A BAD STATE OF AFFAIRS.

The Dreadful Overlap to Cripple Omaha's Fire Department.

ACTION OF THE COMMISSIONERS.

A Pleasant Surprise—Councilman Lee's Idea of a Gas Famine—Superintendent Baker Without a Salary—Postoffice Revenues.

Crippling the Fire Department.

A reporter from the BEE met Mayor Broatch yesterday and asked him what truth there was in a report concerning an overlap in the money intended for the fire department.

"There is a great deal of truth in the report," said the mayor. "The police and fire commission is now engaged in investigating the subject. We met last night, considered a number of bills, looked back over past accounts, saw what had been paid out, what had been ordered and about what the levy would place at our disposal for the fire department. We did not conclude our labors before adjournment was taken. We did not, consequently, get all the facts that we required, but we gleaned enough to know that there will be a great overlap in the fire department fund. The exact amount of this overlap we have not yet been able to determine. We are still working on the subject and are satisfied that it will require the discharge of one-half of the members of the fire department and tieing up of several of our hose carts."

"What has occasioned the overlap?"

"Well up to the present time, a great deal of attention has been bestowed upon the police department in the attempt to get it in condition. That department has now been brought to a pretty satisfactory condition. During this time, the fire department has been permitted to run along, receiving only such attention as it could reasonably expect owing to the peculiar condition of affairs consequent upon the misunderstanding which existed between the council and police and fire board. Articles were purchased and material was secured, not in a necessarily extravagant manner, but in such a way as will require the cutting down of the membership and the machinery of the department by at least 50 per cent. The levy for the support of the organization is not adequate for the purpose.

"Hereafter," continued the mayor, "the possibility of a recurrence of this unfortunate state of affair will never take place, at least, during my administration. Our commission has just emerged from all its difficulties and we now feel that we can run the departments committed to us without the interference of other parties. We are now getting our reports into shape, opening books for the keeping of our accounts and so systematizing the affairs of the office that not a cent will be expended which is not within the limit and demanded by the circumstances of the case. After this no purchases will be allowed to be made by anybody, except by the board, and both departments will be run with business attention and on business principles."

The reporter then called upon Chief Galligan, and was told that he had heard the commission had arrived at the conclusion above detailed. He of course regretted that it was necessary to take the step referred to. It would have an injurious effect upon the city, to say nothing of the danger which would result from depriving the town of its present, by no means too large fire organization. Some way, he thought, ought to be devised to maintain the department, even though there was an overlap, because nobody could tell what fire might take place to destroy a dozen times more than the levy provides for.

"What is the levy?"

"For the police force, I think," said the chief, "it is five mills on the dollar on a valuation of $16,000,000; for the fire department four and one-half mills."

"What has been the expense of the department for the last year?"

"It was $50,000 for the last nine months. That included the pay of men, purchase and support of horses, purchase and repairs of apparatus and improvement to houses."

"How large a force have you now?"

"There are fifty-two men, including line-men, superintendents, chiefs and everybody; six two-horse carts and a one-horse cart, two hook-and-ladder trucks, twenty-one horses and three steam engines but two of these are no good, having become used up by long usage."

"Is the city well supplied now with fire apparatus and men?"

"If every section of the town had what it ought to have, the present equipment should be increased by one cart at Walnut hill, another at Kountze place in the northern part of the city, and a third in the southern part, say Vinton and Twenty-third or Twenty-fourth streets."

Baker's Salary Stopped.

Mr. Baker, superintendent of the construction of the city hall, sat easily and comfortably in a chair in the office of the board of public works yesterday. He was greatly enjoying a little excursion in the history of this city which was being taken by Chairman Balcombe.

The BEE reporter disturbed the superintendent to the extent of asking him if he had yet been notified by Mayor Broatch that he was no longer to consider himself in the employ of the city.

"I have had no notification," said the gentleman, "except what I got in the BEE."

He smiled and again turned his attentive ear to the chairman's story.

The reporter later questioned Mayor Broatch about Baker's salary.

"I have not yet notified him," he said, "but he will probably receive the notification today. I wrote it out last night, but did not send it. I forgot his first name and somebody stole the directory out of my office. But it makes no difference. I have already given orders that no voucher must be made out for his salary and my note will tell him that he is not under pay of the city."

BENCH AND BAR.

United States Court.

SUIT TO RECOVER LANDS.

Yesterday in the United States circuit court J. M. Woolworth, in behalf of the Council Bluffs and Nebraska Ferry company, filed a bill against the heirs of William H. Brown—Martha Brown, Emma N. Brown McKenzie, Mary R. Brown Sorenson, John H. C. Brown and Helen A. Brown Van Camp—to recover an eighth interest in lot 1, fractional section 33, and lot 3, fractional section 28, both in township 75, county of Pottawatamie, Iowa. According to the records in the registry of the county, the heirs of W. H. Brown hold the title to the lands in dispute, but the plaintiff claims that just before Brown's death he merely held said property in trust for the Council Bluffs and Omaha Ferry company.

County Court.

A CABBAGE SUIT.

All of yesterday was occupied by Judge Shields in hearing the testimony submitted in the action of J. P. Thomas, of San Francisco, Cal., against Martyn Bros., of this city. The complainant alleges that he shipped a carload of cabbages from California to the defendants, and that they did not make sufficient returns for the same. The defense in reply maintain that the cabbages spoiled en route, and that they were compelled to dispose of them at a sacrifice.

SUED BY LEE, FRIED & CO.

Yesterday Lee, Fried & Co. brought action to recover $623.92 from H. K. Sawyer & Co. for merchandise furnished.

ANNA'S ALLEGATIONS.

In her complaint yesterday Anna M. Thomsen sets forth that she is the widow of Peter Seit, late of Washington county, and that while George Seit, a brother of the deceased, was acting in the capacity of executor of his estate he willfully and fraudulently appropriated property to his own use to the extent of $500. She furthers alleges that George has at divers times made false accountings regarding the said $500, and she asks for a judgment with costs in that sum.

Police Court.

Lloyd Forgrave, of Council Bluffs, came over the river Wednesday with the avowed purpose of administering a coat of fiery red paint to the city. He started out all right, but before he completed his task was arrested and lodged in the city jail. Yesterday morning he prayed Judge Berka, with tears streaming down his cheeks, to let him off. "Go and sin no more," said his honor, and Lloyd softly slid out the side door.

The cases of May Brown and Carrie Brown, charged with being inmates of disreputable houses, were continued.

Frank Smith was again arrested charged with vagrancy. He got thirty days in jail.

Ed Thomas, charged with disturbing the peace, pleaded not guilty, and his case was continued.

The case against C. S. Higgins, charged with violating the liquor-license law, was continued, owing to the illness of Captain Duff Green.

Peter Carlson, the man who assaulted Engineer Wilkins of the Union Pacific with an iron stove leg, is supposed to be insane and will have a hearing to-day.

IN THE TOILS.

Richard Roberts Robs His Former Employer and Lands in Jail.

The police arrested Richard Roberts yesterday afternoon upon a warrant charging him with grand larceny. The prisoner admits his guilt. For some time past Roberts was in the employ of Mr. McBeth, who keeps a grocery store at 1022 Saunders street. It seems that his employer suspect him of thieving, and a few days ago discharged him. Wednesday night by the aid of skeleton keys Roberts entered the house of Mr. McBeth and from a cupboard stole $69 in cash.

Roberts was suspected at once and the police were notified. When first captured he stoutly denied his guilt but finally confessed. Most of the money was recovered. The police state that Roberts is a hard customer and has been arrested before on similar charges. He will have an examination to-morrow morning.

A GAS FAMINE.

Councilman Lee Wants to Have Such a Possibility Removed.

Councilman Lee was seen yesterday and asked what, in his mind, would conduce to a "gas famine," which was contemplated by a resolution of his introduced into the council a couple of weeks ago.

"A big fire, such as the works experienced a short time ago," he said, "or an explosion, such as is liable to occur at any time, would deprive the city of light."

"How could this be remedied?"

"By establishing duplicate works or erecting another reservoir in a different part of the city. This is the only city of its size in the country which has but one gasworks."

"What has been done with your resolution?"

"The committee on gas and electric lights has failed to report and at the next meeting of the council I'm going to bring the matter up again and have some airing of it."

MORTUARY.

MARY SUNBORG.

The remains of this young woman lie at Burkett's, on North Sixteenth street. It will be remembered that she wandered into the Child's hospital, unable to tell where her friends were, and, indeed, almost unable to tell who she was herself. She was of Swedish parentage, and she has not been identified, neither has anybody offered to give her respectable burial. Mr. Burkett will retain the body for a few days, when, if not otherwise disposed of, he will turn it over to the county.

PETER CLASSAN.

This man, a well-known cabinet maker of the Union Pacific, aged forty-five years, died last night at his residence, 1131 North Twentieth street. He was a member of Allemanen lodge No. 8, I. O. O. F., and Capitol lodge, A. F. and A. M. The funeral will take place Saturday at 2 p. m. from his late residence, under the auspices of the above orders.

The Chief's Assistant.

Chief of Police Seavey was married yesterday afternoon to Mrs. Lillie Hollenbeck, at Cortland, Neb. The lady is the daughter of J. B. Dooley, of Cortland. Until quite recently she was the confidential clerk and type-writer for Mayor Broatch. Mr. and Mrs. Seavey will return to Omaha on Friday.

VAUGHN-ALLEN.

Mr. Clarence Vaughn, one of the Hoof and Horn attaches at South Omaha, was married on Tuesday evening last to Miss Huldah Allen at Fremont. The Tribune has the following notice of the event: The ceremony was performed at 7 o'clock by the Rev. E. R. Curry, pastor of the Baptist church, in the presence of a small number of near relatives. Mr. and Mrs. Marshall to-day gave a family dinner in honor of the event, after which the happy young couple took the Union Pacific train for South Omaha, where Mr. Vaughan has a home already fitted up for their occupancy, he having a position on the Daily Hoof and Horn published there. They were the recipients of a large number of handsome presents. Their friends extend their best wishes for their prosperity and happiness."

A Pleasant Surprise.

While Elder M. H. Forscutt was listening to a lecture Wednesday evening, a large sleigh of young people, headed by four plumed prancers, came to his residence, 820 South Eighteenth street, and awaiting his return gave him a very happy surprise, and through their spokesman, Mr. Clarence Paley, presented to him a fine antique oak reading chair, with adjustable rest and book shelf. Mr. Forscutt, for some months' past, has been giving a series of discourses on "Prophecy Manifested in History" at the Saints' chapel in Council Bluffs. The surprise party was composed or the young ladies and gentlemen of the congregation there. Mrs. Forscutt, Mr. Forscutt, jr., and Miss Parr did credit to themselves and the host as entertainers of the guests. After some excellent music, rendered by the Misses Beebe and other members of the party, and such mutual compliments as cement friendship and smooth the roughness of life's pathway, the colossal sleigh was again filled, and the happy guests started homewards with the happy consciousness of having made other hearts lighter, their own pulsating with the joy of youthful fervor in the right.

New Trains.

The new time card of the Union Pabific goes into effect on the 4th of next month. It will contain one extra train for the main line, one for the Omaha & Republican Valley branch between Valley and Beatrice. Coming north on the main line, the train will connect at Valley with the train for North Platte. Norfolk hereafter will be reached by trains connecting at Columbus, instead of by means of what was formerly known as the successor of the Grand Island. Additional trains will be put on at Albion, Loup City, Cedar Rapids and Stromsburg branches.

The Omaha & St. Paul line is still blockaded with snow and all traffic is at a standstill. Passengers to St. Paul from here are obliged to go by way of the Mississippi river road.

Ought to Go North.

Max Meyer, in speaking of the committee, which is said to be coming from Yankton and other western points to Omaha to talk with our citizens with respect to the new railroad line to that part of the country, said that it was about time that Omaha sent a delegation up there to find out something of the place. "Yankton men who have been coming down here, know more of us and the country intervening between the two places, than we do of them." At the next meeting of the board of trade he will bring up the subject for consideration and hopes that four or five intelligent and working members will be placed on the committee for the journey.

Good Thing for South Omaha.

A full line of coupon tickets to all points East, West, North and South has been placed on sale at the depot ticket office of the Union Pacific Railway—"The Overland Route" at South Omaha.

Mr. D. Mahoney, the agent, will answer inquiries in regard to rates, etc.

Diebold Safes.

Call and see the large stock Meagher & Leach, Gen'l Agt's have on hand at 1415 Farnam st., Omaha.

SOUTH OMAHA NEWS.

John Delaney, of Fremont, is in with a load of cattle.

Peter Young, of Nelson & Young, brought in two cars.

A. Kruse, of Atkinson, Neb., brought in two loads of cattle.

Henry Dierker, of West Point, is in with two loads of cattle.

J. D. Lehmkuhl, of Wahoo, is on the market with two loads of cattle.

T. A. Kelly, of Kelly & Co., Greely Center, brought in two cars of hogs.

O. Carrolson, of L. Anderson & Co., is in from Mede, Neb., with a car of cattle.

Dave Anderson, the real estate man, has made a business trip to Columbus.

T. W. Van Seever, of Council Bluffs, was looking over the market for some feeders.

J. Ziegler, from Spring Ranche, Neb., is on the market with two cars of home-fed fat cattle.

H. F. Bissell is in looking over the yards. He is interested in the Middlesex Live Stock association of Green River, Wyoming.

The concert at the Presbyterian church in aid of the Ladies' aid society, was pronounced a success by those who were there.

P. W. Cress, proprietor of the Des Moines house obtained judgment yesterday for a $12 board bill owed him by H. T. Sanford.

People are asking why the Motor line does not commence work, and those who know say the company has never yet received its certificate of franchise.

Adam Pociz, who was supposed to be lying ill at St. Joseph's hospital, from the effects of a slungshot wound, was around the saloons looking up his old friends yesterday.

The South Omaha Social club held their long-looked-for calico ball but only two ladies followed the programme and came in the regular costume. Otherwise the dance was a success.

Mayor Savage said that South Omaha had the toughest reputation of any city west of the Mississippi, and that if the council would only take a firm stand and commence to do their duty in checking disorder, future generations would rise up and bless them—or their memories.

Among the Exchange hotel guests yesterday were E. P. Hanson of Pender, Neb., A. Wooley, Chester, Neb., G. E. Dimmel, Clark; J. S. Judy, Clark; J. Patterson and C. W. Payne, Neb.; Hugh McFadden, West Side, Ia.; G. M. Wilson, Blair, and G. M. Carleton, Fullerton.

Residents have been in the habit of making firewood of the shade trees along some of the less frequented streets and alleys in the city, and the fact has been brought to the notice of the street committee. Marshal McCracken has been instructed to look after the delinquents.

Judgment in favor of D. Levy for $26 was recorded against McCord & Brady It appears that the plaintiff had paid $20 on account and had accepted a sight draft for the full amount of his account at the same time, and at once brought suit to secure the amount overpaid. There was no defense and judgment went by default.

Local physicians had a quiet little talk yesterday afternoon over the prospect of the spring trade. Dr. Glasgow officiated as chairman, and after those present became acquainted, it was decided to adjourn and meet again to fix a uniform bill of charges and look after the interests of the profession generally.

There is one young and newly married man in trouble. His wife is not quite of age, and her father persists in declaring the marriage illegal, and wishes her to marry a friend of his own. This she declines to do, and the "irate parent" has started on a gunning expedition for the couple. For some reason or another he has assumed a disguise, and the husband has been kept in a state of constant terror ever since until Wednesday night, when he sought the protection of Marshal McCracken. He received it, and now the marshal is looking for the father, who it is rumored is wanted very badly down east.

County Commissioners' Proceedings.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 25, 1888.

The board met this day. Present: Anderson, Corrigan, Mount, Turner and Mr. Chairman.

Minutes of the previous meeting read and approved.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Poor Farm—Referring to the committee on construction the communication of J. J. Mahoney, superintendent of poor farm, asking increase of salary. Adopted.

Court House and Jail—Referring to the county surveyor the communication of T. A. Megeath, register of deeds, asking for new plat of Florence, and instructing surveyor to do the work necessary. Adopted.

Finance—Referring to the committee on construction the communications of Geo. W. Sheids, county judge, and M. D. Roche, county clerk, in regard to salaries of assistants and deputies on their respective offices. Adopted.

Charities—Referring to committee on construction the communication of P. J. Keogh, county physician, as to increase of salary. Adopted.

Judiciary—Referring to the committee on construction the communication of Henry Bolin, county treasurer, as to salary of deputy and assistants in his office. Adopted.

Finance—Authorizing the payment from the general fund the second installment of paving tax interest and penalty on block 141, amounting to $310.09. Adopted.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

From the county attorney, suggesting that the board make some provision for a deputy county attorney at South Omaha to attend to criminal cases, and stating that he had appointed J. W. Edgerton. Referred to the judiciary committee.

From the county treasurer, stating that the personal property of the Singer manufacturing company had not been assessed for 1887; also that the personal tax of Mrs. E. Angel appears on the tax list at $125, whereas assessment blank calls for $25. Referred to finance committee.

From Frank E. Moores, clerk district court, requesting permission to purchase filing case for blanks. On motion he was authorized to purchase such case, the cost not to exceed $80, exclusive of freight.

From G. Andreen as to repairs necessary in county jail, and the probable cost of same. Referred to committee on court house and jail.

From Waterloo lodge No. 102, A. F. and A. M., asking cancellation of part of lots 6 and 7, block 2, Waterloo. Referred to judiciary committee.

From superintendent of poor farm as to party occupying premises of Mrs. Kramer, and stating that he was unable to take him to the poor farm. Placed on file.

The bill of Brennan & Co., on account of discount on warrants, amounting to $548.07. Referred to construction committee.

RESOLUTIONS.

By Mr. O'Keeffe—That the first action of the board regarding the salaries of officers and employes, be rescinded, and that all applications as to salaries be referred to the committee on construction. Adopted.

By Mr. Anderson—That the county clerk be directed to procure the necessary books to comply with the requirements of section 89, chapter 18, page 301, compiled statutes, entitled account with county treasurer. Adopted

By Mr. Corrigan—That the board assess for the year 1887 all of the S. E. S. E. of section 5, 14, 13, except Mahony & Menehans addition, at the sum of $1,800; also the south 4 3-10 acres of the N. E. of S. E. of section 5, 14, 13 at sum of $400, both of said tracts the property of Edward Cassidy; also lot 10 section 5, 14, 13, containing 10 93-100 acres at the sum of $470, and the west 8 acres of lot 1, section 8, 14, 13 at the sum of $800, both of last described tracts being the property of Philip Cassidy. Adopted.

On motion the county attorney was instructed to take steps to compel Frank Crawford to turn over the books and papers of his office to his successor, Christ Nissen.

Adjourned till Thursday at 2 p. m.

M. D. ROCHE, County Clerk.

Postoffice Revenue.

In response to a telegram from Congressman McShane, Postmaster Gallagher has forwarded to that gentleman the business of the postoffice by the quarter for the last year. For that ending September 30, 1886, the net income of the place was $25,887.48; for the succeeding quarter, $31,943.22; the proceeds of the quarter ending September 30, 1887, will be $33,457.19, or an increase of nearly nine thousand dollars over those of the same quarter in the preceding year. The net receipts of the office for the last quarter of the past year were $39,241.95. This shows an increase of nearly $9,000 over that of the corresponding year in 1887. These figures will be used by Mr. McShane in his argument in favor of a new government building before the committee of the house to whom the subject has been referred.

Real Estate Transfers.

John W Welshans to H F Cady, lot 9, Housel & Stebbins' sub, w d	$ 1,100
State of Nebraska to John Andresen, n½-nw-16-15-11, d	880
Same to William F Heide, ne-sw-36-16-11, d	280
A B Charde and wife to C Johnson, lots 42, 43, Bellaire, w d	800
Thomas H McCulloch to F J McKenna, lot 6 blk 5, Cloverdale add, w d	650
A Kountze and wife to City of Omaha, public alley in Kountze's 3d, q c	1
R C Cushing and wife to William K Kurtz, w 25 ft of e 50 ft, lot 1 blk 70, South Omaha, w d	2,000
F B Johnson et al to Ellen Evans, w ½ lot 38, Burr Oak add, w d	3,000
C F Aickman to same, w ½ lot 38, Burr Oak add, w d	1
T W Blackburn and wife to George W Logan, lot 13, Rustin's add to Plainview, w d	1,000
W J Wagoner et al to L W Crampton, lot 13 blk 2, Fowler place, w d	250
F Dellone et al to P MadDonald et al, e 50 ft, lot 7 blk 78, South Omaha, w d	6,500
City of Omaha to A. Erickson, part of Twenty-third street, deed	3
B Riley to I & M Kahn, lot 3, Benson's sub, w d	1,350
George W Houston and wife to J T Houston, lots 2 and 3, Apple's proposed sub of lots 4 and 5, Geise's, q c d	150
E W Miller to D A Miller, lots 1 and 6, blk 2, Lake View, w d	2,000
Mary I Tiddall to E W Miller, lots 2 3, blk 8, Myers, Richards & Tilden's, w d	1,000
James F Robinson to same, lot 4, blk 8, same, w d	1,000
G S Benawa and wife to same, lot 4, blk 8, same, w d	1,000
R T Maxwell and wife to James M Ellingwood, west 26 ft lot 10, blk 334, South Omaha, w d	300
John W Griffith, trustee, to F D Cooper, part west lot 10, blk 7, Baker place, w d	525
E N Miller to D A Miller, lots 3, 4 and 6, blk 8, Myers, Richards & Tilden's, w d	4,500
Wm McCormick and wife to R L Garlichs, lot 3, 4 and e½ of 5 blk 2 Capitol Hill add, w d	22,500
G W Logan and wife to Geo W Logan, lot 9 Stanton place, w d	1,100
Wm F Allen and wife to Daniel E Shelley, n½ of lot 7 blk 9, Kountze 4th, w d	3,600
John L Miles and wife to P McEvoy, lots 15 and 16, blk 12, Orchard Hill, w d	1,500
E L Canan and wife to J P Martin, lot 1 blk 14, Calkins sub, w d	250
H Henningsen et al to N Ohm, 10 lots in Grandview, w d	2,500
N Ohm to M Quick, 8 lots in Grandview, w d	2,400
F E Divorak and wife to J Krejci, lot 10 blk 481, same, w d	1,500
Ann E Campbell to Jas B Mason, lot 3 blk 2, Reed's 4th, w d	2,000
B Melquist to A L Reed, e 40 ft of lot 18 blk 6, Shull's 2d, w d	1,400
A N Silberman to H Ross, lot 15 blk 3, Rush & Selby's add, w d	400
W Albright and wife to C Corbett, lot 5, 6, 24 blk 5, Mautren sub, w d	1,400
Thirty-four deeds	$67,590

One Permit in Two Days.

The work in the office of the superintendent of buildings for the last two days has been very light, there having been but one permit issued in that time, and that was to W. M. Fleming to erect a $1,500 cottage on the corner of Yates and Twenty-eighth streets.

A Pleasant Social.

The Select Hundred held another of their enjoyable socials at the Millard last night, in honor of which the parlor floor was handsomely and artistically dressed in flowers and evergreens. Two hundred couples, comprising the elite of the city, were present, and passed the hours merrily in dancing to the music of Prof. Irwin's orchestra.

Committee of the Whole.

The county commissioners met in secret session yesterday afternoon as a committee of the whole, and considered several matters of importance referred to them at their regular meeting last Wednesday. They will report the result of their conference at the regular meeting to-morrow afternoon.

Rainbow Tea Supper.

Last evening the ladies of St. Mary's Avenue Congregational church gave a rainbow tea supper in the parlors, and a large number enjoyed the novel event. A sumptuous repast was served, after which there was vocal and instrumental music.

A Revolver Thief's Sentence.

Joseph Lancaster, who stole a revolver from a fellow waiter at the Philadelphia chop house, was tried in the police court yesterday, found guilty and sentenced to thirty days in the county jail, six of them on bread and water. The revolver was found in a Tenth street pawnshop.