

PRISON LABOR CONTRACTS

All Have Expired Except that Held by Frank Kaspar of Omaha.

ONLY ONE NEW APPLICATION NOW ON FILE

Board Again Advances the Idea that the State Should Operate the Factories in the Penitentiary.

LINCOLN, Sept. 13.—(Special).—The officials comprising the State Prison Board have again advanced the proposition that the state should operate the factories at the penitentiary.

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reach Creighton September 1. A 160-amp switchboard is to be put in here.

NEBRASKA POLITICAL NEWS.

Fusion Difficulties at Culbertson—Fall City's Nominations.

CULBERTSON, Neb., Sept. 13.—(Special).—At the county convention the populists of Hitchcock county refused to give the democrats a place upon the ticket, so the democrats placed a complete list of candidates for county offices in the field.

Fusion Difficulties at Culbertson—Fall City's Nominations. At the republican county convention J. R. Cain, jr., of Stella, presided as chairman, and the following ticket was nominated:

Fusion Difficulties at Culbertson—Fall City's Nominations. County clerk, G. J. Crook, Falls City; treasurer, D. D. Reavis, Falls City; sheriff, John Hoesick, Liberty; county clerk, A. J. Bollenbaugh, Nemaha; superintendent, C. M. French, Rulo; coroner, Dr. Montgomery, Stella; surveyor, George Timmerman, Salem.

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HEARD ABOUT TOWN.

Rev. Frederick Tavender of Great Marlow, England, was in the city Tuesday, the guest of his brother, who lives here.

Rev. Tavender is connected with the management of the public schools in his home city and was much interested in studying the schools of Omaha. He expresses the greatest surprise at the freedom allowed the pupils in the school room and their good conduct in the exercise of their privileges.

The legibility and the manner in which the exercises of the pupils in the younger grades he also found remarkable. Another feature of the school system of this city with which he was especially pleased was the character of the buildings most recently erected, and the manner in which they are designed to give the occupants every advantage in the way of light and room.

Rev. Tavender is on his way to his home in England. He will stop at Toronto enroute.

E. F. Stephens, a prominent orchardist of Crete, is attending the fall fruit show at the exposition. Mr. Stephens is a prominent member of the Nebraska State Horticultural society and has at different times held responsible offices in the organization.

He has shipped a fine apple tree to his orchard this year, the most abundant crop being apples. The grape crop, he says, has been somewhat injured by winter kill, but the harder varieties have borne comparatively well. Mr. Stephens has experimented a great deal within the last few years and he has learned that the best results orchards should be set out on the side hills. The rains wash down and uncover the roots of the trees, thus allowing the severe winters to freeze out the tender varieties of fruit.

Miss Halland and her sister, Katherine, will return to Nebraska this morning. Miss Nash has returned from an extended eastern visit.

Miss Irene Byrne has returned from New York to take up her work in the public schools. Miss Byrne was on her way home from the east two days ago, when she while in Boston her eyes became seriously affected, forcing her to stop in New York for treatment.

At the hier Grand: W. H. Harkins, Philadelphia; E. M. Glendon, Boston; C. B. L. Smith, Cincinnati; H. A. Burton, South Omaha; C. E. Andrews and wife, Chicago; Dr. W. McGee, Denver; Fred E. R. Smith, New York; W. T. Sprague, Chicago; J. J. Simpson, St. Louis; W. H. Harkins, Kansas City; J. Larimore, Salt Lake; Charles D. W. San Francisco; L. Wilkinson, Lincoln; W. E. Johnson, Newman, New York; B. L. Terry, Alexandria; C. F. Way, Columbus, O.; S. Cohn, Chicago.

At the Millard: K. R. Ducky, Lathrop, Mo.; George A. Olney, A. A. Latham, J. Cunningham, E. Turner, T. J. Black, W. H. Craig, W. H. Wells and wife, John S. Cunningham, W. E. Turner, Terhune, F. B. Lee, W. Hunter, Burne, New York; George H. Orr, D. L. Gardner, J. J. Simpson, J. J. Simpson, J. J. Simpson, Ed Goldberg, J. Block, Chicago; F. H. Black and wife, Kansas; Martin Fern, New Rochelle, N. Y.; N. S. Harding, Nebraska City; S. H. Smith, Chicago; B. Peables, Pender; Frances Martin and wife, Thomas Martin, Falls City; L. E. Mitch, Sheridan; J. M. Smith, St. Louis; J. T. Roushauer, St. Louis; David Neely, A. D. Neely, Shelton; Edwin F. Gustin, Detroit; J. M. Smith, Chicago; Joseph A. G. Elett, Kansas City.

A complaint alleging assault and battery has been filed against John Bell, 31 North Twelfth street, by Katie Lyons, of the same address.

A complaint has been filed by J. W. McDonald of the Klondike hotel against Charles G. Barty, 1121 North street, charging him with assault and battery.

Richard Leoni, an actor doing a sketch at the Nebraska Musical and Dramatic association, was arrested on Wednesday for assaulting A. Marks, 129 Douglas street.

Messengers Joe Kojanich and company, New York, who recently passed through Omaha on his wheel bound for San Francisco, reached that city yesterday in good condition.

The preliminary examination of Philip Nathan, who was arrested for a violation of the liquor law, was concluded today. Nathan was on the stand when an adjournment was taken last evening at 11:29.5. The town justices filed, \$500; two satisfied, \$429.87. Ninety-three chattel mortgages filed, \$37,898.91; thirty satisfied, \$8,571.18.

Visitors for Lincoln and Omaha. OSCEOLA, Neb., Sept. 13.—(Special).—Conductor Hamilton brought in a trainload of pleasure-seekers yesterday over the Omaha & Republican Valley road, most of them bound for Omaha to see the Exposition and others for the Lincoln reunion.

Installing West Point's Laundry. WEST POINT, Neb., Sept. 13.—(Special).—The machinery of the steam laundry being established at West Point has arrived and is being placed in position. The entire building, formerly the American House, has been rented for the laundry.

Fillmore Fair Exhibits Excellent. GENOVA, Neb., Sept. 13.—(Special).—The Fillmore county fair opened yesterday with better display of farm products than ever before, and the corn exhibit does not look like half a crop. The painting and art department is better filed.

Burglars Secure a Watch. PABILLION, Neb., Sept. 13.—(Special).—Robbers entered the house of I. D. Clarke at 2 this morning, securing a \$400 watch of Mr. Clarke. The thieves were scared away by Mr. Clarke's awakening.

Work of Horse Thieves. PAWNEE, Neb., Sept. 13.—(Special).—Reuben Lepley, living about eight miles southwest of this city, lost a fine team the other night by horse thieves. He sent for the Beatrice bloodhounds, which arrived yesterday afternoon and were immediately taken to his farm and put on the rooster's trail. They picked up the trail immediately and at last accounts were in hot pursuit.

PLATT DECLINES TO ANSWER

Before the Maset Committee on the Ramapo Water Inquiry.

PRESIDENT OF THE COMPANY ON STAND

Refuses to Furnish Information Regarding Its Organization and the Names of Stockholders—Several Witnesses Are Called.

NEW YORK, Sept. 13.—The most important and interesting witness at today's session was Colonel Frank H. Platt, son of Senator Thomas C. Platt, and junior member of the law firm of Tracy, Boardman & Platt. Platt was called as a witness for the purpose of throwing additional light on the organization, plan and scope of the Ramapo Water company.

As a matter of fact he did not give much information regarding the company, which he had secured a \$200,000 contract from the city of New York. Questioned by Mr. Hoffman, who represented the democratic minority in the Maset committee, Platt declined to answer regarding the amount of stock which he held in the City Trust company, when pressed for an explanation, said "it is none of your business."

Silas B. Dutcher, president of the Ramapo Water company, was also questioned, but he did not give details regarding that organization. A number of witnesses were then called, but nothing of general interest was elicited.

The first witness today was Alfred T. White, former commissioner of city works in Brooklyn. In 1896 he made an exhaustive report on the Brooklyn water supply, the first of a series of reports which he aimed at the time, one of them being the Ramapo water supply. Witness said that General Tracy had asked witness in 1894 if the proposition from a private water company would be better than the city water supply, he would do nothing until after his engineers had made their report. He thought General Tracy represented the Ramapo company at that time.

Mr. White said Engineer Worthen had recommended that water be taken from the Ramapo shed to Brooklyn would cost \$20 per 1,000,000 gallons and that the Ramapo supply would be inadequate. Mr. White said it was his view that the state ought to take charge of all its water sheds and apportion the living capital and special attention to the water sheds.

Frank H. Platt, son of Senator Platt, and junior member of the law firm of Tracy, Boardman & Platt, was called to the witness chair.

Mr. Platt said he knew little of the Ramapo Water company. He had no personal knowledge that General Tracy had ever been president of the company. When General Tracy came into the firm in 1889 he brought with him a lawsuit concerning the validity of a title to certain lands in which the Ramapo company was interested. When the act of 1895 was before Governor Morton, by which the right was given to the Ramapo company to sell water anywhere in the state, General Tracy had requested that a gentleman connected with the firm appear before Governor Morton and present the case of the Ramapo company.

Read It in Newspapers. "I never knew anything personally about the Ramapo Water company," said Mr. Platt, "never had any interest, direct or indirect, in it, never knew anything about the title to the lands, and never knew anything about the contract until I read it in the newspapers."

Assemblyman Hoffman asked Mr. Platt whether General Tracy was not president of the Ramapo company at the time he was a member of the Greater New York Charter commission?

"I only know that the newspapers said he had resigned the presidency before going on the commission," was the answer.

"Do you know that General Tracy owned \$100,000 of stock in the company?"

"I know nothing about it."

"Do you own stock in that company?"

"None."

"He asked whether his firm did any work for Silas B. Dutcher. He did not remember, but thought not. He knew nothing about Mr. Dutcher's connection with the company."

Mr. Platt said that the Fidelity and Deposit company had been a business partner in fair and open competition with other surety companies.

Senator Platt, he added, owned no stock in the company.

Mr. Hoffman asked: "What stock do you hold in the City Trust company?"

"I decline to answer," replied the witness.

"It is none of your business,"

Witness denied that he had told Governor Blaine when he declined to sign a certain corporation bill, that he could not be nominated. Witness had appeared before Governor Roosevelt with regard to the Ford franchise bill and said that it was subsequent to this that the special session of the legislature was called at which the bill was amended. Witness had never received any blocks of stock for his services to any corporation, or for his influence; nor had any member of his family.

Dutcher Declines to Answer. Silas B. Dutcher, president of the Ramapo Water company, was called to the stand. He has been president of the company since July, 1898, and had become a stockholder a short time before.

"Were you invited, directly or indirectly, by Mr. Tracy to become his successor?" asked Mr. Moss.

"No, sir."

"Nor by any member of his firm, nor any prominent politician of either party?"

"No, sir."

"Was it treasury stock that you bought?"

"No, sir. It was a business proposition."

"Who brought you the stock?"

"I decline to answer at present."

"We asked you, Mr. Dutcher, in our subpoena that you should bring with you the stock book. Have you done so?"

"I have not done so in the case of the stock book."

"Why?"

"It is in the possession of the secretary, Horace G. Lamont, who is on his vacation."

"Could you not have located him since you got my subpoena?"

"I don't know. I have not tried."

"Do you know Mr. Dutcher, to help us to get at the list of stockholders or not?"

"I will help you to get all you are entitled to."

At this point Edward Lauterbaugh said there were actions pending against the Ramapo company and because of this he did not think it would be proper to make known the names of the stockholders for publication. However, he would furnish the names to counsel for the opposition, with the understanding that they should not be made public. To this Chairman Maset would not agree.

Adjourned until tomorrow.

MITCHELL'S JUDGESHIP CONTEST. Prediction Made that Smith Will Not Be Nominated in Eve.

MITCHELL, S. D., Sept. 13.—(Special Telegram).—Delegates to the judicial convention are coming in slowly. Kennedy of Canton, Wright of Chamberslain, Tripp of Yankton and Smith of the Black Hills are the only candidates here tonight. The convention will meet at noon tomorrow, form a temporary organization and adjourn till evening at 8 o'clock.

The situation tonight as it appears to a

WYOMING'S BANK DEPOSITS BIG.

Probably the Largest Sum in Bank Per Capita of Any of the States.

CHEYENNE, Wyo., Sept. 13.—(Special).—State Bank Examiner H. B. Henderson compiled a comparative statement showing the condition of state, private and national banks in the state of Wyoming at the close of business June 30, which shows that the aggregate resources of these institutions July 28, 1897, were \$4,531,454.50; July 14, 1898, \$5,124,120.74, and June 30, 1899, \$6,262,270.83.

Deposits have increased in two years from \$2,957,500 to \$4,371,782 and loans and discounts have increased during the same period from \$2,486,734 to \$3,412,525. Estimating the population of the state at 80,000 persons, this shows a per capita of \$54.85. The state examiner says, in his opinion, there is not another state in the union that can show so much money per capita on deposit. Only one other state comes anywhere near the showing and that is Kansas, which has a per capita of about \$44 on deposit.

GLAD CHARGES ARE WITHDRAWN. South Dakota Deplores the Trouble in Its Volunteer Regiment.

PIERRE, S. D., Sept. 13.—(Special Telegram).—A telegram from an authoritative source received here today, announcing the withdrawal of all charges against officers of the First South Dakota, is received with pleasure by every one, as the trouble which such charges would cause the regiment was greatly deplored.

The fund for the return of the soldiers from San Francisco has reached over \$17,000 and a day or two more will raise it to the amount necessary.

Aberdeen Wants the Soldiers. ABERDEEN, S. D., Sept. 13.—(Special Telegram).—Owing to the selection of the Northern Pacific, Burlington and Northwestern railways as the route for the return of the South Dakota soldiers, the three Black Hills companies can leave the Northern Pacific at Billings, Mont., and take the Burlington for home and Aberdeen is given a chance to become the depot at which the regiment can be mustered out to reach here during Grain Palace week.

FIRE RECORD. S. E. DeMotte, Republican City. REPUBLICAN CITY, Neb., Sept. 13.—(Special).—This morning fire destroyed the Vallcott double front building occupied by S. E. DeMotte & Co., general merchandise, and the old brick building owned and occupied by James Hunter, insurance on merchandise, \$2,000; no insurance on Vallcott building. The Hunter building was insured for \$400.

Asphalt Block and Tile Works. PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 13.—The Richardson & Rose asphalt block and tile works, at Thirtieth and Race streets, were destroyed by fire today, entailing a loss of \$100,000. The blaze was caused by the boiling of crude oil and asphalt. Albert E. Lewis, a fireman, was severely injured by a falling girder.

Fire Scare at Lead. LEAD, S. D., Sept. 13.—(Special Telegram).—A fire this evening partially destroyed the home of Councilman John Daily, but prompt work saved the building and surrounding houses. This is the third fire inside of three days and much uneasiness is felt by the citizens and extra police are on duty.

More Than Half Billion Dollars Paid. NEW YORK, Sept. 12, 1899.—Up to July 1 of the current year the Mutual Life insurance company of New York has returned to its members \$609,877,307 or over half a billion of dollars and its accumulated assets of that date were \$288,538,471. This shows that the company has practically paid out as much money to the insuring public as any other two companies of like character and that by holding a larger amount in assets than any other company it is beyond question the largest and strongest institution of its kind in the world.

FORECAST OF THE WEATHER. Fair Thursday with Probable Showers and Cooler Friday in Nebraska.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13.—Forecast for Thursday and Friday: Fair Thursday; Friday, probably showers and cooler; variable winds. For Iowa—Fair, warmer, Thursday; Friday, probably showers with cooler in western portion; variable winds.

For Missouri—Fair, warmer, Thursday; Friday, fair, easterly winds. For South Dakota—Showers Thursday; cooler in western and central portions; Friday, fair in western portion; showers and cooler in eastern portion; south to west winds.

For Kansas—Fair Thursday; Friday, fair, probably cooler; southerly winds.

KELLEY, STIGER & CO.

Cor. Farnam and 15th