs.

THEREFORE IT IS APPARENT THEREFORE IT IS APPARENT

that a man is much better off to buy his life insurance pure and straight and avoid all problematical and investment features, and if he wishes endowments, annuities or investment features, put his money into substantial co-porations having and owning real estate at the besief security and proposed for such co.porations having and owning real estate as the basis of security and organized for such Another contrast between the two methods

named is, that assume the man dies having paid in sixteen annual premiums to the level or old line companies there would be paid to his es-tate simply \$10,000; but if he had divided his tate simply \$10,000; but if he had divided his simply \$10,000; but if he had divided his \$100 per annum as above recommended, then the natural premium company would pay to his estate \$10,000 plus the percentage of the emergency fund to the credit of his policy at the time of his death, and the investment company would pay to his estate sixteen times \$311 compounded at 6 per cent interest, which would equal \$0,007.50, so it will be seen how much better off a man is if he divides his money as herein indicated, for at the end of the sixtee ath annual payment should he die having invested in the level or old line companies his estate would get simply \$10,000, while by dividing his annual contribution between the Natural Premium company and the Investment company his estate would receive an absolute \$19,007.50 plus his percentage in the emergency fund to his credit at the end of the sixteenth year, plus his percentage of the earnings over the 6 per cent

compound interest in the investment com

compound interest in the investment company. Where is the level premium, old line company or any other plan or style of life insurance company that can make such a showing, or even approach it? If any doubt the possibility of what is herein stated, call on the undersigned or address him for further information and proof.

BUT SUPPOSE THE COST of \$10,000 ordinary life insurance age thirty in one of these level premium or old line companies be contrasted with the cost for same amount and same age in a natural premium company, the result would stand, cost in level premium company \$28.50 per annum during life, cost in natural premium company \$155 per annum until end of expectancy (thirty-four years), showing a difference from the start and for each year of \$65 in favor of the natural premium company. Again, analyzing the post of \$650 in favor of the natural premium company. Again, analyzing the potent factors of each premium they would stand as follows:

Level Premium Co. 80.30 \$64.90 \$84.30 \$236.33 Natural Premium Co. 80.30 40.00 44.70 165.00

Baiance in favor of Nat. Premium Co. 63.00

Now put the \$63 per annum saved in the natural premium company into an investment company for thirty-four years assuming that the man lives to the end of his expectancy, and compounded at 6 per cent interest would amount to \$6,007.40 plus his share or percentage of earnings over and above the 6 per cent, which would swell the amount to at least \$6,000, judging from past experience. But the old line or level premium company cries out. What about our dividends? All right, your dividends did you say? Well the term is a mismomer. You simply return a portion of the excessive premium you exact from your policy holders each year, and such return you term dividend. Yet for your benefit let it be agreed that you do pay dividends, would your so-called dividends in thirty-four years aggregate the sum herein shown in favor of the National premium company? You know that it would not get to within a respectable distance of same. Balance in favor of Nat. Premium Co.\$ 63,50

It would not get to within a respectable distance of same.

Now, referring back to the statement herein before made, viz: That the twenty-s.x level or old line companies which did business in Nebraska during 1889, and did collect from their policy holders the large sum of \$728,500, but during the same year paid only \$170,175 to their policy holders. Exception has been taken as to the correctness of such a showing with reference to the income and dishursements of said twenty-six old line companies, upon the rround that credit was not given for the amounts disbursed as dividends, matured endowments and surender values, and they would, and do go so far, as to assume that those latter items were in excess of their death losses, but so far have not furnished ose latter items were in excess of their osses, but so far have not furnished death losses, but so far have not furnished any authentic statement to prove the wild as-

IN "LIFE INSURANCE RATES," A work compiled by the Spectator company of New York, page thirty-two, we find an ex-hibit (No. 31,) of payments to policy holders of the forty-nine old line companies doing busi-ness in the United States, for 1889, which sets forth the following, paid for:

Death claims. \$44.866.684 Matured endowments and annuties. 10,631,665 Lapsed, surrendered and purchased

Total payments to policy holders. \$82.091.321 Here it is apparent that the death claims are largely in excess of total disbursements to policy holders, but, presume that such payments equal death claims paid, then it would still be true that the premiums collected in Nebraska in 1889 (\$728.300) were more than twice the amount of death claims paid, such an amount equaling but \$340.350. Suppose 19 per cent of the income, or \$72.80, be added for expenses, still the total disbursements to Nebraska policy holders of these old line or level premium companies during 1839 could not have aggregated more than \$415.200 upon the gross income of \$728.500, showing that, making full allowance for all classes of disbursements, there were \$315.300 of unnecessary exactions, and as those facts are arrived at from their own sworn reports, evidences the fact hereinbefore stated, that the level premium or old line companies did, in 1889, and do so continue to collect from Nebraska policy holders, a sum annually, largely in excess of eiger and controlled. Total payments to policy holders \$82,004,324 Here it is apparent that the death claims are

and do so continue to collect from Nebraska policy holders, a sum annually, largely in excess of a just and equitable amount.

SUT THOSE COMPANIES INFORM

Nebraska citizens that their business in the state is new and heace the necessity to carry a large amount of the premiums to the reserve deposit. Now, this is one of the very factors which the writer and all patural premium advocates disprove and declare unnecessary, and in support of such a position, take the amount of insurance in force in each system in 1889 and see which the public stamps with their approval and support. The following figures are from The Spectator compilations: pirations; Insurance in force in natural

premium companies in 1890 \$ Insurance in force in level premium companies in 1890

In favor of the natural premium In favor of the natural products
system. \$2,424.204.679
It must also be remembered that the level
premium companies have been credited with
writing business ever since 1843, while the
natural premium companies have operated
in this country only twenty years.
Why this large preponderence of public support given to this new system? Here again,
let statisties farnish the evidence. In the
level premium companies we find that using the figures for the year 1889:\$176,238,798 l'otal payment to policy holders . .

Total amount of over payments ... 82.69.529

Total amount of over payments ... 94.189.269

And this sun .694.189.299 their policy holders paid in excess of the amounts necessary to pay their death claims, dividends, surrender values and all items of return to policy holders, being either consumed in expenses or deposited to the created of the reserves.

But it is claimed that the reserve is essential to the perpetuity of their system, so we will credit them with the increase in reserve in 180 over 1880 which we find to be \$49.480.543, and still they have \$44.69.725, which must have been used only for expenses in 1889 by these level premium companies.

In comparison let us look at the figures of the natural premium companies for the same year:

Total amount of over payments ... \$17,963,100 Increase in assets or reserve......

Actual expense cost. . \$12,648,764

13.64

Name. A Mutual New York. New England Mutual. Mutual Benefit. New York Life Age. deathsper Connecticut Mutual Penn. Mutual Union Mutual Inited States Etna Life Massachusetts Mutual . 35 Equitable New York . . . 35 Washington Life28 Home Life, New York27 Average......37

left a sufficient surplus or reserve for all practical needs? But the old line reserves are necessary, they say, because they are used to pay accruing losses. Well, let us see about that. The legaltable of New York commenced business in 1859, its last report was made in 1859, just thirty years after. How about its history? Since it began business it has written and placed upon its books 41.543.86.23 of business of which it had becember 31, 1889, a little more than one-third, or \$53,900,900.still in force, having lost by death, lapses, etc., almost a billion of do.lars of business in amount at risk, but how was its reserve affected by this lapse forfeiture? How much of it was actually used to pay surrender values, death claims, etc., as claimed. Starting with a little more than \$5,000,000 of business in force in 1869, we notice a gradual increase in the amount at risk until in 1831 treached \$184,00,000, then it began to grow less until in 1878 it had fallen to \$157,00,000, but, note the accumulation, beginning in 1859 with a capital of \$100,000, we find it has increased its assets until in 1873 it possessed \$2,35,241. Now, as the amount of insurance at risk decreased, during the next five years, and as the accumulations under the level premium system was com-

posed almost wholly of reserves, and reserves are necessary to return to claimants, either at death or surrender of their policies an equitable amount, so it is fair to presume that in the loss of nearly \$80,000,000 of insurance in five years, from 1873 to 1873, certainly a reduction of the reserve accumulation would follow; but, note the assets claimed during this period. Having \$22,378,214 in 1873, follow the fable: 1874, \$25,600,000; 1873, \$28,56,000; 1874, \$25,672,000; 1877, \$35,05,000; 1878, \$35,010,000; 1874, \$30,010,000; 1874, \$30,010,000; 1875, \$30,010,000; 1875, \$30,010,000; 1874, \$30,010,000; 1874, \$30,010,000; 1874, \$30,010,000; 1874, \$30,010,000; 1874, \$30,010,000; 1874, \$30,010,000; 1874, \$30,010,000; 1874, \$30,010,000; 1874, \$30,010,000; 1874, \$30,010,000; 1874, \$30,010,000; 1874, \$30,010,000; 1874, \$30,000; 1874, \$30,010,000; 1874, \$30,000; 1874, \$30,010,000; 1874, \$30,010,000; 1874, \$30,010,000; 1874, \$30,010,000; 1874, \$30,010,000; 1874, \$30,010,000; 1874, \$30,000; 1874, \$30,000; 1874, \$30,000; 1874, \$30,000; 1874, \$30,000; 1874, \$30,000; 1874, \$30,000; 1874, \$30,000; 1874, \$30,000; 1874, \$30,000; 1874, \$30,000; 1874, \$30,000; 1874, \$30,000; 1874, \$30,000; 1874, \$30,000; 1874, \$30,000; 1874, \$30,000; 1874, \$30,0

NO, MR. EDITOR,

in full, enormous expense ratios, and in the short period of thirty years.

NO, MR. EDITOR.

You cannot point to any other legitimate business, shorn of speculation, founded with mathamatical exactness upon a basis which has the duration of human life as its foundation, which you can point to as having attained anything like such results? Is it any wonder that when such conditions are aired, their advocates rise up in righteous indignation to protect and foster this "goose which lays such goiden eggs!"

What wonder then that the Hon. John K. Tarbox. late insurance commissional of Massachusetts, asserted on February 24, 1887, before the legislature of his state "that the accumulation referring to such unneeded large reserve funds, of a mutual life company by exaction from its policyholders, of a fund incapable of ultimate distribution to the persons whose accumulations created it is not justified by any prudent reason, and is an injustice to the insured public, the laws should redress."

From Spectator statistics we find that in 1870 the level premium companies with 25, 180 policies, aggregating \$8,86,50,00 while in 186 they wrote 151, 102 policies which amount to but \$448,514,000. That in 1870 they had business in force in the United States amounting to \$2,023,884,000. distributed among 74,800 while in 186 they wrote in the United States and that in 1870 they had business in force in the United States amounting to \$2,023,884,000. distributed among 74,800 while in 186 they warranted in saying in 1887, "that a less number of people in the United States are insured in the old line companies to any than in 1870. But considerable noise is made about the loans made by old line or level companies to citizens of Nebraska. The writer cannot estimate to what extent surfaces, this article closes by giving one more table from Spectator compliation for their benefit, "tabulated results of American iold line life insurance companies from their commencement to December, 189:"

Total receipts benefit, "tabulated results of American fold line) life insurance companies from their com-mencement to December, 1889;"

Total receipts \$2.25,448.00 Total payments to policy holders 1,22,770.00

Used for expenses. \$ 317,395,379

Now, Mr. Editor, under the system for which
your contributor contends (natural premium
system), at least \$500,000,000 of this excess of
income would have been saved to policy holders, as that system makes no exactions for
level premium reserve purposes, and consumes
less than one-third for expense, what the level
premium system exacts. Does the above computation look like robbery? Your readers
may decide. Respectfully submitted. premium system exacts. Does the ab-putation look like robbery? Your may decide. Respectfully submitted.

State Superintendent Massachusetts Benefit Association, Omana, Neb.



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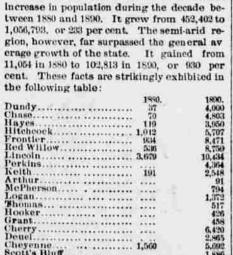
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For these and many other reasons the

wholesale merchant of Omaha is really as di-

rectly interested in the present movement as

the man who runs a store out on the west-

ern plains and caters to a trade whose pockets

L-THE PAST AND PRESENT OF THE ARID RE-

GION.

The state of Nebraska scored a wonderful

McPherson
Logan
Whomas
Hooker
Grant
Cherry
Deuel
Cheyenne 1,560
Scott's Bluff
Banner
Kimball
Sheridan
Box Butte
Dawes
Sioux 600
Unorganized territory 2,916 2,449 Totals......11,151 102,813 These figures do not do entire justice to Cheyenne, as it has been cut up into five counties since the census of 1880. In the

same way some of the counties get credit for a little more than their actual growth in the last ten years, as their entire population is put under the head of 1890, whereas they figured as a part of the unorganized territory in the previous census. But as a whole the table is correct and bears marvelous testi-mony to the growth of the arid region in the last ten years. And it is just here that the important consideration comes in.

Certain parts of this region have enjoyed a fair degree of prosperity. They have supported a large number of stockmen, who have shared the varying fortunes of the Chicago market. They have built up several towns that have at times enjoyed a precari ous sort of prosperity. But in discussing irrigation we are speak-

ing of agriculture, pure and simple, and this has not been a profitable occupation. If it had been a single blighting drouth, such as has been called to the attention of the world during the past four months, would not have been followed by a cry of distress. The prosperous farmer can stand an occasional affliction, and it is because the farmers in the arid region are not and never have been prosperous that they have been obliged to ask aid as the result of the total failure of their crops. Thus it is that the state is called upon to consider the future of the settlers in the arid region as a problem of the most vital importance to their happiness and to its own repu-

In the past two years homesteaders have rushed to take up the vacant lands in the western half of Nebraska. Land speculators with more imagination than conscience, have assured them that they nad only to tickle the prairie with the plough to make it laugh with abundant crops. The constant effort has been to hold up the delusion that the whole of Nebraska lay in the rain belt, and that if tions, but from the general character of the localities it is safe to say that if such a comparison could be made it would be startling in

SEMI-ARID REGION OF NEBRASKA. The white portion of the above map shows the section of the state west of the 100th Meridian, which is the scene of the present organized

> its showing against Nebraska. One significant fact can be noted by a glance at the railroad map of the two states, There are several counties in our arid region which are not penetrated by a single line of railroad. Each one of the Iowa counties named is gridironed with railroads. This s important as an indication of the state of development which has been reached there

> and may be reached here. The object of this comparison is not to show that Nebraska has accomplished less than Iowa, or less than she ought to. It is simply to point out what development still waits for our arid region, in the increase of population, of railroads and of general prosperity, if we can now relieve it from the disadvantages which bear it down. And it is plain that if it does no better than western Iowa it will nearly quadruple its population, and increase its wealth, its railroads and its towns in much greater ratio.

III .- POSSIBILITIES OF THE ARID REGION. Now let us consider what our arid region can become on the basis of these Iowa statistics. It is not pretended that every acre west of the 100th meridian is capable of irrigation. Much of it is sandy and fit only for grazing, or the cultivation of light crops. Not all of the rich soil can be reached by water without unreasonable expense. But by far the larger portion can be made a most prosperous agricultural country and the waste places will

serve admirably for stock. If a similar district in lows, dependent wholiy upon rainfall, can sustain a population of nearly 380,000 people, the arid region of Nebraska can readily sustain twice that number with irrigation. It is not unreasona ble, therefore, to predict a growth in popula tion fully equal to the Iowa figures in the next ten years. In this connection it must be remembered that it is a somewhat operous task to cultivate forty acres well with irrigation, and that the profits of a farm of that size are fully equal to the earnings of 160 acres in Iowa.

The governor of Iowa recently stated at a New York banquet that the farmers of his state had made no money in the last five years. When the governor of Colorado, of Utah or California makes a similar remark about the farmer in his state it will be time to doubt the feasibility of irrigation.

If, then, the energetic and enterprising men of Nebraska can make the desert a garden and put prosperity where distress now flourishes like a rank weed, are there not untold possibilities of growth in the next ten years! Shall we not see the farmers multiplied, old towns swelled in population and new towns springing up like magic from the soil! With this increase in population, shall we not have new lines of railway into districts which now only catch a glimpse of the iron horse as he rushes breathlessly on his way from Boston to San Francisco! In other western states, land has risen in value under Irrigation from \$1.25 to \$25 per acre

remote districts, \$50 per acre within a fair distance of large cities and \$100 per acre in their immediate vicinity. Suphis desolate farm at \$5 per acre and it rises with irrigation to \$25, is not a vart sum thereby added to the wealth of the state, as well as to that of individuals?

posing the western homesteader now holds It is unquestionable that a splendid devel opment can be built up in the arid country, and that it can be made the price of the state

in the next decade. But that is not the most

urgent consideration. Irrigation is a great

wealth, or wealth per capita, in the two sec- braska herself has shared the her neighbors to a certain extent.

In the meantime the states to the west of us have been laying their foundations broad tion laws and demonstrated the success of this means of agriculture. Thay have educated the investing public to believe that an irrigation fund is a safe property. The man who has sold his farm in Michigan, for instance, for \$20 an acre and gone to

Idaho to take up government land t \$1.25 an acre, has been able to get it under irrigation for \$5 an acre, which includes the purchase price. He has discovered that the Idaho property will produce twice as much as the old home in Michigan, and the tide which in the past ten years has stopped on the prairies of Ne braska will hereafter sweep on to the newer counties which offer larger and more certain

Is it not plain that Nebraska should get out of the Kansas and Dakota class and get into the Colorado and Idaho class in order to shake the odor of the former from her gar ments and partake of the prestige of the lat-

If this is a correct view of the situation all citizens of Nebraska are equally interested in the irrigation movement, which comprehends at this moment the whole problem of our development.

V .- THE PRESENT MOVEMENT. The present agitation has resulted in compact and aggressive organization of the friends of irrigation. It is a clean-out and definite movement, aiming at the accomplish-

ment of specific results. Ten southwestern counties were organized t the convention at McCook. The remainder of the arid district spoke for itself through the convention at Sidney yesterday. The agitation will culminate in a state convention at Lincoln next Wednesday, the 11. The purpose of these conventions is to secure the enactment of the best irrigation laws that can be devised. Committees appointed at McCook and Sidney are now drafting the measure. If the legislature acts promptly, the next thirty days will see the object of the movement in part accomplished Then comes the campaign to interest capital -a branch of the subject which will be

WILLIAM E. SMYTHE. Dr. Birney cures catarrh, Bee bldg. She Weeps Glass Tears.

treated in these columns next week.

The physicians and oculists of this city ar greatly puzzled over the case of Jennie Sutton, says a Findlay, O., dispatch. From the right eye of the girl fifty-four pieces of broken glass was taken by Dr. T. C. Tritch. These pieces of glass have been coming from the eye of this girt for the last month, and only

oye of this girl for the last month, and only day before yesterday Dr. Tritch removed every evidence of glass in the eye and announced that all were taken out.

She came back and had fifty-four more pleces removed and yet no one knows how they came into the eye. The girl is a domestic in the family of ex-County Surveyor Stringfellow, whose wife has been taking these particles of glass from the girl's eye for a month past, but becoming alarmed eye for a month past, but becoming alarmed at their reappearance almost as soon as re-moved, had Dr- Tritch undertake to cure the young woman of her peculiar affliction. The case puzzles the doctor quite as much as it does the giri and her employers, as she met with no accident by which the glass could get into the eye; and the fact that the parti cles give her little or no pain is equally as in-explicable. It is estimated that over one undred pieces of giass have been taken from the eye since the case first attracted atten-tion. The only theory thus far advanced to tion. The only theory thus far advanced to explain the matter is that the girl has some sort of a chemical nature and that the crystais are formed by her tears.