

Young man, did you ever think how much improvement you could make in yourself if you used your spare moments filling your mind with sound information? It is easy to have a good time, but the hours spent in social engagements pass away and leave you no further along in mental capacity at the end of ten years than you were at the beginning. If you hope to develop, apply yourself and dig a little every day. Much of the gossip and mischief of this world would be eliminated if people would seek to improve themselves instead of taking the easy course and drifting into the habit of looking for the evil in the lives of those around them.

Great as have been the strides of inventive genius, and wonderful as have been the discoveries in science, yet these are no more surprising than the strides made in popular government. The principle that has been adopted during the last decade for all legislative bodies has done much to counteract the corrupt practices and has wonderfully interfered with the grafters and seekers of special privilege. The sunlight of publicity has killed the germs and microbes of dishonesty, with the result that our governments are more honestly conducted. Muckraking magazines have been condemned, but after all they have rendered a service to mankind and should not be too severely criticised. Somebody was needed to tell the truth, and if these magazines were a trifle enthusiastic the results were beneficial.

Immediately after the farmers' institute every one felt the need of a larger building for the coming year and the sentiment was strong at that for the erection of an auditorium. This sentiment should not be allowed to subside until it crystallizes into a definite undertaking. That such a building is needed all will agree. No better time than the present can be found than the present to set the ball rolling. All that is needed is for some one to get busy and make this building a reality. We have passed the wishing stage and we have discussed the proposition enough so that the only thing now to do is to act. This opportunity should not be neglected because it means a great deal to this part of the county. There is no event of greater importance during the year than the farmers' institute, and nothing should be left undone to make it a perpetual success.

DR. E. A. THOMAS
DENTIST

Dr. T. A. Trumble, D. D. S.
 ASSISTANT
 Over Cotting's Drug Store.

DR. S. J. CUNNINGHAM
 DENTIST
 Successor to Dr. J. S. EMIGH
 At the old stand over the
 State Bank. Phone 131.



CLOCKS

are a big line with us.
 We carry the very best of
ALARM CLOCKS.
 You have your choice of an
 ordinary good clock or a big fancy
 one.
 We will appreciate an inspection
 of our line before you buy.
J. C. MITCHELL,
 The Jeweler.

We were given to understand the other day that some of the pupils in the Lincoln building have a foolish notion that it would be a grand lark to enter the reform school. Now if any of our school children are contemplating some act that will land them in the reform school it is time that they were having a heart to heart talk with some one who is old enough to have some sense. We can assure them that the reform school is not a palace and that they will find no beautiful fairy there to wait on their pleasure and do their bidding. A reform school is a business institution, and they conduct business there on business principles. Their chief business is to see that children obey and learn, and their rules are as rigid as those of an army. A term in the reform school is a far different thing from a summer vacation and we would advise thoughtful parents to find out what the aspirations of their children are right now. A few heartstrings may be saved. After all it is the duty of the parent to know the plans of the child, and to direct them into proper channels. This duty cannot be delegated to any one else, the present method of rearing children to the contrary notwithstanding. Preachers and teachers are useful, but they cannot fill a parent's position; they cannot assume a parent's duty. Just such foolish ideas as this lead to a misspent life, a dishonored grave. Should any of those misguided children see this article we trust that they will take their parents into their confidence and frankly and fearlessly divulge their plans and aspirations. Crime on account of necessity is bad enough, but crime on account of fun is the absurdity of all absurdities.

In Reply to Mr. Bailey.

In regard to the article in the Commercial Advertiser by J. H. Bailey, we are much pleased that the gentleman signed his name. We have frequently commented upon the cowardice practiced by many when they seek to vent their spleen under the disguise of "Taxpayer," "Citizen" and the like, and Mr. Bailey deserves high praise for his coming out in the open and letting people know who is father of the article. We hope that this precedent will be followed by all persons who ask for public hearing.

Naturally, however, we disagree with Mr. Bailey in his position in regard to this water question. We are a member of the committee which was appointed by the meeting of citizens, and if we were partisan we were not aware of the fact. As we remember, at that meeting there developed two parties, if such they may be called, one party of three and the other party of about forty. This committee, at the request of the Burlington railroad, obtained samples of the spring water, that of the creek, and another of the well. These samples were sent in quite a while before the visit of Mr. Darroze, and as a member of that committee we wish to say that we did not instruct the Burlington as to what kind of a test we wanted or what we expected. This committee is not doctored, nor has it any ulterior motives. We were acting as we believed, in the interests of the city and simply carried out the work as laid down for us by the citizens' meeting.

Now, in regard to the putting down of a well free of charge if the city will furnish the pipe and right of way, we wish to say that there is nothing to hinder anyone from making all the experiments he wants to, provided the city does not have to foot the bills. If water of sufficient purity and quantity is found, the city will be only too glad to pay dollar for dollar and good interest. So much money has been needlessly spent in making costly experiments that no man ought to suggest such a plan at this day unless he is willing to back up his judgment with all the money it takes to make the experiment. The city has squandered enough to satisfy the desires of the most willing taxpayer. If Mr. Bailey or anyone else is sure that the well near the creek will supply all our needs, let him put it in and connect it up with our system at his own expense. We think the city will be pleased to reimburse him, and we will vote him the biggest benefactor of the city since its foundation.

Now, in regard to the figures quoted by Mr. Bailey, we find that in 1910 we delivered to the railroad company practically 17,575,000 gallons, but that a quantity far in excess of that quoted was delivered to private consumers. On January 1st the books of the department showed that the city had 218 customers, who had paid into the city treasury in the year 1910, \$3190. Instead of the \$1200 odd generally quoted. The average quantity of water registered per year per consumer, leaving out the railroad, was 40,000 gallons, which brings the average price paid a trifle over 20 cents per thousand gallons. This fact is caused by the operation of the minimum charge now in force and the fact that not everyone discounts his bills the 10 per cent allowed by ordinance.

In this connection we wish to comment upon the fact that recent tests

show meters now in service to be from 25 to 100 per cent slow, bringing up the probable average per consumer to at least 50,000 gallons per year.

The cause of this slowness is the accumulation of copper sulphate (blue vitriol) upon the moving parts of the meters, this accumulation being the result of an acid condition of the water attacking the brass element in the meter itself. This acid is found in the south well water, but is entirely absent from the Maurer springs product and therefore should eliminate to a large degree this meter trouble.

An analysis of the pumping costs shows the following: For a test run of ten hours, during which time the electric plant was shut down, the consumption of coal was 1600 pounds, costing \$2.20. The water pumped during this time was 150,000 gallons, making the actual cost of pumping a little less than 1 1/2 cents per thousand gallons. The margin between this coal cost and 8 cents is certainly ample, especially when one considers the saving that might be made should an electric-driven pump be installed. We hope that those doubting this statement will go to Mr. Rich and verify it for themselves. Cold facts and figures, gentlemen, should govern your opinions, and not random statements based upon street gossip.

We further wish to put Mr. Bailey right upon the proposition of bonds. It has not yet been proposed to vote \$10,000 bonds, and it is not likely that it will be. There are too many examples in practice corroborating Mr. Rich's judgment in the matter of pipe to require any further argument, and to spend more for pipe than has been suggested by him would be foolish.

Regarding our commissioner becoming a freeholder, we dare say that whenever the city is able to give him some assurance that his job is reasonably permanent, he will not object in the least to his share of the burden. Meanwhile he is under the largest bond ever given by a commissioner in Red Cloud (\$5000), which will probably operate to prevent his extending to the city any recommendations the consummation of which would make it more difficult for him to put the department upon a more paying basis.

The average engineer, too, has as much regard for his reputation, which is his capital, as the average citizen owning a few thousand dollars' worth of real estate. In other words, he would be slow to recommend something not a demonstrated success. It cannot, then, in truth be said that Mr. Rich has no interest in Red Cloud when he advises the city to get out of the old water rut.

We must have more water, Mr. Voter. Now, where shall we get it? From the slough, or from Maurer springs?

Washington's Birthday Celebrated

Sunday evening at the Congregational church Rev. Cressman arranged for a most interesting service in memory of Washington's birthday. The hymns and anthems sung by the choir were most appropriate and were excellently rendered. The musical program was highly praised and was much enjoyed by all. Master Robert McBride and Miss Teresa Riegle recited selections appropriate to the occasion. Mr. J. S. Gilham then delivered an address upon "Washington the Man and Statesman." He showed the development and growth of our first president and paid a glowing tribute to his kingliness and integrity and christian character. The speaker showed that the signature of Washington and that of Franklin gave the Declaration of Independence weight and significance. Washington was the greatest general of his age, and the most dignified, kingliest character charismagone. The speaker closed by calling American manhood of the type of Washington above all the titled spawn of European nobility. In point of delivery Mr. Gilham was at his best, easily holding the interest of his audience, he charmed his hearers with his eloquence and depth of thought.

Mr. C. F. Cather then delivered an address on the home of Washington which was most charming, since he based his presentation upon tradition and not upon history. Mr. Cather's grandmother was a visitor in the Washington home and Mr. Cather himself was born in the same county in Virginia in which Washington made his home for seventeen years. Mr. Cather most interestingly related this unwritten testimony of the greatest efficiency of our first president. The speaker had taken the trouble to procure copies of the county record of 1758 and others where Washington ran for office. The audience would gladly have listened to many more of these traditions and were disappointed when the speaker closed. Withal this program was most interesting and instructive and we trust that the Rev. Cressman will continue to prepare occasional special programs for his Sunday evening services.

A joint committee of the Senate and House is at work drafting new road laws.

COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS.

RED CLOUD, NEBR., FEB. 14th, A. D. '11
 The Board of County Commissioners of Webster County, Nebraska, met pursuant to adjournment. Members present G. Ohmsted, T. J. Chaplin, L. F. Schmidt, Paul Storey and G. W. Hummel chairman of said Board.

Moved and seconded that the chairman appoint a committee to investigate the bridge on Section Line between sections 19 and 30-3-11 and order overseer of Road District in said 3-11 to fix said bridge to the best advantage for use by the public. Motion carried.

Whereupon the chairman appointed Commissioners T. J. Chaplin, L. F. Schmidt and G. Ohmsted as said committee to investigate said bridge compliance with the above motion.

Moved and seconded that the County Supt. be instructed and authorized to pay school district No. 2, ten dollars for the use of the school building during Teachers Institute for 1910.

Moved and seconded that Dr. J. E. Caulk of Cowles be and is hereby appointed Deputy Assessor for Cowles Precinct for the year 1911. Motion carried.

Moved and seconded that Chas. A. Guthrie be and is hereby appointed Deputy Assessor for Stillwater Precinct for the year 1911. Motion carried.

Moved and seconded that Bert Kile be and is hereby appointed Road overseer of Road District No. 16. Motion carried.

On motion Board adjourned to meet February 15th, 1911, at 9 o'clock a. m. Feb. 15, 1911. Board met pursuant to adjournment. Members all present.

Now comes J. H. Ellinger, Clark Stevens and O. C. Teel members of the Board of the Farmers Independent Telephone Co., of Red Cloud City, Nebraska, and complains that said was erroneously assessed for franchise in said City of Red Cloud in the amount of \$500.00 assessed value, and as there is no commercial value attached to said franchise requests the Board to have the assessed value of \$500 struck from the tax list for 1910.

Moved and seconded that the above and foregoing request be and is hereby granted, and the County Treasurer be and is hereby instructed and authorized to strike the said amount of \$500 assessed value for franchise from the tax list for the year 1910. Motion carried.

In the matter of the printing of the Commissioners proceedings from time to time during the ensuing year in the several newspapers of the County. It was moved and seconded that \$100 be and is hereby allowed for the printing of said proceedings to be divided equally among said papers. Motion carried.

Moved and seconded that the bridge committee of Commissioners District No. 3 be and is hereby instructed and authorized to purchase material and re-floor the bridge across the Republican River South of Inavale, Nebraska. Motion carried.

In the matter of the sealed bids for cement work per cubic foot as advertised. It was moved and seconded, that the bids as filed by the following named viz: W. T. Bohrer of Red Cloud, J. B. Simpson & Son of Guide Rock and Saunders Bros. of Red Cloud be opened and acted upon by said Board. Motion carried. Whereupon said bids were opened and acted upon as follows: J. B. Simpson & Son of Guide Rock and Saunders Bros. of Red Cloud were and are awarded the contract for all cement work at 15 cents per cubic foot tributary to the territory of each of said parties. All excavating up to and including \$5.00 per job to be paid by the bidder the balance if any over \$5.00 to be paid for by the County.

Moved and seconded that any Commissioner having any bridge work done, be upon the job to oversee said work. Motion carried.

In the matter of the petition of B. J. Kohmetscher for a license to sell malt, Spirituous and Venious liquor on lot 8, block 8, Rosemont, Nebr., coming for hearing at this time. It appearing that said petition is gotten up in compliance with the Statute and has the required number of signers and in all things, being complied with according to law. It was moved and second that the license be and is hereby granted as prayed for in above and foregoing petition. Motion carried.

Moved and seconded that the Liquor License Bond of B. J. Kohmetscher to sell Malt, Spirituous and Venious liquors in Rosemont on Lot 8, Block 8 in said Webster County, Nebr., for 1 year be and is hereby approved. Carried.

Moved and seconded that the County Clerk be and is hereby instructed and authorized to issue License to said B. J. Kohmetscher of Rosemont upon the receipt of \$500 License Money. Motion carried.

In the matter of the Rail Road petition which was presented to the Board by Paul Storey in regard to the Rail Road crossing on main road South part of Red Cloud city. It was moved and seconded that it be referred to the County Attorney to be taken up with the Railway Commission as to who has jurisdiction in the said matter. Motion carried.

THE NEW WAY OF SMOKING MEAT
 By applying two coats of WRIGHT'S CONDENSED SMOKE directly to the meat with a brush after the meat has gone through the salt, it will be thoroughly smoked, will have a delicious flavor and will keep soft and sweet and free from insects through the entire summer.
Wright's Condensed Smoke
 is a liquid smoke and contains nothing except what is obtained by burning hickory wood. It is put up in square quart bottles, each with a metal cap. NEVER SOLD IN BULK. A bottle will smoke a barrel of meat (250 lbs.). For sale by all druggists at 10c. Every bottle guaranteed. Ask druggist for FREE BOOK, "The New Way." Be sure to get the genuine WRIGHT'S CONDENSED SMOKE. Made only by
THE E. H. WRIGHT CO., Ltd., Kansas City, Mo.
 SOLD AND GUARANTEED BY

H. E. GRICE, DRUG CO.

Laces AND Embroideries
 Our showing of Laces and Embroideries is the largest ever shown in Southern Nebraska. It includes the newest and handsomest patterns of this seasons manufacture. If you have Laces, Flouncings or Embroiderie's with or without insertions to match to buy within the next six months, we advise you to inspect our lines. The variety is large, embracing hundreds of beautiful patterns.
 We will this season show a new immense and well selected stock of all the new weaves in Flaxons, Dimities, Swisses, India Linons, Lawns, Barred Muslins etc.
 A Beautiful Line of Ginghams has just been received.
The Miner Brothers Co.
 General Merchants.

To the Honorable Board of County Commissioners Webster County, Nebraska, I herewith submit statement of all fines assessed by me from January 1st, 1910 to January 1st, 1911 to wit:—Amount of fees collected Jan. 1st, 1910 to Jan. 1st, 1911 \$14 00. State of Nebraska, Webster County, ss. I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct statement from my docket dated January 28th, 1911. E. C. Buschow, Justice of the Peace. Approved this 15th day of February 1911 G. W. Hummel Chairman of Board.	H. J. Dugdale to Joseph V. Smith s 1/2 sw 33-1-10, wd..... 3500
Moved and seconded that the official bond of Bert Kile as overseer of Road District No. 16, be and is hereby approved. Motion carried.	Alfred C. White to Noah B. Waggoner, n 1/2 se, se 32-1-10, wd Mary J. Allison et al to Noah B. Waggoner, sw se 32-1-10, wd.... 1120
Moved and seconded that Oak Creek Precinct be and is hereby divided into two Road Districts, the dividing line to run North and South, through the center of said Oak Creek Precinct. The east half of said Precinct to be designated and known as Road District Four and one half (1/2). The west half (1/2) of said Precinct to retain the original number of Road Dist, which is number Four (4). Motion carried.	David S. Phelps to William Vanderfecht, lots 2, 3, 4, Blk 3, 1st Add to Bladen, wd..... 1700
Moved and seconded that John Hummel be and is hereby appointed overseer of Road District No. 4 1/2 for the year 1911. Motion carried.	Hugh McCall to Cecil M. & Malvern M. McCall, and 1/2 n 1/2 sw s 1/2 nw, lots 4, 5, all in 7-1-11, wd Cecil M. McCall et al to Hugh M. McCall ne 10, lots 7, 8, in 3, all in 1-12, wd..... 12000
Moved and seconded that the County Clerk be and is hereby instructed and authorized to issue License to said B. J. Kohmetscher of Rosemont upon the receipt of \$500 License Money. Motion carried.	L. L. DeHart to Frank M. McCarter, w 1/2 ne, n 1/2 se 33-1-10, wd..... 8000
	Hannah R. Francis to Stella Hurd, lots 9-10-11-12, Blk 8, Cowles, wd..... 1675
	James William Finney to Dick Barchers, nw 21-3-9, wd..... 9100
	Edmund O. Parker to Edward M. Parker, s 1/2 lot 4, n 1/2 lot 5, Blk 10, Vances Add to Guide Rock, wd..... 325
	Rosie Strands to Lila Heiton, lots 5, 6, Blk 5, Sweeces Add to Blue Hill, wd..... 600
	Mortgages Blad, \$11750. Mortgages released, \$6000.

Jacob Angle Found Drowned
 Jacob Angle, aged 40 years, was drowned yesterday morning. He and a party of friends from Cowles were camping and hunting on the Sommerhaider place, near Lester. Mr. Angle arose early yesterday morning and left the camp, and as he did not return a search was instituted, which resulted this afternoon in the finding of his body in the river near the mouth of Elm creek. Deceased leaves a widow and five children.