## CITY CHARTER AMENDMENT.

Suggestions and Recommendations by City Attorney Connell.

THE GROUND WELL COVERED

The Amendments Relate to "Metro politad Cities Having a Population of Over 60,000."

In view of the discussion of charter amendment and the appointment of a committee of fifteen to formulate plans for the new charter, or amendments to the existing charter, a reporter of the BEE called upon City Attorney Connell. at his office on Fourteenth street on Saturday, and requested his ideas upon the most important needs of the city with reference to the amendment. Mr. Connell dietated the following:

FORM OF AMENDMENTS.

The first thing to be considered in connection with the proposed amendments to the city charter, is the form or manner of making such amendments, whether by making changes and additions to certain sections of the existing charter, which applies to cities of the first class, or by completely remodeling the charter, and make its provisions apply as has been proposed, to "Metropolitan cities, having a population of 60,000 or upwards."

If this last suggestion be adopted, then,

it would be unnecessary, for the present at least, to confer with the authorities at least, to confer with the authorities and citizens of Lincoln, otherwise such a conference should be had, in order that no misunderstanding may arise, which might result in the defeat of the amendment proposed. The act meorporating cities of the first class, applies to all cities of more than twenty-hye thousand inhabitants. As the city of Lincoln now has more than twenty live thousand inhas more than twenty five thousand in-habitants, all that is necessary to bring Lincoln under the supervisions of the law which regulates and defines the powers and government of Omaha, is to have the fact of her population ascertained and certified to the governor, who would then declare by public proclamation that Lincoln was subject to the same supervisions of law which regulate and control Omaha.

From this statement of the legal relation of the two cities, it is manifest that Lincoln is directly concerned in the form of the charter, to be prepared and sub-mitted for the consideration of the legis-

It is hardly probable that Lincoln will be disposed longer to remain as of the second class, and for the present, she probably is not prepared to assume the expense of a form of government, which is a necessity for the welfare and proper management of a city of the size of

As a simple way out of the difficulty, it would seem to me a wise plan to en-entirely remodel the present charter, so as to make it apply to "Metropolitan Cities of 60,000, population, or upwards." This would enable Lincoln to revise the act relating to cities of the first class, so as to apply to her wants and require-ments, and Omaha, for a time at least, would have a law for her own special

The important thing, however, to be considered in this connection, is the pro-vision of our constitution which prohibits the passage by the legislature of any local or special law, incorporating cities, or changing or amending the charter of any town, city or village. (See Section 15, Article 3, Constitution).

In view of a comparatively recent decision of our supreme court, I do not think the classification of cities here proposed, would be repugnant to the consti-tutional provision referred to. Chief Justice Cobb, in the case of The State vs Graham (16 Nebraska, page 14), lays lown the law as follows: The classification of the cities of the

state into classes and sub-classes, and the conferring upon them of corporate powers by acts of the legislature of a general nature, yet the provisions of which are applicable to but one of such classes or sub-classes, is not repugnant to any pro-vision of the constitution." EXTENSION OF CORPORATE LIMITS.

Among the first of the charter amend-ments which I would propose, is the extending of the corporate limits of the

The boundary lines of the city are the same to-day as fifteen years ago, when our population did not exceed twenty thousand. We have a population to-day of at least eighty thousand, and we will eertainly have over one hundred thou-sand before 1890. The provisions of our present charter, concerning corporate limits, are not only impracticable, but wholly insufficient for our present needs, and the proper development of the city

In making amendments, it is necessary to keep constantly in mind the constitutional provision concerning special legis-lation, and as our new charter is presumably for the benefit of other cities as they become of the metropolitan class, it will not do to define the corporate limits by section lines. The provisions upon this subject, as well as upon others, must be general in their nature so as to apply to any city of the metropolitan class.

My plan would be to give to the mayor and council in all cities of the metropolitan class, within one year after the passage of the charter, or being proclaimed a city of such class, the power, by ordinance, to fix and determine the corporate lines, not exceeding or beyond a certain area, which should be sufficient to include such territory, as may now be desired to be taken within the limits, with power, in like manner, to extend such lines, not beyond a certain distance in each direction, say for half a mile, after each state or national census, provided, the increase in population shall equal 20,000. This plan would admit of an ex-tension of the corporate limits with the growth of the city, and the limitations provided would be sufficient to prevent fre quent or unnecessary changes for politial or other purposes. SEWER, WATER AND GAS CONNECTIONS.

Another amendment which I regard of the utmost importance in connection with our public improvements, is an excouncil to require that sewer, water and gas connections shall be made and extended to the curb or property line along all streets ordered paved before the paying is done, and assess the cost of mak-ing such connections to the lots and real estate opposite which such connections

The notification to property owners which heretofore has been given to make such connections has proved wholly unavailing. As the result, our pavements are no sooner laid than they are torn up, to the annoyance of the traveling public, and to the disfigurement and permanent injury of the pavement. The mayor and council, with the power here suggested granted to them, could determine in each ease the distance at which such connections should be made, taking into account the nature and use of the street, whether for business or residence pur-poses, and while the laying of pavements might in some cases be delayed, the pavements would be far more useful and permanent when completed.

GRADE DAMAGES. Our present constitution provides that no property shall be damaged for public use. The supreme court holds that this constitutional provision applies touthe

grading of streets.
In view of this, an amendment ought to be made to limit future litigation conthe mayor and council, in advance of entering upon the work of grading any street, to determine the damages, if any, which will result from such work.

My plan would be to provide that certain preliminary steps, somewhat similar to those taken for a change of grade, should be taken in advance of doing the

I would provide that a preliminary dinance be first passed declaring the necessity of grading such streets as the mayor and council may deem proper to grade, and appoint three disinterested free-holders to determine and assess the damages, if any, which will result to private property by reason of such grad-

I would then allow thirty days to property owners to appeal, if they so desired, At the expiration of this time the mayor and council would be in a position to determine whether it would be prudent or advisable to proceed with the grading as proposed. As the remedy by appeal would be exclusive, no suits, in the form of original actions could be commenced

or maintained.

This would result in no wrong or injury to property owners, for it claims for damages are to be made, and if litigation is to follow in consequence of improving a public street, the mayor and council should be so advised in advance of entering upon the work. As the result of the adoption of this plan, streets would either be graded without damages, or they would remain unimproved until such time as the avarieous or shortsighted property owners could learn that it is the street that makes their property of value, and not their property that

makes the street.

The only objection to this plan would be a delay in some cases, in the work of grading and the making of contracts for such work, but such delay could in a measure be obviated by sooner commencing proceedings to have such work done. As it is now, interested property owners, in many cases, anxious and desirous of the grading of a particular street, stand around without making claim for damages until after the work of grading is done and then it suddenly occurs to is done, and then it suddenly occurs to them that they have been fearfully in-jured. Under the present law they can bring suit for such pretended injuries at any time within four years.

CITY HALL BONDS. Another amendment, without which all work on the city hall must cease, is that authorizing the issue of bonds for the construction of the city hall.

It was upon the theory that such an amendment would be made, and if made, that the required bonds would be voted, that plans were adopted and the work commenced. ARK COMMISSIONERS AND PARK BONDS

Power should also be given to create a board of park commissioners, and to ssue bonds for the purchase of land for parks.

While giving the right to issue city hall bonds, and park bonds, the power to issue bonds for the purchase or construction of gas works should also be granted. It may not be necessary at the present time to exercise such power, but the day may come when it will be greatly desired

The franchise of the Omaha Gas Manufacturing company, under which the present company claims to act, accordng to its express terms, expires in 1893. It may then be desired to appropriate the gas works, as well as the pipes in our streets, and for the payment of the appraised value, to provide the necessary funds, by sale of bonds. The power to do all this, should be clearly and expressly given.

PRICE OF GAS. Another slight amendment, which is more for the purpose of carrying out the intent of our present charter and making clear what is now somewhat obscure should be made, and that relates to the power of the mayor and council to regu-late the price of gas. During the argu-ment before Judge Wakeley in the Gas Injunction case, which occurred some months ago, it was claimed by Mr. Morgan, the lawyer sent out by the United Gas Improvement company from Philadelphia, that the mayor and council had power only to regulate the rent of gas metres, and that the power to reg-

ulate the sale of gas, did not include the right to regulate the price of gas. In view of the fact that the right to regulate the charge for electric light is expressly granted, the point made by Mr. Morgan would seem to be somewhat fine. such as Philadelphia lawyers are some what noted for making, but however that may be, the provision referred to, can be made so clear and positive in its terms that no ground for future controversy can possibly exist, and this should

REGULATING TELEPHONE SERVICE.

It is somewhat remarkable that the city as a power, under the express provisions of its present charter, to regulate the sale of gas, the rent of gas meters, the charge for electric light, the time and manner of running street cars, can require the heating and cleaning of such cars and can fix and determine the fare to be charged, and has no power or authority whatever over the telephone service, or the charges to be made for the use of telephones.

This is certainly an oversight, and should be corrected by a proper amendment giving the city the same power over telephone companies that it has over over other concerns using its public

The power of a monopoly of the character and extent of the Bell Telephone company ought certainly to be limited to he extent of giving to the city the right to require it to render efficient and proper service, and to charge therefor only what is just and reasonable. We should profit by the recent experience of the people of Rochester, and anticipate what n the future may be more burdensome than anything yet experienced in the

The courts have already decided that telephone companies are subject reasonable regulations, and that the price to be charged for telephone service can be determined within reasonable limitations.

An amendment should be added to the section of the charter regulating railroads, authorizing and empowering the city to require railroad companies to construct viaducts over their lines of railroad where the same cross public streets, whenever the public safety may

This is an amendment that has been made to the charter of other cities, and been declared by the courts as just and proper, and one which the courts by mandamus will compel the railroad companies to observe whenever and wherever it is reasonable to do so.

METROPOLITAN POLICE. I believe it would be for the best inter ests of the city to so amend the charter as to enable the mayor and council by ordinance, to adopt what is known as the metropolitan police system, or to so place the appointment and management of the police under a board of commissioners as to remove the police entirely from political or other improper influences and make service and efficiency the standards of retention upon the force, and of ad-

vancement. WATERWORKS.

The section relating to waterworks should be so amended as to extend the right to appropriate private property for public use in the construction and operation of waterworks to a distance of ten miles beyond the corporate limits.

This would give the city the power to obtain the right of way for a water main to some point near Florence, a plan which must be adopted and carried out in the near future, in order to give to the people of Omaha an adequate and pure supply of water.

The money to obtain such right of way and to construct such main might be fur-nished by the waterworks company, under a lease and contract with the city, but in such case the rights of the city should be more carefully protected

and defined than is done under the pres-

ent existing contract. LICENSE OF EMPLOYING AGENCIES, ETC. The charter now in force authorizes the taxing and licensing of houor dealers, pawnbrokers and auctioneers. The pro-vision now in force ought to be extended so as also to include employment agencies, commission dealers, brokers, insurance agencies, and such other kind of business or employment as the public good may require. SUPERINTENDENTS OF BUILDINGS AND

Express authority should be given to create the offices of superintendent of buildings, and inspector of boilers, and to determine their powers and define their duties.

TIME TO DESIGNATE PAVING MATERIAL To remove doubts as to the right of the mayor and conneil to give property owners, in such cases as it may be desired to do so, a longer time than twenty days within which to designate material for paying, the provision relating to that subject should be so amended as to allow property owners the thirty days now provided, and also such further or additional time as may be designated by ordinance. ATTESTATION OF WARRANTS.

The provision now in force relating to the attestation of city warrants requires that after being signed by the mayor, the same shall be attested by the city clerk. The power to attest warrants should be extended to the deputy city clerk. Under extended to the deputy city clerk. Under the present practice, as the city clerk cannot always be in his office, he attests in advance all warrants for each month at one time. Any party desiring to do so might wrongfully abstract one or more of these warrants and by secretly affixing the seal would have a genuine and completed seal, would have a genuine and completed warrant to dispose of to the injury of others, and to the detriment of the city. Warrants should not be attested until final delivery to the proper parties. This course could be pursued, with the slight change suggested.

SALARY OF CITY OFFICIALS.

The salary of all the elective officers of the city is fixed by the charter. As to whether any changes should be made is a matter more properly for the "committee of fifteen" to consider, than for me to suggest. The only appointive officer whose salary is fixed by the charter, is the city clerk.

In place of the section relating to salary of city clerk, I would suggest for the purpose of uniformity, and to prevent efforts constantly being made for increase of salary and extra pay, a provision something like this:

"All appointive officers and agents of the city shall receive such salary as may be fixed and determined by ordinance, which shall not be increased or diminished during the term of office, for which such officer or agent may be appointed.'
A MUNICIPAL COURT.

It is already manifest that an increase in the judiciary for this city and county must soon be made, otherwise, the law's delays will be an ill too grievou to be

In addition to another district court judge, it will probably be necessary to create a municipal court for the transaction of civil business. This seems to have been contemplated by the constitution, and the creation by law of courts for cities is expressly

For the purpose of ascertaining the views of our judges and lawyers, who presumably are best informed upon this subject, I would suggest the calling of a meeting of the bar of Douglas county, and of the lawyers of this judicial district, to consider and discuss the proposition of an additional district judge and the creation of a municipal court, with such powers and jurisdiction as may seem proper.

A committee should be selected at such meeting to draft and prepare such amendments to our present law, as may be necessary to carry out the views finally adopted.

COMMISSIONERS OF ADJUSTMENT. The law relating to the board known as be so amended as to allow the report and acceptance of surveys of portions of the It seems to be impracticable, if not impossible, to make a completed survey and report of the entire city at one time If the work is undertaken in sections, it might be, and ought to be carried to a completed and satisfactory termination.

Power should be given to the mayor and council, in addition to requiring property owners to lay side-walks, and aiting so to do, to eause the same to be laid, to also determine and declare, upon such streets as may be deemed advisable, that side-walks shall be laid of a certain kind of material and the work let to the lowest responsible bidder, so as to secure that uniformity much to be desired, and totalty ignored along many of our principal thoroughfares.

OTHER CHANGES AND MODIFICATIONS. In addition to the amendments already suggested, there are a number of others of minor importance, and which, upon being called to the attention of the "com-mittee of fifteen," I think would be ac-quiesced in by them, and by the citi-zens interested in the welfare of the city. One change that now occurs to me is the livision of section 15, which grants power to the mayor and council, into separate sections. This section is now made up of forty-five sub-divisions. In the event of desiring to amend any one of these fortylive sub-divisions, it is necessary to include the entire section, which covers ten pages of printed matter.

DEJECTIONS TO PROPOSED AMENDMENTS.

Many, if not all of the amendments which I have proposed, are of vital im-portance to the success and welfare of our city. If objections are made to them, the reasons for and origins of such ob-jections should be carefully scrutinized and considered. The last contest concerning charter amendments very clearly lemonstrates that the real object of de feating amendments to the charter is sometimes entirely different from that claimed. It will be remembered that the principal objection urged to defeat the amendments of two years ago, was the provision concerning the 'commissioners of adjustment;' whereas the gas, street railway and electric light amendments were the real causes of the opposition.

It is fortunate that an early start has been made toward preparing a bill covering charter amendments, so that all controversies may be ended, and a per-fected bill may be prepared, to be introduced at once upon the convening of the legislature. If this is done, we can reasonably hope to secure the support and co-operation necessary for its prompt passage

Buried Yet Alive.

Wm. Hertmann, the Union Pacific employe who was buried for ten minutes, by the caving in of the bank in the excavation near the track at Seventh street on Saturday last, is still at the hospital, and in a dangerous condition. His left arm is badly tractured and there is a strong possibility of his losing it. Last night there were symptoms of pneumonia evident, and if the disease should attack him there would be little possibility of saving the man's life. Dr. Galbraith says that when Hertmann was taken from beneath the bank, he was black in the face, and required the work of an hour to bring him to consciousness.

Repairing the Cornice. A force of workingmen is now engaged in placing on the iron cornice of the Paxton building, the wrought-iron brackets, and other ornamentions which had been loosened by the heat of the Barker fire and dropped to When they have all been replaced, and it will not take a very long time to re-place them, the cornice will be repainted in terra cotta, such as it was before the fire. Until the latter destroyed its beauty the cornice had all the appearance of a solid terra

## A STORY HORRIBLE IF TRUE,

Mrs. Moffatt Tells How Her Husband Was Treated by the Thiemans.

SCHEME OF REVENGE.

Second Confession-Daggett Says That He Fired the Barker Block Intentionally-Other Loenl News.

The Examination. The council committee appointed to investigate the death of John W. Moffat and the responsibility of Marshal Cummings therefor, met in their chamber yesterday morning. A number of witnesses were examined. Rev. J. M. Wilson testified to being at

Thieman's house on Saturday evening. before he was taken to the hospital. Moffatt was delirious. He had some blood marks on his face. I did not think the right thing was to take him out in the cold. I did not think that he was dangerously delirious. 1 left Thieman's house about 1 o'clock in the morning and Moffat was resting easily. He became quiet when talked to in the right way.

Mr. Dan Allen was the next witness He merely testified to having seen Moffatt the two or three nights preceding Saturday, He was not delirious and seemed rational. Understood that he was suffering from eryspelas. Dr. Hanchett admitted that he was a pretty sick man, but thought his chances of recovery good. I was not at the house when the police arrived Saturday night, and do not know what they did. I was not there Saturday night later than half-past eight o'clock. Marshal Cummings was placed on the

stand and told his story. Late that Sat-urday night a man came to the jail and said there was a man near St. Mary's said there was a man near St. Mary's avenue who was crazy, and wanted a policeman to come right up. Came to the jail about eleven o'clock the next morning. Saw Moffatt there and told the doctor that the jail was no place for a sick man, and that he ought to be removed to the hospital. There was no entry made in the jail record about Moffatt's being moved. We had a little converse of there for sick people. little canvas cot there for sick people, but Moffatt was more comfortable on a mattress. As for asking for accommodations for sick people, there are a thousand things that I could ask for, but I and things that I could ask for, but I wouldn't get them. Just as soon as I ask the council for anything, there are two or three jumping-jacks who oppose me in everything that I do. Paddy Ford is one of them. Sick people ought to be never brought to the jail.

"When I came in the jail that morning I did not notice any blood on Moffatt's face. There was a slight bruise on

att's face. There was a slight bruise on the side of his head, as though the skin had been bruised. He did not seem to be seriously cut."

Peter Turkleson, driver of the patrol ably fixed, was lying on a mattress, with two pillows and two blankets. He looked to be a very sick man. He was moved out of the jail just as soon as the K. of P. committee were ready. They had to send home to get some clothes. "Did you ever have any other sick per-

sons brought into jail?" was asked of the witness.

"Yes, very often."
"What do you do with them?"
"We fix them as comfortably as we can until they are removed to the hospital. Generally, they lie on the floor, and are hand. We have no special provisions for

sick persons. Coroner Drexel was called. He testi fied to having notified Turnbull to come to the inquest, and bring every member of the police who knew anything of the affair. He said "all right" and went away. "I met him at the opera nouse on ner. I told Judge Stenberg the same thing. I did not hear anything said about the notification being not in accordance with the legal form.

Officer Turnbull, who happened to be on hand, was again placed on the stand. He testified that he met Drexel on the corner of Fifteenth and Farnam streets, and the coroner told him he proposed to hold an investigation of the death of Moffatt. "He (the coroner) did not tell me to have the police there, or if he did I did not hear him.

MRS. MOFFATT'S STORY. By long odds the most interesting and sensational testimony yet furnished is that of Mrs. Moffatt, the widow of the dead man. As she was unable to come to the council chamber, being quite sick, the committee repaired to the rooms of the Woman's Christian Aid association next door, where she has been stopping for the past few days. Mrs. Moffatt was found lying on a lounge in the front parlor. She looked sick and nervous, bu with an evident effort she "braced up" and told her story. She is a small woman, rather pretty, and with large black eyes which at times dilated with horror as she recounted the suffering through which she and her husband had

Mrs Moffatt testified: "My husband was taken sick about a month ago. It was on the second Friday before he was taken to jail. Mrs. Thieman at first treated us very kindly, but towards the last acted harshly. She said that she was tired of renters. The last three or four days before my harkend four days before my husband was taken away he was quite delirious. During the day he would be all right and in the night he would be delirious. All the neighbors were very kind—such a noble class of peo-ple I never met. I needed help, for I was driven to death, I had so much to do. I had to do my housework, give my husband medicine every hour and attend to his different calls, besides taking care of the baby. On the Saturday before my husband was taken to the jail we had to change the bed on which he was lying, because it was too short. Mrs. Thiemai acted very roughly about it and repeated the remark that she didn't want any more roomers. That sie didn't want any more roomers. That night my husband got worse and we tried to get Dr. Hanchett, but we could not get him. Sent for other physicians but they didn't come. In the meantime my husband was growing worse. He told me that he wanted me to shut the door and not let anyone in. Thieman went into the room that night and in a rough way he said: 'Now, Mof-fatt, you've frightened these ladies long enough. Now I want you to lie down and be still.' My husband was still in bed and was perfectly quiet. He pleaded with Mr. Thieman and tried to get him to leave the room. Mr. Thieman grew more violent and threatened my husband. I begged and pleaded with Thieman to leave the room and he did so at length. My husband, in his delirium, seemed to think that God was responsible for the whole thing and so he told Mr. Thieman. "Mr. Thieman went down stairs and

swore that he wouldn't allow my hus-band in the house any longer. He used band in the house any longer. He used the most awful profanity. I got down on my knees and begged him for God's sake to allow my husband to remain. Thisman broke out with more profanity, and brushed me aside as though I were a brute. Then I plead with Mrs. Thiemann and asked her for God's sake to have mercy on me and my husband—not to let them take him away. She commenced cursing and said, God-d-your God, there is no God." As she related this Mrs. Moffatt's face UNHEARD-OF VALUES.

For several days past, we have been constantly receiving new addiions to our already immense stock. These goods were manufactured expressly for our establishment here in Omaha, and they must and will be sold, if low prices, and reductions on low prices will help us to do so. Among the new arrivals we have 900 heavy Overcoats, in all grades and colors. To give you an idea how these goods are being slaughtered we enumerate the following prices:

100 Mens' Heavy Chinchilla Beaver Storm Overcoats, cassimere lined, extra length, with large fur collar and cuffs, at \$8. This same class of coats were sold only a week ago for \$13.50.

75 All Wool Beaver Chinchilla Overcoats, lined with fine serge, and satin sleeve lining, at \$9.75. Former price \$13.75.

100 Plain, Smooth All Wool Beaver Overcoats, in black and brown, double breasted and elegantly trimmed, at \$10.50. This coat sells at any other establishment at \$15.

65 Heavy Dark Striped Overcoats, trimmed with fur collar and cuffs

Another lot of our celebrated \$3.60 Overcoats, which are fully worth \$6. We also received about 20 different styles of childrens' and boys' Overcoats. For children from 4 to 12 years of age we have a very neat fur trimmed Overcoats for \$1.95; worth at least \$3. We call your attention to 300 neatly gotten up Childrens' Suits, from 4 to 13 years at \$1.85. These suits were sold formerly at \$2.75.

All of the above described goods are selling now very rapidly and we would advise all intending purchasers to examine them before sizes

are broken. All goods at one price at

## THE NEBRASKA CLOTHING COMPANY

Cor. Douglas and 14th sts., Omaha.

grew ghastly, while her eyes dilated and she looked the picture of horror. She fell back on the pillows exhausted, but in a moment recovered herself and contin-

ed:
"Then I went up stairs to my husband, I stopped at his door a moment before going in, and he called: 'Come here, Pet,don't you know I won't hurt you?' He was all bruised and his night-gown was saturated with blood and water. He told me that he had tried to drive off Thieman, and that Mrs. Thieman had thrown a big, heavy wash-bowl at him, breaking it on his head. I told him that the Thiemans were talking of taking him to jail. He replied: 'Don't you know that it will kill me if they send me off? No town would tolerate such a thing. Tall them that if they will give thing. Tell them that if they will give me twenty-tour hours I will leave this house.' But no; Thieman swore that he would send for the police.

"It wasn't long before the police did come. They found the front door locked by my husband's orders, but managed to get in the back way. It seemed to me that there were two or three of the policemen, and they came swaggering in with billets as though they were going to stop a irunken carousal. I put my hand on the shoulder of one of the men and tried to get him to stop, but he only brushed me aside and went in where my husband was. They finally agreed to allow one coliceman to remain with my husband, white the others went down town. In the meantime I had been seized with severe nervous pains, and had been taken down stairs by one of the ladies who were in the house, and given some hot brandy and water. This put me into a kind of stupor and when I was in this condition, hey took my husband away. Soon after beard Thieman come in and say have taken him away.' I asked him what he meant, and with an awful string of oaths, he replied that they had taken him to jail. I afterwards learned that my husband was not allowed to dress himself and that he was gagged and bound

and tossed into a coal eart."

This closed Mrs. Moffatt's testimony and the committee adjourned for dinner and met again at 4 o'clock and continued

the investigation. John T. McMannis was called and sworn. He was asked if he overheard a conversation in which Officer Turnbull had taken part, the day Moffat was brought to the jail. Witness said that he had. He was riding in a car, and some-body remarked to him that that was a sick man they had up at the jail. Turn-bull said that if he had been the man who had had anything to do with him, he would have "done him up worse" than the other officer did.

H. G. Fueller detailed how he had found Moffat lying as he thought upon the floor, or on a pallet in the jail. His pillow was covered with blood, his hair was matted and his night shirt saturated with it. It was then 10:30 o'clock in the morning. Witness spoke to and was recognized by Moffat. The latter did not complain about his hands being tied. He said, however, that he thought it was all up with him. He spoke a few rational words. Witness felt chilly in the jail with his overcoat on. Didn't pay any attention to the fire. The patient was covered with blankets up to his chin. Dr. Hanchett was there at the time. Witness helped to take him to the hospital at about 12:30 p. The jailer and other policemen were kind in assisting the removal of Moffatt to the carriage, and the marshal said he would send some men in the patrol wagon to aid in taking Moffatt from the carriage to the hospital. When the party reached the hospital they found the patrol wagon and some policemen, who assisted as had been indicated. Moffatt spoke only three or four words on his

way to the hospital.

Marshal Cummings here stated that when the doctor offered to pay for the carriage, he said Moffatt was a brother of his as well as of the doctor's, and contributed a dollar toward the cost of the

While waiting for a witness named Stryker, who could not be found, the committee adjourned till this morning, when they will hear the witness mentioned, after which they will agree upon A POLICE ALARM SYSTEM.

Chairman Goodrich, of the committee told a BEE reporter that the finding of the committee would comprehend a recommendation for the adoption of the system of police alarm which is now in operation in Chicago. This has been es-

tablished in the latter city for several years back, and has been considered by several members of the board, with the conclusion that it to be introduced into Omaha. It consists of a number of small stations to be established in all the police beats throughout the city, at each of which at a given time the officer must make known his presence at regular in-tervals, by means of an electric con-trivance which will register the fact in the jail. If this registry is not made, steps may be taken immediately to ascer-tain the cause. If the patrol wagon or assistance is required, either may be sum-

moned at a moment. The present fire alarm wire, with other extensions, will be used for the purpose. The cost of the system will be about \$3,500. If the report of the committee containing this recommendation, which will be made to-night to the council be adopted, it will result in the almost immediate introduction af the system and the devising of a certain means of economizing for the purpose of defraying the expense of the

A SECOND CONFESSION.

Daggett Declares That He Fired the Barker Block Intentionally. Readers of the BEE will remember the burning of the Barker block on Fifteenth and Farnam streets, and the subsequent confession of Lascher R. Daggett, in admitting that sion of Lascher R. Daggett, in admitting that he had set fire to the structure. This explanation was at first received with considerable incredulity, and a majority of those who heard the confession did not place much reliance on it. Daggett has stuck to it so persistently, however, that his confession has by many been accepted as genuine. He has been about the city jail for the past few days doing odd jobs in return for his board and lodging.

Yesterday a new and startling phase of the affair transpired. It is the fact that on Sun-day Daggett made a second confession to Court Officer Whalen, in which he admitted

Court Officer Whalen, in which he admitted that his first story was a lie, and that he had fired the building intentionally.

Daggett took Whalen aside and confidentially told him what he declared to be the correct story of how the fire had started. "You'll remember," he said, "that a few weeks ago I was up before Judge Stenberg for being a vagrant, The judge sentenced me to ten days on bread and water. It was a punishment that I no more deserved than you did. I swore that I would have revenge in some way on the city. So when I got out in some way on the city. So when I got out of jail I fired the Barker building. I didn't of jail I fired the Barker building. I didn't think anything about the loss that the owners of the building would sustain, but just thought that it would injure the city. After I had set fire to the building, I fan up Farnam street, and then down Douglas to Barney Maginnis' saloon, where I stayed until the fire was put out. At first I was afraid that some lives had been lost, but as soon as I heard that such was not the case 1 felt re lieved. Then 1 left town."

This, in brief, is Daggett's second confes-

sion. The police are trying to secure further facts from him, but 'yesterday he is not as ready to talk as he was Sunday. It is not known yet whether or not he will be prosecuted.

A large consignment of Antelope Saddles received by the Omaha Commission Co., 519 South 13th st.; for sale cheap

The county commissioners vesterday sent five needy persons to their homes one to Irwin, one to David City, one to Lincoln and two to Chicago. ADIEU, SAM.

The Revivalist's Last Words With the "Bee" Man.

Sam Jones left yesterday afternoon for Cartersville, Ga., accompanied by Mr. Maxwell, the vocalist of the party. Mr. Excel, the sweetsinger of the combination, left for the east some days ago. Mr. Jones was asked what he considered had been the effect of his work in Omaha. "Well." he said, "I don't think it has been as successful as my work has been in other places. And yet, I feel that it will be found satisfactory, I judge of the good done by the moral improvement occasioned, and the increase of the membership of the churches. The churches have been closed for receiving members up to this, but they will now be open and many persons will join. I think that there have been about five hundred conversions made. I have delivered about forty sermons and I think it is safe to say that I have preached to 100,000 people while I have been here. I never spoke in so large a hall before but once, and that was in Cincinnati. I am tired, but then, I recuperate quickly. I will go first to my home in Cartersville, Ga., after which I will go to my conference in some days ago. Mr. Jones was asked what after which I will go to my conference in Augusta. Remember me to your BEE brethren and thank them for the good reports of, and the kindness with which they have treated

A large consignment of Antelope Sad-dles received by the Omaha Commission Co., 519 South 13th st.; for sale cheap. The revenue collections yesterday amounted to \$14,038.57.

Walnut Hill Notice.

All who feel themselves interested in church and Sabbath school work, are carnestly requested to meet in the basement of Walnut Hill church on Wednes day evening, December 1, to perfect per-manent arrangements for work. Come all no matter to what church you belong.

A large consignment of Autelope Sad-dles received by the Omaha Commission Co., 519 South 13th st.; for sale cheap,

DAY BEFORE THE TRIAL.

John Lauer Visited in His Cell by a "Bee" Reporter. trial of John Lauer for the alleged nurder of his wife will be called in the distriet courtt to-day.

east wing of the jail. In the cage, the floor was carpeted, and the bedding was as fresh and clean as if newly purchased. Mr. Laner was in the room outside the cage working over the accounts of the jail. He was pale but in excellent spirits, and seemed to enjoy an excellent cigar which he was smoking. He was asked how he felt over his approaching trial and his answer was, "I feel I am going to be acquitted." There was no bravado in the reply. It seemed honestly to reflect his feeling upon the subject. reflect his feeling upon the subject.

The bank clearances yesterday



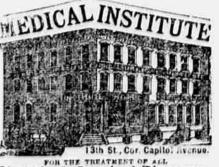
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Omaha Medical and Surgical Institute, A BEE reporter made a visit to the gentle-Cor. 13th St. and Capital Ave. OMAHA. NEB. man who was found in the inner cell of the