

Library Legislation.

While educators of every degree are studying on legislation that will result in better education for every citizen of Nebraska, there is every reason to hope for an advance along library lines in the state. There is much of the experimental in library legislation at this time, for the field is so new, but there is no reason why a start should not be made. This much seems clear from the experience of other states—that a system of libraries operated at the public expense is one of the things demanded by our "new" education—so-called. Our children must have access to other books than text books—our citizens must have some way of continuing their education after leaving school. So we must have school libraries for supplementary reading for our pupils, and we must have public libraries—which permit the plain citizen—or the ornamental citizen if he has any ambition left—to become a perennial student at what has aptly been called the "people's university."

commonwealth. The time will come when the state will provide an annual appropriation for libraries as it does for schools. This idea has pervaded the recent library legislation of a number of the older states to a considerable extent. It is possible for a library under the New York law to receive a given subsidy from the state under conditions prescribed by the regents upon whom devolves the responsibility of the distribution of the library funds. To aid in the advancement of library progress the regents of the university of the state of New York have established a public library department. This department puts forth all energies toward the establishment of new public libraries and encouraging those already established. The libraries that receive the state subsidy are visited by the inspector from the public library department, and books that do not receive the approval of the inspector may not be bought with any money given by the state. This gradually raises the grade of literature in the libraries all over the state. Besides this the state helps the small library or the neighborhood without a library in another way. The public libraries department sends out "traveling libraries" of twenty-five to one hundred volumes each to such libraries, schools, clubs, Chautauque circles or groups of twenty-five taxpayers as may apply for and fulfill the conditions necessary to securing the same. These are kept three or six months and then returned to the state authorities to be let again and again. These libraries are carefully chosen to meet the varying needs of the people. Some of them are general in character, some are especially for young people, some are on agriculture, history, economics, etc. The result in New York is so gratifying that other states have followed suit. Michigan, Ohio, and Iowa all make generous appropriations for traveling libraries, and everywhere the idea is growing in popularity. It has come to stay and Nebraska can't afford to be far behind in the forward march. This leads to a discussion of ways and means. We must expect to progress gradually and be content with small beginnings. In the first place—who is to have charge of the library interests of Nebraska? There is nothing that corresponds to the regents' organization in New York, so we are once given a choice between two other methods that are in vogue in a number of states. In Ohio, Michigan and Iowa the state library is in charge and distributes the traveling libraries. This is well enough as long as a good librarian has charge—but state libraries with two exceptions are in politics and are not safe guardians of library interests. In the New England states, Wisconsin and Georgia there are library commissions and this is the most hopeful solution of the problem. In Nebraska we have fared well when we consider that our state librarian is only an ex-officio officer and that his first duties are as clerk and reporter of the supreme court. A man who has all that on his hands may well be forgiven if he neglects the library. How could it be otherwise?—yet when we think of the long years of faithful and intelligent work of Guy A. Brown and the unflinching interest the present librarian, D. A. Campbell, has manifested in the advancement of Nebraska's library interests, we cannot complain. We can only wish that the office of state librarian were divorced from the clerkship of the court, as it must some time be.

Since the state library is not now available the Wisconsin plan is by far the best now in the field. The Nebraska state library committee should be composed of five members as follows: The state superintendent of schools, state librarian and librarian of the University of Nebraska, all ex-officio—and to be appointed by the governor to serve five years—all to serve without pay, except for the necessary traveling expenses. The appropriation for incidental expenses for this committee should not be less than \$500 for the biennium. Let this committee be the equivalent of a public libraries department of the state government with all the responsibility that this implies. Let it be the center around which all other library legislation shall swing—traveling libraries, aid and everything else—in time perhaps the miscellaneous department of the state library also—as is the case in Ohio. As to the expense of a system of traveling libraries—there must be a beginning. Michigan began with \$5,000 and a biennial \$2,500 from the start on. A library of fifty volumes ready to start out will cost not less than \$80. Of course the borrower pays for the transportation. The expense of administration of any number of traveling libraries, be they many or few, would be a fixed charge of a thousand dollars a year—for the person in charge must be trained in library work and thoroughly competent or the benefits of the libraries will be considerably diminished. To get a proper start for traveling libraries, the library committee should be given an additional biennial \$3,000. This may seem like a good deal to some people who would prefer to see the state expend its funds for some material benefit. If the state library were to be made the public libraries department, and given a biennial \$1,000 for traveling libraries—a new assistant to direct them would be required at once in the state library. Two years ago the Nebraska library association drafted a bill for a library committee and the establishment of a system of traveling libraries. This was known as House Bill 174. It passed the house, but was swamped by the political legislation that engrossed the legislative energy during the last two-thirds of the session—energy that oft times might have been exerted in a better cause. It seems to me—and the intelligence of Nebraska is more apt to hold in grateful remembrance the law makers who earnestly advocated and finally secured some educational advance for his fellow citizens than the man who makes himself over much with the tinkering of charters or shifting of opportunities for pilfering from one set of rogues to another set. The foregoing is but a brief review of the library progress of other states and a shadowy outline of the possibilities of Nebraska. But it is hoped by every friend of education in Nebraska that this legislature will make a beginning. The field in Nebraska is immense—but to one who has worked in it, it can never cease to be attractive. As a Nebraskan whose chief interest centers in that fair state, I hope that the right steps in the right direction will be taken this winter. EDNA D. BULLOCK. Helena, Montana, Public Library.

FARMER'S CLUB

A Plan for the Protection of the Quail—A Good Friend of the Farmer. The Lancaster County Farmers' club met with Mr. Ackerman December 15, 1898, to renew old acquaintance, have a good dinner, discuss matters of interest, and then depart, being satisfied that they never ate such a big lunch in their lives. It passed one's comprehension where all these good things came from. To eat of all would tax the capacity of a flour sack. The meeting was called to order by the outgoing president, H. Polly, who made a few remarks and then installed the new president, I. N. Leonard. The son and daughter of the host and hostess, Ben and Effie Ackerman, enlivened the meeting with music on violin and organ, varying it with song. Mrs. Weekley read a paper called "The TinSmith Man," Professor of Agriculture A. E. Davidson, was visiting the club. When called on he said he did not intend to make a speech, but he talked a good long time anyway. Complimenting the club on its good organization, wishing that there were farmers' clubs in every county of the state, so as to make a federation of clubs, and have a joint meeting once a year. He urged the young men to take more advantage of schools. He said his class of farmers' boys he taught last year were the best he ever had. During the whole course he did not have to reproach one of them; they acted like perfect gentlemen. The club thanked him for his speech by making him an honorary member. Mr. J. M. Cook was another visitor. When asked if he had anything to say he answered by giving a brief history of his frontier life; of how he moved into Nuckolls county, this state, with nothing but a span of horses and wagon loaded with a cook stove, a kitchen safe, muslin tent, some bedding and a few cooking utensils. Those were all his earthly possessions. Those late snow storms reminded him of one morning when he woke up, to find himself and family all covered over with snow, and the thermometer at the zero mark, his family staying in bed for three days to keep from freezing. When spring came he went to work, being successful with his crops for years, enabling him to build up a good home, but finally sold out to give his children the advantages of Lincoln schools. After his talk he was welcomed as a new member of this club. The subject of birds was then taken up, in which Messrs. Godfrey, Mann, Cook and Leonard took part. It has been said before of our game birds that they are of great benefit to crops in general, especially the quail, who is a very good forager. They prefer bugs of all kinds to any kind of grain, and most surely are the farmers' friend and should never be hunted. But alas! too many do, not only in the fields, but near barns and dwelling houses, shoot domestic birds, defying their owners and calling them vile names—when ordered off. Is there no remedy? Is there no law to protect those birds all the time? No, only for a short time. Then the scum called human beings, of cities and outlying towns, is turned loose. Woe to the man who dares to remonstrate. The following committees were appointed: Programme—A. H. Drain, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Weekley, Mr. and Mrs. I. Paswater; memorial and resolutions—Mr. and Mrs. Polly, Mr. and Mrs. Duncan, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Quackenbush; flower committee for table decoration—Mrs. Converse, Miss Anna Mann, Coontz, Mrs. Hahn, Miss Nora Paswater, Miss Effie Ackerman, Miss Ona Gray. A resolution was passed requiring supervisors to cause all weeds to be cut on roads in the month of August, and all places smoothed up all the time. A vote of thanks was given Mr. and Mrs. Ackerman for their hospitality. Program for next meeting: Music. Recitation, Mrs. Converse. Select reading, Mrs. Joe Quackenbush. Song, Miss Weller. Recitation, Miss Hotchkiss. Song, Mr. and Mrs. Muggleton. Subject for discussion: Would it not be to the farmers' best interests to raise more sheep? Opened by W. D. Mann. The next meeting will occur at Weller's hall, Raymond, Neb., January 19, 1899. I. N. LEONARD, President. E. L. BOUMAN, Secretary.

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Certificate of Publication. OFFICE OF Auditor of Public Accounts. State of Nebraska. Lincoln, January 2, 1899. It is hereby certified that the York Mutual Benefit Association, of York, in the State of Nebraska, has complied with the insurance law of this state and is authorized to transact the business of MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE in this state for the current year. Witness my hand and the seal of the Auditor of Public Accounts this 2nd day of January, 1899. JOHN F. SHANKS, Auditor of Public Accounts. SAMUEL LICHTY, Inc. Deputy.

HOW DEWEY LET AUGUSTI GO

A German Attache Says the Spaniard Was Paroled. HE ARRANGED THE DETAILS. No Ill Feeling Between Dewey and Von Diederichs According to Major Von Sonnenburg—He Hanks the Japanese Soldiers Next to the Germans. CHICAGO, Jan. 4.—Major A. von Sonnenburg, German military attache to the emperor of Japan, the man who carried the message between Admiral von Diederichs and Admiral Dewey by which permission was given for the transportation of Captain General Augusti from Manila to Hong Kong on a German war vessel, is in Chicago. "I did not witness the destruction of Montojo's fleet by our Admiral Dewey," he said, "but I saw much of the subsequent events. Because of what I saw I want to correct at least one false impression—that there was any ill feeling between the commanders of the American and German fleets. There was a disagreement, I admit, over the right of the Americans to search German ships, but that was soon settled. "Then as to the Augusti incident. There was nothing secret about that transaction. I myself was the messenger between the two admirals in the discussion over the disposition of Augusti. Admiral von Diederichs asked whether Admiral Dewey would object to Captain General Augusti taking passage on one of the German dispatch boats running to Hong Kong. Admiral Dewey said that he would not if the ex-captain general would make some kind of a parole by which he would no longer bear arms against the United States. This was given and the incident was closed, as the diplomats would say. "As to the Americans, both ashore and aboard ship, I may say that I never met a finer body of men. I admire your volunteers. To my mind they furnish magnificent material for soldiers, but I am afraid that they have a hard task before them in the Philippines. I should not want the task of controlling these islands unless I had fully 50,000 men behind me. The natives are going to be hard problems to solve. "Since the finishing of the Philippine question I have been connected with the imperial army of Japan as a student of its methods of military discipline. To speak very conservatively, I believe that next to the German army there is not a finer body of fighting men in the world than that same little Japanese collection of troops. Their discipline is perfect and any nation that picks a quarrel with the Japanese is going to have no easy time of it. I consider them one of the most important factors in future Oriental complications." When Major von Sonnenburg was questioned in regard to these Oriental problems he was silent. He said that he was still connected with the Japanese government, and with that of Germany as well and could say nothing. He is on his way to Washington with letters to Secretary Alger and General Miles. He will spend a few days about the departments in Washington and then will go to Berlin to report to his own government.

MARRIED FOUR SISTERS.

A Quadruple Wedding in Ohio in Which Only Two Families Took Part. CANAL DOVER, Ohio, Jan. 4.—At a wedding at Trail, a small village ten miles north of here, four brothers were married to four sisters. The four ceremonies were performed at the home of the four sister brides, who are the daughters of a farmer, James Hochstetler. Their ages range from 15 to 28. The grooms are the four sons of John Sumers. The ceremony of marriage of the four couples occupied almost an hour, the same clergyman performing all. The four brothers and their wives will live within a stone's throw of each other.

CHINA'S REBELLION GROWING.

Government Troops Said to Have Fled From the Insurgent Forces. LONDON, Jan. 4.—According to a dispatch from Hankau, there are alarming reports from the upper Yang Tse Kiang region. The disturbances are increasing in the provinces of Zschuan, Hunan and Hupe. The dowager empress, it is further asserted, is curtailing the authority of the viceroys, especially in the Yang Tse and Hankau districts. A body of Chinese troops was sent to attack the rebels, but they are said to have fled before the enemy. The viceroys has been reinforced by three gunboats and 3,000 men. Foundrymen Get What They Ask For. CLEVELAND, Ohio, Jan. 4.—Eight of the fifteen foundries in Cleveland have conceded the demand of the core makers for wages of \$2.50 a day. Hungary's Premier in a Duck. BUDAPEST, Jan. 4.—The duel between M. Horvazsky, a member of the lower house of the Hungarian Diet, and Baron Banffy, the premier, took place this morning. Pistols were the weapons used. The duel was bloodless. A Medal for a Grecian Woman Hero. ATHENS, Jan. 4.—The Queen of Greece has given the Medal of Valor to one of the women who served as nurses in the Grecian army in the Turko-Grecian war.

The Age of Trusts.

One of the most pregnant signs of the times in the commercial and financial world is the concentration and centralization of capital in allied branches of trade and industry and which tend toward the monopoly or practical control of each certain field. "Trusts" and monopolies are tabooed by the law of the land, but as there is more than one way to skin an eel, so there is more than one way to organize what is, to all intents and purposes, a "trust," with a full control of the desired product or branch of trade. The name "trust" has now been legally eliminated from the corporate titles of these mammoth corporations that are springing up on every side and in every branch of trade and commerce, and as the success and large profits resulting from these large combinations of connecting interests have become more apparent similar organizations are almost daily being formed in heretofore neglected trades or industries. From the present outlook it would appear that the end will be the control, or practical monopoly, of each and every one of the larger branches of trade and commerce by some mammoth corporations that, to all intents and purposes, fulfill the popular idea of a "trust."—Brooklyn Eagle. Business is Business. Banker Perrine of Indianapolis is a genuine, all wool annexationist, who deserves commendation for bald frankness. He does not waste time talking about our duty to oppressed races, and our mission as a world civilization, and our self election as the avenger of wrong, and our remarkable declaration that if we hoist the American flag on the staff-haus in Berlin it must stay there, and so forth and so on. He says: "There are 400,000,000 Chinese, and every mother's son of them ought to have a folding bed and a bicycle. Indiana is the state to furnish them. There is a man for you! His words ring like the chant of the silver throated bugle amid the rancous maunderings of the annexation gabfest. Banker Perrine does not explain how the acquisition of the Papuan infested Philippines will sell folding beds and bicycles to the Chinese, but his heart is in the right place. There are 1,050,000,000 folks in other parts of the world. Every mother's son of them needs canned beef and chunks of dead hog. Chicago is the town to furnish them. It is our duty to proceed to grab the earth.—Iconoclast. Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup never disappoints those who use it for obstinate coughs, colds and irritations of the throat and lungs. It stands unrivaled as a remedy for throat and lung diseases. Sold by all druggists for 25 cts.

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