SOMETHING HAD TO BE DONE

Why the Interstate Commerce Association Was Formed.

AN OFFICIAL'S HISTORIC WORDS.

The Restoration of Confidence in Railroad Securities Was Absolutely Necessary—The Trans-Missouri Meeting.

Formed to Restore Confidence.

CHICAGO, Feb. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—One of the historical statements coming from the railroad men was the frank assertion of Vice President McMullin of the Alton at the time when the Interstate Commerce Railway association was being organized: "The association will be formed simply to restore the confidence of investors in railroad securities." Subsequent developments have shown that Mr. McMullin was exactly right. In spite of the objections of many western presidents, they were almost to a man whipped into line by the New York and Boston bankers. As a rule the railroad presidents are against the formation of the association as they are today against its continuance. The eastern moneyed men simply put on the screws and forced the presidents into the organization. The whole plan was told by a member of the firm of Kidder, Peabody & Co. lately to a high official of a western road, who in turn told it to your representative. The railroad official would not allow the use of his name, but the facts themselves attest their own truthfulness. Said he: "Eastern financial men fifteen months ago were loaded up with an immense amount of railroad securities, for which there was no market, and besides there was no immediate prospect of a return of confidence on the part of investors. Another railroad smash would have precipitated a panic in railroad matters and it was absolutely necessary to put some of the weak roads on a good basis and to solve other problems, such as the reorganization of the Wabash and Atchison and the raising of large amounts for loans to the Burlington and St. Paul. It was either a trust or an association, and after Jay Gould prematurely exposed the plan to form the first it was decided to form the second, and the Interstate Commerce Railway association was the result. The association has served its main purpose by giving the bankers a chance to unload, raise money and make the necessary reorganization, and now many of them are apathetic as to its continuance. It has developed a surprising power to maintain rates, however, and it may be continued for that reason. President Adams of the Union Pacific and President Hughitt of the Northwestern were the leaders in forming the association, but you can see in what estimation they held it when their aims, or rather those of their backers, were accomplished. It is a toss up whether the association will be continued."

The Nebraska Board in Chicago.

CHICAGO, Feb. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—State Auditor Benton, Land Commissioner Steen and Secretary of State Cowdry, a quorum of the board of transportation of Nebraska, arrived in Chicago today on their mission in behalf of the western farmers. They will use every endeavor to persuade the roads of the Trans-Missouri association and other western lines to grant a reduction of corn rates from Nebraska points to Chicago and eastern markets. A conference between the board of transportation and the railroad managers will be held tomorrow to discuss the subject.

It is very evident that the Chicago board of trade, so far as it can, will exert all its influence against any reduction of the western corn rates. Counselman, a prominent operator, is quoted as asserting that 500 extra cars of corn in any one day would break the market.

The Trans-Missouri Meeting.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Feb. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The Nebraska emergency corn rate notice was not reached on the regular call of the Trans-Missouri freight meeting today and some doubt is now expressed among association men as to the success of the endeavors of those working to secure the rate. The association finds it has its hands full of lining up Colorado and Utah rates, and one member said this evening that the subject might be continued by general consent until the next meeting. Mr. George H. Crosby, general freight agent of the B. & M., is in favor of bringing the matter up. The Commercial club of this city at a meeting tonight petitioned the association not to pass the matter by.

The Iowa Central Economizing.

MASON CITY, Ia., Feb. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The recent changes and difficulties of the Iowa Central railway have caused them to make extensive reductions in the cost of operating the road. At Marshalltown about one hundred men have been thrown out of employment and the balance put on half time. This is caused principally by the breaking of connections at Lyle and Keithsburg. At the latter point the railroad is playing a game of freeze out with the bridge company, with the former in the lead. The friendly relations between the Iowa Central and Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul have caused a connection to be made at Mason City Junction. There are rumors of important business allowances soon to be made between the two latter roads.

Secured Control of Reading.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—There has just been accomplished a remarkable deal which practically changes the ownership of the Philadelphia & Reading railroad property. Philadelphia and New York millionaires, supported by two great European banking houses, have bought and now hold over four hundred thousand shares of Reading's capital stock, more than a majority. The purchasers are not believers in the policy of Austin Corbin, Reading's president, and for what they aver is the company's welfare they have prepared to begin proceedings at once to try to oust him from power. Postmaster General Wanamaker is in the syndicate

The B., C. R. & N.'s Report.

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The report of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern railway, just filed with the governor, shows the total earnings for 1889 to have been $2,786,559, as against $2,632,552.71 for the 1888, an increase of $154,008.29.

Crippled By the Strike.

NEW YORK, Feb. 4.—It was officially announced today that on account of expending its resources in the strike troubles the dividends on the Chicago & Eastern Illinois preferred will be discontinued. The officials of the company state that they have no floating debt and do not propose to create one.

STATE NEWS.

The Russell Boy Caught.

BLAIR, Neb., Feb. 4.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Through the notice published in THE BEE yesterday in regard to the boy, Lee Russell, escaped from the reform school, he was identified and Mayor Haller has him locked up in the jail here awaiting the proper authorities to come and get him. He came into town and was a dilapidated looking subject. He was covered with mud from head to foot and had the appearance of just crawling out of a haystack. At first he would not give his name, but finally, when the mayor questioned him sharply, admitted he was the boy and wants to go back.

Want the Omaha and Dakota Road.

FREMONT, Neb., Feb. 4.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The representative farmers of the central part of Dodge county held an enthusiastic meeting at Centerville a few days ago for the purpose of discussing the railroad situation. Since the meeting it has developed that the project under consideration was that of the proposed Omaha and South Dakota road. For many years the inhabitants of the Maple creek valley have agitated the question of securing better facilities, with a view to getting a road up Maple creek, an easy route through a rich and prosperous country. After thoroughly discussing the situation at the Centerville meeting it was pretty unanimously agreed that the Omaha and Yankton road would fill the bill. A committee to look after the project has been appointed as follows: W. D. Holbrook, J. M. Cruickshank, L. A. Warner, John R. Cantlin, J. O. Milligan.

An Instance of Railroad Avarice.

NORFOLK, Neb., Feb. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—A large family, headed by an old gentleman and more bundles than an ordinary dray could carry, were taken off the Union Pacific train here today and compelled to transfer themselves to the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley in order to reach their destination, Humphrey, Neb., as their tickets had been sold them over the Minneapolis & Omaha and Elkhorn roads, compelling them to go from Sioux City to Norfolk, from Norfolk to Scribner and thence up the Scribner branch. They evidently were in very poor circumstances and many here expressed their indignation and contempt of the agent who caused them their extra expense and long journey, that his road might reap the benefit of a few dollars.

Will Be Sold to Satisfy Mortgages.

HASTINGS, Neb., Feb. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—An order of sale has been issued by the district court clerk involving the Opera house block, owned by Senator Frank Taggart, in this city. This sale is to satisfy a mortgage of $10,000 held by William Kerr and J. M. Ragan, also a mortgage of $10,000 of the Nebraska Loan and Trust company, besides several other claims. The property is one of the most valuable in the city and is valued at $100,000.

The Whisky Trust Case Again.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., Feb. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—A few days ago the whisky trust people sent men here from Peoria for the purpose of dismantling and taking out the greater part of the machinery, valued at $23,000, and ship it away. As this would virtually have defeated the aim of the suit in the supreme court, a supplementary petition was filed and an injunction secured restraining the trust people from interfering with the property.

Charged With Swindling.

UNADILLA, Neb., Feb. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—A fellow by the name of Fisher was arrested here today for obtaining money under false pretenses, on complaint of Rev. Brayman, and taken to Nebraska City and jailed. Fisher is said to be an old offender in this line and has in the past victimized several farmers for various sums.

Close of the Swedish Conference.

OAKLAND, Neb., Feb. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The Swedish Lutheran conference that has been in session here one week, closed tonight. The attendance has been very large throughout the entire week and a very lively interest manifested. At the close of the session a resolution was apopted denouncing the liquor traffic.

Beatrice Policemen Acquitted.

BEATRICE, Neb., Feb. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Policemen Smith and Wilson were this evening honorably acquitted of the charge of robbing a drunken prisoner who was arrested the night of January 30. The trial was largely attended and will probably end the series of malicious persecutions of these officers.

Death of a Hastings Grocer.

HASTINGS, Neb., Feb. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—P. H. Kipp of the grocery house of P. H. Kipp & Son of this city died last night at the age of sixty-three. Mr. Kipp was a former resident and merchant of St. Joseph and Cameron, Mo., for the past twenty years. He leaves a wife and seven children.

Fined for Cruelty to a Horse.

UNADILLA, Neb., Feb. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—On complaint of Otto Ebert, Herbert Stubendyke was yesterday arrested for cruelty to animals and fined $15 and costs. Stubendyke had assaulted a horse on his place with a hatchet and basely treated the animal.

Gage County Prohibition Call.

BEATRICE, Neb., Feb. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The prohibitionists of Gage county have called a mass meeting for Wednesday, February 12 next, to elect delegates to the state prohibition convention to be held at Lincoln, February 1.

Died From His Injuries.

SHUBERT, Neb., Feb. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Hendrys, the boy accidentally shot by his older brother while hunting Sunday, died last night at his father's residence and will be buried tomorrow. The family is highly respected and has the sympathy of this community.

A Hastings Grain Firm Closed.

HASTINGS, Neb., Feb. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Rosenbaum Brothers' extensive grain dealers, also owners of an elevator at Ayr, this county, were closed up this afternoon on an attachment filed by William Vastine in the sum of $3,000.

Look Out for Him.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., Feb. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Sheriff Willman today offered a reward of $50 for the arrest of Dan Lawrence, who sold another man's herd of cattle at Omaha and afterwards jumped his bail.

A Grain Firm Sells Out.

CREIGHTON, Neb., Feb. 4.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Yesterday the grain and live stock firm of Shepherd & Badger, with headquarters at Arlington, sold their business here to H. G. Corell. Corell will continue the business at the same place.

A YOUNG MAN'S HARD LUCK.

Pursued by an Heiress Who Wants to Marry Him.

NEW YORK, Feb. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Russell Hass of 49 West Thirty-ninth street, a well known society man, claims to be the victim of a deep-laid plot on the part of a Fifth avenue heiress, whose name he declines to give, to have him confined in a retreat for the insane because he will not consent to marry her. Hass declares that she lives in Fifth avenue near Forty-first street, and employs men and women to follow him about from place to place simply to inform people that he is betrothed to her. He also avers that she has circulated the report that he had promised to marry her, and that she actually has had the audacity to have the letters "S. R. H." his initials, inscribed on the panels of her brougham. Mr. Hass, among other things, said that the heiress has gone so far as to make three repeated attempts to have him confined in an asylum, claiming that he had threatened to shoot Mayor Grant and every politician in New York. He had originally met the heiress at the West End hotel, Long Branch, last summer, and she has bothered him with her attentions ever since.

The Wool Market.

BOSTON, Feb. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—There has been a continued steady demand for wool. Manufacturers are buying to cover immediate wants. Territory wools are offered quite freely and sell generally on a scoured basis of 57@58c for fine, 55c for fine medium and 50@52c for medium. Some choice lots might go higher, but such are scarce. There is no change in Texas and California wools and Oregon sells at about the same prices as territory. In washed fleeces there have been sales of Ohio X at 31@32c, of XX at 32½@34c and of Michigan X at 29½@30c. No. 1 wools are steady at 37@38c. Combing and delaine selections are firm but quiet, with small sales reported of No. 1 combing at 36@40c, of Ohio fine delaine at 35@36c and of Michigan fine delaine at 36@37c. Washed combing is in small stock, but is not called for to any extent. Good supplies of pulled wools are offering and they are weak, the sales including supers at 27@30c and extra at 30@32c. Foreign wools are quiet.

BUILDERS AND TRADERS.

Those of Omaha Addressed by Notable Gentlemen.

POINTERS FOR CONTRACTORS.

Edward J. Hannan, President of the National Plumbers' Association, and Vice President Reynolds of the National Steam Fitters.

Trade Matters Discussed.

It was expected that at a social meeting of the Builders' and Traders' exchange held yesterday afternoon a report would be made on the uniform contract question. The report was to have been made by John Harte, Richard Smith and G. I. LeVeille, who composed the committee that represented the exchange at the national convention held recently in St. Paul, but these gentlemen were not fully prepared and the hearing was postponed ten days. The business of the session was principally of a routine nature and was private.

Last evening the exchange reconvened for the purpose of listening to addresses by Edward J. Hannan of Washington, D. C., president of the National master plumbers' organization; Vice President Reynolds of the National master steam fitters' association, and others. The attendance was large, and included the state master plumbers, who came in a body.

Upon being introduced to the meeting as president of the national organization of master plumbers, Mr. Hannan said he would have preferred to have been introduced as the second vice president of the builders' exchange of Washington, since he was to address builders. This remark brought forth applause and had the effect of placing the speaker and his audience on the best of terms with each other. Mr. Hannan said he was no speaker, but would seek to call the attention of his hearers to a few facts realized through the benefits of organization. He called attention to the advantage which noticeably accrued to men and people everywhere by being organized, by being banded together for the interest of the whole. The speaker then went on to refer to builders' exchanges and organizations of plumbers. The idea had gotten out, Mr. Hannan said, that the latter organization was for the purpose of putting up prices. He knew the charge could not be proven. The plumbers' organization had shown the public a better class of work, more honest work, than was previously known. It had half a dozen trade papers and the men and apprentice boys were urged to contribute any suggestions which they might have. Another profitable feature of the association was a nightly exchange of ideas, facts, figures, etc. They, as mechanics, are not banded together to make a price list or a trust, but to get a fair, square, honest price for their work at all times. The speaker said he attended a meeting of plumbers in cultured Boston at which one delegate proposed sending a missionary to the "wild, untutored west," but Mr. Hannan had found nothing wild or untutored out here, but on the contrary all that he had seen was a magnificent credit and honor to the builders of of this section.

A notable speaker living in the east had said that one great fact he had learned, and for which he admired the plumbers' organization, was that it contained more Americans than did any other.

Trade schools had been started in the east, Mr. Hannan said, in which boys were placed for five months and prepared to take many steps in advance of those boys ordinarily taken as apprentices.

In closing he said that he had hoped to hear a report from the committee that visited St. Paul, but he could certify that they were all sober while there. In coming to the city of Omaha and meeting with the courtesies which he had, Mr. Hannan said he felt that more than was due had been accorded him. He desired all members of the exchange to understand that they would be made very welcome at the rooms of the Washington organization. Referring further to his home organization the speaker said that the arrangement of its quarters was perhaps unequaled in the line of comfort and adaptability to their purpose. He urged that the Omaha exchange exert itself and secure the best organization in the country, as it would certainly prove increasingly profitable. Mr. Hannan was heartily applauded as he took his seat.

Vice President Reynolds of the national organization of master steam fitters was next introduced, and came forward with considerable reluctance. He was a large, very good natured gentleman. He said that it might be lucky for many in the audience that they didn't know that he fell into his present office by mere chance, or because he hated to see his firm fined a dollar because his partner forgot to attend many meetings. After this starter, Mr. Reynolds said he hoped to see the day when the steam-heating part of a building was let as a separate thing. The day has gone by, said he, when you buy calico and groceries at the same store, and or has the day when a man can contract with one man for everything needed in the house he is going to build. Another thing—the man who takes a contract without having figured in a good, fair profit, robs his own family. The man who will underbid a fair profit will rob his customer. [Applause.] Harmony among contractors is absolutely necessary to their success. A town full of contractors who are quarreling among themselves is pudding for the citizens and means bankruptcy for the contractors. [Applause.] Hence, continued the speaker, the great necessity for organization—organization in which good, intimate and hearty friendship exists. A third matter: I consider that the man who takes a contract for a big building without having a contingency fund included is no business man. [Applause.] A contingency fund is necessary to success—taking a lifetime through.

The speaker occasioned considerable surprise by urging very emphatically that when a contractor completes his work and finds he has received more than a fair profit for his work he should return the difference. This should not be done to attract attention, said he, for an advertisement or anything of that sort, but simply as a business principle, and the man who makes a practice of so doing will find himself a more successful and a richer man as the years go by.

Mr. Reynolds closed with a few very earnest words, urging honest, upright action upon all occasions. Common decency, said he, too often becomes an orphan in the presence of a dollar. See that you don't get too much of any man's money—see that you don't get too little.

A hearty vote of thanks was tendered the gentlemen who had addressed the exchange.

AT THE COLISEUM.

Prince Defeats Nichols After an Exciting Contest.

The Coliseum was fairly well filled last night. The principal attraction was a mile dash between Jack Prince and "Kid" Nichols. The latter was on roller skates and Prince rode his wheel. The stakes were $20 a side. During the first few rounds of the track Prince led and won the applause of the auditors. Then Nichols began to gain and soon the race was almost a tie. Nichols skated hard and Prince pumped his wheel for all there was in it. It was a close race. At the finish Prince bowed his neck and fairly made his wheel fly. Nichols skated his best, but he didn't have the power. He lost.

Prior to the match there was skating, when all of the spectators were allowed to have a good time.

Sandwiched in between were three innings of polo between the Continental and the S. P. Morse clubs. The Continentals won two goals in the first inning and one in the second.

Notice to Elks.

Omaha lodge, No. 39, Brotherhood Protective Order of Elks, held a special meeting last night and made the necessary arrangements to attend the funeral of their deceased brother, Charles McCormick, at 2 o'clock this afternoon. Services at the grave will be conducted by the lodge, with Exalted Grand Ruler Dr. Simon Quinlin of Chicago officiating. Every member who possibly can is requested to turn out and be at the lodge room at 1 o'clock.

MR. TRACY IMPROVING.

His Son Arrives and Consoles His Bereaved Father.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—Secretary Tracy continues to improve slowly. Many prominent people called at the house during the morning to inquire after him. His son, Frank D. Tracy, is now with him, having arrived here at 7:30 this morning on a special train. He is the first member of the family the secretary has seen since the awful calamity of yesterday morning and his presence was the one joy and hope to the bereaved parent. The president sent over early this morning to inquire after Secretary Tracy, and Private Secretary Halford called later with regard to Tracy's removal to the white house.

The physicians attending Mrs. and Miss Wilmerding said this morning that their patients passed a fair night and are better today.

About 11 o'clock today Secretary Tracy got out of bed and dressed himself. He showed such strength that he was allowed to descend to the library and remain there during a portion of the day. He was later removed to the white house in a cab. His physicians pronounce him out of danger.

Shortly after his arrival at the white house he requested to be taken into the east room and shown the caskets containing the remains of his wife and daughter. They were covered with beautiful flowers. Standing at the head between them both was a large palm tree, arranged so the leaves drooped gracefully over the dead. The secretary was very much affected by the sight and sobbed as though his heart would break. The casket containing Mrs. Tracy's body was opened, and he was allowed to look upon her face for the last time. The other body was in no condition for inspection, and the casket was not opened at all. It was a terrible ordeal for the stricken man, but he bore it remarkably well, though there was no concealing the keenness and depth of his grief.

This morning Secretary Tracy received a cablegram through Sir Julian Pauncefote stating that "the queen deeply deplores the calamity to Secretary Tracy's family and inquires after him and the survivors."

The secretary replied as follows: "Secretary Tracy begs the British minister to convey to her majesty his sincere thanks for her gracious message of sympathy, and in reply to her kindly inquiry to say that his surviving daughter and grandchild are out of danger."

The funeral services over the remains of Mrs. and Miss Tracy will be held at the white house tomorrow morning at 11 o'clock. The bodies will be temporarily deposited in the receiving vault at Rock Creek cemetery until their final disposition is determined upon. The pall bearers for Mrs. Tracy will be as follows: Secretaries Windom, Proctor, Noble and Rusk, Attorney General Miller, Postmaster General Wanamaker, Admiral Porter and Rear Admiral Rogers.

Condolence from Italy.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—Baron Fava, the Italian minister, tonight received a message from Signor Crispi, the premier of Italy, directing him to tender the condolence of the Italian government to both Secretary Tracy and Blaine.

A GREAT HOWL RAISED.

Protests Against Starting a State Lottery in North Dakota.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Feb. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The bill introduced in the North Dakota house yesterday to legalize a lottery to relieve the financial stress of the new state is meeting with a storm of indignation in all the large towns. Dispatches from Jamestown, Grand Forks, Devil's Lake and Fargo indicate that the sentiment against it is practically unanimous. The pastors of the Fargo churches held a meeting to protest against the lottery scheme. Scathing resolutions were adopted, setting forth many of the curses which, in their opinion, would result from its passage. A committee of five was appointed to go to Bismarck on the morning train and labor against the measure.

Read the Riot Act.

PIERRE, S. D., Feb. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The only measure of importance that passed today was a bill providing for the appointment of mine inspectors, which was brought through by the Black Hills members after a hard fight. Legislation has seemed to drag, and after the session adjourned Speaker Young called the chairmen of the different standing committees together and proceeded to read the riot act. He stated that the session was half gone, and many questions the constitution called for to be settled at this session had not been touched. That there were important measures affecting the constitution on which even bills had not been introduced and that the legislature could not adjourn inside the time limited by the constitution until these questions had been settled in some way. He cautioned them that there was no time to spare hereafter and the body would have to get down to hard, substantial work from now on if they wished to fulfill the duties required explicitly by the constitution and owing to the state.

South Dakota's Supreme Court.

PIERRE, S. D., Feb. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The first session of the supreme court of South Dakota assembled today and after organization the time until adjournment was occupied by the swearing in of many different attorneys from this and other states who will practice before it. Except the argument of two unimportant motions the calendar does not show any very important cases to be brought up, but the term will doubtless occupy from two to three weeks. Judge Digkton Carson presided, with his colleagues, Judge A. J. Kellam and J. E. Bennett.

Securing a Transfer Boat.

CHAMBERLAIN, S. D., Feb. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—A representative of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway is here making arrangements for securing the steamer Last Chance to be used as a transfer boat between here and the Sioux reservation as soon as the land is opened to settlement.

SERIOUS CHARGES.

The Morocco Times "Roasts" Consul Lewis.

TANGIER, Feb. 4.—The Morocco Times today prints a continuation of its stories about ex-United States Consul William Reed Lewis, in which it tells of an unfortunate who purchased the protection of the American consulate, and not be able to pay down the price demanded gave notes on his property, with the understanding that he was to have five years' time to pay them. Within a month after giving the notes he was summoned to Tangier and told that he must pay or go to jail, and a few days later he was imprisoned and all his property sold. His brothers succeeded in raising the money to get him out of prison by mortgaging their property to Jews. Now they are in a worse difficulty than ever. The Jews demand their money and threaten to take all the property and put the three brothers in prison until it is paid, together with all the expenses.

The paper says the only thing to be done to save this unfortunate family from ruin and death is for the United States government to settle the claims of the Jews and pay all the expenses in the matter. They had no manner of right to send a representative here and maintain him in a position to swindle poor, hard working people. The people who took the unfortunate Moor to United States Consul Lewis and conducted all the negotiations in the matter were two men named Solomon Azagua and Abraham Amselem. The latter is the same man who shortly after the incident mentioned above was flogged by order of Consul Lewis and then sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment.

A Very Stormy Session.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—The colored man's convention was in session until an early hour this morning and after a stormy scene finally elected Bishop A. Wagman permanent president.

Rev. A. J. Chambers of North Carolina at the night session read a paper. He thought the negroes had the solution of the negro problem in their own hands. He believed the whites should have the political mastery until the negroes had served their apprenticeship, so to speak, and became sufficiently advanced to take a prominent part in affairs.

FAVORS TAX REDUCTION.

Mayor Cushing Wants the Council to Reduce the Levy.

ESTIMATED YEARLY EXPENSES.

Hungry Aspirants Offering Money for Garbagemaster Goldsmith's Shoes—The Street Commissioner Muddle.

The Council.

The mayor presented a communication at the council meeting last night, expressing his opinion that a material reduction can be made in the total levy of taxes for the current year, as compared with the total, (48 mills) of the year preceding. The total valuation, real and personal, upon which taxes may be levied for municipal purposes this year amounts to $19,994,808, a decrease of $731,871, as compared with 1889. "I am convinced," says the mayor, "that the expense of conducting the municipal government will be greater than last year, though the condition of some of the funds will permit the making of a lower levy than that of 1889. I believe that at the very utmost the total levy for 1890 should not exceed 42½ mills apportioned to the respective funds as follows:

	Mills.
General fund	14
Curbing, guttering, etc., fund	1½
Sewer mortgage fund	⅝
Police fund	5
Fire fund	5
Sinking fund	5
Water fund	4
Library fund	1
School fund	5
Park fund	1½
Total	42½

The communication was laid on the table until tonight, when the council will make the levy for the year.

In the same line the mayor presented an estimate of the expenses for the year 1890. He gave the amount asked for by the heads of the various departments and the amount which he recommended for the various expenses. The figures were as follows:

	Asked.	Recmd.
Mayor's office	$	$ 4,000
City council		14,500
Comptroller	9,500	10,000
Treasurer	8,759	9,000
Legal	8,240	8,240
City clerk	9,500	7,500
Engineer	24,000	24,000
Street commissioner	35,000	25,000
Board of public works	7,000	7,000
Superintendent of buildings	7,000	6,000
Sewer inspector	10,000	3,000
Sup't of plumbing	7,000	6,000
Boiler inspector	3,300	3,300
Sidewalk inspector		3,000
Meat inspector	2,412	2,450
Police court		5,000
Gas inspector	1,620	1,620
City physician		2,500
City veterinarian	360	360
City druggist	300	300
License inspector	1,355	1,400
Janitor		600
Watchman		1,500
Sergeant at arms		900
Appraisers		1,500
Annex expenses		700
Hospital		1,200
Advertising		3,000
Rentals		6,600
Election expenses		8,000
Abstracting, etc		2,000
Compiling tax list		2,500
Garbage boat expenses		100
Hauling dead animals		1,500
Feed for prisoners		2,000
City lighting		45,000
Fuel		500
City taxes		15,000
Board of health		3,000
Stenographer		800
Loss and damage		500
Recording deeds and plats		50
Total		$239,520

The mayor took the initial step in clearing up the street commissioner problem. He presented a communication informing the council that section 106 of the city charter was repealed by the legislature. In consequence there is no legal provision for salary for a street commissioner and nothing defining the powers and duties of that official. This was placed on file and an ordinance introduced creating the office of street commissioner at a salary of $1,800 a year, and defining his duties. The ordinance is the same in the main as the one under the old charter. The ordinance was read a first and second time and referred to the committee on judiciary. The matter came up again when the appropriation ordinance was presented. Mr. Bechel said he didn't want to vote to pay the street commissioner until he knew whether the city had such an officer. City Attorney Poppleton said the city had a street commissioner in fact but none in law, but that Mr. Flannery was undoubtedly entitled to pay for any services he had rendered the city. The ordinance was finally laid over until tonight.

The committee on fire and water works reported in favor of an ordinance locating forty-eight water hydrants in various parts of the city. Mr. Sander, a member of the committee, objected to the report on the ground that the fund will not allow of such wholesale extensions. It was claimed that the hydrants were located last year to suit certain members of the council and that the passage of the ordinance would prevent the location of hydrants that are needed in other wards. After some discussion the report was recommitted for one week.

The appointment of James Gilbert as gas inspector was unanimously confirmed.

Archer Pulaski's appointment as dog pound keeper was confirmed.

A communication was received from Senator Manderson accepting the appointment as a delegate from Omaha to the fourth annual convention of the American shipping and industrial league.

The mayor offered another appointment for the position of garbage master, presenting the name of Jacob Moore. Before a vote was taken Mr. Morearty presented a communication from Michael Harry offering the city $500 for the privilege of being garbage master for the term of two years. Mr. Lowry also had a communication, and it came from Pat Barrett, who offered $500 a year for the job. The two bids divided the forces, and Mr. Davis got out of a rejection of Moore's confirmation by moving the reference of the appointment and the applications to the mayor, with the instruction that it is the sense of the council that the job be let to the highest responsible bidder. The motion prevailed.

The city engineer reported the collection of $36 for plumbing permits for the month of January.

The Republican printing company was awarded the contract for furnishing blank books for the city for the ensuing year.

Street Commissioner Fanning reported the expenditure of $57 57 from January 16 to date.

The petition of W. H. Holcomb for a sewer on Thirty-seventh street was referred to the committee on sewerage.

The report of the superintendent of plumbing showed the receipt of $120 and an expenditure of $335 in the month of January.

A petition for the extension of the West Leavenworth street sewer was referred to the committee on sewerage.

The claim of B. F. Baker, amounting to $198.85 for services as superintendent of the city hall, which was vetoed by Mayor Broatch several months ago, was, on recommendation of City Attorney Poppleton, approved and the amount allowed.

The city engineer was instructed to make a list showing the property owned by the city and the occupants of the same.

A resolution authorizing the comptroller to secure offices in a fire proof building for the city engineer and city clerk, at an expense not to exceed $65 a month for each office, was referred to the committee on public property and buildings.

City Attorney Poppleton gave his opinion that the tax for the sidewalk around Jefferson square, amounting to $1,511.97, should be paid by the city out of the general fund and it was so ordered.

Judge Ives presented a cheering communication to the effect that the revised city ordinances would be published and ready for delivery on March 1.

The Thomson-Houston electric light company was given until March 15 to complete the plans for lighting the city with electric lights.

The application of the city mission for the rental of two lots belonging to the city on Tenth street was referred to the committee on public property and buildings.

An ordinance providing for the refunding to property owners on Thirtieth avenue a portion of the sums of money paid for grading was vetoed on account of a technicality in the wording. The veto was sustained.

An ordinance was introduced creating the office of city electrician. The ordinance gives the electrician a salary of $2,500 a year and gives him general charge and control of the construction and operation of all electric light wires in the city.

The ordinance regulating the cutting and storing of ice was presented, as amended, and passed.

The ordinance fixing a license of $25 a day for the sale of bankrupt stocks was passed.

It was the intention of the council to pass the ordinance making the tax levy, but as Mayor Cushing could not be found to sign the document, an adjournment was taken until tonight.

BLOODSHED FEARED.

Laborers at the Volunteer Mine on a Strike.

MARQUETTE, Mich., Feb. 4.—Saturday about fifty laborers employed at the Volunteer mine, located at Palmer, struck for $3 per day, an advance of 40 cents. The company operating the mine refused the advance and hired new men, but the strikers would not allow them to go to work. Yesterday the sheriff with an armed posse went to Palmer to disperse the strikers, but did not have enough men with him and returned, leaving the strikers masters of the situation. Today the sheriff, after receiving reinforcements from Ishpeming and Negaunee, is again on the ground, but the strikers show no signs of yielding. The sheriff is disinclined to precipitate a crisis and the two bodies of men are watching one another sharply. If the new men should go to work bloodshed will likely ensue.

The mine is one that was purchased by General Alger a year ago and he is the principal stockholder in the company operating it.

A DANGEROUS GORGE.

The Ice Changing the Course of the Missouri at Atchison.

ATCHISON, Kan., Feb. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Heavy ice from above has gorged at a narrow place in the river above town. It apparently extends to the bottom of the stream, forming a dam so firm and strong that it has turned nearly the entire volume of water through the piling constructed by the government on the Missouri side a year or more ago. The current is now rushing through a narrow slough with mighty force, rapidly cutting away a great deposit of earth that the government engineers depended upon to hold the river against the Kansas side and thus prevent the stream from going behind the west end of the bridge, as it once before threatened to do. Unless the gorge breaks and goes out soon work that cost the government nearly $150,000 will be destroyed and the bridge, the railroads and the town of East Atchison will be at the mercy of the river when the spring freshet comes.

CITIZEN TRAIN'S LATEST.

He Will Try to Beat Nellie Bly's Globe-Circling Record.

BOSTON, Mass., Feb. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—George Francis Train has the globe-trotting crate. He says he can circumnavigate this mundane sphere in sixty days, and he proposes to do it, "to show that he is still alive and to beat Nellie Bly." George says he will start next Monday and go via the Canadian Pacific to Vancouver, thence to Hong Kong, and from there via Marseilles to Southampton, where he will sail for New York. He has tried to get backing from New York papers, but in vain, and he now says he shall go on his own hook if no newspaper proprietors will seize the golden opportunity offered. He estimates the cost of the expedition at $750.

RELIEF FOR DAKOTANS.

Chicago Men Will Send Money to Buy Seed.

CHICAGO, Feb. 4.—The board of trade directors today appointed a committee of three to canvass for subscriptions to buy seed for the destitute farmers of South Dakota. The action was taken on the receipt of a communication from Governor Mellette saying that in nineteen counties such relief was badly needed. The state can not appropriate money or levy taxes for the purpose owing to constitutional objections. The governor is endeavoring to raise a fund of $50,000 and believes it will be the means of retaining 3,000 families in South Dakota who would otherwise be compelled to leave the state under circumstances of increased destitution resulting from the sacrifice of property left behind.

Business Troubles.

CHICAGO, Feb. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The George S. Cline publishing company of Chicago has made an assignment to A. Merriman. The assets are $23,000, while the liabilities are over $47,000. Cline came from Iowa and organized the company about a year ago, the secretary, Frank B. Davis, and treasurer, Charles K. Talcott, being among the heaviest stockholders.

KANSAS CITY, Feb. 4.—A Topeka special says: A. J. Ewart & Co., lumber dealers, assigned today; liabilities, $300,000; assets about the same.

NEW YORK, Feb. 4.—Joseph P. Murphy, manufacturer of cotton and woolen goods, Philadelphia, made an assignment in this city today. His liabilities are reported to be upwards of $500,000. His assets are not exactly known, but the mill property and machinery are valued at about $250,000.

Nebraska and Iowa Patents.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Patents were issued today as follows: William H. Bettendorf, Davenport, Ia., wheel supporting frame; William Blessing, Central City, Ia., ornament for jewelry; Adolph A. Faust, assignor of one-third to W. H. W. Page, Harold, S. D., corn harvester; Leonard L. Frost, Baraga, Neb., noop retaining attachment; Benjamin Heath, Dow City, Ia., combined gate hinge roller and hanger; Theodore L. Jackson and J. Reese, Boone, Ia., machine for sifting sand; Oscar C. Murphy and P. J. Mitchell, Janesville, Ia., stalk cutter; Robert G. Hing, Audubon, Ia., motor; Edward W. Wells, Oskaloosa, Ia., hot air radiator; Eli M. Wyant, Waterloo, Ia., extension rod for window curtains.

Confirmations.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—The Senate this afternoon confirmed the nomination of William H. Fait of Ohio to be solicitor general. The confirmation was also announced of the nominations of J. M. Clark to be collector of customs at Chicago and Heard of Massachusetts consul general and minister resident at Corea. United States marshal—Frank Hitchcock, northern district of Illinois. Supervisors of census, Illinois—Cash C. Jones, Second district. Nebraska—W. S. Randall, First district; B. F. Stauffer, Second; T. M. Cook, Third. Wisconsin—Luther P. Noyes, Fourth district. Postmasters, Nebraska—S. L. Brown, jr., David City; C. J. Wood, North Platte; G. M. Prentiss, Fairfield. South Dakota—J. Longstaff, Huron; L. B. Lonz, Kimball.

Alaska Fisheries Bill.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—A bill was reported in the senate today relating to the Alaska seal fisheries. It authorizes the secretary of the treasury, after advertising for thirty days, to lease for twenty years from May 1, 1890, the right to engage in the business of taking fur seals on the islands of St. Paul and St. George. The annual rental for this right shall not be less than $50,000 per annum, and in addition a revenue tax or duty of not less than $4.50 on each skin shipped from the islands.

Duke Joins the Brotherhood.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Feb. 4.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Manager Morton received a private letter from Columbus, O.,