MANY ARE NEEDING HELP

Charitable Institutions of Omaha Likely to Be Taxed to the Utmost.

WORK OF THE ASSOCIATED CHARITIES

An Instrumentality Under Wise Direction Through Which Assistance to the Poor May Be Extended—Features of Its Kind Administration.

As the winter advances the number of poor in quest of food, fuel and clothing increases in this city. The recent cold weather carried terror to many a heart, and despair is pictured in the faces of hundreds who have absolutely no way of providing for themselves the commonest necessities of life.

It is really appalling to note the vast number of people living on the outskirts of Omaha without scarcely a ray of hope of being relieved from their squalor and misery. Even during the summer and autumn months there were hundreds of unemployed and consequently needy people in Omaha, but the condition of things then was not nearly so extreme as at present. Poverty and want are borne with much greater fortitude when the sun shines warm and bright than in winter when everything is gloom. There is usually something in the summer time that the poor can turn their hands to, but in the severe months the depression makes itself doubly forcible.

Poverty in Omaha.

In the congested districts of Omaha there is an alarming amount of poverty and wretchedness, and the charitably disposed people should lose no time in making a pilgrimage to these realms of want. A single trip will be sufficient to do away with all unbelief. The stagnation in business circles of course has been hard on people generally, but there are thousands and thousands who can yet spare a few loaves of bread without jeopardizing their chances for physical content. In no place is the general depression so forcibly felt as in the home of the laboring man. And it is not only in the slums and on the outskirts of the city that dire suffering exists. There are wives and children and hopeless, longing men within a stone's throw of the busiest centers in whose homes the pangs of hunger and the pains of cold and fear of heartless landlords are ever the reigning features. The Associated charities, Rescue hall, the churches and all other charitable institutions are taxed to the last degree, and in numerous cases the most worthy have been turned away with out encouragement or assistance.

Their Needs Are Real.

A cursory trip through the haunts of poverty and want must satisfy any humane heart that the wail of woe from the unemployed is no hypocrisy or scheming pretense. Those who have never known distress are the ones who should make the effort to convince themselves, the ones who should vie with each other in one grand and noble endeavor to alleviate this extensive suffering. Idle men can be found on almost any corner ready and eager to jump at the chance to earn a few bushels of coal and a bite for starving families. The police court offers a daily object lesson for those who would learn the truth of this ringing cry of misery and need. Sickness and death go hand in hand with destitution, and crime is an accessory. Philanthropists and humanitarians have now an occasion to make themselves known.

Mr. Laughland's Statement.

Mr. Laughland of the Associated charities, with headquarters at the foot of Howard street, speaking in regard to the existing condition among working people, says there has been almost a startling change in the character of the applications for assistance at the doors of that institution. He estimates that the increase of respectable petitioners for aid is fully one-half over the fall months and he can relate many instances of a really pitiful nature. Mr. Laughland is always busy; his room is almost always filled with men and women waiting to have their cases looked into. It is a common thing for respectable parties to appear there and, without complaint or circumlocution, bluntly state that their families must be supported by charity or perish. This institution, it must be acknowledged, is doing a vast amount of noble work. It gives every applicant practical consideration and takes immediate steps to see that relief is not delayed, when anything at all is possible. Aid is always forthcoming at the very earliest moment, which sometimes is most distressingly tardy from sheer inability to move.

Applications Being Made Rapidly.

Applicants have been more than doubled during the late cold weather and the ratio of increase is likely to become still greater with the advance of winter. There are now many destitute families asking for assistance which have never been known to apply for aid before. The organization is supported by men of prominence and wealth, and many of them are constantly active in this good work. The institution has a big wood yard where a force of from ten to twenty men is kept constantly engaged splitting kindling, in return for which the wants of themselves and families are supplied. Anybody wishing to assist in this work can do so by buying his kindling at this yard. It can be had in loads for from $1 up. It is promptly delivered and is the very best of kindling. A laundry has also been established where many poor women find at least temporary employment at good wages.

In addition to these two meritorious features the Associated charities has recently opened a soup house, where the hungry are fed for a mere song. The board did not expect the wood yard would prove self-sustaining the first year, on account of the extraordinary expenses incident to opening the same, in fencing, purchase of tools, wagon, etc. The result, however is very gratifying, and as many of the outlays will not have to be repeated the coming year, this experiment of giving the unemployed an opportunity to earn the aid solicited; will hereafter prove no burden upon the finances of the association.

Something About Associate Charities.

The Associated Charities of Omaha was organized one year ago last September, and its officers are Thomas L. Kimball, president; Frank Murphy, vice president; John Laughland, secretary, and W. H. Russell, treasurer. The incorporators were Herman Kountze, W. W. Marsh, Mayor G. P. Bemis, Frank Murphy, Guy C. Barton, Prof. J. A. Gillespie, Max Meyer, A. P. Hopkins, and the trustees are Thomas L. Kimball, Moritz Meyer, Frank Murphy, W. J. Broatch, Prof. J. A. Gillespie, S. L. Wiley, W. V. Morse, Thomas Kilpatrick and J. O. Phillippi.

The executive committee consists of Thomas L. Kimball, E. W. Nash, Victor G. Lantry, John Laughland, Frank Murphy, L. B. Williams, W. H. Russell.

The membership numbers over 600. This fact, however, has not proved a barrier to arrearages in dues, and considering the pinching times, this, it would seem, would be a splendid time for delinquents to step up and square accounts.

As a matter of general interest the following statement which accompanied the institution's first annual report is appended:

In sending you our first annual report we trust you will take an early opportunity of reading it, and see the amount of work accomplished by this young association last year.

During the recent financial crisis we were obliged to keep open our wood yard to give work to a large number of the unemployed, and to relieve many families in distress. The number is daily increasing and will continue to do so as the weather advances. It will therefore be necessary to take immediate steps to meet the large demands that will be made upon us during the coming winter months.

What we will require in the emergency will be prompt payment of the membership fee of $5, an increased membership and largely increased donations of money, coal, clothing, shoes, furniture, bedding of all kinds, stoves, etc.

The trustees feel compelled to appeal to you to assist them in obtaining at least 500 additional members, so that the work will be carried on efficiently, and for this purpose we enclose a blank and trust you will do your best to obtain three signatures.

We would also direct your attention to our new enterprise, The Provident Laundry and Training School. By helping us in this you are helping many poor women to become self-supporting.

We are now receiving into our wood yard a large supply of fine pine slabs for kindling, as well as soft and hard wood for stoves, grates, bakeries, and chunks for furnaces, which we will deliver to any part of the city at usual prices and in quantities of $1 and upwards.

The most feasible way to accomplish a vast deal of good at a single stroke is that which has recently been adopted in Chicago, Cincinnati, Boston and New York. In these cities public mass meetings have been called to be held before the holidays, and at these meetings aid in the shape of ready cash is to be solicited, and in this way each one can test the exact charitable tendencies of his neighbor and know just exactly how sincere and honest are each one's professions. A financal committee is to be appointed after the meeting has assembled, who will take care of the funds donated, until it has been decided which will be the most advantageous method of distribution. In the cities named the plan is to turn over the money to some prominent charitable institution in whose integrity everyone has faith, and let its officers make the proper distributions, which is to be done in each case immediately following the meeting, in order that the poorer, too, may in a measure enjoy a merry Christmas.

Would it not be a good thing for the Associated charities to call a meeting, say for Boyd's opera house, some afternoon this week, and emulate the philanthropic exhibitions being made by all the larger cities in the land?

Secretary Laughland's Statement.

OMAHA, Dec. 15.—Our office is crowded every day with applicants for provisions, fuel and clothing, a large proportion of whom are married men with families, and on investigation find the greater number deserving, but in want of work and requiring immediate help. We have been giving these men two or three days work a week in our wood yard and paid them in provisions, coal and soup tickets; the single men have been provided with two hours work a day, so as to give them a lodging and soup meals. The number of applications, however, are daily increasing and getting so numerous that we are at a loss to know how they are to be provided for; our work in the wood yard is limited and the means at our disposal very small. The clothing sent in by the many kind friends is distributed every day between 2 and 4 to the worthy and needy.

The board of trustees are, therefore, compelled to urgently appeal to its members to send in their annual dues without delay, and to the liberal and generous public to become members and to forward donations of money, provisions, clothing, shoes, etc., at once, to enable them to meet the present emergency. They would also appeal to the ladies to do their part at this festive season and send us baskets with dinners and provisions on Saturday, December 23, to be distributed amongst the many families whom we know are in great distress. Already a few ladies have, at our recommendation, very kindly taken charge of several families to provide them with not only a Christmas dinner but care for them during the winter months. We shall be very much pleased to have the names of other ladies who are willing to follow their noble example.

Our soup house is doing good work and serving about sixty daily. Ladies and gentlemen are asked to supply themselves with soup tickets (20 for $1) to distribute to the poor, instead of giving money. Our laundry is now in full swing and turning out good work. Help us in this department and you will be helping a number of deserving women to earn a living.

JOHN LAUGHLAND,
Secretary.

Rescue Hall Situation.

It is due the public to know the exact situation. There is still remaining a debt of $735.36. The total indebtedness to the close of the year, December 15, was $1,362. At Exposition hall Sunday evening, December 3, the total sums paid and pledged together amounted to $626.64. It was announced to the public the next day that $1,000 had been secured at the Bishop Newman lecture. That mistake is now corrected. Allow me also to state that Rescue hall was not closed up, and in view of the suffering among the poor, etc., that would inevitably follow it must not be closed.

It is true the churches could not carry the burden any longer and at a meeting of pastors and laymen it was voted to close the hall December 15. At the regular meeting of the board of trustees of the mission, Monday, December 11, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That in conformity with the desire of the churches of Omaha, as expressed in the resolution passed at the meeting held November 29, we discontinue the work of Rescue hall on the 15th of the present month, when the lease of the same terminates.

The secretary of the mission then notified the owner of the building and the gas, electric light and telephone companies of the above action. The trustees also voted to give me the use of all the materia lat Rescue hall for the work.

In the interest of humanity and in the name of charity and philanthropy I will undertake to carry forward the work, trusting in the good people of the city to help me.

To close up the hall would drive some to desperate acts of crime, resulting in loss of property and human life, some to suicide and others into suffering from hunger and cold beyond language to describe.

Where would the homeless women and children go who are sheltered every night at this friendly inn? Other cities all over the country are providing plans of shelter for the unemployed who are in need. Where would the unemployed of Omaha go? We take 175 men on the average every night. The time of stopping is limited to three nights. It is a temporary shelter and those who come understand this.

Every morning at least 150 men go out of the hall in search of work. You will sometimes see five or six of them following a coal wagon to the outskirts of the city hoping to make a few cents by carrying in the coal and are often disappointed. Many of them come back at night hungry and almost exhausted to tell the old story of no work found. These are laboring men, not tramps and bums.

The churches of the city are in sympathy with the work, as shown by their support the past year, and no doubt churches and young people's societies will do all they can for the future, and I now look to the citizens of Omaha in general to support the work.

A. W. CLARK.

PRATTLE OF THE YOUNGSTERS.

"The other day," says a Boston gentleman, "I was told of a little girl who attended a distribution of prizes given by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. She had won, you must know, a book as a reward for writing the best essay on the subject given, and, with the other successful children, was undergoing a viva voce examination.

"'Well, my dear,' said the gentleman who had given away the prizes, 'can you tell me why it is cruel to dock horses' tails and trim dogs' ears?'

"'Because,' answered the little girl, 'what God had joined together let no man put asunder.'"

* * *

Flossie was watching the masons lay brick, and the process interested her greatly.

"Oh, mamma!" she exclaimed, as she saw the man putting on the mortar, "they're buttering the bricks, ain't they?"

* * *

Tommy—Pop the bible says, "Let your conversation be yes and nay," doesn't it? Tommy's Pop—Yes, but the language is figurative. Tommy—Well, horses sorter half do it, don't they? All they say is nay.

* * *

Johnny's Mamma—When my little boy went out with Jerry did he remember to be polite and make Jerry go out before him?

Johnny—Yes, ma, sure I did. An' when he wouldn't go out first I turned around and slugged him.

* * *

Stranger—Does your father live here, little girl? Little Girl—No, sir. Mamma and I lives here. Papa lives in a street car. He's a conductor.

* * *

Teacher—Johnny, in what way did Noah display his wisdom? Johnny—Went in when it was rainin'.

* * *

Mamma (to little Jimmy, who is saying his prayers)—Now, Jimmy, ask God to bring papa home safely. Jimmy—Please, Dod, bring papa home on a safety.

* * *

Teacher—Do you understand the phrase "rapid enunciation?" Boy—Yes'm. It's the way folks say their prayers on cold nights.

* * *

Traveler—Now what ought little boys to say when a gentleman gives them a penny for carrying his bags? Small Boy—Tain't 'nough.

T. B. NORRIS'

1413 DOUGLAS-ST BLUE FRONT.

Big Beginning Sale of Spencer's

1413 DOUGLAS-ST BLUE FRONT SHOE STORE

LADIES' SHOES

AT THE very outset, when we first decided to go into business again, we looked about for a line of shoes that we could use to make ourselves known. Fortunately we made a deal with the factory that made these shoes for the Spencer people but were countermanded on account of the hard times. We bought them cheaper than anybody ever did, and propose to advertise ourselves with them. Others may not like it, but that's our business and your benefit. All mail orders from out of town customers will be delivered free.

CLOTH TOP PICCADILLY BLUCHER — A genuine hand turned shoe. It retails everywhere at $5. To make themselves felt at ..... $3.50 — And a pair of Rubbers free.	PATENT TIP OPERA TOE — Cloth and kid top shoe that always sells for $5. To make ourselves known ..... $3.00 — And a pair of Rubbers free.	CLOTH TOPPED SLIPPER FOXED — The finest shoe in Omaha. Patent tip, Philadelphia toe; sold everywhere for $4: our price $3.00 — And a pair of Rubbers free.	PARIS TOE PATENT TIP — A hand welt shoe that can't be beat for style and fit for less than $4: we want but.. $3.00 — And a pair of Rubbers free.	A JULIET PHILADELPHIA TOE — Patent leather trimmed, hand turned, worth $5 anywhere; we will sell tomorrow for..... $3.50 — And a pair of Rubbers free.
STRAND WELT PICCADILLY TOE — Something entirely new the few who do sell them get $6. We make ourselves known at..... $4 — And a pair of Rubbers free.	CLOTH TOP PARIS TOE — A genuine hand turned shoe that retails everywhere for $5. We want you to know us..... $4 — And a pair of Rubbers free.	OPERA TURN PATENT TIP — Lace, that is strictly hand sewed, goes at retail at $5. We sell them at..... $4 — And a pair of Rubbers free.	PHILADELPHIA TOE MILITARY HEEL — A hand welt shoe, patent tip, a regular $5 shoe. We sell it tomorrow for..... $4 — And a pair of Rubbers free.	HAND TURNED PHILADELPHIA TOE — Lace shoe, patent tip, a regular $5 shoe, we let them out this time at... $4 — And a pair of Rubbers free.

The most superb line of SLIPPERS FOR MEN Ever brought to this city.

MEN'S Embroidered Slippers.... 75c and up — Many beautiful styles.	MEN'S All Leather Slippers... $1.00 — Opera cut.	MEN'S Opera Cut Slippers... $1.50 — In tan and black.	MEN'S Nullifier Slippers.... $2.00 — Something fine.	MEN'S Goat Slippers.... $2.50 — Patent tip—finest in Omaha.

NORRIS BLUE FRONT 1413 DOUGLAS NORRIS Between 14th and 15th 1413 DOUGLAS NORRIS

AMONG THE SECRET ORDERS

Pythian Installments and Banqueting Will Follow Election of Officers.

M'BRIDE FOUND TO BE A BAD BOOKKEEPER

Elks Presented with a Relic—The Iron Hall Muddle—Modern Woodmen Memorial Service—Echoes from the Ante Room.

The secret orders during the month have given a great deal of attention to the annual and semi-annual election of officers. Many lodge rooms have been better filled and the interest more keen by reason thereof. The installation comes early in the year, and January will be a month of banqueting and general good times.

Nebraska Knights of Pythias are in the midst of elections and reports show the following officers chosen by the lodges named:

Pythian Officers.

Wilber Lodge—C. E. Elder, C. C.; J. E. Ewing, V. C.; L. A. Morrison, P.; J. W. Shestak, M. A.; Charles Stastney, K. of R. and S.; John Zwonechek, M. E.; E. J. Spirk, M. F.; P. F. Dodson, M. W.; J. F. Kyle, Frank Janouch, W. Cerveny, trustees.

Table Rock Lodge—C. R. Judkins, C. C.; W. S. Linsley, V. C.; O. W. Griffing, P.; C. I. Norris, K. of R. and S.; G. R. Martin, M. of K.; W. H. Wilson, M. of E.; E. Standiford, M. at A.; S. H. Dopp, M. W.

Superior lodge, No. 33—W. S. Young, C. C.; W. Douglas, V. C.; Fred Fearing, P.; R. W. Hunter, M. of W.; B. Edenfield, K. of R. and S.; Robert Wright, M. of A.; A. F. Heltman, M. of F.; Seth Reed, M. of E.; H. F. Heltman, E. Collette, I. King, T.

Mazeppa lodge of North Platte—R. L. Graves, C. C.; C. S. Clinton, V. C.; C. F. Scharmann, P.; H. V. Hilliker, M. W.; John Sorenson, K. of R. S.; G. C. Campbell, M. E.; C. F. Burroughs, M. F., and Claude Weingard, M. A.

Nysian lodge, No. 46, of Grand Island—A. Pigon, M. of. W.; J. C. Pedersen, C. C.; D. H. McCoy, V. C.; Gus Weise, prelate; A. B. Harriet, K. of R. S. and M. of F.; D. A. Finch, M. of E.

Excelsior lodge, No. 138, of Gibbon—S. D. Frederick, C. C.; F. S. Perdue, V. C.; J. D. Drury, M. W.; Lee Comstock, P.; J. A. Brady, K. of R. and S.; C. A. Ring, M. of E.; B. T. Seaver, M. of F.; George Eddy, M. at A.

Pythian Temple, No. 6, of Gibbon—Mrs. J. D. Drury, P. C.; Mrs. James Holloway, C. C.; Mrs. R. E. Furgason, V. C.; Mrs. B. E. Vesy, P.; Mrs. W. C. Holmes, M. of E.; Miss May Cook, K. of R. and S.; Mrs. C. A. Ring, M. at A.; Mrs. George Eddy, A. M. at A.; Mrs. O. K. Campbeel, M. O.; Mrs. C. C. Holloway, O.; Mrs. H. P. Smith, I. G.; Miss Hattie Daggett, O. G.

One of the most pleasant of secret order events in Exeter was the recent election of officers of Columbia lodge, No. 152. A number of the members from Geneva and Friend were present and al sat down to a fine spread at a leading hostelry. Among the visitors were Messrs. E. Sandrock, C. H. Sloan and J. Donovan of Geneva, and William Goodwin, William Gooden, William Humphrey, Charles Thomison, Charles Wilson and Messrs. Eldridge and Hurlbert of Friend, and J. K. Livingood of Lincoln. The following are the officers elected: J. N. Cox, C. C.; O. S. Crane, V. C.; George H. Lee, P.; J. F. Hommel, K. of R. and S.; Joseph Crooker, M. E.; Jerome Greenwalt, M. F.; William Steele, M. A.

Grand Army Affairs.

Election of officers of some of the Nebraska posts have resulted as follows:

Stephen A. Douglas post No. 69 of North Platte—Gus A. Hesse, C.; C. P. Davis, S. V. C.; A. M. Mason, J. V. C.; J. W. Voodry, chaplain; George Nauman, Q. M.; Dr. William Eves, S.; W. T. Brown, O. D.; C. P. Dick, O. G.; I. A. Fort and John Seeley, delegates to state encampment and F. Peale and W. T. Bowen, alternates.

William Hayes Post No. 264 of Callaway—H. L. Doxsee, C.; John Ike, S. V.; Joseph Dixon, J. V.; Ira Graves, C.; N. M. Morgan, Q.; Henry Evans, O. of D.; L. Deal, S.; John Morford, O. of G. Ira Graves was elected delegate to department encampment, and J. H. Roudebush as alternate.

Kendall Post of Stanton—J. M. Mitchell, P. C.; C. J. Trent, S. V. C.; F. Helmrias, J. V. C.; L. J. Horton, O. D.; John Burner, O. G.; W. T. McFarland, S.; C. G. Clough, C.; J. Eberly, Q. M.; W. C. Vaughan, A.; J. R. Forsythe, representative.

Seward Post—J. W. Gladwish, P. C.; F. Swartz, S. V. C.; J. Lawsha, J. V. C.; John Woods, Q. M.; William Redford, C.; Robert Odell, S.; H. H. Sanders, O. D.; Henry Creighton, O. G.; D. C. Work, A.; A. M. Hageman, Q. S.; C. K. Humphrey, S. M. The delegates to the state encampment, which meets at Lincoln in February, are John Woods and William Redford.

Chandler camp, Women's Relief Corps No. 36 of Aurora—Mrs. L. A. Bates, P.; Mrs. M. Conner, S. V. P.; Mrs. Jake Hockenbary, J. V. P.; Mrs. T. A. McKay, T.; Mrs. Charles Rudd, C.; Mrs. J. K. Hupp, C.; Mrs. H. Skaggs, G.; Mrs. J. W. Elarton, S. After the election a fine banquet, prepared by the ladies, was partaken of by the Women's Relief Corps and the Grand Army of the Republic. Quite a number of visitors were present.

Nebraska City W. R. C.—Mrs. S. H. Hunter, P.; Mrs. J. J. Turner, S. V.; Mrs. Nancy Parker, J. V.; Mattie Walburn, C.; Mrs. A. W. DaLee, C.; Miss Myrtle DaLee, S.; Mrs. Lafe Bennett, G.; Mrs. Parker, delegate and Mrs. Royal, alternate.

Dr. C. H. Wilson post No. 331 of Nebraska City.—A. W. LaDee, C.; C. M. Downing, S. V.; Hugh Aird, J. V.; J. J. Turner, C.; W. A. Keith, O. of D.; D. W. Quinn, Q.; F. Burchart, S.; Sam Merryman, G.; Sim Patton, D.; S. H. Hunter, Sim Patton, J. T. Bird, trustees.

Attributed to Bad Bookkeeping.

The committee recently appointed by the supreme lodge of the Knights and Ladies of Honor to examine the books of Supreme Treasurer McBride has submitted a report of its findings, showing a shortage of nearly $16,000.

This shortage the committee designates as a claim against McBride and alleges that it is the result merely of bad bookkeeping. E. D. McBeth, cashier for McBride, is exonerated from all responsibility for the shortage. This shortage, according to the bookkeeper, dates back eight years. In 1885 a committee which had been investigating McBride's accounts reported them as being correct. This will raise the question of the liability of McBride's bondsmen for the amount of the shortage. McBride failed of re-election at the convention of the supreme officers recently held in Indianapolis.

Minor Notes of the Ante Room.

A lodge of the Knights of Maccabees has lately been organized at Dodge with a charter membership of eighteen.

Fremont lodge, No. 23, Ancient Order of United Workmen, has chosen the following officers: R. A. Twiss, M. W.; L. Fouts, F.; John Stoob, O.; Louis Hanson, G.; A. K. Dame, R.; F. M. Smith, R.; S. Sickelt, F. r F. M. Thompson, I. W.; C. Wistrop, O. W.; A. H. Wiltz, L. W. Baldwin, Henry Reckmeyer, T.; N. H. Brown, R. C. McDonald, G. A. Niemann, M. E.; F. M. Claflin, Louis Hanson, L. P. Hanson, A. C.

A branch of the National union has been organized at Grand Island with a membership of fifty. The officers are: A. E. Pike, P.; C. D. Woodward, V. P.; W. H. Harrison, S.; A. B. Harriot, S.; O. H. Tracy, F. S.; J. G. Gawley, T.; H. J. Ritter, C.; H. T. Pritchard, C.; H. N. Peters, S. A.; Albert Bower, D.; W. R. McAllister, H. L. McMeans, Herman Helmke, sr., T.

Anniversary Celebration.

The eighteenth anniversary of the introduction of the order of Knights of the Golden Eagle into Pennsylvania was celebrated in Philadelphia by a night parade of the castles and commanderies. Nearly 4,000 men were in line, including 2,500 armored knights with banners flying, white plumes waving and swords brilliantly glittering in the gaslight. In addition, there were twenty magnificent tableaux cars, setting forth the principles and teachings of the order. Twenty-three bands of music were distributed in the line and discoursed their sweetest strains. Along the entire line of march was a throng of several thousand spectators, who cheered the column as it passed by. The knights in line acquitted themselves admirably and the parade and celebration were complete successes.

Royal Arcanum.

The members of South Omaha council No. 1,464 have elected officers as follows: J. C. Carley, R.; Oake Shaw, V. R.; C. M. Rich, S.; Dr. E. L. Siggins, C.; Denny Alberry, T.; W. H. Cannon, G.; R. C. Young, C.; Prof. A. A. Monroe, O.; E. H. Roberts, W.; Harry Tagg, S.; J. L. Martin, T.

Beaver Valley council elected officers Wednesday evening and at the same time passed a pleasant social hour. The business disposed of the wives of the members were admitted to the hall and all enjoyed the spread the caterer had provided. The new officers are as follows: L. N. Foltz, R.; A. Hahn, V. R.; B. A. Roberts, O.; A. W. Ladd, S.; W. C. Weitzel, C.; A. Rush, T.; C. W. Culver, C.; J. J. Sherlock, G.; W. A. Morgan, W.; W. B. Carter, S.

The Iron Hall Muddle.

As each new event in the Iron Hall trouble transpires new facts and conditions concerning the defunct order come to light. A dispatch from Denison, Tex., says:

"A circular has been received here concerning the recent decision of Judge Winters in regard to the Iron Hall fund. The circular directs that all money must be turned over to the receiver. The issuing of the circular has developed the fact that the Iron Hall has never applied for or received a charter to operate in the state of Texas, and in consequence the fund of several thousand dollars tied up here cannot be taken from the state by judicial process. This will affect thousands of dollars which are held throughout the state."

Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

A new lodge of the Daughters of Rebekah with twenty-three charter members was recently organized at Burlingame, Kan., and the work was participated in by a large delegation from Scranton.

Thursday evening the members of Golden Link lodge, No. 38, gave an entertainment and sociable at Forest hall at Sixth and Pierce streets. The attendance was large and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

Hastings lodge has elected officers as follows: J. F. Beardsley, N. G.; Fred Ciemmentz, V. G.; Dr. McAllister, R. S.; Ross Daloy, P. S.; J. C. Kay, T.

Enterprise camp, No. 29, of the same place has new officers as follows:

Doings in Masonic Circles.

Excelsior lodge, No. 259, of Council Bluffs elected officers Wednesday evening as follows: W. A. Highsmith, W. M.; A. McMillian, S. W.; R. Coffeen, J. W.; W. Runyon, T.; N. Shepard, S.

Signet chapter No. 8, Royal Arch Masons of Freemasons, has elected officers as follows: William H. Munger, M. E. H. P.; Gerry H. Taylor, E. K.; F. McGiverin, E. S.; A. Truesdell, T.; J. W. N. Biles, S.; W. B. Lee, P. S.; D. J. Springer, R. A. C.; J. Beckman, C. of H.; A. H. Arries, G. M. 3d V.; D. E. Lambertson, G. M. 2d V.; J. J. Welch, G. M. 1st V.; J. A. Green, S.; R. C. McDonald, C.; C. M. Williams, R. C. McDonald, W. T. Crook, finance committee.

Elks Receive a Relic.

The Elks of Topeka were recently presented with a historic relic of the war of the rebellion. It is a piece of the flag that waved at Fort Sumter when it was fired upon. This curio was presented by O. U. Risley of the Robin Hood Opera company, who is a member of the Elks lodge at Roanoke, Va., and who was entertained while in the Kansas capital by the order. Mr. Risley has refused an offer of $100 for the relic.

A Memorial Service.

Camp 120 of the Modern Woodmen of America will give a memorial service at the hall in the Continental block on Wednesday evening, December 20. Dr. L. A. Merriam will deliver the principal address and other features will add interest to the occasion. A general invitation is extended to all Woodmen to be present.

Eastern Star Social.

Vista chapter No. 6, Order of the Eastern Star, will hold their annual social dance on Thursday evening, December 21, at the new hall, Brossler block, Seventeenth and Douglas. A good time is assured to all.

German Section of the Woman's Club.

The Omaha Woman's club met in regular session last Monday afternoon, with over 300 members in attendance.

The department of literature had the floor, and as early German literature has been the subject of study during the fall, the program had the true Teutonic flavor. Mrs. Wegia Hope Hall Tracy read the first paper, a plea for better acquaintance with the literature of Germany, which is so often neglected by general readers. The need of the present time is thoroughness and accuracy, both of which are essential to the German idea that rules in every branch of scientific and philosophical literature. The paper included a brief review of the large movements in the intellectual life of Germany, with the alternating rise and decay of literary excellence.

Mrs. Dimmock then sang a Minnesong of the twelfth century and a song by Rubenstein, to illustrate the character of the different periods, which she did with truly German spirit.

Miss Kate McHugh, in an easy, graceful manner, described the early days of German book writing, touching upon the history of the Teutons, but dwelling more especially upon the time and work of the Minnesingers and other poets of the middle ages. Various epics were detailed at some length, more particularly the folk epic of Gudrun, which is less generally known than the Nibelungenlied. The lyrics of the Minnesingers received warm praise from Miss McHugh, and she closed by reading "Walter von der Vogelweide," the poem of Longfellow.

Miss Kathryn Morse followed with selections from the earliest German poem, the song of Hildebrand, a love lyric by Walter von der Vogelweide, and Longfellow's "Nuremberg," relative to the Meistersingers.

Mrs. Belle Cartwright closed the session with a thoughtful analysis of the literature of the Reformation period, in which she sketched the character of Martin Lutner in his struggle against the existing forms, filled with hatred for the personal devil, in which he so earnestly believed. The Meistersingers and Hans Sachs, the cobbler poet, with his 6,000 poems, came in for a share of criticism. The time of religious unrest and discussion was too unfavorable to the development of literature to give much interest to this period, but the translation of the bible into Saxon-German had the effect of making that the national language and purifying and strengthening it until it is today one of the finest in the world.

No department, in the presentation of a program, has evinced more conscientious study than this one under the leadership of Mrs. Tracy, who is to be congratulated, not only upon her own earnest work, but upon the interest which individual members take in the broad subject they have chosen for elaboration.

The department will devote the remainder of the year to the study of the great writers of Germany, beginning with Lessing at the next meeting, December 26.

The next regular meeting day being Christmas the club will hold no session, but will keep open house on New Year's day in the Commercial club rooms. Each member has the privilege of inviting one gentleman to this reception, which will be held from 2 to 4 o'clock.

A BATCH OF BOILED FACTS.

Ohio has 11,740 saloons.

Japan uses American pumps.

Paper is made of sugar cane.

Connecticut has 30,000 farms.

Cut glass table bells are new.

London has 15,000 cab drivers.

New Orleans has a rice elevator.

Whalebone is about $2 a pound.

Uncle Sam has 2,435 lady doctors.

Mr. Thrasher is an Indian teacher.

An inclined elevator is announced.

Black diamonds cannot be polished.

Egyptians had the loom 2500 B. C.

Troy has made a 6,500-pound valve.

Kentucky leads in hemp production.

Sand paper grows on trees in Guiana.

America boasts 25,000 newspapers.

Boston has women elevator tenders.

Michigan has 30,000 working women.

Tobacco culture occupies 1,000,000 acres.

Cape Cod's cranberry crop is 150,000 barrels.

Uncle Sam has 1,822 railway companies.

Chicago's postoffice has 2,543 employes.

Smokeless combustion of coal has been accomplished.

A sponge has been found on the coast of Florida with a circumference of 9 feet 6 inches.

The Hoosac tunnel, Massachusetts, is the longest in the United States, length 4¾ miles; cost, $14,000,000.

A third of England's telegraph operators are women.

A Chicago-New York trolley is projected.

California's exposition opens January 10.

One hundred years ago the United States imports aggregated $31,000,000; today $866,681,821.

A new method of coloring iron has been discovered in England, which entirely prevents rust, even though the metal be brought to a red heat.

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