# MOKE AND WATER

On New Years Eve, December 31st, a fire broke out at 1116 Farnam, and the stock of Clothing owned by B. Newman & Co., was slightly damaged by water. On Sunday, January 6th, another fire was discovered at 1116 Farnam, but did no damage to the stock beyond smoking the goods. The insurance companies have adjusted the loss and now the entire stock must be sold, the sale commencing:

# To-Morrow, Monday Morning, January 21st

Everything on first floor at 1116 Farnam St., must go regardless of price, as the stock must not be placed with new goods. You will be able to buy some extraordinary bargains in this stock, which consists of overcoats, pants, suits, shirts, hats, mens' furnishings, valises, etc., etc. A large force of clerks has been engaged, and every preparation made to wait on the crowd.

## CLOTHING

### DAMAGED BY FIRE AND WATER

SACRIFICED

The sale commences Monday morning and continues until everything in the store is closed out. You dare not miss this the greatest Clothing sale in Omaha. No prices are quoted as there are none. Come and see and you will buy. This is a genuine knock out.

Some of Them Mild and Meek. Others Professionally Brazen.

COUNTY AGENT'S DAILY LEVEES.

A "Bee" Reporter Watches Poverty's Victims Apply for Relief-Mrs. Lipps Threatens a Scene-A Young Woman's Plight.

Donglas County's Charity Room. Poverty is on the increase in Omaha. There is nothing remarkable in that. It is a natural sequence of growth in other

directions. Four years ago, before Douglas county of ficials had moved from the old ram-shackle and weather-beaten building on the corner of Sixteenth and Farnam streets, that did duty as a court house, into the more commedious and modern structure on the hill Ike Pierce, then superintendent of poor, had a comparatively easy time of it. Once or twice a week he would sit in front of the old building, sometimes using a chair, but more often resting his weary bones on the yard bydrant, and issue orders for groceries, mediches or fuel to needy applicants for relief. An hour or two might be consumed in the work. In the winter he would change his post, and transact his business anywhere within the old building that best suited his purpose on the particular day.

Things have changed since then. The old court-house has been wiped out of existence, and a stately office building marks the spot. Ike Pierce has been succeeded by John Mahoney as county agent. Omaha has twice as many people as then, and Omaha's pauper population has quadrupled. Instead of deating with a few dozen a week as then, the present county agent furnishes relief to upwards of three hundred families.

There is nothing remarkable about it Some have grown rich, and the natural law is that poverty will increase as the popula-

A BEE reporter spent two days of las week-Thursday and Friday-in the county agent's room, and watched the applicants for rehef as they came and went. Down in the basement, in the southwest corner of the building, Mr. Mahoney and his assistant, Frank Zimmer, hold daily levees. In the main room is a large bin, divided into four compartments, one filled with flour, another with tea. At one end is a pile of soap boxes Around the room are sacks of flour, chests of tea, and bags of coffee and beans. In one room is the county agent's desk and in an other the county dispensary, supplied with drugs of variety sufficient to fill the general run of physician's prescriptions. Some idea of the calls made for relief can be gained when it is known that an average of 1,500 pounds of flour are issued weekly, supplemented by 200 pounds of beans, 100 pounds of tea, 150 pounds of coffee

and 200 bars of soap. During the last three days of the past week orders were issued for sout fifteen tons of coal in half ton lots. A check must be kept on the applicants to prevent imposition and a reckless squandering of relief furnished. A certain quantity of groceries is furnished weekly, and to prevent the possibility of "ringing in" oftener a card is furnished each applicant on the first visit. If it was Thursday, January 10, the date is entered on the card. On subsequent visits for rations the card must be presented, and if the last entry shows that a week has clapsed a second issue of rations is allowed. If a week has not clapsed the ap-plicant must go empty-handed until the praper day arrives. No card, no grub. For fuel orders are issued on the contracting firm for coal in half ton lots. Each beneficiary is warned to preserve the coal driver's receipt, which shows the date of delivery. If the driver's receipt shows that two weeks have clapsed, another balf ton is allowed. If two weeks have not gone by, the relief is refused except where it is

It is an old saying that one-half of the world is ignorant of the way the other half lives. A few hours spent in County Agent Mahoney's rooms will afford abundant opportunity for study and reflection. Take some of the applicants and inquire into their history. The first to attract the attention of The Bee representative was Mrs. Lipps. Mrs. Lipps resides on the bottoms. To state

that she lives on the bottoms is equivalent to saying that Mrs. Lipps is positively poor. Besides being poor Mrs. Lipps is the wid-owed mother of three children and is a sufferer from epileptic fits.

Mrs. Lipps enters the office and strikes Assistant Zimmer for half a ton of coal. Although she resides on the banks of the Missouri where water is plenty, Mrs. Lipps is unwashed and dirty—repulsively dirty. Her face is smeared, her tattered garments unbrushed and her bony hands unwashed.

There was very little ceremony about Mrs. want an order for some coal," she said. "Where is your ticket?" demanded Clerk immer. "I think it's only a week since you

"I forgot the ticket," was the answer. "Then you can't have any coal," rejoined

"Look here," said Mrs. Lipps, "ticket or no ticket, I want some coal. The children are sick and I must have something to keep If I have to go home and re turn with that ticket I'll be sick. In fact, I "For heaven's sake don't get sick here,"

said Mr. Zimmer, as he started to fill out ar order which he handed her, and she went her way.

When she had gone the BEE man asked him why he changed front so suddenly. "If I hadn't," he answered, "you would probably have had an unwelcome female fall into your lap. She wouldn't fall there for the purpose of receiving loving caresses, but in the throes of an epileptic fit. her of oid. She can have a fit whenever she wants to, and she generally wants to when we refuse her relief when she comes for it. We would sooner strain a point than have the fit."

Another female applicant attracted the in-quisitive attention of the BEE representative. She called on Thursday afternoon. She was extremely loquacious, decidedly pleasant for a county charge, and dressed rather well for one who is homeless and sick, and dependent on strangers. She is young, fairly pretty, and living in widowhood.

She has a history. A few years ago she was hving with re spectable Irish Catholic parents in a town in Minnesota. She met and loved a youth named Eckert. A marriage was the result, but the union was consummated against the strong protests of the parents. They ob-jected to her husband, and subsequent events proved the wisdom of old heads as against young hearts. The couple Omaha. Eckert secured employment in a Douglas street furniture house. Tune went by and he was arrested at the instance of crime was proven, and a year ago he was sentenced to the penitentiary to serve a four years' term. In the meantime his wife was taken sick. She is a skillful dressmaker, but she can't work. She is willing, but what does willingness amount to when a chronic ailment prevents her. She is suffering from a complaint peculiar to her sex, and County Physician Keogh certifies to the physical im-possibility of her working at a sewing ma-

Thursday afternoon she was at the county building laughing, jolly, pleasant. Friday morning a female friend comes in hurriedly with three prescriptions to fill. Mrs. Eckert taken seriously sick during the night was unable to leave her bed in the morning.

Yes, she has a history, and it is a sad one. A few years ago she married the man of her choice. Then everything looked bright to her. Now he occupies a convict's cell, and the girl he swore to cherish and protect is homeless, penniless, friendless, county charge-alone in a great city.

Scarcely had she left the room when a healthy, middle-aged German en-He wanted some coal. He was well dressed, and everything about him bespoke respectability. His request for assistance was refused by Mr. Mahoney pending an in-vestigation into his needs. He pleaded. His babies were sick, and he was without

that he was not an imposter. He hurried off, and returned soon with the The order for coal was issued

He has resided in Omaha just six weeks He came here from Green county, Iowa, with \$300 worth of personal effects. He was led, he says, into a saloon partnership on South Tenth street and in a few days lost all his means. He resides in the neighborhood of Vinton and Seventeenth streets with a wife and and Seventeenth streets, with a wife and five children, two of them sick, a stranger in a great city without work. He has not ac-quired a residence in Nebraska yet, but still ie calls on the county for aid. great city, sickness overtakes him, and he has not the means to buy medicine. But he

Two days in County Agent Mahoney's of free gave the Ber reporter an excellent op-portunity of surmising, at least, how the other half of Omaha lives. How differently the applicants act. There is the decrepic old erone who has called so often she goes elad children, with pinched and faces, who greet one another in a sort of I've net-you-here-before way; the young widow who comes in with a shy and frightened look who talks in whispers lest, she thinks, the crowd around will know she is asking aid to clp her feed and clothe her fatherless babes; the impudent and ill-bred boy, who says his name is Bishop, and father's sick, and ne wants some coal, and he lives on Fourteenth and Leavenworth, but who is gently informed by Mr. Mahoney that the county can't undertake to provide for professional beggars. In striking con-trast were the two little German boys who came in with heads uncovered, poor, but lit-tle gentlemen, received their weekly por tion, and bowed a thank you as they went out the door; they are the children of recent arrivals from Germany, who, perhaps to their disappointment, failed to find gold dolars growing in the streets of Omaha. Friday is the busy day of the week. From

11 in the morning until 4 in the afternoon ver one hundred people had called and were supplied with a week's provisions. The al lowance is equalized as near as possible with out weighing, usually three ordinary grocers scoops of flour, one of beans, coffee and tea each, and two bars of laundry soap. Each strange applicant is visited by either Mr Mahoney or Mr. Zimmer before anything is furnished. Where the applicant is found worthy the name is entered on the register. with the residence and number in family. on investigation it is found relief is not war-ranted it is refused. An honest effort is apparently made to prevent imposition.

Poverty is on the increase in Omaha.

"The poor ye bave with you alway," and the greater the growth of the city doubly greater in proportion the increase of poverty. It is the natural law.

Prof. Fiske, after eighteen months of and labor, has raised \$300,000 for the theo ogical seminary at Chicago.

The number of converts in the Japan mission of the American board has increased in fifteen months from 4,226 to 7,023, a gain of 2.801. This is the most remarkable record in any mission of the board, except the Sandwich Islands. In the United States alone there are now

about ten thousand Women's Christian Temperance unions, comprising a member-ship of 150,000. In addition there is the World's Women's Christian Temperance union, and all the foreign interests in other Students in the Yale theological seminary are engaged in an extensive city missionary enterprise. About fifty of them have thorougly canvassed New Haven to ascer-

The twenty-two missionary societies in the United States managed by women, and whose support comes from women, support 751 mis-sionaries, last year contributed \$1,038,253, sionaries, last year contributed \$1,635,253, and since their organization have contributed \$10,335,124. The forces of Great Britain, Continental Europe and the United States have an annual income of \$9,396,996; man and equip 9,550 stations; support 5,431 missionaries; have the assistance of 32,010 native helpers, and mission churches that have 588,974 communicants and 1,876,655 adher-

tain how many families are not connected with any church and the religious standing

A Peculiar California Job and Its Management.

IT IS SOMEWHAT OF A SWINDLE.

How Much Money There is in it For Some People-Some Disadvantages of the Uniform System. 2

A State Printing Job.

Los Angeles, Jan 14 .- [Special Correspondence of THE BEE. ]-At the session of 1885, the legislature of California passed a law that the state should compile, publish and sell its own textbooks. The first act provided for three readers, one speller, one arithmetic.one grammar, one United States history and one geography. Two years later elementary works on arithmetic, grammar and geography and a book on physiology and hygiene were added to the list. These are compiled under the direction of the state board of education, who were authorized to employ competent persons for the purpose and to fix the remuneration of the compilers. It was also provided in the law, that if any individual saw fit to donate a text-book with a copyright, and the exclusive privilege of sale to the state, that the board might accept the gift. The designs for cuts and engravings are all prepared under the direction of the state board and the printing is all done at the state capital under the supervision of the state printer. Copyrights are obtained by the board and the state system is forced upon all districts willy nilly.

The first appropriation was \$20,000 for compilation and \$150,000 for the purchase of material and pay of employes. In 1887 the legislature appropriated \$10,000 for a warehouse in which to store the books; \$7,500 to meet the deficiency of the last appropriation; \$15,000 for compiling the additional series and \$165,000 for material, wages and other expenses of publishing, mak-ing a grand total of appropriations to date of \$367,500 for the scheme.

The books are furnished to the school districts through the county superintendents mainly, and the county boards of supervisors are compelled to provide superintendent with a revolving fund to be used in conducting the school book trade. The county superintendents, principals of normal schools and secretaries or clerks of school districts order their books through the state superintendent of public instruction. The prices of books are fixed by the state board, and the cash must accompany each order. The state board of education undertake to furnish the books to pupils at the cost price in Sacramento. A margin is allowed dealers about equal to the cost of mailing the books, if mailed direct to individuals. A dealer desiring to handle the books forwards an affidavit

as follows: "In consideration of receiving for sale, upon the inclosed, or upon any future order, the series of school text books, or any part thereof, published by the state of California, I hereby agree that I will not sell to any person persons for the purpose of being sold again, or to any person or persons befornia, and that I will not sell said series

AMONG THE POOR AND LOWLY | known that sickness exists in the family and unusual demands are made on the coal at low and bring a certificate from his physician as | A SCHOOL TEXT BOOK SCHEME | of text books, or any part or portion as to the character of the coal at the c to the pupil fixed by the state board of

The following table shows the prices

Name of Book.	Price ut San Francisco.	Mail	e to Pupil from Retail Dealer.
Second Reader Third Reader	54 cents. 25 cents. 25 cents.	4i cents, 66 cents, 31 cents, 25 cents,	65 cents. 30 cents. 25 cents.

English Grammar. 12 cents, 50 cents, 50 cents. U. S. History ...... 10 cents, 82 cents, 80 cents. It will be seen that the dealer is allowed a very narrow margin of profit. The only reason why any dealer is willing to handle the books is found in the indirect benefit resulting from having them in stock.

The whole thing is looked upon by of text-books to the production of the fraternity in this state. The grammar, for instance, is commended by one reputation to some of the works published by the great New York and Chicago firms. The state board selects

him to compile a text book. He may a superior teacher and a wretched editor. His book comes before the board. is examined and a pressure brought to bear at the right time secures its endorsement. The compiler obtained the job through his political friends, and forces the result of his labors upon the state by the same method. The principle is admittedly bad.

shuts out competition, for it offers no bonus for excellence in the preparation of a text book. The compilation is done by some teachers in the state who are paid a per diem. If it opened the compilation to competition of eastern experience and knowledge, the results would be far more satisfactory. The city of San Francisco, with its board of education, its skilled teachers, is not permitted to select the series of books to be used in its public schools. It takes he state books, good or bad. The expense to the state is enormous.

of books so far prepared and ready for

Name of Book.	Price et San Francisco.	Vall	e to Pupil from Retail Dealer.	1
First Reader	15 cents.		20 cents.	1
	54 cents, t	di cents.	65 cents.	1

thinking men in this state as a gigantic The benefits arising are two: First, uniformity of text books; second, cheapness to the pupil. The disadvantages of the scheme are numerous, and recognized very generally by educators outside of the state board. Some of the books are admirable, but they do not all come up to that standard of excel-lence achieved by eastern publishers. Nearly every teacher thinks it a disadvantage to be limited to the selection teacher who regards the United States History as a very dry and uninteresting It is entirely too heavy elementary students, and lacks that brightness which gives

some eminent instructor and engages

The language of the law effectually

The character of printing, not altogether excellent; the opportunity for jobbery unparalleled in the history of printing schemes. The state board of education, which is supposed to father the idea, is obliged to appear before the legislature as lobbyists in order to secure the appropriations required. The original plant and cost of compilation is a fixed charge, and the expense of printing the books depends upon the skill, economy and honesty of the printing department. The state usurps a business properly belonging to private enterprise, and all on the of saving money to the school children. A better plan would have been to invite

and second as to the cost of producing them. A still better plan would be to keep out of the school book business entirely, and leave it where it belongsto men who make it a business, and who are forced by competition to offer the best goods at the lowest prices.

### T. W. BLACKBURN. HONEY FOR THE LADIES.

Gauze fans powdered over with tiny kitten heads are a recent novelty. Accordeon-plaited cloaks are to be fre

quently seen on the streets. Fringe is again very fashionable and may be seen on many new dresses. Low-necked evening gowns are decorated profusely with floral garnitures. Fur is exceedingly popular in Paris this winter and is seen on all outdoor wraps.

Among the latest importations from Paris cesse dresses. Ladies of matronly years are fond of decorating their hair with silver tipped white

ostrich plumes.

Necklaces are much worn even with high bodices and jeweled combs are seen with A remarkably effective evening dress re-

cently worn was made up in light cream yellow and rose pink. Light delicately tinted ball dresses are now

cleaned by a chemical process which leaves the fabric uninjured. A ball dress made up in yellow and black excited considerable attention at a ball given in New York last week. Wool is the most popular material for

day gowns and the directoire redingote the favorite style for them. Long mantles are now noticeable for the novel and leading feature of double sleeves with which they are adorned.

Green is combined with blue, although conrasting shades are used. If the blue is pale the green is deep, and vice versa. A striking toilet for young women is of red cloth or red tudia camel's hair combined with white cloth and white bengaline,

The two very latest shades of green are known as "nettle" and "box." The French names for these colors are "ortee" and Corsets with shoulder straps, or else nar

row baby sleeves are worn in great numbers over half-high gumpes of crepe lisse or silk This is above all things a "fur winter. Wherever room can be found for a bit of fur ornamentation or triniming fushion demands

that it be seen. The hair may be worn low or high to suit the taste of the wearer. It must, however be either one or the other, as the fashion de mands an extreme.

The slender effect now so much sought in walking costumes may be attained by wear-ing with them a shoulder cape and deep cuffs of long fleeced fur. Black monkey fur continues to grow

popularity and is used quite extensively for capes, collars, cuffs, muffs, and bands down capes, collars, cuffs, must the front of long cloaks. A new trimming for cloth gowns is cloth

appique upon fur in the puckered flower de-signs of ribbon embroidery. The edges are covered with cord of contrasting color. A Parisian fancy for evening gowns in the empire style is the wearing of four or five unhemmed skirts of tulle, the uppermost one bordered with fifteen rows of soutache

The new accordeon-plaited cloaks have their own peculiar style of trimmings-deep yokes of passementerie. In very cold weather a pointed shoulder cape with fur collar may be worn over this.

White handkerchiefs are preferred they are now severely plain in style. Colored borders are tabooed as old-fashioned, the only permissible trimming being thread lace and duchess borders. Full pink, white and yellow roses are car

hair is arranged high a stiff loop of ribbon Some of the workingwomen of Bosto have organized themselves into a society "for the protection of their rights and the improvement of their condition socially and

ried in a loose cluster or pinned to the front of the bodice for ball costumes. When the

A woman's art club of twenty members has been organized in Philadelphia. The society, which calls itself "Bohemia," is a very merry one and the members manage to extract a great deal of pleasure from life, although they are all poor, orphans, and

All Paris has returned to the wearing of head dresses, which resemble small and very airy bonnets. Elderly ladies modify them into caps which retain enough of light grace to prevent them from being classed with a cap of the angular old-fashioned woman of

wenty-five years ago. The velvet evening gown is the favorite in Paris Toilets of black velvet are furnished with panels of black Chantilly over petticoat of gold satin, embroidered in black and gold. The same black and gold appears upon the

sleeves are long under the arm and short on top or else draped a la Grecque. A new feminine enterprise in London in the Women's Penny Paper. This journal, which is printed, written and conducted solely by women, speaks out boldly on all

the current topics of the day, and promises to become of some importance as a political factor. It will be conducted on independent principles, treating all questions in a broad benefit of inteligence and unprejudiced opin-

### EDUCATIONAL.

The Chicago Theological seminary has re-ceived subscriptions to the amount of \$300,030 to further its general purposes.

The Harvard authorities will petition the Massachusetts legislature, at its present sesthe property holdings of the university. The Philadelphia Woman's Medical col-

lege is in its thirty minth year. Last year it matriculated 130 women, representing every state in the union, as well as Australia, Jap A new general catalogue of Columbia col.

ege has been prepared by Prof. Howard J-Van Amringe. There have been since 1754, A. D., 10,214 graduates, of whom 7,941 are The Yale glee and banjo clubs enjoyed their western tour quite as much as the peo

ple who heard their performances. They went as far west as Denver and were feted everywhere they went.

By the will of the late John S. Welles, of Hartford, Conn., the sum of \$18,000 is given to Yale university for the assistance of students "pursuing studies with a view of entering the gospel ministry."

The trustees of the University of Pennsylvania on Tuesday made the following ap-pointments: Prof. Horace Jayne, dean of the faculty; Dr. Charles S. Dolley, professor of general biology, dean of the biological de-partment; Prof. John Asthurst, jr., to suc-

gery. The new library building for Yale university—the gift of S. B. Chittenden as a memorial to his daughter—by the completion of its roof now exhibits quite clearly the general effect of a dignified and interesting structure. It should not be confounded with the building in course or erection on the site of the old college fence-by an unknown benefactor-which has no connection with

the college horary system. The problem of self-government has, perhaps, nowhere in this country been worked out to wiser and better results than in the Amherst college senate. This body is composed of the president of the college, Dr. Seelye, and ten under-graduates, to whom are transferred all the questions of moral discipline connected with the institution. This senate not only voices, but directs college sentiment on matters submitted to their jurisdiction, and such has been the weight attached to their judgment by the college, and such the growth of their sense of responsibility in deciding current questions, that their decisions have rarely been questions.

For Constipation Use Horsford's Acid Phosphate.
Dr. J. R. Forston, Kiowa, Ind., Ter., says:
"I have tried it for constipation, with suc-

cess, and think it worth a thorough