THE STATE FAIR.

Finer weather, better arrangements or a more auspicious display could not have been asked and the attendance—such crowds! Why it seemedas though all Nebraska and a greater part of our sister states had turned out *en masse* to swell the throng. The streets have been packed with mortality and the hotels presented a perfect jam, yet they were all well cared for and everybody goes home well pleased.

The exhibit was enormous, nearly twice as large as on any previous year, that of agricultural products being particularly noticeable for the fact that contrary to expectations the corn showing was particularly fine, many counties proving that the corn crop is by no means a failure, and several claimed to have the largest crop ever raised. Especially was this noticeable in the westren and newer counties of the state. More counties were represented

IN AGRICULTURAL HALL

than heretofore, and never has the artistic designing compared with that of the present year. Grand Island and its great sugar industry made a magnificent showing. The decorations were magnificent and attractive. A minature face-smile of the beet sugar factory was exhibited and two representatives were present and gave lectures at intervals on the sugar palace, the beet sugar etc.

Live stock was up to its usual standing. The speed ring received larger patronage than ever before, the amphitheater on several occasions being entirely inadequate to the demand for seats. Some excellent racing was witnessed and the best sport in that line witnessed in the west for years,, was enjoyed by the masses. Many new inventions in the line of

UNIVERSITY EXPERIMENTAL STATION

was a source of much interest to the seekers of pleasure and knowledge. Here was to be seen the value of the work done in that department. Specimens of grasses, fruits, vegetables, botany etc., were arranged for inspection under the direction of Prof. H H. Nicholson and Prof. C. E. Bessey, both gentlemen being well stocked with information that was freely imparted. The beet sugar industry which was so well represented comes under this head and the various experiments over the state showing how well the sugar beet prospared in the various localities showed encouraging progress within the last year. Prof. Bessey presented a specimen of "something" that he had unearthed in the western part of the state, which he claims produces lots of ground branches and from its size should bear useful fruit, but to the contrary nothing comes of it but a small variety of the pumpkin scarcely as large as an orange.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLIMENTS

were shown and about these were congregated during the entire week a multitude of farmers. About the most attractive piece of machinery in this department was the corn cutter exhibited by the McCormick company. It is a new device for cutting the stalk, by which one horse can cut eight acres a day. Another very attractive machine that the McCormick people showed was a binder in "full dress attire," all painted snowy white with gilt striping. It was a beauty. Mr. R. Binford, the agent, was present and always entertained the callers. He was assisted by his able corps of gentlemanly salesmen, who are Messrs. Thomas Shields, G. L. Keith, C. K. Gettings, J. W. Morgan, O. J. Spencer, O. J. Rickard, John P. Luft and Ken Binford, and the ladies were not lost sight of, for the fair sex too was present to distribute picture cards and pretty souveniers. They were Miss Mattie Binford, Mrs. Binford, Miss Fannie Binford and Mrs Spencer.

LAWRENCE IMPLEMENT COMPANY

were at home to their trade during the week in their spacious building. E. S. Hawley, one of the company, had the exhibit in charge. He but recently removed to Lincoln, but in the short time has made numerous friends. The Lawrence implement company handles a very complete line of all kinds of agricultural wares besides a large variety of fine buggies. The Abbott buggy was a much admired vehicle, and several sales were made. The firm's headquarters are at Tenth and N streets, where their goods may be seen at any time. Telephone 567.

IN THE ART HALL

which was opened this year for the first time, was a feast of good things and it was kept "chuck full" every day. It was not only represented in painting, crayon etc., but most all other lines were equally well shown. The dainty and artistic brush work of Lincoln's great artist, Mr. C. W. Burkitt, was a noticeable feature, and among the large list of competitors captured first prize. Many favorable comments were heard on this exhibit and they were all deserved for the pictures were so natural to life that it would seem they could easily be made to speak. The collection that took first were pictures of Mrs. Sam Herschler and baby, the little daughter. Hon. John Fitzgerald, C. A. Longwell, Mr and Mrs. E. K. Criley's children, Mr. and Mrs. M A. Newmark's children and Miss Eisfield. Mr. Burkitt is at present finishing a beautiful life like crayon of the late Hon. John R. Clark.

HORTICULTURAL HALL

presentad a most delightful appearance, clad in green of plants and foliage and bright and sweetly scented flowers. It was the leading attraction for the fair sex. Many fine displays were seen here, the most noted of which was an enormous century plant with its mighty branches extending high and wide. Near this was the beautiful show made by Chapin Brothers, the Lincoln florists which was the finest in the hall. They received first premium on nearly everything, prominent among which were round boquets, flat boquets, cut flowers, floral baskets, wreath and cut cornations. Chapin Brothers have worked up a remarkably fine trade in Lincoln and over the state and their success may be accounted for from the fact that they are both young men, live and enterprising. When anything is wanted they generally have it. In roses they handle ten varieties and make a specialty of catering for balls, parties, weddings, and banquet decorations. Their greenhouses are at Sixteenth and D street, (telephone 364) while their city office is located at 1206 O street, Burr block basement. This firm also made a very fine showing of potted plants, ferns, etc., in the south wing of the hall which was greatly admired. It consisted of a numerous assortment well arranged and very complete.

THE CRETE NURSERIES

was again in its accustomed space and Mr. Stevens, the well-known nurseryman, was also present to make friends and renew old acquaintances. He showed 100 samples of timbers and the difference of profligaling by budding and grafting, also growth, grade and character of various kinds of woods used for shade and ornamental work, others for timber claim work. The Crete nurseries make a specialty of contract work and have up to date set out 7,000,000 trees. In Horticultural hall they showed 150 plates of fruit upon which a number of premiums were won. A creditable showing of evergreens, ornamental trees, shrubs, fruit and shade trees of all sizes from five to fifteen feet was also made.

MERCANTILE HALL.

What has heretofore been known as Art Hall was this year turned into a display hall for merchants ware, music room, etc. This is the largest of the buildings and one of the oldest. Yet with the improvements recently made, it has become one of the principal resorts, particularly for city people. Here is shown the various textile fabrics, musical instruments, wearing apparel, small patent rights, house furnishing goods, dry goods, etc. The various exhibitors of pianos had some one present that rendered concert selections, thus showing the tone and capability of the respective instruments. This furnished music incessantly and together with the attractive displays, rendered this one of the chief centers of interest.

CRANCER'S PIANO AND ART DISPLAY.

In the south wing of mercantile hall George Crancer was "at home" with a line of fine pianos, organs and art goods, and the place was as attractively fitted up as any on the grounds. At the rear end was a pyramid made up of fine frame mouldings, in all grades from the cheapest to the very finest goods. Next was one of Bush & Gerts grand pianos, a Bradbury, a Clough & Warren organ, etc. The ceiling was artistically made up of works of art in fine etchings and photogravеurs, by artists of renown. This was a pleasant innovation from the ordinary decorations. The beautiful grand piano was ordered especially for the occasion and proved a novelty it being the only one in the hall and its delightful tones were heard during each day. Prof. Weber and Miss Fannie Waldron simultaneously entertained large audiences, and occassionally rendered a duet. On Thursday a very pretty duet was given by Miss Waldron and Miss Florence Brown which elicited much applause, both young ladies being finished artists. Mr. Crancer was kept busy waiting on the bevy of fair creatures that congregated, presenting each with a pretty picture card. Crancer's storerooms are at 212 south Eleventh street, where he has a daily exhibition of art works much handsomer and more varied than that shown at the fair and he never tires showing them to callers.

THE LINCOLN BUSINESS COLLEGE

was as usual in the field and made an excellent showing both in the art and mercantile hall. The display of fine penmanship was such as to elicit praiseworthy comment from everybody that saw it. The work seems to have been done in that free, easy, off-hand style that gives it a particular charm. Nothing stiff or classic about it. Each stroke of the pen seems to be natural and as though it had been a pleasure to the writer and artist rather than a piece of drudgery. The Lincoln Business college is known far and wide for its fine courses of training. Each course has a particular department and each department a thorough experienced head. For a Business course no better school can be found in the union, as many of our young business men can best testify. The short hand department and telegraphy are also two very important factors in modern education and this branch is taught completely and thoroughly with great success. The Lincoln Business college is by no means a new institution and needs no words of either guarantee or recommendation. The work accomplished there for the past eight years speaks plainer than words, and a three minute talk with any former student will be sufficient reason for patronizing this Nebraska institution in preference to foreign schoo's.

THE KROEGER PIANO.

One of the most noticeable exhibits in the piano department was that of the justly popular Kroeger piano, made by Mr. S. B. Hohman, state agent, who makes Lincoln his headquarters. In the exhibit were three very fine instruments, each different in case and style. The one attracting comment and praise being a case of red oak, a magnificent color, without luster and presented a rich appearance. The second was a beautiful mahogony and the other a specimen of the circassia walnut. This was also a great attraction and much admired. Mr Hohman was personally in attendence to greet the guests, and render a number of concert selections.

It might not come amiss here to speak briefly of the "Kroeger." Mr. Kroeger until ten years ago was superintendent of the Steinway factory. From 1880 to 1886 he received patents on a number of very valuable improvements, which he has since been manufacturing under personal supervision. Among others his patents cover the well known obtuse angular iron from 1884-86, the compound bridges, the pin block and the capo-d' astro bar. So successful were his inventions, that in 1884 he built an immense factory in New York—one of the largest in America, which now turns out the finest pianos known to the trade. The output is enormous and with each succeeding year the business has shown a wonderful increase. Mr. Hohman also handles the greatest church organ known. It is the vocalion and is now used extensively all over the east in both churches and schools. It is undoubtedly the leader for church music.

AT GUTHRIE'S REPOSITORY

on the north side of the square, was exhibited a magnificient line of carriages, principally the product of the Columbus Buggy company of Columbus, O., and Biddle & Smart, the celebrated Amsbury, (Mass.,) goods. Mr. Guthrie had ample assistance in entertaining the visitors, the following gentlemen of the buggy company being present: Messrs. Geo. D. Edwards, manager of the Omaha branch; E. R. Sadler, general agent, Omaha; D. S. Giles, manager of the Kansas City branch and A. J. Canfield, Mr. Guthrie's head salesman in this city. The large building was well filled with all kinds, from English dog carts, of which he had two beautiful specimens, to a very fine two seated park carriage. The latter was the center of attraction for everyone. It was a special pattern made up as a sample, merely to see how it would take—and it was immensely appreciated. The painting was of a dark shade of old gold, black striping and a black box. There was also a surrey in natural poplar with second growth hickory gear and canopy top, cushions and backs of English silk corduroy. A very handsome carriage in black was sold to an English gentleman to be shipped to Ely, Cambridgeshire, Eng. This certainly speaks volumes for Mr. Guthrie's goods. His repository is at 1540 and O street, where all the State Fair exhibit and fully as many other fine jobs may now be seen.

DEAN & HORTON'S SHOWING

was a neat and tasty one, made in their own quarters, where a line of pumps, hose, steam appliances, belting, etc., was displayed to an advantage. Corpulent and genial Dean was on hand to crack a smile and joke with the visitors and occasionally talk a word of trade on the side. Dean & Horton are among Nebraska's most prominent wholesalers, known everywhere in the west for their straightforward manner of doing business, their enterprize and their line of goods. In the city of Lincoln no house has a better reputation and their goods are generally preferable to those of their competitors. In the pump line particularly do Dean & Horton take the lead. Long experience has taught them much, so that today they handle the finest line of these goods in Nebraska. Parties desiring anything in their line should call at their spacious store, 1450 O street. Estimates cheerfully furnished on all orders.

"KING KALEY'S KOURT"

And now for C. W. Kaley's royal domain—which was the scene at all times of crowded houses of interested spectators. Happy and jovial as usual Kaley was distributing souveniers to all and dealing out valuable information regarding the Sultan Cart and Carriage Co's. goods. In the way of family rigs, fine side bars, etc., this exhibit was one worthy of special attention. There was a fine showing of cutunder Surreys and Phaetons as well as the ordinary straight styles. In answer as to how things were going with him at the fair he said "I took in on Tuesday more money than on any other fair day in the past twelve days." That is doing a big business, for be it remembered that the Sultan Cart and Carriage Co. are an old and well known concern and always do a big business at all fairs. The Fostoria buggy company had a very fine display of carriages at the fair this season, which caught Kaley's eye as being just right for his trade. He opened negotiations for the entire lot and with it secured the Lincoln agency for these celebrated goods. Hereafter he will be the exclusive agent, and next week all these goods together with all the other jobs displayed by the Sulton Cart and Carriage Co., will be placed on sale at their store, 1524 O street, at such prices as will move them. They have not room enough to keep them all, so if you want a fine buggy cheap call and see Kaley.

BRISCOE THE SHOE MAN

was on hand with a beautiful display in the merchantile hall, and as usual his line came to the front as the finest display. The various kinds of footwear created no end of interest among the fair sex, who lingered to admire the dainty shoes and slippers. And for the gentlemen a liberal showing was also provided. Manager Luyster worked diligently all day Saturday arranging the work and the result was that it was crowned the most artistic and best line of shoes on exhibition. Mr Briscoe has good cause to feel proud of the work and of his elegant line of goods.

THE FURNITURE DISPLAY.

Hardy & Pitcher never do things but one way—the right way only. This was again demonstrated in their exhibit made at the fair. They occupied the same space as on previous occasions, and their double booth was as neatly fitted up as could have been a similar effort at the world's fair. The north booth contained a handsome chamber suit in natural mahogany of the English cheval style, which for richness in effect would be hard to excel anywhere. The south booth represented a parlor handsomely furnished with a novelty in parlor goods. The set was made of fine silk brocaded tapestry with fancy gold leaf wood work. It makes an artistic and very attractive parlor suit and was greatly admired. Mr. B. F. Wilcox, one of the firms gentlemanly salesmen had charge of the display and distribution of the favors.

J. T. JONES CARRIAGE DISPLAY.

Carriages from nearly every portion of the east were shown at the fair, but few of them could compare with the jobs in the Jones building. Mr. Jones as heretofore showed a line of especially fine work, including the celebrated Moyer goods of Syracuse, N. Y., the Banner Spring Wagons and others. There was an attractive line of family carriages in the various styles, the surrey, phaeton, sidebar, etc., one of the prettiest being a light colored open buggy, which for ease in riding and strength would be difficult to excel. Mr. Jones was present in person to meet his friends and the public, and succeeded in making a number of good sales to parties who became infatuated with the jobs on exhibition In the Bohanan block on South Tenth street, however, where Mr. Jones is daily at home, is where even a much better display of jobs may be seen. There he carries a stock of everything in the wheel line that may be called for. You cannot afford to buy a buggy without first consulting and calling at his place. He has them all sizes, all kinds, all shapes and all prices—and even then if he has not just what you want (which is very doubtful) he will get it for you and save you a number of dollars, especially so in the line of the finer class of vehicles.

THE SINGER MANUFACTURING COMPANY,

in their own apartments, attracted the usual large attendance of ladies with their skillful manipulation of that popular machine. One thousand samples of fancy work was displayed and much admired. The company's office is at 120 South Twelfth street and if those interested will call, the management will take pleasure in further showing the work of the great and only "Singer."

THE GOLD COIN STOVES.

Frank Lahr's handsome display of stoves and ranges always attracts attention and this year was no different. The manufacturers of the Gold Coin stoves are always awake to the interests of the trade and this season present a line of stoves that for beauty of design, durability and economy cannot be excelled. In the front of the display, which was placed in Mr. Lahr's own building north of mercantile hall, was a stove made entirely of nickle, and a representative of the works was present to show up its advantages over other makes. Mr. Lahr has been very successful in the sale of this well known stove, hundreds of them now being used all over the city and a full line of them is always carried at his store 936 P street.

Among the prominent Omaha visitors this week were: Mayor R. C. Cushing, Councilmen Wheeler, Davis, Olson, Matson and Bechel; Comptroller C. S. Goodrich, City Clerk Groveand Hon. Euclid Martin.