

Performing a Useful Mission. The Society for Psychological Research has lately exposed certain pseudo-spiritualistic manifestations at Windsor, Nova Scotia. The whole town had been stirred by the singular behavior of material things. Boxes and barrels were moved, chairs were rocked, and smaller objects flew through the air with extraordinary force.

Dangers Lurking in Cravats. Girls who gave neckties to men used to get into the joke papers. Now, no more. Since the notion of wearing knit ties came in a few years ago, the mightiest is not too proud to display such handwork.

There seems to be no end to the misfortunes attending the French navy, particularly as regards the Toulan station. The latest mishap was a fire on the battleship Hoche, which proved so serious, threatening to reach the magazine and destroy the vessel, that she was sunk to extinguish the flames.

Grumblers. Grumblers who have fallen into the habit of complaining about their real or imaginary troubles are nuisances to those who associate with them. The business man who is ever grumbling and growling about things makes a blue atmosphere about him.

That forestry is growing in importance is evident from the care given the matter in educational institutions and the number of persons taking this course of instruction.

Another endurance test in connection with the automobile is that to which the man is subjected who is paying for it on the installment plan and at the same time keeping the repair bills paid.

A man in Paterson, N. J., was killed and his family badly injured by an automobile accident. Paterson is discovering that there are more dangerous things than anarchists running at large.

The State Capital Matters of General Interest FROM Nebraska's Seat of Government.

Railroads Ready to Fight. That the railroads intend to fight in the courts the collection of their taxes based on the present assessment was practically assured when Edson Rich, attorney for the Union Pacific, in questioning the stenographer taking down the proceedings by sworn, said: "The board may hereafter be interested in the correctness of the record."

The board spent a day listening to witnesses of the Union Pacific and Burlington in corroboration of the filings of each made several days ago relative to the value of other property in the state compared with the value of railroad property. Included in the mass of testimony filed by the Union Pacific were 724 letters written by Nebraskans to a man named W. H. Clare of Joliet, a real estate and insurance agent, in answer to inquiries by him regarding Nebraska property.

Protest from a Legislator. In a letter to Railway Commissioner Clark, Representative Dodge of Douglas county, said that he is protesting against the proposed law which would be applied with reference to including the homestead right.

Express Companies Weaken. After a consultation with the representatives of the various express companies the State Railway commission took the matter of issuing a reduced express rate under advisement, but none of the members was willing to say just what would be done.

A Bond from Maryland. A bond for \$50,000 given by the state of Maryland was received by State Treasurer Brian. It will net the state 3.84 per cent in interest and is due in 1914.

Roast for an Assessor. The assessor of McPherson county was the recipient of a scorching letter from Secretary George D. Bennett of the state board of equalization. The schedule for that county is the only one now lacking in the files of the board.

No Admittance. No admittance will be granted to the general public to the laboratory of the state chemist because Food Commissioner Johnson fears evidence he gathers against purveyors of impure food will be destroyed if anyone is admitted to the work room.

Fusion on Primary Ballot. The democrats and populists of Nebraska have won their fight for fusion on the tickets at the first primary election on September 3. The supreme court handed down a decision overruling the demurrer of the attorney general and ordering the writ of mandamus to compel the secretary of state to permit fusion on the primary ballots.

Albert Out for Supreme Judge. Judge L. L. Albert of Columbus filed his name with the secretary of state as a candidate for the populist nomination for supreme judge. The name was filed by petition signed by twenty-five populists as rovided for under the primary law.

The Inheritance Tax. In an opinion issued from the office of the attorney general, Deputy Grant Marvin declares that widows' dowers and homesteads are not exempt from the operation of the inheritance tax law.

In computing the value of the interest that a widow takes under the law in the property of her deceased husband, to determine what amount is subject to the inheritance tax, in the value of the homestead and dower estate and the personal property given to the widow under the statute, aside from that personally that she may take as an heir, included or excluded?

Our inheritance tax law seems to be almost a verbatim copy of the Illinois statute. The supreme court of that state, prior to the adoption of the law in this state, has held that the inheritance tax law, imposing a tax on all property passing by will or by intertestate laws of the state, includes dower whether the widow accepts a devise for her benefit or elects to take dower in lieu thereof.

MR. BRYAN'S CANDIDACY. It will be launched in Lincoln in the Fall. The candidacy of W. J. Bryan will get an official boom at a dinner to be given in Lincoln by Nebraska democrats some time this fall, probably shortly after the election.

Changes in Faculty. When the university opens next fall several changes will have taken place in the faculty. Dean Roscoe Pound of the law school will have gone to Northwestern to accept a position as head of the law school at that university.

Anniversary of Former Nebraskans. Spokane (Wash.) dispatch: Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Haden (Anne E. Sheare), who were married at Bainbridge, O., April 9, 1857, celebrated their golden wedding at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Horace Haden, near Wilbur, Wash., south of Spokane, July 19, the feast having been postponed because of the inability of relatives to be present at the anniversary.

Wasem Bound Over. Lincoln—Oscar Wasem was bound over to the district court to answer a bastardy charge. Wasem is famous as a wrestler. Miss Jennie Friend was the complainant.

Value of Mules. Lincoln—After an extended session of the board of equalization it decided to value mules on a basis of \$22.50. All county valuations will be changed to conform to this basis.

Reunion at Brownville. Auburn—Brownville, one of the oldest towns in the state, is planning to hold a "home coming week" sometime near August 29, the anniversary of the founding of the historic old town.

Prostrated by Heat. Crab Orchard—Miss Olive Wallday was prostrated by the heat and her recovery is very doubtful.

Track Meet at State Fair. An entirely new feature of entertainment at the Nebraska state fair this year will be a big track meet, open to all amateurs. This meet, which will be given entirely under the direction of Physical Director George M. Pinneo of the Lincoln Y. M. C. A., is expected to be the largest athletic meet ever held in that part of the country.

INCREASE IN STATE VALUES. Assessed Value Fourteen Million Over Last Year.

The work of the state board of assessment which is drawing to a close shows that with returns still out from Kimball and McPherson counties, the total assessed valuation of all property in the state, including railroads, is \$27,179,680.95, an increase of \$14,119,379.93 over that of last year. Of this increase \$5,330,765.65 fell on railroad property and \$8,788,614.28 on other property.

The following tabulation shows the assessed values by counties for the year 1906 and 1907, two small counties not having yet reported for 1907.

Table with 3 columns: County, 1906 Value, 1907 Value. Lists counties from Adams to York with their respective assessed values.

Totals... \$13,506,301.02 \$27,179,680.95

Des Moines, Ia.—A swarm of mosquitoes, millions in number, literally stilled a Minnesota & St. Louis rail train at Badgley the other night.

Lawyer George Hiram Mann, who has a big practice among the people attached to the navy, will be in court to help Beversee explain, and also to make the court see the injustice of demanding alimony in greater amount than Beversee can earn.

Washington.—The historic national banner of stars and stripes, which inspired Francis Scott Key to compose "The Star Spangled Banner," and which floated over Fort McHenry, Chesapeake bay, during its bombardment by the British on the night of September 13, 1814, has been placed on exhibition at the Smithsonian institution in this city.

Denver.—"I want to get ahead, so I came to work for you." Two years ago Judge Ben. B. Lindsey was interrupted at his work by a boyish voice. Looking up, he saw a youngster with a shock of bright red hair and mischievous eyes.

Washington.—All immigration records in the history of the country were broken by the aggregate returns for the fiscal year of 1907, which ended on June 30, last.

London.—Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, anxious to justify his reputation as a real Sherlock Holmes, has offered his services to Sir Arthur Vickers, the Ulster king of arms, in unravelling the mystery of the loss of the jeweled insignia of the order of St. Patrick, which was recently stolen from Dublin.

Berlin, after a careful study of the proposition, including returns from Jamestown, has decided not to hold a world's fair in 1913. American cities without money to cast to the birds will probably live up to that standard.

SPANS SEAS TO JOIN CHILD. Deported Syrian Travels 33,000 Miles for Daughter's Sake.

North Adams, Mass.—To outwit the immigration authorities and join his eight-year-old daughter here, a Syrian who arrived in this city traveled over 33,000 miles, expended a small fortune in transportation, and consumed six months' time.

The child was brought by her father to the city last winter. The girl found a home, but the father was deported, making the distance traveled when he again arrived at Beirut, Syria, 13,500 miles. He reembarkeo within a few days for Rio Janeiro, Brazil, 7,425 miles away. His intention was to enter the states at a gulf port, not daring to trust himself again to the immigration officials of the larger eastern cities.

While in Brazil he reached the conclusion that it would be better had he started originally for Canada. At the first opportunity he embarked on a vessel for Colon, whence he crossed the isthmus of Panama. It required several weeks waiting before he finally embarked on a sailing vessel for Victoria, B. C. He arrived early in May at British Columbia, he had easily 5,400 miles to his itinerary.

In June he journeyed from Victoria to Montreal, 3,291 miles. He then determined upon a final cast and headed for the United States. At this point he had no trouble in crossing the line from Canada and made 335 miles from Montreal to Boston. The night he arrived in that city he covered the final 100 odd miles still separating him and his little girl.

Niagara Falls, N. Y.—The contract has been closed for the night illumination of Niagara falls, and the proposed plan for lighting the mighty torrent will be the greatest feat ever conceived in electrical illumination.

The falls will be illuminated for the first time August 15. The illuminating scheme calls for nearly 50 large searchlights, several of them the largest of their kind and capable of throwing a beam of light a hundred miles, and the new color scintillator, a late invention. The projectors will be located below the falls in two batteries, one at the water's edge and the other on the high ground of the Canadian side.

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CAMERA AS AID TO POLICE.



The Bertillon system has been amplified in such a way that the photographs now taken bear a much more exact relation to the originals photographed than was possible under the old system. The distorting effect obtained by the use of the ordinary camera and method is well illustrated in the second of our photographs, in which the part of the body that is nearest to the lens is enlarged and out of all proportion to the rest.

ONE MAN'S TROUBLES.

HE IS A MEMBER OF THE NAVY YARD BAND. Fred Beversee, Trombone Player, Ordered to Pay \$36 a Month Alimony When He Makes but \$32.

New York.—Frederick Beversee, who plays the trombone in the navy yard band, is trying to figure out a plan by which he can pay his wife \$36 a month alimony out of a total income of \$32 a month. All the mathematicians in the navy yard and in his lawyer's office have failed to get any satisfactory answer to this hard problem, but Beversee must have an answer.

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Big Dog Adopts Chickens.

Des Moines, Ia.—Performing all the functions of a mother to five orphaned chickens, a large black dog is attracting wide notoriety on the east side. The chickens lost their mother in a little screaming fowl made the neighborhood miserable with their piteous cries.