

Nebraska PRISON EXPENSES INCREASE

Official Figures Do Not Bear Out Statements of Board.
PER CAPITA COST MUCH LARGER
Reports Made by Warden to Governor Indicate that Claim of Economy Has No Foundation in Fact.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)
LINCOLN, March 29.—(Special.)—The State Board of Control takes exception to statements made by The Bee's Lincoln correspondent regarding the expenses of running the state penitentiary, compared to the cost before the present administration came into power, and in a long article published in Lincoln papers seeks to show that The Bee correspondent was in error when he said the cost had not materially lowered since the board of control came into being.

The chairman of the board, to prove that The Bee correspondent was mistaken, offers statements of the convict Morley, who was one of the ringleaders in the prison outbreak two years ago, and quotes him as saying that under the old conditions the prisoners were liable to break loose any time, while under present conditions they are satisfied to stay within the prison walls. This brings up again the question of whether a man who breaks the law is put in the penitentiary for punishment or made to make him so pleased with his surroundings that he will regret to leave the institution.

Per Capita Cost Increases.
Just to keep the record straight as to the cost of running the penitentiary, the reports in the governor's office show that November 30, 1912, just before the present administration took charge, the per capita cost was \$100. The report for November 30, 1913, four months after the board of control took charge, shows the per capita cost at \$119.65, thus according to the warden the per capita cost was then \$19 more than it was for the same period under the republican administration. As indicating what Warden Fenton might do if left to his own resources, on April 1, 1913, after Mr. Eaton had been in charge of the penitentiary two months, the per capita cost, according to his report to the governor, was only \$88.25. Three months later, after the board of control had managed the institution four months, the per capita had risen to \$149.65, of \$61.39 more than when the warden had things all his own way.

The board objects to the comparison of one month of 1912 with the same month of 1914. To avoid possible misleading comparisons, the records of the state auditor, where all warrants are drawn, have been consulted, and a longer period taken to show just what the institution was costing.

Six Months' Comparison.
For the last six months of 1912 the records show that there was spent to run the penitentiary the sum of \$30,792.73, being the same items under a lump appropriation as are now covered by separate appropriations. For the last six months of 1913, which were the first six months of the board of control, the cost was \$50,251.94, or a difference in favor of the previous administration of \$19,459.21.

However, the board says that there was a deficiency created at the end of 1912 which necessitated a deficiency appropriation. Therefore it may be well to go back to the first six months of 1912 before the deficiency was created. For the six months beginning January 1, 1912, and ending June 30, 1912, the books of the auditor's office show expenses of \$17,741.71, still less than the six months under the board by \$13,051.02.

As to the population of the prison, reports of the warden on file with the governor show that for February, 1914, there were 359 prisoners and in February, 1912, 460 prisoners, or ninety-four fewer prisoners to support last month than the same month two years ago. That the prison population is continually changing is well known. When the board took charge July 1, 1913, there were 361 prisoners in the pen, while for the same month of 1912 there were seventy-one more, or a total of 432.

The average number of prisoners for the six months ending May 31, 1913, the time at which semi-annual reports are made, was 378, while for the same period of 1912 it was 446, being eighty-eight more than under the present administration. The semi-annual report made November 30, 1913, after the board of control took charge, showed the number of prisoners as 347, while for the same period under the former administration the number was 406, being fifty-eight more, and still the penitentiary is costing more to run with all the way from fifty-eight to ninety-four prisoners less than it did under the old administration.

Boost in Expenses.
The board further explains a deficiency had to be voted by the last legislature of \$50,000 to pay up outstanding accounts. In this the board is correct, but it is a well known fact that the outbreak of prisoners in March, 1912, was responsible for much of the running behind of the institution, the boost in salaries made immediately after the outbreak and the increase in guards, running the added expense up to nearly \$1,000 a month for the balance of the biennium. Added to this was the cost of having the militia at the pen, the cost of feeding them and other things incident to the outbreak.

Great credit should be given Warden Fenton for his work at the penitentiary. As shown by the figures on per capita cost, he brought down the cost per prisoner to the lowest it had been for some time in the six months he was running under the old board of public lands and buildings, but as soon as the Board of Control took charge, for some reason the cost per prisoner jumped up about 75 per cent, or to be explicit, from \$86.35 to \$149.65. If the reports to the governor made by the warden himself are correct, the proposition is not one of criticism of the individual members of the board, but a question whether the state is gaining as much through the creation of the board as it should.

Nebraska OXFORD WINS DEBATE FROM BEAVER CITY

OXFORD, Neb., March 30.—(Special.)—The Oxford High school debating team defeated the league question with the Beaver City High school debating team at Beaver City Saturday evening. Oxford had the affirmative and Beaver City the negative. The decision was two to one in favor of Oxford, making the second victory for the Oxford team this year. The Beaver City debaters were Clifford Meyer, Harry Hafner and Wade Stevens. The Oxford debaters were Ed Pettygrove, Clarence Sherwood and Fred Jellison. The final debate of the series will be held with the McCook team some time in April, McCook having already won from Trenton. Judges for the Beaver City-Oxford debate were Prof. Maxey of the State University Law school; Superintendent Barr of the Hastings public schools, and Rev. Porter, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church in Orleans.

FAIRBURY TO HAVE WARM TIME ON ELECTION DAY

FAIRBURY, Neb., March 30.—(Special.)—Considerable interest is being manifested in the outcome of the city election, the principal contestants being the socialists, citizens and women. The annual city election will take place April 7 and at that time two new members of the school board will be elected to succeed J. A. Axtell and S. H. Diller, whose terms expire. The fight centers chiefly on the school board. The women held a mass meeting and nominated two women, Mrs. G. W. True and Nina Burford. Their names will go on the ballot by petition. The citizens have nominated James A. Axtell and S. H. Diller, while the socialists have put William Quinn and Judd Clark on the school board. Five councilmen are to be elected this spring also. The question of "wet" or "dry" will be voted on as an independent issue.

HUMBOLDT MAN SHOTS HIMSELF THROUGH BRAIN

HUMBOLDT, Neb., March 30.—(Special Telegram.)—Robert Beutler, a young and prosperous farmer residing southeast of Humboldt, committed suicide yesterday afternoon by shooting himself. He went to the barn and took a rifle and pulled the trigger, the bullet piercing his temple, causing death instantly. When found he had been dead about two hours. He is survived by his wife and three small children. The cause of the deed is all but certain to be melancholy from brooding over ill health. A coroner's jury found that the deceased came to his death by his own hand while temporarily insane.

YOUNG MAN ACCIDENTALLY KILLED NEAR OSHKOSH

OSHKOSH, Neb., March 30.—(Special.)—Ernest Nichols, a young man 20 year old, who recently came here from Scott's Bluff county with A. L. Lore, for whom he was working, accidentally killed himself Sunday morning on the Stroud place, ten miles north of here, while attempting to put a loaded double-barrel shotgun over a hay rack. Both barrels were discharged and he was instantly killed. The accident was witnessed by several people who happened to be present. His parents, who live in Scott's Bluff county, were notified.

YORK TELEPHONE CASE TO COME UP APRIL 8

(From a Staff Correspondent.)
LINCOLN, March 30.—(Special.)—The final hearing in the York telephone case will come up before the railway commission April 8. Mr. Bemis, the Chicago expert engineer who has been receiving \$25 a day to make a physical valuation of the plant at York, has been doing the real work at \$25 a day, will be present and appear before the commission.

ACREAGE OF SORGHUM INCREASES EACH YEAR

(From a Staff Correspondent.)
LINCOLN, March 30.—(Special.)—In Nebraska in 1913 there were 126,600 acres of land devoted to sorghum. The amount raised was 24,985 tons. The cash value of the crop as computed by the State Board of Agriculture, was \$1,586,158. In 1912 the acreage was 112,171, but the yield was 350,200 tons. There has been a steady increase in the acreage each year and the plantings have doubled since 1908.

Man Killed by Train Near Glenwood
GLENWOOD, Ia., March 30.—(Special.)—An unidentified man, riding the bumper, or walking the Burlington track, was killed on the bridge over Silver Creek, one mile west of Malvern by train No. 91 at about 6 o'clock Saturday evening. He is five feet 3 inches tall, weighs 190 pounds, and has a gray mustache and hair of the same color. From the number of corns in boxes in his pockets he is thought to be a itinerant chiropractor. He had \$15.50 in his pockets. The storm broke over Mills county at about the time No. 91 reached the bridge on which he was found, and it is thought that the roar of the hail prevented him from hearing the approaching train. Coroner Dougan empaneled a jury, who brought in a verdict in accordance with the above facts.

Rock Island Time Change.
FAIRBURY, Neb., March 30.—(Special.)—A new timecard went into effect on the Nebraska division of the Rock Island Sunday morning. This is card No. 27 and supersedes all former schedules. It was prepared in Topeka by Trainmaster W. W. Cameron of this city. Several important changes were made in the new schedule. Train No. 8 arrives from Denver two hours earlier on the new schedule being due here at 3:30. Another important change is the detouring of the Horton-Nelson local passenger train in Fairbury until the arrival of the Denver express at 12:30.

Gothenburg Doctor Is Dead.
GOTHENBURG, Neb., March 30.—(Special Telegram.)—Dr. W. J. Bartholomew, 56 years old, died here today from cancer. He was a successful druggist and physician, and came here twenty years ago from Madrid, Neb. He leaves a widow and three daughters. The funeral will be Wednesday.

Was That Cough.
Dr. King's New Discovery will do it. Get a bottle today—a quick, safe, pure cough and cold remedy. 50c and \$1.00. All druggists.—Advertisement.

MODELS ATTRACT BIG CROWD

Burgess-Nash Store Style Show Brings Out Many Visitors.
OPERATIC PROGRAM IS GIVEN
"Thais," Which is to Be Produced at Auditorium in April, is Sketched by Mr. and Mrs. Marx Oberndorfer.

A crowd, which was at all times six and seven persons deep around the promenade, watched every movement of the living models at the Burgess-Nash company yesterday, which was the inaugural morning of the style show to be given the first four days of this week. The models displayed all the latest fashions in spring tailored suits and coats and millinery and each creation drew the applause of the interested women who were quick to appreciate the absolute exquisiteness of each detail of each pattern.

The style show is most elaborate and the styles exhibited are of the very latest designs. The models are all artists in their line and know full well the science of displaying in a graceful manner the gown and suits.

All morning the second floor of the Burgess-Nash store was crowded with enthusiastic persons, men mingling with the women and taking every bit as much interest. In the afternoon the program was the same. It was impossible for everybody to obtain full views of the models. The concluding skit of the show, the modern Cinderella trick, made an instant hit and the trick dress change from ragged house costume to elaborate evening gown drew rounds of applause.

Give Musical Program.
In the afternoon the opera musicale was given by Mr. and Mrs. Marx E. Oberndorfer on the opera "Thais," which is to be given here presently by the Chicago Grand Opera company with Mary Garden in the leading role. Mr. and Mrs. Oberndorfer are traveling in advance of the opera company, giving recitals for the purpose of explaining by short method just how beautiful a story "Thais" really is and how much the music can accentuate the delightfulness of the story. These musicals are given in a way for the purpose of preparing the people to view the opera with intelligence and without the necessity of burying themselves in a horse's libretto.

Speaking of her work Mrs. Oberndorfer said: "We try to give a condensed version of the opera in an hour. We try to explain by the reading of the story of 'Thais.' But we do not make unnecessary analysis nor make our recitals dull and uninteresting. What we really try to do is to promulgate before the public an incentive to see the opera not because of the advertised raiment or lack of raiment of Mary Garden, but because of the beauty of both the story and the music. So far we have had great success, people turn out to hear our lectures in droves and we anticipate like success here."

The recital will be repeated today.

At the THEATERS
Attractions in Omaha.
Brandeis: "The Warning."
Empress: Vandeville.
Gayety: "The Warning."
Orpheum: Vandeville.

Barlesque at the Gayety.
Dave Marion, Snuffy the Cabman, invaded the "Land of the Impossible," as he calls it at the Gayety Sunday and before he had completed his coercive politics and social reforms he blew up half a city. His next act, the queen, was made himself solid once more with Omaha and himself. Marion's piece is a new one and affords him many opportunities to dispense his profitable comedy. Marion is more than ably assisted in his efforts to please by William Lawrence, a finished comedian whose antics are inter-

PHILOSOPHERS IN A HOT ROW

Warm Words Follow Paper on the Criminal by County Attorney.
DR. MERRIAM LEADS ARGUMENT
Dr. Ramsey Then Declares that Dr. Merriam Should Be Ashamed of Himself for the Doctrine He Sets Forth.

Starting with a discussion of the criminal and his relation to society, the Philosophical society yesterday afternoon was much to such an extent that modern society was condemned. Christ was denounced, the priests who misinterpreted Christ were flayed, and Dr. L. A. Merriam, who started the tirade against the doctrine of vicarious atonement, was told he ought to be ashamed of himself. It all started over an apparently innocent paper read by County Attorney Magney on the criminal. Mr. Magney held that lack of proper training, teaching and thinking constitutes the defects in the criminal. "Teach a man to think right and there will be no crime," was the burden of his argument and education his remedy.

But Dr. L. A. Merriam got into the talkfest at once. He declared that thinking had little to do with it, that a criminal is either undeveloped mentally or is degenerate. "He has been up and has fallen back in development," said the doctor. Then the speaker found an excuse for attacking some of the Christian doctrines, and he did it in these words:

Doctrine is a Curse.
"The curse of the world today is Jesus. The curse of humanity is that doctrine of vicarious atonement. The doctrine that a man can go ahead and sin as much as he likes and then be forgiven."

His challenges were left to rest for a moment, but simply because Rev. Franklin D. Ramsey did not get on his feet as soon as Laurie J. Quinby, Ramsey was loaded for the doctor's ire, but Quinby wanted to talk about criminals. Quinby got the floor and put all the blame for the criminal on society.

Hammy Eager for Fray.
Laurie J. Quinby said that Dr. Ramsey hoped to see his stomachache twisted with the nerve tension he had stored up for the occasion. Again someone else got on his feet, Dr. C. R. Atten, who held that man could soon become a criminal if he was hungry and worn out and without any criminal instinct.

Then came Dr. Ramsey's turn. This time he got to his feet first. "A man who says Jesus is a curse of humanity," he proclaimed, "is clear outside the realm of the best scientific thought of the day. Any man who makes such a statement ought to be ashamed of himself. I mean what I say, and I know what I say means." He challenged Dr. Merriam to bring ten of the leading physicians of the city into the Philosophical society and get their opinions on the value of Christ among humanity.

Next Tom Tibbles got in the game. He insisted that Ramsey had only set up a straw man to punch him down. He charged that Ramsey was misrepresenting Merriam's argument.

"I agree with Dr. Merriam in what he originally meant," said Tibbles. "The doctrine of vicarious atonement is a curse. And that does not mean that I don't believe in Christ. Christ is the leader of the world. I have always been a follower of Christ. But he never taught vicarious atonement. There is not a word he says that can be twisted into a subject a meaning. I stand by Christ, but I object to all the pagan stuff that was put into his work several hundred years afterward. The doctrine of eating flesh and blood is one of the most disgusting things in theology."

Others took up the cudgels for and against, and how did the criminal escape while Christ once more occupied the cross that was built for the thief.

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SUFFRAGISTS TO GIVE A LUNCHEON FOR MRS. ELLIOTT

A luncheon will be given by local suffragists Wednesday noon at the Hotel Rome in honor of Mrs. Maud Howe Elliott, daughter of John Ward Howe. Ralph Stephen's wife of New York City is also to be one of the speakers of the occasion.

Notes from Beatrice.
BEATRICE, Neb., March 29.—(Special.)—Mrs. Oliver Townsend, living a mile east of the city, was thrown from her horse in a runaway Saturday night and severely injured. Her right arm was broken and she sustained internal injuries which may prove serious.

Second Ticket at Lyons.
LYONS, Neb., March 30.—(Special.)—Quite a little excitement has been worked up here as to who will be the next village marshal, and a second ticket has

Veteran Upon Frozen Ground With Broken Hip for Eight Hours

STOUT FALLS, S. D., March 30.—(Special.)—Lying on the ground in a helpless condition from 3 o'clock in the forenoon until 2 o'clock in the afternoon with a broken hip sustained in a fall from a porch before he was found was the distressing experience of Joseph Jones, an old soldier of Charles Mix county. As he is 80 years of age it is feared he will not survive his injuries, and his long exposure to the cold while lying on the frozen ground. For some time he had been an inmate of the state Soldiers' home at Hot Springs, and if his condition improves he will be taken back to that institution. He is without funds and had to depend upon friends for support. During the rebellion he served as a scout with the Union army and had many thrilling experiences. He never married. Although he was the youngest of fifteen children he does not know whether he has a single living relative, as he has received no word from any relative for a period of more than sixty-three years.

Baxter-Machal.
C. R. Baxter and Mrs. Laura J. Machal were married Sunday morning at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Dion, 127 South Tenth street. Rev. C. N. Dawson performed the ceremony.

Kansas City

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Always heat the Biscuit in oven to restore crispness. Two Shredded Wheat Biscuits with hot milk or cream will supply all the energy needed for a half day's work. Deliciously nourishing when eaten in combination with baked apples, stewed prunes, sliced bananas or canned or preserved fruits. Try toasted Triacuit, the Shredded Wheat wafer, for luncheon with butter, cheese or marmalade.

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