

THE LEGISLATURE.

The Insane Asylum Investigating Committee Recommend the Removal of Dr. Matthewson.

The Capitol Appropriation Bill.

The Routine Business of Both Branches.

Special Correspondence of THE BEE.

SENATE. LINCOLN, Neb., February 24.—Senator Connor, from the committee to investigate the Nebraska hospital for the insane, asked leave to submit the following report:

MR. PRESIDENT—Your special committee appointed to investigate charges of neglect and cruelty exercised by the superintendent and employees of the Nebraska insane asylum towards patients therein confined, have had the subject matter of the resolution creating said committee under consideration, and desire to make the following report:

The committee have examined fifty-six witnesses, the testimony elicited extending over a period of some four years. The evidence of twenty-two witnesses establishes many acts of neglect and, in some instances great and excessive cruelty, exercised by the attendants of the asylum, mostly toward the male inmates therein confined. These acts of cruelty, consisting of striking, kicking and choking patients, have occurred at frequent intervals throughout the management of Dr. Matthewson. There is but little, if any, evidence tending to show that Dr. Matthewson personally knew at the respective times these acts of cruelty occurred that they did occur, or were committed by the attendants in charge of the patients, but the committee is of the opinion that under vigilant, humane and proper management of the asylum such acts of cruelty could not and should not have occurred at all.

The committee examined thirty-four witnesses for and on behalf of the superintendent of the asylum. The witnesses thus examined were very generally employees or officers of the asylum or those who at some time had been employed in, or in some way connected with the asylum while under the management of Dr. Matthewson.

These witnesses thus examined very generally testified that the management of the affairs of the asylum was good, that few or no acts of neglect or cruelty had come under the observation of said witnesses, and that Dr. Matthewson was a humane and kind-hearted officer; but it will be observed from an inspection of the evidence that most of the testimony related to the management of the female wards of the asylum and that it did not materially contradict or impeach the specific acts of neglect or cruelty on the part of Dr. Matthewson.

The compiled statutes, section 16, page 301, provide for a matron, who, under the direction of the superintendent and not otherwise, shall have the general supervision of the domestic arrangements of the hospital, and do what she can to promote the comfort and restoration of the inmates. The evidence disclosed the fact that for a long period the services of a matron were dispensed with at the hospital. The committee is of the opinion that a matron is a necessary employe of the asylum, and is so contemplated by the statute, and it is the further opinion of the committee that the superintendent of the asylum has no legal power whatever to dispense with the services of a matron, and do what she can to promote the comfort and restoration of the inmates.

In view of the evidence adduced, the committee is of the opinion that the management of the asylum by Dr. Matthewson has not been in accordance with law, or with the best interests of that unfortunate class of our citizens for whose benefit the asylum was established; and we are reluctantly forced to the conclusion that a change in the management of the asylum would subserve the best interests of the institution; and we therefore recommend that such change be made as early as practicable.

Your committee respectfully suggest that the evidence taken in the examination be printed, or in the event the senate do not concur in this view that then, and in that event, the senate direct the attorney general to take charge of the testimony and preserve the same in his office for future reference and consideration.

Very respectfully submitted, H. SHORNEHEIT, Chairman.

MR. ROGERS, from the same committee, submitted the following report: MR. PRESIDENT—I am unable to join with the majority of your committee appointed to investigate certain charges against the management of the state lunatic asylum, in their report to your body, for the reason that I have been unable to attend at several meetings of the committee, and since the investigation has closed I have not had time to review and properly examine the six hundred pages of evidence taken. As the legislature may soon adjourn, I respectfully ask that I be excused from further serving as member of said committee, and that the senate now take action on this report.

Respectfully, JOSIAH ROGERS. Two thousand copies of a pamphlet containing all the testimony was on motion ordered printed, 500 of which were to be placed in the office of the secretary of state, and the remainder to be equally divided among the members of the legislature.

The capitol appropriation bill was made a special order for 8:30 this evening, and at that time was taken up, and after much extraneous talk on the part of the enemies of the measure, passed by a vote of 18 to 14. This bill has been amended in the senate, cutting down the amount from one mill to one-half mill. The time for

final adjournment, having been fixed for next Monday at midnight, it is fair to presume that Monday will be a lively day here.

THE HOUSE. LINCOLN, February 24.—The house passed a number of bills from the senate to-day, the most important of which are: Harrison's joint resolution providing for the submission to electors of an amendment to the constitution; Dye's bill requiring county treasurers to publish reports of financial condition of counties; Reynolds' memorial to congress concerning tolls of railroad bridges across the Missouri river.

Quite a stormy debate arose out of the question of adjournment. Palmer, of Saline, moved an adjournment till 7 o'clock p. m. Monday. Hollman amended to make the hour 3 p. m. Both were voted down. The following message was received from the senate:

WHEREAS, Railroad legislation is needed; and, whereas, there does not seem time to act in the regular way, therefore be it Resolved, That this senate appoint a committee of conference of three on the railroad bills now in this legislature, and request the house to appoint a like committee and the report of such committee shall take precedence of all legislation except the regular appropriation bills and be considered immediately after being received; and have appointed as such committee, Senators Brown of Clay, Sang and Butler.

Cook, of Nuckolls, moved to concur in the resolution of the senate in regard to railroad legislation. The resolution was moved to table the resolution.

France jumped up and moved to adjourn till 11 o'clock Monday. Groat moved an amendment that the hour to adjourn to be 9:30. Both lost. France hoped the resolution would not carry. It would seem that in introducing this resolution somebody had found out something. It ought to have been introduced at the beginning. It seemed to him that he had spent 40 days in useless efforts to get railroad legislation. Some times the republicans wanted railroad legislation and sometimes the anti-monopoles wanted it and sometimes they did not. There is rivalry between the anti-monopoles and the republicans and they will oppose measures introduced by the other side. He was afraid to sustain the resolution would keep them there for weeks.

McAllister was in favor of appointing this committee and was willing to join hands with any party to get-housed railroad legislation. Cook, of Nuckolls, was a little amused at the sophistry of the member from Cummings (France), who wished to make out there was a war between the anti-monopoles and the republicans. The real trouble is that the democrats have spread out their coats and have promised to take the anti to glory on their coat tails. True anti-monopoles are willing to join hands on this floor. He was disgusted with the filibustering that had been going on in the house.

Hollman did not seem any particularly perturbed having neglected to discharge his duty in regard to this question of railroad legislation, but he was remarkably pleased to hear the distinguished gentleman from Nuckolls talk so affectionately of our anti-monopoly friends. This was the first time he had extended this hand of affection for forty days. Had he done this forty, or twenty or ten days ago a railroad bill might have been passed. Now it was too late and he opposed the adoption of the resolution. Hollman said "I say as he was ready to do anything if he saw the slightest chance of the people getting any measure through that would relieve them from the burdens under which they groan."

When he hoped the resolution would not prevail. There was no harm in having a conference, and he hoped the members would not be misled by statements from the honorable member from Cummings (France). Jensen understood the motives the gentleman from Cummings (France) had in opposing the resolution. He had made it his brag that he is a railroad attorney, and as the servant of the company that retains him, it is incumbent upon him to oppose all railroad legislation which he thought dangerous to railroad interests.

France pretended to be indignant at this charge and made a high flatted sort of a speech. Kanoy was satisfied it was taffy thrown out by the republican party, and he opposed it. After further discussion the resolution was carried by a vote of 44 to 41. House adjourned to 9:30 Monday.

THE OBSTINACY AND OTHER PECULIARITIES OF QUEEN VICTORIA.

The obstinacy of the queen is proved by the open, persistent favoritism shown to her "gillies" or valets, John Brown. Incomprehensible and meaningless, it goes almost to madness her immediate entourage, and every open or veiled opposition only causes it to be more manifest. That proudest of proud women has been made, by a preconcerted plan, to see this servant of hers in the most degraded state of drunkenness, almost at her very feet, and yet, with an infatuation stronger even than femininity, her manner changed to him remained unchanged, and she made no sign that could give a clue to her secret thoughts. Ladies in waiting of exalted rank have rebelled openly against the breach of etiquette, his familiarity has created, and refused to be made a party to it, but, snubbed by them, he was only the most graciously treated by his royal mistress. He follows her like a shadow from palace to palace, in public and in private, behind her chair at her meals, in the rumble of her carriage in her drives, bending over to exchange a few words with her, and calmly possessing himself of her field-glass to inspect some distant maneuver as a review.

The Queen does not slaken the reins on her sons' necks when they marry; she orders, directs, sways them at home and abroad, and scorns no minute detail, just as she allows no impulse of independence. At Petersburg, during some fetes, the Prince of Wales telegraphed to ask his mother whether he might attend the Court ball on Sunday night. The answer was wired back, "Decidedly no," and he abstained. It was said, however, that he sought more mysterious and quite unorthodox compensations. The Queen, faithful to her tradi-

POTPOURRI.

The Weather and Other Kindred Topics.

Lenten Observance and Washington's Birthday.

Although the past week ended up with a gentle norther, accompanied by a mixture of rain, snow and sleet, which would require a chemical analysis to properly define, it was on the whole a great improvement on its predecessor, the week before. Last Sunday was pleasant, Monday clear, warm and pleasant, Tuesday fair, Wednesday cloudy, but not disagreeable, and clear at night. Thursday commenced the preparations for the storm, which finally set in Friday morning, and is only now at the end of its progress. The sleet and mud is knee deep, and reminds the people of the pre-antennal day, before a merciful providence carpeted the streets with a soft snow cover, when to be stuck, like old Burnside, was one of the common incidents of Omaha life. How lonesome the two squares of asphaltum pavement-pavement on Douglas street will feel when they are excavated after the storm and see the mire all around and about them. The rainfall during the past two days of the week, as measured in the United States signal office, amounts to over a quarter of an inch, which is scarcely enough to replenish the dry cisterns for domestic purposes. However, it is abundant to keep the sidewalks of the city in a state of slippery smoothness, on which the pedestrian can practice the invigorating art of balance skating, free of charge, with the full complement of resulting falls, for the temperature is kept so evenly around the freezing point that the film of ice which forms every night has very little chance to yield entirely to the friendly influence of the sun's rays. Although the astronomical date for the opening of spring does not arrive until the 1st of March, it is generally accepted that by the end of February just at this time, the winter is practically over, and what a winter this was! A rich harvest for all the coal and ice men, to be sure, but to the average mortal of other persuasions, how severe and terrible! It is fortunate that winter comes only once each year and such a one as the present but once in a lifetime. The river is still frozen solid, and while east and south of here destructive floods rage ferociously, Omaha is as yet exempt from this fury.

Lent does not seem to bear heavily on the penitent citizens of Omaha, judging from the numerous amusements in full blast, unless the habits of the Academy of Music be exempt from the rule. Two reverend gentlemen, both learned in the wholly wrong, but divergent in their opinion as to its origin, have published to the world the result of their investigations, which is on the Presbyterian side, that the book is inspired, and sublime; and on the Unitarian side, that it is sublime in many parts, but of human creation, full of human fallings and errors. Washington's birthday passed by as usual, with little demonstration. If public celebration was taken as an index of the veneration of great men by posterity, it would not pay to exert oneself in that line. Except in set oration and the unveiling of statues, built by monies begged with difficulty, our forefathers are not often remembered.

Unlaundered SHIRTS.

A Bargain Full Reinforced. Made of Good Linen and Cotton. The Best Shirts ever sold in Omaha for 50c. FOR 50c. GARRABRANT & COLE. 1307 FARNAM STREET.

Buttons to Match. FIFTY GROSS BUTTONS open this morning in the new styles—large and small size—at Kuriz's store. Get your printing done at Cutter's.

A FEW BARGAINS IN HOUSES.

FOR SALE. HALF MILE FROM P. O. 7 Room House, Well, Cistern, lot 50x66, corner \$3,200. 9 Room House, Well, cistern, gas, double floors, fine finished, barn lot 60x132 \$5,500. THREE-QUARTERS OF A MILE FROM P. O. 6 Room House, Cistern, city water, cellar, lot 60x132 \$3,600. 3 Room House, Large rooms, cellar, cistern lot 66x134 \$1,800. 5 Room House, New, cellar, cistern, lot 33x112 \$1,800. ONE MILE FROM P. O. 7 Room House, Cellar, cistern, lot 62 1-2 x125 \$2,000. 11 Room House, Cellar, well, cistern, barn, corn crib, lot 64x140 \$3,000. ONE MILE & QUARTER FROM P. O. 4 Room House, Corner, city water, lot 74 142, on car line \$2,800. 11 Room House, City water, lot 66x142, corner, on car line \$2,700. Vacant Lots. No. 202—Two full lots on 19th Street near Lake St. \$1,000. No. 261—Twenty five lots in Parkers addition just north of the end of red street car line \$400 each, easy terms. No. 350—Four lots on Delaware St. near Hancock park, \$650. No. 351—One half lot on South avenue, near St. Mary's avenue, \$250. No. 340—Eighteen (18) lots on 21st, 22nd, 23rd and 24th streets, near Grace, \$600 each, and on easy terms. No. 342—Six beautiful residence lots on Catherine street, near Hanson park, \$4,000. Twelve beautiful residence lots on Hamilton street, near end of old street car track; high and slightly, \$200 to \$300 each. Several acre and half acre corner lots on Cumming, Burr and California streets, in Lowe's second addition and Park Place—near Academy of Sacred Heart. Lots in "Prospect Place" on Hamilton and Charles streets, near end of end of Red Street Car track and front of the Sisters of Poor Clara, one and one half mile from postoffice, and one mile from U. P. shops, \$100 to \$200 each, only 5 per cent down and 5 per cent per month. Louis Lew's addition one-half mile west of end of Red Street car track near corner of Poor Clara Sisters in Shinn's addition, \$125 to \$300 each, and on very easy terms. Lots in "Crest" addition, 2nd and 3rd additions, Shinn's, Park Place, Lowe's 2nd addition, Kavan's Lake's, Nelson's, Hancock Place, Redick's additions, etc., etc. Lots in "Crest" addition, just one-quarter mile south-east of Union, Pacific and B. & M. R. R. depot, \$250 to \$1,500 each, very easy terms.

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LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND. A Positive Cure For all those Painful Complaints and Weaknesses so common to our best female population. A Medicine for Women. Invented by a Woman. Prepared by a Woman. The Greatest Medical Discovery since the Dawn of History. It revives the drooping spirits, invigorates and harmonizes the organic functions, gives elasticity and firmness to the step, restores the natural lustre to the eyes, and plants on the pale cheek of woman the fresh roses of life's spring and early summer time. Physicians Use It and Prescribe It Freely. It removes fatness, flatulency, destroys all craving for stimulants, and relieves weakness of the stomach. That feeling of bearing down, causing pain, weight and backache, is always permanently cured by its use. For the cure of Kidney Complaints of either sex this Compound is unsurpassed. LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S BLOOD PURIFIER will eradicate every vestige of Humors from the blood, and give tone and strength to the system, of man or woman of either sex. Both the Compound and Blood Purifier are prepared at 253 and 255 Western Avenue, Lynn, Mass. Price of either, \$1. Six bottles for \$5. Sent by mail in the form of pills, or in capsules, or in powder, \$1 per box. Mrs. Pinkham freely answers all letters of inquiry. Enclose 3c stamp. Send for pamphlet. No family should be without LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND. Sold by all Druggists. Sold by all Druggists.

TO CONTRACTORS—DREDGING. Your attention is called to contracts to be let for dredging, filling in and Washington counties about thirteen miles long in working sections, through a marsh, with about 6 feet, sides sloping 1 to 2 feet to the water, and a depth to be moved about 2 feet from bank of ditch. Number of cubic yards to be moved about 111,740. Said work to be done in 1883. Plans and specifications for further information apply to the county clerk of either of said counties, and see report of engineer and professional boards of said counties under various providing for training swamp lands, approved Feb. 25, 1881. Work to be done in sections of 2 miles each, and the contract for each section will be awarded to the lowest bidder. Plans and specifications for further information apply to the county clerk of either of said counties, and see report of engineer and professional boards of said counties under various providing for training swamp lands, approved Feb. 25, 1881. 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