

OUR INSANE PATIENTS

How They Are Housed and Cured at the Hospital Near This City.

A BIG PERCENTAGE RECOVER

Interesting Facts Gleaned From the Superintendent's Report—More Room Needed.

A Well Managed Institution.

There is food for profitable reflection in the report recently submitted to the governor by Superintendent Abbott of the Nebraska hospital for the insane.

The report is specific and complete as to every detail of management of the institution, and reflects the utmost credit upon the gentleman now in charge.

During the two years there were 49 deaths, 46 of them from disease, two from suicide and one was killed by a fellow patient.

Of the 823 inmates five were discharged as not insane, two escaped and 351 remained at the close of the biennium.

The large number noted as discharged improved is caused by the pressure for admission of acutely insane patients, which necessitated the removal of some who were convalescent but not fully recovered.

With the exception of a mild epidemic of typhoid fever, in the summer of 1895, probably caused by the opening of a water sewer some distance from the main building for use in irrigation, the general health of the hospital has been good and its freedom from acute disease exceptional.

The allowances of food supplies have been ample in quantity, quality and variety. Special diet is at all times furnished invalids confined to beds, and the very elderly and weakly have special diet lists from which are selected such foods as are deemed best for them.

Of the 482 patients admitted during the biennium, 78 are from Douglas county, 54 from Lancaster, 32 from Gage, 23 from Adams, 15 each from Hall and Otoe, 16 from Richardson, 13 from Saunders, 12 each from Cass, Fillmore, Jefferson, 11 each from Nuckolls and Polk, 10 each from Johnson, Phelps, Saline and Thayer. There are 43 counties represented.

Of the 482 inmates admitted 261 are married, 161 single, 37 widowed and 11 divorced, while the civil condition of 12 is unknown. As to nativity 316 are natives of the United States, 58 are German born, 38 from Sweden, 12 from Bohemia, 9 from Austria, 8 each from Canada and England, 7 from Denmark, and 6 from Ireland. There are 164 foreigners and 3 whose nativity is unknown.

There are 133 farmers out of the 482 admitted, 141 housewives, 35 laborers, 22 servants and no more than 7 of any other single occupation.

The most fruitful cause of insanity is intemperance, which is listed as the cause of 33 cases, 30 are attributed to financial losses, 17 to domestic troubles, 13 to disappointment in love, 9 to grief over deaths of relatives, 9 to childbirth, 5 to political excitement, 21 to religious excitement, 2 to want of work, 2 to worry, 1 to remorse, 6 to sun stroke, 2 to jealousy, 1 to a lawsuit, 3 to overwork, 2 to overheating, 1 to exposure in a blizzard, 50 to heredity and the remainder to various physical ailments and abuses.

The report is fruitful of statistics bearing upon the institution and its inmates. It sets forth in detail the expenditures of the hospital and the products of its labor. Owing to the dry season of 1895, the farm and garden product was much diminished, thus materially adding to the expense of maintenance, but in the two years the hospital farm and garden yielded 5,690 pounds of dressed beef, 2,800 bushels of field corn,

50 tons of cane, 1,000 chickens, 32 cattle sold, 155 tons of ensilage, 183 tons of hay, 20,090 pounds of hogs sold, 5,775 pounds of dressed pork, 820 pounds of veal, 38,344 gallons of milk, 1,900 bushels of oats, 6,200 heads of cabbage, 5,000 celery plants and nearly 5,000 bushels of garden truck.

There were made in the kitchen during the two years 2,000 glasses of jelly and over 4,000 gallons of preserves, pickles, canned fruits and vegetables, mince meat, sauer kraut, mangolds, chow chow, piccadilli, etc., and in the sewing room there were turned out in the two years 15,213 garments while 24,559 garments were mended.

In making his summary of appropriations asked for current expenses for the new biennial period, the superintendent has based his estimates on the present number of patients, 350, and the per capita cost at \$171.45 for each year. The total amount is \$140,000 for the two years ending March 31, 1899, but the additional five months to August 31, 1899, increases the estimate to \$145,000.

Superintendent Abbott has also submitted an estimate for certain permanent improvements which will materially increase the capacity of the institution without costing the state very much money. It shows that by expending about \$16,800 room could be made for some seventy-five additional patients. This sum includes \$2,000 for an ice house and cold storage room, \$500 for repairs and new fittings for the steam heating plant, \$1,000 for repairing the electric light plant and securing a new dynamo, \$1,500 for removing and rebuilding the old barn and implement house, \$500 for repairing porch in front of the main building, \$300 for repairs and new machinery for the laundry, \$8,000 for a workshop and resident quarters for convalescent male patients, \$2,000 for an extension of the sewing room for workshop for convalescent female patients, and \$1000 for other needed repairs and improvements.

Should the appropriation be made and the hospital population be increased to the extent of seventy-five patients, the estimated cost of running the institution for two years with its increased attendance would be \$134,500, and for two years and five months to Aug. 31, 1899, it would be \$162,520.

The hospital was constructed for the accommodation of only 320 patients, but for years it has been overtaxed. There are now in the jails of the state some 500 or 600 insane patients who should find room in the hospital and receive the care and treatment which it is the duty of the state to provide for them. The capacity of the hospital should be considerably increased so that the greater number of these could be admitted without the necessity of discharging patients not yet fully recovered to make room for those whom it is absolutely necessary to place under restraint. The state hospitals should not be obliged to turn out a single patient who is not fully recovered. There is no class of beings who are more liable to create alarm, to do material mischief in a community than an insane person. Any community would rest easier with a murderer or robber running at large in its midst than if it knew that an insane person had been turned loose. More room is almost a necessity to permit even the proper care of the patients now under confinement.

Dr. Abbott has kept about him only the most competent assistants he was able with care to procure. There have been no scandals emanating from the Lincoln hospital for the insane. It has been ably, competently and honestly managed, and when the legislators begin the work of cutting down salaries of the heads of state institutions, it would be well for them to consider well the advisability of any change in the salary of the superintendent of the Lincoln hospital. The place is one fraught with great care and responsibility, and it is a quest on if any competent man would be willing to give the place his entire time, as has the incumbent, for less than the \$2500 per annum now paid.

Very much of the success of any kind of a crop depends upon the quality of the seed sown or planted. Doubtless many of our readers have suffered sore disappointment and serious loss in the past from having unwittingly planted old and impotent seeds. These are among the reasons why all should endeavor to procure fresh seeds. Our readers will note on another page the ad of the Kansas Seed House, F. Barnades & Co., Lawrence, Kans., who advertise fresh seeds of every variety. This is an old and well established house, and we recommend that you send for their catalogue and look it over before making your season's purchases.

Scrutiny of the list of populist congressmen reveals the fact that they ought to be able to save the country. They have a Bell to ring on legislative chestnuts; a Castle for a stronghold; a Bodkin to punch holes in goldbug arguments; a Gun for defense; a Fowler to snare; a Skinner to take the hide off; and a Baker to do the roasting.—Shelby Sun.

STOLEN GEMS

About seventy-five nations own their telegraph systems. The United States, Cuba, Bolivia, Honduras, Cyprus, Hawaii, and a few other back numbers still prefer to be robbed by monopolies.—Clay Center Patriot.

Notwithstanding the republican politicians and bosses gloated over the report that the new state treasurer could not give bonds and the people were disposed to believe that such was the case, Mr. Meserve comes up with what Governor Holcomb pronounces the strongest and best bond ever given by a state officer in Nebraska. Those competent to sign the bond are just a little more disposed to sign the bond for a man who openly and without reserve declares his intention to comply with the law, than to sign the bond of those who deal with the political board of trade.—Auburn Granger.

The NEBRASKA INDEPENDENT has been recently greatly improved. The editorial page is well seasoned with those lofty, yet vigorous practical, patriotic utterances which made William Lloyd Garrison and Wendell Phillips heroes in the 40's and 60's.—Columbus Argus.

A boy took a dog's hide to a tanner to sell. "Was the dog fat?" asked the tanner, "why he was the fattest dog you ever did see."

"Then," replied the tanner, "I don't want it, for the hides of fat dogs are not first class."

"Now see here, mister," replied the boy, "that dog was not so gaudy darned fat after all."

And now it appears that the good times are not coming right away. We expected the bubble to burst in a few months but it has not outlived two weeks.

That dog was not "so gaudy darned fat after all."—Ignatius Donnelly.

Senator Allen is determined that the eight hour law, as applied to government employes and employes of government contractors, shall not be violated. On Tuesday he offered a resolution to inquire into the alleged violation of the law by Brooklyn navy contractors.—Madison Reporter.

None of the states that voted for Bryan send men like Platt, Hanna or Madison to the United States senate. Feats of that kind are left to those states which stood like bulwarks against dishonesty and repudiation.—Rocky Mountain News.

Why is it that the United States government can not establish a postal savings bank? There is no doubt such a move would meet with the approval of the majority of the people. Our Canadian neighbors have demonstrated that such an institution can be maintained successfully, so the claim can not be made that it would be an experiment. Thousands of people who have no confidence whatever in our present banking system would hail with joy the establishment of a postal savings bank, and millions of dollars now reposing in safety deposit vaults or hidden away would by this means be placed in circulation.—The Typographical Journal.

"Never before was a great cause more brilliantly and more ably championed; never before was there such a combination of adverse comments and hostile forces to meet, while the forces of plutocracy and corruption will seat Mr. McKinley, now the silent usher in Fame's great temple will conduct the people's champion to the highest place of honor. In a free country a political party stands for a principle not an appetite. Today we celebrate the birth of Andrew Jackson, because he stood erect before the children of men and defied the forces of plutocracy."—John P. Altgeld.

"Government of the wisest." Do you know where it existed? When it existed? Governments of the strongest, governments of the craftiest, governments of the richest, governments of the fattest,—these we recall, but governments of the wisest—? Yet we have been such. Washington's was such. Lincoln's was such. And what kind of governments were Washington's and Lincoln's? Representative in name. But in spirit? Democratic. The whole people was aroused, alive to the issues which faced the country. The whole people demanded the actions which stamped those administrations wise. The details were in the hands of the generals and secretaries, but the policy was the zeitgeist, breathing through and from the masses.—The Altruist.

All the leading nations of the world, with the exception of two or three, have postal savings banks, and all have better facilities for the accommodation of savings depositors than has the United States. While savings deposits in this country have shown a gradual increase during the past quarter of a century, the savings deposits and number of depositors in countries having postal savings banks have grown by leaps and bounds. In the United States 80 per cent of the savings banks and savings deposits are in the New England states and New York. Throughout the west and south, except in the great centers of population, it is impossible for private enterprise to furnish saving facilities sufficient to meet the needs of the people. Besides, the depositor of small means frequently is not able to pick out from private banks those that are safe, and consequently will trust none, whereas all should have confidence in an institution controlled by the national government. Postal savings banks would contribute materially to the wealth and happiness of the people and to the stability of the government. Congress should not delay longer in establishing them.—Trades Review.

Senator Jones, chairman of the democratic national committee, is not discouraged over the outlook for the democracy. Replying to a letter to a prominent western politician recently, he wrote: "I don't agree with the gloomy view you take of our efforts. When we polled a million more votes than Cleveland did four years ago, when he was said to have carried the country by a landslide, we certainly have accomplished a great deal, especially when we remember what the feeling of the party was when the Chicago convention met. Another thing is a matter of decided satisfaction to me, and that is that we polled at least two-thirds of all of the intelligent votes in this country. The large republican vote embraced millions of Negroes and utterly unlettered foreigners, who have no conception of the genius of our government, no appreciation of the obligations of citizenship, and no idea of economic questions. In this country I believe that intelligence is bound to win, and considering the fact that the overwhelming majority of Americans and the overwhelming majority of intelligent men on our side in this controversy, I see nothing to dishearten us."—Butler County Press.

Insult to Injury. It's enough to give a man a pain in his right-hand lung to hear the pops yelling for the promised good times that were to follow McKinley's election. They seem to think that as soon as it is known that they are defeated that hogs ought to get fat in one night, and an ear of corn ought to swell up to the size of a half bushel. They are great fellows to believe in magic and legerdemain.—York Times.

Well, darn your picture, is there anything wrong in asking you to fulfill your promise, or kicking because you lied to us? Didn't you tell us all through the campaign that prosperity would come if we elected McKinley? Has it come? You knew you lied, and we know that you knew that you lied. We do not believe in your "magic and legerdemain." We did not believe it when you promised it. We said it was false, and now

Rich, Red Blood

Is absolutely essential to health. It is impossible to get it from so called "nerve tonics" and opiate compounds. They have temporary, sleeping effects, but do not CURE. To have pure blood and good health, take Hood's Sarsaparilla, which has first, last, and all the time, been advertised as just what it is—the best medicine for the blood ever produced. In fact,

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the One True Blood Purifier. All druggists, \$1. Hood's Pills assist Digestion and cure Constipation. 25 cents.

We have the proof of it, as we have had the proof of every prediction we have made. Go soak your head, Tim. You're a political chestnut. Instead of abusing the pops because they remind you of your false promises, go down on your narrow bones and apologize to the honest republican suckers whom you and your party fooled into self-destruction. Tell them the truth, for once. Admit that you lied to them, wifully, maliciously and diabolically, because Mark Hanna told you to. Promise them that you are sorry for it, and that henceforth you will try to be honest, truthful and patriotic.

They may condone your heinous crime, but can never forget it. Adding insult to injury will never bring you the respect and confidence of honest men.—Clay County Patriot.

CORPORATION INTIMIDATIONS.

How it was Practiced in Indiana.—From a Man on the Ground.

The following letter was received by a gentleman residing at Bartlett, this state, who kindly gave it to the INDEPENDENT for publication:

GOSHEN, Ind., Dec., 18, 1896. Mr. R. H. Shapland,

Dear Sir:—Your favor recently received, I was glad to hear from you and to learn your sentiments on gold standard rule. Your sentiments agree with mine as well as thousands of others in northern Indiana. I can safely say that had the laboring masses of northern Indiana understood the coil of the rope that was being wound about them their ballot would have been cast unanimously for Bryan.

In the little city of Goshen we have a population of 10,000 souls and from 30 to 35 factories, large and small. Some of these mills employ as high as 150 hands and one factory employs 300 hands when running with full force. Their managers posted notices that on Monday following the election, if McKinley was elected they would start the mills with their full quota of hands and

in this way they fooled the people into voting against their own interests. Now I mention Goshen because I live there and was a factory hand myself at the time and know what I am talking about. Elkhart is another manufacturing city situated ten miles north of Goshen. Elkhart is a railroad division city and has a population of 18,000 souls. It received the same promises before election and is suffering the same disappointment.

In the city of Southbend, situated about twenty miles west of Goshen, there were 5,000 people on the streets begging for bread or work a few days ago. Southbend has about 25,000 population. How the people are wishing they had the chance to vote again. Well I will close this subject or I will get to talking politics. A. F. SUMMY.

Legislative Chips.

House roll 101, by Rouse of Hall, provides that the county clerk, if he has any reason to believe an assessor's returns are not right, may by compulsory process compel the attendance of the person whose property is assessed, who shall submit to an examination. If it shall be found that he has concealed anything, he shall be made to pay the cost-entailed by the examination.

Sheldon's bills for the establishment of the initiative and referendum system of legislation are doubtless the most important bills yet introduced. They divide all legislative acts into two classes, urgent measures and those not urgent. Urgent measures may not be passed except by a vote of three-fourths of the members of the legislature. All "not urgent" bills by the legislature go into effect ninety days after they are passed, all others immediately on passage. During these ninety days, by petition of the voters, the "non-urgent" bills may be ordered presented by the electors for confirmation. Five per cent of the electors are required to take the initiative in any measure. If the legislature does not heed the request of the voters, the bill shall go to the electors for their decision.

House roll No. 107, by Wiebe of Hall, is a bill to repeal the act creating the soldiers' and sailors' home at Milford, which was recommended in Governor Holcomb's message.

Hull of Harlan has a bill to appropriate \$25,000 towards making a Nebraska exhibit at the centennial anniversary of the admission of Tennessee to the union in 1797, at which time an exposition will be held at Nashville.

A bill by Stebbins of Lincoln county provides a stay of three years after property has been sold on execution, order or decree.

A bill by Lindell of Douglas recognizes the modern tendency towards exclusiveness. In the same way that doctors, dentists and professional men have hedged themselves about by laws restricting competition, Lindell proposes to protect the horseshoer and the wagonmaker. His bill provides that a horse shoer who puts shoes on a horse or a wagonmaker who fixes a wagon has a lien on the horse or wagon till his claim is paid. Lindell also wishes to create a state board to examine horseshoers and to provide that no blacksmith can shoe horses until they have

proved, by passing an examination, that they are competent.

A bill by Burkett of Lancaster proposes the adoption of the blanket ballot whereby one can vote the straight party by making a single mark on the official ballot and the designation of the parties thereon by party emblems.

The flag was flying over the senate chamber today, a new one having been secured, but not one with the required number of stars.

Hon. G. M. Hitchcock will speak before the committee on finance at the open meeting Tuesday evening to discuss the Trans-Mississippi exposition.

Dr. Hall today succeeded R. H. Townley as secretary of the banking board and all of the old examiners have been notified that their terms have expired. The board was informed that one of them was hustling as he had never hustled before, trying to examine eight banks in seven days so that he would secure the fees.

Is it not Quenched, That Christmas Star?

Is it not quenched, that Christmas star, That shone so bright o'er Bethlehem's plain?

Has it not set 'neath clouds of doubt And hopeless, waiting, weary pain?

Is it not hushed, that angel song, That filled, that night, the Christmas skies?

Is it not stilled by battle's roar, By maniac shrieks, starvation's sighs?

Alas for him who hopes to see The star the wise men followed then, Or hopes to hear the angel call, "Peace now on earth good will to men."

For Bethlehem's star can only shine In eyes, that having looked on grief And sin and death and agony, Live but to bring to each relief.

And anthems, sung by angel choirs, That filled with joy the earth and skies, Are hushed. No angel speaks of peace Save those who walk in human guise.

—PAUL C. R. STONE.

How's This? We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Props., Toledo, O. We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligations made by their firm. West & Trunk, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O.; Wadding, Kinna & Marvin, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Price, 75c per bottle. Sold by all druggists. Testimonials free.

MISSING LINKS.

Kite flying is one of the chief sports of the adult Malays.

Tattersalls, the famous horse resort, was founded in 1766.

Last year 17,500,000 pounds of hops were imported from the United States by British brewers.

A Richmond (Me.) woman has worked twenty-five years in a Lewiston mill, the most of the time at the one loom.

Ripans Tablets: pleasant laxative.

BROWNING, KING & CO.'S GREAT Closing Out Sale!

Our lease expires February 1st, at which time we will discontinue business at Lincoln.

\$40,000 worth Clothing, Hats, AND FURNISHING GOODS.

To be almost given away before February 1st. Be among the shrewd buyers and secure your share of Browning, King & Co.'s Fine Merchandise at prices actually less than cost of raw material.

BARGAINS SUPREME

Owing to the fact that the time is short and money is so scarce we are forced to make greater reductions than ever in order to close out our stock. Now! Now! Now is the accepted time! Now is the day for bargains! Buy for your present needs! Buy for your future wants! There is no way you can invest your money where you will get as large returns as surely will by investing in our truly MONEY-SAVING BARGAINS.

BROWNING, KING & CO.. 1013-1019 O STREET.