state, the courts may see fit to override the

#### SIZE OF THE NEW TAX LEVY

Officials and Business Men Estimate Cost of Running a City.

Year Ends with Deficits in Almost Every Fund, Though Rigid Economy is Practiced in All Departments.

With the beginning of the new year the city council will be confronted with the perplexing problem of the tax levy to be made in February. The desire to ease the taxpayers' burden as much as may be, and at the same time to provide enough reources to run the municipal machine, makes the fixing of the levy a delicate and embarrassing matter to the mayor and council. There are several uncertainties in the situation, thus making the probable levy difficult to estimate

The property valuation, as returned by the assessors and revised by the Board of Review, may be altered still further by the council, which will sit as a Board of Equalization during the first week in January. Another doubtful quantity is the school apportionment, which will lie this year for the first time entirely in the hands of the Board of Education. The council will have no part in the allotment and will simply gid the board's estimate of expense to the general levy.

It is considered by several councilmen and others interested in the city's finances, that the levy of 1899 was decidedly too low, the result being deficits or overdrafts in al-most every fund. This bankrupt condition was only temporarily relieved by the \$20,-600 received from the Union Pacific and Burlington railroads and other unusual sources of income. One year ago an effort was made to fix the levy at 27 mills by several gifts will be placed on sale at half price, ism. The names are in parallel columns councilmen who believed that the city de- besides special sales will be inaugurated in similar, in all respects, to the arrange partments could not be maintained by any every department. maller apportionment. The ordinance, however, was drafted for a 25-mill levy under pressure of labor organizations and other bodies who felt the need of economy. The mayor considered that the amount was in adequate and vetoed the ordinance. It was passed over his disapproval and became operative. Time has demonstrated, however, real economy and apparent economy are not always synonymous.

Opinion of Chief Executive. The executive and the heads of depart-

ments are generally of the belief that the low levy of 1899 was a self-deception and that the tax this year should be materially increased. Mayor Moores expresses the opinion that the new levy must be from 28 to 30 mills in order to allow of the city's affairs being properly administered.

"Last year," said Mayor Moores, "it was apparent that the levy was insufficient, and as a result there is a deficit in almost every fund. In the Fire department, for instance it was necessary early in the year to disband one engine company for lack of funds and the remaining companies are all work ing with equipment which is about twent years behind the times. The hose is old and bursts under pressure and the whole department is in a dilapidated condition. I would be in favor also of granting the department a sufficient amount to allow of the purchase of houses to replace those which are now rented at an annual outlay of

"In the Police department, too, we have been obliged to get along with less protection than any other city of a similar During this year we have found i necessary to drop twenty-six patrolmen and to give each of the remainder a thirty-day furlough without pay. There are now on the force only seventy-one men, including the chief, his clerk, patrolmen, detectives, drivers and hostlers, when the number pre- York and the steamer Ponce to Porto Rico. viously has run from ninety-six to 106. In Also on February 13 a thirty-day tour of Old Kansas City there are 200 men on the force, Mexico. For rates, which include all ex-

Burden Alrendy Too Heavy.

Ex-Mayor George P. Bemis was asked bls opinion regarding the new levy viewed in the light of his experience with the city's finances. "I am not in favor of any increase," said Mr. Bemis, "unless it is absolutely necessary as I believe the common cople who carry the heavy end of the tax have already about as much on their shoutders as they can bear. In my opinion any change should be in the direction of retrenchment in the present expenditures as For Omaha patrons EXCLUSIVELY, leaves the municipal machine seems to be larger than the city requires under present con-

W. W. Bingham, president of the council, sleepers than these-in Europe. favors making the levy as low as the absolute necessities of the city government will admit. "I have not considered the matter sufficiently to give a definite opinion," said Mr. Bingham, "and no one can estimate at this time with any certainty what the next levy must be. There are heavy expenses in managing the city's affairs which must be met, but I am not in favor of adding one unnecessary cent to the burden of the taxpayers. It is probable, however, that the levy of this year will have to be increased."

In speaking of the new power which has come to the Board of Education H. J. Penfold, president of that body, said: fact that the board will this year be allowed to fix its own levy is no sign that a large figure will be named. The taxpayers need feel no alarm regarding the new liberty granted the board. I for one am for conservatism with a big 'C' and expect that the levy will be no more than harely enough to properly maintain the schools at their present standard of ex-

Deficit Must Be Made Up.

The fact that we enter the new year with a heavy deficit and must provide \$20 .-000 toward the sinking fund to meet the bond redemption eight years hence will almost certainly make it necessary to call for a larger levy than we secured this year. I will not, in my judgment, be increased more than 1 mill, making the total school levy mills, or about \$35,000 more than this year. With this we will try to get along and it the funds run short we must curtail ex-

Tax Commissioner Sackett agrees that the levy of 25 mills is insufficient to meet the expenses of the city government, even considering the fact that there have been no important increases in the assessed valuation of personal property and realty. opinion the levy should be increased about 2 mills, which would add \$87,000 to the city's income. Owing to the increased valuation to add quarters for TWENTY the commissioner pointed out that the same levy next year would mean an increased in-

come of \$17,000. Andrew Rosewater, chairman of the Board of Public Works, pointed out the ST. JOHN'S MILITARY ACADEMY. needs of the street cleaning, sewer maintaining and water rent funds which were totally unequal to the requirements last year. 'The street cleaning fund ought to be fixed at the full amount of the authortzed levy, or \$36,000," sald Mr. Rosewater The money a sallable this year, \$15,708, has not been sufficient to keep the pavements in a presentable condition. Refuse storesweepings and disease-breeding filth have blown about the streets and have in-

evitably added to the city's mortality rate The statements of the street cleaning departments of other cities show that they are supported far more liberally than the Omaha department, even though there is less surface to care for. In Los Angeles, for instance, having eighteen miles of pavement on against our eighty-two, \$27,500 is spent annually in keeping the city tidy, more than one-third than is allowed us. Lowell, Mass.,

annually for cleaning and machines are used

Further Fulse Economy.

"The allowance for water rent in 1899 was also a piece of false economy. The fund made available, \$81,683, was \$20,000 less than the actual contract rental to the Omaha-CONSIDER TWENTY-FIVE MILLS TOO SMALL Water company and in addition the council has ordered a number of new hydrants set during the year. The sewer maintaining fund likewise proved too small and should, my opinion, be increased to 20 mills ginging the amount from \$3,141 to about \$10,000.

"Considering the needs of the different departments and the overdrafts of the presyear, I should consider 30 mills nontoo large a levy for 1900."

SURE CURE FOR CROUP.

Twenty-Five Years' Constant Use

Without a Failure. it may be taken as a sure sign of the approach of an attack. Following this hourseas the child becomes hoarse, or even after the croup cough appears, it will prevent the the passage of the recent amendment per-It is used in many thousands of mitting the use of machines. homes in this broad land and never disappoints the auxious mothers. We have yet to learn of a single instance in which various voting machine manufacturers and preparation can show such a record- Rochester, N. Y. The city of Buffalo is protwenty-five years' constant use without a vided with 110 of these and the city clerk

PEOPLE'S STORE CLOSED TODAY. A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to All.

The People's store will be closed all day oday in order to give our employes an

Again wishing one and all a merry Christmas and a happy New Year, we are, THE PEOPLE'S STORE. 16th and Farnam Sts.

Edholm for diamond brooches.

Conl Fund for the Poor.

The Associated Charities appeal to our benevolent citizens for funds to purchase coal for distribution among the aged and sick poor, deserving widows and deserted wives with families. The calls are numerous and require immediate attention. Checks payable to the Associated Charities will be thankfully received at 1810 St. Mary's JOHN LAUGHLAND, Secretary.

CHEAP RAILROAD FARES FOR THE HOLIDAYS "THE NORTH-WESTERN LINE" EAST WEST

NORTH New City Offices, 1401 & 1403 Farnam St. Depots 10th and Marcy Sts., 15th & Webster Sts.

Edholm for cut glass.

The Chicago Siceping Car For Omaha patrons EXCLUSIVELY, leaves on the "NORTHWESTERN LINE" limited train at 4:55 p. m. daily, arriving Chicago 7:45 next morning. There MAY be finer sleepers than these-in Europe. Other LIMITED FLYING TRAINS leave

daily at 6:40 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. City offices, 1401 and 1403 Farnam street. Molasses candy, at Sherman & McConnell's.

Four Winter Tours.

On January 10, February 14 and March the Wabash will run excursions via Ne in Denver 155, in St. Paul 125 and in Minne- penses, and further information call on or G. N. CLAYTON.

Room 506 Karbach block, Omaha, Neb. Burlington Route\_Holiday Rates. Dec. 23, 24, 25, 30, 31 and January 1-Between stations not more than 200 miles apart-

liberal return limit. Tickets, 1502 Farnam and Burlington station.

Edholm for fine watches,

The Chicago Steeping Car on the "NORTHWESTERN LINE" limited Moore's Digestor train at 4:55 p. m. daily, arirving Chicago 7:45 next morning. There MAY be finer \$1.00 Pe-ru-na, we sell ...... Other LIMITED FLYING TRAINS leave

City offices, 1401 and 1403 Farnam street.

Velvet candy at Sherman & McConnell's. Hamilton Warren, M. D., eciectic and pagnetic physician, has moved his office to 709 North 16th street, room 13. Special at- \$1.00 Pinaud's Eau de Quinine ..... tention to all iong-standing or lingering dis-

eases and to diseases of women and children. Hubermann, Jeweter, est. 1866. Absolutely reliable, lowest prices guaranteed. 13 & Doug

Edholm for wedding rings.

We repair cooke, ranges, heaters, furnaces. 1207 Douglas, Omaha Stove Repair Works, Blank book and magazine binting. A. I.

Root, 1609 Howard street. Edholm for diamonds.

Yellow box candy at Sherman & McConnell Drug company. 6-year Angelica, \$1.50 gal. Karpeles, 14th

Sherman & McConnell's for Boston taffy. A. D. T Messengers. Tel. 177. Have Root print it

SCHOOLS.

#### ST. JOHN'S MILITARY ACADEMY

School filled this past term. The directors have decided new cadets. Send for catalogue. Address-

Delafield, Waukesha County. Wisconsin.

On Lard, on Ham, on Bacon is a guarantee of purity. Swift and Company,

Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha.

St. Louis, St. Joseph, St. Paul,

#### ARE A SET OF KEYS A BALLOT

Constitutional Obstacle to Voting Machines Still Towers in the Path.

CITY ATTORNEY MAY MODIFY HIS OPINION

Progress of Civilization Since Framing of Constitution May Justify Its Disregard-Description of Machines.

The special council committee to which was referred the voting machine project has held several conferences with similar committees of the county commissioners school board and is confident that the difficulties in the way of the plan will be removed. The supreme court of Michigan was The first indications of croup is hoarse- controuted, with a similar constitutional uses, and in a child subject to that disease provision as exists in our own state and held that "ballots" could be construed as "vet Ing machines." The committee is encouraged ness is a peculiar rough cough. If Cham- to believe, therefore, that similar latitude berlain's Cough Remedy is given as soon will be allowed in this state, especially as the intent of the legislature was evident

Louis Burmester, chairman of the council committee, has been in communication with has not proved effectual. No other is inclined to favor the Standard machine at has written to interested Omaha testifying that the operation of the system is most satisfactory. The American pattern and several others are also favorably dis-

Description of Machines.

The machines, according to designs furpportunity to heartily enjoy Christmas, nished, resemble a cabinet mounted or Tuesday morning the great cut-price metal legs. When the voter enters the booth sale of holiday goods will begin. Thou- a long lever is thrown, which draws a cur sands of presents suitable for New Years tain behind his back and opens the mechanment of a ballot and the voter may registe his preference for a full ticket or for in dividual candidates by pressing back a brass lever until it reaches the name of his chosen ticket or nominee. When the polls are closed the total vote, with the majorities of the candidates, is infallibly recorded and the Board of Judges finds an already-done task, which often consumes the night,

One of the strongest points in favor of the mechanism is its absolute immunity from human error or dishonesty. On the former score alone, hundreds of ballots are thrown out at every important election, the voter having been mistaken either in the numbe of nominces for a specified office, or in any one of other particulars which might render his ballot ineffective. These errors are ufficiently frequent many times to swing the result one way or the other and thus defeating the will of the people,

Errors Affect the Result. In the last election for example, B. F. Thomas, nomince for police judge, has rought a contest to the election of Judge S 1. Gordon, alleging no fraud, but simply errors in the vote and counting thereof Below the names of the two candidates was a blank line for the insertion of any private preference and on this many voters are said to have inscribed a cross without having written in any name. Thomas alleges that as Gordon's name was next above the blank line the votes were counted in the latter's favor and pleads that he is entitled to half of them. This change, it is alleged, would affect the result.

Regarding the legality of voting machines he city attorney is not ready to venture any formal opinion pending further investigation. He had previously expressed the view that the machines were contrary to the constitution and the statutes, but it is intimated that he will modify this expression

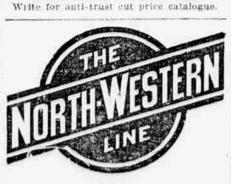
J. H. Van Dusen, chairman of the senate

#### MALTINE **PREPARATIONS**

These goods should always be FRESH. WE get them direct from the manufacturers-and sell them at the cut price of 85c per bottle for all kinds and combinations We can state for the benefit of all interested that our stock of patent medicines and proprietary articles is still completeand is being added to daily-while our USUAL CUT PRICES are mantained. Ask s for the NEW THINGS. All kinds Maltine, we sell.....

. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . \$1.00 Duffy's Malt Whisky ..... Brown's Camp Tooth Powder ..... 0c Violet Water, we sell ..... e Gessler's Headache Wafers ...... \$1.00 Malted Milk, we sell ..... Mellin's Food, we sell..... \$1.00 Munyon's Inhaler, we sell ..... e Morrow's Kid-ne-oids, we sell ... \$1.00 Coke's Dandruff Cure, we sell., \$1.00 Mexican Hair Restorative ...... Toe Doan's Kidney Pills ..... CRANITONIC FOR HAIR, we sell .... \$1 \$1.00 Yale's Hair Tonic, we sell ......

\$1.00 Scott's Emulsion .... Sherman & McConnell DrugCo. 1513 Dodge St., OMAHA, NEB.



TO

CHICACO and EAST. ST. PAUL and MINNEAPOLIS, HOTSPRINGS & DEADWOOD.

New City Offices. 1401-03 Farnam.

## To Chicago and the East



mittee on Judiciary, says in reference the validity of the voting machine amendment: "While I was chairman of the emmittee which reported favorably on the amendment I did not at the time believe that it was in accord with the constitution. That provides that voting must be done by ballot and at the time the constitutional convention formulated the article it cerainly did not contemplate the possibility of voting machines. It is necessary many imes, however, for the courts to act in a egislative as well as a judicial capacity. and it may be that considering the changed conditions now prevailing and the fact that the constitution is scarcely adequate to the needs of Dauglas county, much less a whole

Edholm for set rings.

plain intent of the constitution.

We Trade Back. You Take No Risk-Every Day a Bargain. BEAUTIFUL

SET

RINGS-





## BREAKFAST

tomorrow morning and attend the theater in Chicago tomer-

You can to it-Take the Chicago Special, the Burlington's daylight train for Peoria and Chicago.

Leaves Omaha....6:40 a. m. Arrives Peoria ... . 6:50 p. m. Arrives Chicago. . 8:10 p. m. Steeping, dining, chair and library cars.

TICKET OFFICE 1502 Farnam Street. 'Phone 250

BURLINGTON STATION 10th and Mason Streets. 'Phone 310.

We wish all our friends and patrons a Merry Christmas.

Don't Put it Off

Co.'s. You'll find our prices are right.

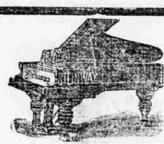
JAS. MORTON & SON CO., 1511 Dodge St.



#### MERCHANT'S NATIONAL BANK

OMANA, NEBRASKA

OF OMAMA. N. E. Corner Farnam and 13th Sts.
Paid Up Capital .......\$500,000
Surplus Fund ......\$100,000 FRANK MURPHY, President, B. B. WOOD Vice President LUTHER DRAKE, Cashier. F. T. HAMILTON, Assistant Cashier



## Great Saving

Owing to extensive alterations we are obliged to sell all instruments on our first floor regardless of cost.

50 New Upright Pianos \$168 each. 5 Uprights of Various Makes, \$75, \$90, \$115, \$125, \$155. 3 Squares, fine condition, \$45, \$68, \$79.

These immense bargains must be sold before January 1st. Buy now and save from \$100 to \$150.

#### on a dependable instrument. \$5 monthly payments will be accepted. Schmoller & Mueller...

Steinway & Sons 1313 Farnam Street Representatives. 337 Broadway, Council Bluffs.

Closed all day Christmas.

# Sippers and Shoes



35c Overgaiters, at 1sc

Men's Velvet Embroidered Slippers, worth \$1.00, on sale for 65c. Men's Fine Tan and Black Goat Slippers worth \$1.75, on sale at \$1.25.

Men's fine tan and black Goat, hand turned Slippers, worth \$2, on sale at \$1.49. Ladies' felt Slippers, worth everywhere 75c, at 28c. Ladies' fine felt Slippers, turn soles, worth \$1.25, sale price 75c. Ladies' finest Satin Faust Slippers, fur trimmed and hand turned soles, worth everywhere \$2.00, in this sale at \$1.25.



The "Ultra" Shoes for women. The "Stetson" Shoe

in Velour Calf, Patent Leather, enamel Calf or Vici Kid. The latest styles and hand made. The STETSON IS THE BEST SHOE THAT'S MADE FOR MEN. "STETSON IN EVERY PAIR, price \$5.00.

The "Ultra" Shoe for ladies. We have them in all styles, in Vict Kid, Patent Leather and Fine Calf. With ourn or welted soles and cushion cork insoles. The "ULTRA" is the finests shoe

Leggings on Sale. Misses' fine Jersey Leggings, worth \$1,00, on sale at 75c. Boys' Leather Leggings, worth \$1.50, go at 15c. 35c "Capitol" wool soles at 17c.

HAYDEN BROS

## December 25, 1899.

It has been the brightest, best Christmas trade we've ever had. So bright and happy-making was the store that you almost forgot the crowds. You grew into it. It was a delight watching you. How much better we can serve you next Christmas. We're already thinking of

The store will remain closed all day. Read our ad tomorrow morning.



#### CLOSED ALL DAY CHRISTMAS. 20th Century Cloak Sale.

ૹોહિઓહિઓહિઓહિઓહિઓ**ૄિઓ ૄિ**ઓહિઓહિઓ હિઓહિઓ**હિઓ** 

At last the crash has come. The cloaks must go. The season of profit is over. Our immense stock must and will be sold, no matter what the price they bring. The sale will commence Tuesday morning at 8 o'clock. We will make it the greatest that has ever been held between New York and San Francisco.



Table No. 1-We have 500 ladies' jackets, nearly all silk lined, sizes 32 to 44, worth \$8, 20th Century Sale price, only... .....

Table No. 2-700 jackets, silk lined throughout, a great many of them lined with Skinner's satin, stylish, well made, up-to-date garments, worth \$12, 20th Century Sale price only ......

Table No. 3-479 jackets, in all colors and all materials, including the well known Washington mills kerseys, nearly all lined with Skinner's satin, warranted for two year's

ets, made to sell for \$15. 20th Century Sale price.... 6.98 Table No. 4-373 jackets, the very finest materials and the very best workmanship, in montanaes, kerseys, whipcords, friezes, and the well known Dobson Kerseys, some trimmed

wear—this table includes our well known \$10 jack-

our automobiles and newmarkets-worth up to \$25.00-20th century price only ...... 25 ladies' imported sample suits taffeta lined throughout; some trimmed with silk braid, box and tight fitting fronts, the very extreme and best styles 15.00 -they are worth up to \$75.00-20th century sale price only

150 suits in grays, blues, blacks and browns, in homespuns, Venetians, serges and

covert cloths; some all silk lined throughout; they are worth up to \$20,00-20th century sale orice only ... 20 dozen ladies' underskirts with two rows of ruffles and flounce and

6 rows of cording worth \$1.25-20th century sale 20 dozen children's Elderdown Cloaks, trimmed with braid-worth \$1.50 0th century sale price

20 dozen ladies' flannelette wrappers-worth \$2.00oth century sale price

## HAYDEN BROS.

"Kindness is Not Bought for Money" like SHERIDAN COAL—best coal mined in Wyoming. Pea-Nut, \$4.50-Nut or Egg, \$5.00-Lump, \$5.50-keeps

fire all night and is just as clean as hard coal. VICTOR WHITE, 1605 Farnam.

### December 25th

will be Christmas-everybody knows thatbut do not know that CIGARS this year are each, so as to bring them within the reach the 100-no snide brands, but staples, like

GEO. W. CHILDS, KING BEE, JOLLY WIDOW, CORONAS, Lapreferencia All 5c Cigars,

25 IN A BOX FOR \$1.00 Stickney's Bouquet, 12 in a box, 60c. In

SECURITY, LA PREFERENCIA, NANON'S SINCERIDADS.

CHANCELLOR.

10c goods they come 25 in a box, at \$2.00 for

J. A. FU LER & CO 14th and Douglas St.

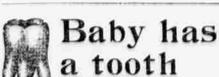
SONNENBERG . . . DIAMOND BROKER. Loans Money on Diamonds Watches and Jewelry, Old Gold and Silver bought, BUSINESS CONFIDENTIAL.

#### About Prescriptions

We have been told by those whose opinions we value, that prescriptions average less here than anywhere else in Omaha. This we do know-that we sell drugs on a closer margin of profit than fellow druggists in other localities. We sell at the smallest put up in neat small packages of 12 and 25 price which the shrewdest economical policy will allow. Paine's Celery Compound......

> Peruna . Wine of Cardui..... Lydia Pinkham's Compound..... Pyracuid Pile Cure ..... Syrup of Figs ..... 400 ituart's Dyspepsia Tableta ..... aynes' Expectorant ..... axative Bromo Quinine ...... 15c Carter's Little Liver Pills ...... 150 Kilmer's Swamp-Root .....

STORE DRUC



Is an event that gives mamma much pleasure. Don't neglect he fittle one's teeth. They should have us such care and attention as the older ones, his work is first class and prices reason-

Teeth Cleaned ...... 75e Silver Fillings ..... 75e Vitalized Air ......... Teeth Extracted ...... 25c

Taft's Philadelphia Dental Rooms.

1517 DOUGLAS ST.