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14

IRRIGATION

Laws That Must Be Enacted if it is Ever to Be Made a Success. IMPERATIVE NEED OF A STATE ENGINEER. The Importance of a Drainage Map-

IN

How Proper Laws Can Be Secured - New Irrigation Works in the State.

(Fourth Article.) The way to the success of the irrigation movement in Nebraska lies through the statate book. There must be a revision of such scanty laws as we have, and the addition of a comprehensive scheme of legislation as broad and deep as the problem with which it will deal

Thus far these articles have dealt with the need, the benefits and the history of irrigation, and very much yet remains to be said of the agricultural and commercial; aspect s of It, but it is imperatively necessary at this point to urge upon the friends of the movement and the statesmen at Lincoln the need of legislation that shall lay the groundwork for success on a grand scale.

One-third of the legislative session is gone The remaining forty days are none too long for the friends of irrigation to consider and determine what they will ask and to press it upon the legislature. Furthermore, Wednesday's convention at McCook, at which it is hoped the semi-arid region in the southwestern part of the state will be fully represented, makes timely a discussion of this branch of the subject.

The writer has received many evidences, in letters and newspapers, of the deep interest already awakened. This interest is by no means confined to the western part of the state, nor to those who are to be most directly benefitted by irrigation. Besides many encouraging words from settlers in the arll regions, letters have been received from individuals and companies who are ready to invest large amounts of capital in these enterprises if they can be shown to be stable and profitable. It is to be hoped that those who have followed the subject thus far will give the same carnest attention and support to this question of legislative requirements, which really lies at the root of the whole matter.

L-THE PRESENT NEBRASKA LAWS. Until two years ago Nebraska had no laws bearing on the subject of irrigation. Up to that time it was regarded as a crime to inti-

NEBRASKA. | grappling with the problem in this benefits of the new laws of Colorado, irrigawould be the appointment of a state engineer. Under his direction. here, as in Colorado, the semi-arid regions would have to be divided into water districts or basins. In Colorado there are six of these grand districts, and sixty-seven smaller divisions. They are naturally divided by the water-sheds, and no great scheme of irrigation can be planned until they are scientifically determined. This matter will be amplified a little further on

In Colorado the state engineer is appointed by the governor and receives a salary of \$4,000 a year. He may appoint one or more assistants, who receive \$10 a day when actually employed. In Colorado, also, they have superintendents of irrigation and water commissioners in each of the districts to see that the laws are rigidly complied with. But there the work is so much further advanced that a much larger administrative force is required than will be necessary in Nebraska for a long time to come. It is probable that a good live state engineer, who knew his business and was thoroughly imbued with enthusiasm for his state, would be able to attend to this branch of the subject in Nebraska with little assistance. He must, however, be a man thoroughly expert and thoroughly experienced in this line of work, and the salary provided should be sufficient to command the

highest order of ablitty. It would be the duty of the state engineer to first determine the natural water districts and the extent and nature of the supply. He would then supervise the construction of all canals and ditches and see that the work was done in compliance with the statutes as well as the laws of engineering. This matter is of the highest importance. Some very peculiar ditches have been constructed in Nebraska by men whose enthusiasm exceeded their knowledge of engineering, as well as by rascally contractors. By this means a great deal of money has been wasted and water ruthlessly run off without regard to | failed the needs of the territory to be covered, or

the limits of the precious supply. Successful irrigation on a large scale is impossible without the services of a competent state engineer. To attempt to go further with the work without such assistance is like putting out on a stormy sea without a

III.-LET'S HAVE & DRAINAGE MAP. If every man who reads this article had a

tion will be far advanced before the next senate and house assemble at Lincoln in 1893. It is necessary for the friends of the movement to take steps at once to prepare and present a draft of such a bill as they will push before the present legislature. The report of the Colorado commission should be the basis of such a bill. Southwestern Nobraska will be well represented at Wednesday's convention at McCook. Another convention to get the sentiment of the big

western counties, might well be convened at Sidney Tr within a fortnight. two conventions will ap-committees to consider the two conventions will these point report of the Colorado commission and draft a bill for presentation to the legislature, there is every reason to believe that within the next sixty days Nebraska can have upon her statute books the most progressive legislation for the encouragement of irrigation possessed by any American state. And when that has been accomplished the battle has been half won. Very likely it will be thought necessary to

fortify the report of such a committee with petitions from the western half of the state arging the enactment of the bill. If so, no time is to be lost in preparing and circulating these petitions.

These considerations are of the utmost importance to the friends of irrigation and should receive immediate thought and action. If the arid lands could be irrigated with mere talk they would doubtless bring forth abundantly at the next harvest time. But unfortunately talk is only valuable to the purpose when transformed

into laws, into capital and, finally, into the translucent water that makes the desert smile. Therefore, let us get laws, money and water, and lay the foundation for prosperity. V .- NEW ENTERPRISES UNDER WAY.

The Gering Courier criticises these artieles on the ground that they have not done entire justice to Scott's Bluff county, having to mention all the ditches now in operation or under comtemplation. This shortcoming was an oversight, for which amonds are gladly made this week. It may be well to remark, however, that this is the time when all friends of irrigation should stand loyally together and work for the great ends in view, and when neither time nor strength should

be wasted in criticising anybody who doing his level best to Of the enterprises now under way in Scott's Bluffs the Courier has this to say:

our irrigation enterprises, it is enough to show that irrigation is our mainstay, and that we will be in a position to laugh at

WILL HELP THE LABORERS.

Extension of the Fire Limits a Boom to Brick Makers and Layers.

OMAHA'S BRICK AND STONE AGE IN SIGHT

The Supply of Bricks on Hand and the Demand for Large Independent Yards-Local Labor News.

The bricklayers of Omaha are in unusual good spirits, in anticipation of a prosperous season in their line. Most of them view with great pleasure the recent extension of the fire limits, arguing that it will result in the cree tion of more brick and stene buildings next ason than ever before.

In speaking upon this subject, a gentleman who occupies a high place in labor circles said yesterday: "This question has been discussed at the meetings of all the labor unions held during the past two months and is now the universal opinion that with the opening of spring people will be brought to realize that the year 1891 will be the brick and stone age for Omaha. The reason is simply this: Years before people could build with wood, and while it was some cheaper at the start it was minease to shilled baras. Our the start it was ruinous to skilled labor. Our active building seasons brought carpenters here by the score, many of them the poorest kind of workmen and before the season was half over the scale of wages went down to a

and over the scale of wages went down to a point where there was scarcely a living. "Of course the extension of the of the fire limits will not keep these men out of the city, but it will drive them to the out-skirts, for if a man puts up a \$10,000 resi-dence he will employ only the best and most skilled mechanics.

skilled mechanics, "The season will open with 10,000,000 of brick on hand and in the yards. Now this will be only a starter, and the result will be that early in the spring you will see some

large corporations go into the business and put up some mammoth kilns, "We want to get the manufacture of brick out of the hands of contractors in order that there may may be some active competition. This will not only help the builder, but it will help the brickmakers who are employed on the yards, for as it is at the present time, a contractor finds out about how many buildings he will get, and after burning eaough brick to complete his contract, stops for the season. With the yards in the hands of independent companies, from fifteen hundred to two thousand men will be given employment during the entire season at wages ranging from \$1.50 to \$2 per day. "Retarning to the subject of building brick

stores and dwellings, I want to say that the cost is from 10 to 25 per cent more than when people build with wood, but at the end of ten

experience some difficulty in getting enough men to do the work, but this difficulty will soon be overcome. Wages will remain the same as last season, 50 cents per hour, with a nine-hour day. Some of the bosses may attempt to lower the scale, but it will be impossible, as Omaha is the strongest union town in the country and wages are bound to

"Some people argue that as most of the buildings on inside property will be of fire-proof material, it will lessen the demand for carpenters, but I think this is a great mis-take. It is true that carpenters do not find as much work to do upon brick bald ings as upon frame but it requires a better class of workmen, and as the work

prove a benefit to all classes of mechan ics in the city."

Brickmakers' Convention.

brick manufacturers' association of North America convened in Indianapolis, Ind., Monday of last week and was attended by 200 delegates, almost every state in the union The first day ing repres of the con vention was devoted to receiving the visitor and assigning them to their respective hotels convention assembled in the board of trade hall, where T. B. McAvov of Philadelphia, the retiring president of the association, spoke substantially a: follows: "Brickmaking is one of the largest and most important industries in the country. There is scarcely a branch of constructive work in which the brickmaker is not inter ested and his product has a universal use equalled, probably, only by iron and steel. The delegates who are present at this con-vention will represent a working capital of something over \$50,000,000. They meet for the purpose of exchanging ideas and opinions relative to their business for the general good. Until the beginning of the last decade brickmaking had made less progress than any other industry of importance. Bricks were made by hand and in the same way and by practically the same method as in the time of Pharaoh. Then the age of brickmaking ma es was ushered in, but still the industry made slow progress, owing to the lack of es operation among the craft. An Indianapoli man would spend thousands of dollars in experiments and inventions, only to learn a lit tle later, perhaps, that a man in St. Louis Chicago or Omaha had arrived at the sam result a year before. The need for concerted work and organization became imperative. Then the National brick manufacturers' association came into existence, and since its or-ganization the industry has made marvelous strides and the business has been almost revolutionized."

Chinese competing with them. If you want a house, a wagon, a table or a horseshoe made, John is right there: and if you wish to invest in a Sunday-go-to-meeting-pair-of-tronscribons go to an English or German tailor, and, ten chances to one, when they come home you will find the shop mark in hieroglyphics on the waist-band. You pay Mr. Tailor \$0; the heathen gets \$1 for making them. It is a surprise to me to see these men them. It is a surprise to me to see these men making all kinds and styles of ladies' and children's under and overwear, and the wives of laborers and mechanics tell me they can buy them cheaper than they could make buy them cheaper than they could make them. Next in number come the Portugese, numbering 12,000, 60 per cent of whom can neither read nor write, but they are withal a moral, industrious and iaw-abiding people. They are not Portugese proper, but come principally from the colonies of that nation in the islands off the African coast. Next come the Japanese, 9,000 in number. They are hard-working and intelligent, hating their fellow-Asiatic with a strong and I presume a holy hatred. Unlike the colestin, the Jap copies all the American hab. colestial, the Jap copies all the American habcolestia, the Jap copies all the American hab-its and customs, even to getting drunk and drubbing the police. The representative of their government here looks keenly after their interests, and they themselves offer a determined resistance to anything like bad treatment. The native population has not made the progress their natural intelligence and fine educational faculties might stranger to think they would. In fac In fact, with the exception of the mixed-bloods, they cut no figure in the trades, commerce or the pro-fessions. They number forty or forty-live thousand, but the loose state of morals and the strong weakness they acquire for sandpaper gin is decimating them far more quickly and sure than the dreadful leprosy of which you read so much about. The climate is something fine; in fact, it approaches the equable temperature of San Diego, Cal., more nearly than any other place I have lived in. It may not be so cool in winter, but during the summer the trade winds blow steadily and coolly. Wages here are not on a very fixed basis. Mechanics receive from \$2.50 to \$4.50 per day. Unskilled labor-Portuguese, Kanaka, Japanese or Chinese-\$1 to \$1.50 per day. Mechanics' hours, pine; unskilled laborers nine also; eight hours on Saturday. Average cost of board and lodging (weekly for Americans and Europeans, \$6.50; Port uguese and natives, \$3; Japanese about the same or a triffe less. Of John Chinaman's fare or its cost I can get no information.

National Association of Machinists At the last meeting of Omaha lodge No. 31, National Association of Machinists, the an nual election of officers was held with the following results: Master machinist, J. S. Davis; foreman, Charles F. Seaton; recording secretary, A. H. Bonnevier, 1319 California street; financial secretary, M. D. Houck; treasurer, J. B. Hadfield; statistician, George H. Lewis; conductor, Charles Rodgers; in side sentinel, William Marnette; outside sen tinet, J. S. Dodsworth; chaplain, William Hilgardner; postmaster, J. W. Davis, The regular meetings of the order are held on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at Gate City hall. The order is in a flourishing con-dition with a rapidly increased momburshing dition, with a rapidly increased membership which is largely due to the untiring efforts of Harry E Easton, the deputy grand master machinest

Typographical Delegates.

This year the convention of the Internaional Typographical union will be held in Boston, the date being the second Monday in June and as Omaha is entitled to two dele gates there is being an active campaign waged for the position. At this time the following candidates are in the field: Frank (Fanty) L. Sherman, W. C. Boyer, William Maxwell and Arthur Pickering. The election to select the delegation will be held on Wednesday, March 25, between the hours of noon and 7 30 p.m.

Labor No.es.

The bricklayers' union in Wilmington, Del. will, it is stated, soon demand 45 cents per hour from the contractors. Forty-two cents are now paid.

L. A 1702 New York city, has sent out circulars asking other labor organizations to de mand of the legislature that the factory in spection laws be improved.

About three hundred and fifty girls em-ployed in the J. K. Pine factory of the Uni-ted States shirt and collar company in Troy, N. Y., have quit work, owing to dissatisfaction with a new schedule of rates.

The sanitary pottery pressers met last week in Trenton, N. J., and unanimously re-



CATARSH All diseases of throat and noes Ca-tarch impoverishes the blood and nerves, producing debility, decay and decline.

DYSPEPSIA - And all the phases of indigestion liver trouble, imperfect assimilation and nutrition. KIDNEY DISEASES Are most deceiving and in-siducus. Symptoms hard to recognize by the patient-often lead to fatal brights disease or diabetes. DISEASES OF THE BLOOD - Blood potenting, crotula, crystpelas, and diseases mentioned here-

ALL SKIN DISEASES - Eczema, sait theum, Vari-ola, dicers, tribercles, screefula, hiptin, maildy color of the skin, pimples, and diseases of the scalp are cured by Dr. Dillings.

cured by Dr. Dillings. NERVOUS DISEASES—Loss of vigor, lost man-hood, debility, prostration, despondency, crupticas on the face, loss of memory, dread of future, etc. A new treatment that NEVER FAILS. REFEATING AND NETRALS 14A—Are cured by Dr. Dillings when all others have failed. FFMALE WEAKNESSES—The harsh. Irrational and uonatural methods usually employed are re-sponsible for fully three-fourths of the suffering how endured by women. Investigate the new, home treatment of Dr. Dillings. FEDESALL RECTAL TROUBLES—Pites, Fig-tula, absenses, stricture, and all discusses of rectum

tuin abscesses, stricture, and all diseases of rectain unred without the knife, cautery or an hour's delay from work or fashness. ALL HEADACHES are quickly cured.

VENERRAL DISEASES Recent or long standing symbilis, generations, attleture and all resulting af-fections are cured permanently and forever without any mercury or athornal treatment. MORPHINE HABIT - Quickly, positively and

TAPE WORM-Takes with head complete in one hour with one tenspoonful of pleasant medicine. No

Insting. OTHER DISEASES -Such as old sorres, malignant ulcers, tumors, cancers, heart troubles, asthma, epilepsy, St. Vius dance, milk leg, chronic constipa-tion and chronic diarrhoza are cured. THE COMPLEXION -- The most unsightly and modely complexion quickly freshened and beautified. FOR OFFENSIVE BIRG ATH -- A permanent cure tory press, press unsupportunity. LOW FEEST FREE CONSULTATION: HOURS: 9:00 a.m. to 5 p. m. Evenings, 7 to 8:30. Sundays, 2 to 4 p. m.

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cointed and most conveniently located physician's office and reception rooms in Omaha. Dr. Dillings prepares and dispenses his The sick will find in Dr. Dillings a true physician and a sympathetic friend and advisor. own medicines, which are largely selected from nature's healing plants, barks, roots, mus, shrubs, etc. No mineral drugs given .

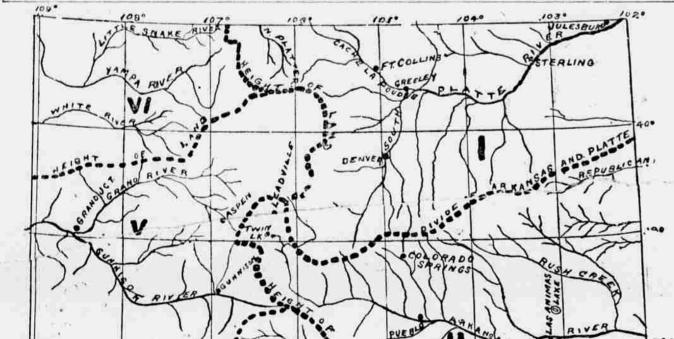


322 South Fifteent h St.,

OMAHA, NEB.

During his several months location and practice in husha, Dr. Dillings has carned an enviable reputa-ion among the hundreds of citizens who applied to alm almost as a last resort, and found in his skillful infistrations the full realization of hope long de-aread

He is permanently located and has the best ap



copy of Part II. of the report of the state engineer of Colorado for 1888, with its carefully drawn and handsomely illustrated diagrams, he would say with me, "Let's have a drainage map." The map accompanying this article is necssarily but a feeble reproduction of the large colored map in the report referred to, but it | drouth and dry years in a very short time.

Is:

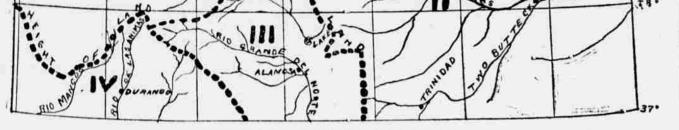
develop the arid regions. "While we do not pretend to mention all

years figureing the cost of repairs, brick is the cheaper. Cities in the east have tried this and it is not a theory, but a fact. "One thing I am afraid of and that is that during the early part of the season we may

remain firm.

is more particular, they will gain much in the length of time employed. And again, on the outskirts of the city, any number of frame buildings will be crected, so in the end I think the fire limits as extended will more a bounding to complete a content.

The fifth annual convention of the National



DRAINAGE MAP OF COLORADO.

Showing the six grand water basins, resulting from natural watersheds, which are the basis of irrigation enterprises in that state.

mate that any portion of this state needed to resort to artificial means to supplement the rainfall. Even then such an intimation was thought to be a reprehensible vice, and only since the heavy hand of calamity has been laid upon a dozen or more of our western counties has the intimation been seen in the light of a virtue.

The laws enacted in 1889 deal only with water rights and the right-of-way for ditches. The most that can be said of them is that they represent a first step in the right direction. Under their provisions the water in natural streams can be appropriated and conducted to lands conveniently situated. On these points the law is quite full and is intended to secure tair treatment to all. It is defective in some respects, however, and as a whole madequate to the demands of the subject if a systematic effort shall ever be made to develop the vast region lying between the 100th meridian and the Wyoming boundary. One of the defects of the law is the adoption of the square inch as the unit of measurement instead of the cubic foot, and another is the definition of the rights of riparian proprietors.

Space need not, however, be given to a discussion of the defects of our present laws, since they will doubtless be repealed, and much more extensive and comprehensive laws enacted in their stead, when Neoraska decides to take hold of irrigation in earnest.

IL-A SYSTEM OF ADMINISTRATION. If Nebraska is to begin now to follow in the steps of Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, California and other states and torritories, making the most of her natural water supply and turning her arid acres into fertile ga dens, farms and orchards, she must first provide a system of administration. She must ascertain how much water is available and how far it can be made to go. When comprehensive laws have been provided, she must have competent men to enforce them, as she does in other departments of her government.

Fortunately, Colorado is our next door neighbor-Colorado with her soil ard climate of similar character, with prosperous irrigation enterprises in operation, and with progressive and well-seasoned ideas which we may pattern after.

The governor of Colorada recently appointed Messrs, E. L. Weils, C. Henry and J. S. Greene as a commission to make a complete revision of the irrigation laws. Their report, which has just been presented, is probably the best guide for Nebraska which could be complied even if we were to appoint a commission to study the subject independently. Colorado already had extensive laws, but when the bill reported by the commissioners has been enacted it will probably have the best legal basis for its development in irrigation to be found in the statutes of any state.

About two-thirds of Colorado, or 65,000 square miles, is open to irrigation, the rest being mountain land, while the field of operations in Nebraska at first would probably be about thirty-eight thousand square miles. first essential for successfully the present legislature gives the state the

conveys the idea. It shows the six grand Aside from the five canal s-the Farmers, divisions or basins formed by the natural the Mutual, the Minatare, the Enterprise watersheds, the principal streams and their and the Winters creek -which have already direction, and the general features of the made crops here, there are now in actual country with which irrigation must deal. A construction the Castle Rock and Mitchell similar map of the half of Nebraska lying ditches, with the Belmont, the king of them west of the 100th maridian would give our all, 200 miles in length, a certainty, and the Tarryall and the Highland, each organized people and legislators their first real view of the opportunities for irrigation in this state. for business on the north side, and of scarcely less importance than the Belmont." Such a map, as has been said, is in fact indispensable to the development of the subject. Of another interesting possibility the Cou-Besides the large map mentioned, the Colorier also says: "There is a strong probabilrado report contains a large number of maps ity that the artesian well system of irrigation and diagrams of various water districts, or will receive a trial in Scotts Bluff county byportions of districts. These furnish the best fore long. A company of substantial farmers testimony to the immense development in Rose precinct has been formed, consisting already secured in Colorado. They show not of Measrs, I. N. Rose, Theo. D. Deutsch, only all the small and large streams and local | Richard Beebe, W. Warner and D. Bowlen. water-sheds, but also the various canals and | They are in correspondence with a firm who ditches in operation. It is inspiring to look stipulate to put down an eight-inch artesian at them, and to see to what a degree of perfecwell, guarantee a flow for a certain price or ion the administration of Colorado's irrigano pay. The trial will be made at the southion interests has been brought. west corner of 12-2)-58, where the lay of the Another very valuable feature of the report

land is such that a fall can be secured in all is the graphical presentation of the daily directions and over the farms of the interestnean discharge, in cubic feet per second, of ed gentlemen. This is something new in this vicinity, although it has been discussed a great the principal streams in the state from March to November of the last four or five years. deal, and the experiment will be watched When it is possible to write to Lincoln and with absorbing interest." obtain a state report showing every water A very hopeful indication of interest in basin, every water shed, and the irrigation develop neats in the northwester n capacity of every stream in the semipart of the state comes from Dawes county , and is, we believe, the first undertaking of

arid region, we shall have the means of making irrigation in Nebraska a success. the kind in that section. Of this matter the The bill reported by the Colorado commis-Mursland Tribune speaks as follows: sion, besides the features already mentioned, makes provision for the following : ment company was organized Wednesday with the following incorporators: L. Snow,

The appropriation, distribution and use of water.

The construction and maintenance of irrigation works and storage reservoirs. The condemnation of lands for the site and

way of such works. ganization L. Snow is president and George Regulating the appropriation of subteran-Austin secretary. The day of the organizaean waters and the management of artesian tion Secretary Austin notified Engineer

wells Burke that his services would be called into Adjudicating rights and priorities of those requisition by the company to run a preliminary survey for the purpose of testing diverting or storing water for irrigation. Defining the domestic uses of water. the practicability and feasibility of a ditch on the north side of the river. Mr. Burse is an Prescribing the duties and liabilities of the carriers of water and the rights of consumers. experienced surveyor, his specialty being on Fixing the maximum rate to be charged irrigation work. It is to be hoped that the consumers.

preliminary work will be pushed forward as Authorizing owners and patrons of ditches rapidly as possible, so that the question of the irrigation of the country tributary to to agree for the rotation of water among themselves. Marsland will be settled satisfactorily."

Prohibiting unlawful interference or maicious injury to irrigation works. Providing penalties for the violation of the

laws and means for their enforcement. IV .--- HOW CHANGES IN THE LAW CAN BE OB-TAINED.

the

no

How are the comprehensive laws essential settlement and assured pros perity. to Nebraska's irrigation development to be obtained? That is the live question that must first be solved before any of the benefits of the movement can be realized.

New York Herald. "Then," said Mr. Tenderfoot, thrillingly, describing his western adventures, "the In-If the present legislature does not enact dians stole upon us necessary laws there can be "And what did they do!" breathlessly substantial progress for the next asked a friend. two years. On the other hand, if

"Then they gradually stole everything else!"

"The Marsland irrigation and improve-

B. H. Müler, J. C. Waesler, R. B. Grazg, C.

H. Richey, T. Lyons and Gaorge E. Austin.

The capital stock is \$100,00), divided into

shares of \$10 each. Of the temperary or-

Next week's article will deal with the pos-

sibilities of the semi-arid region when irri-

gation is established, of the population it can

maintain, the crops it can raise, the cities

that will spring up, the railroads that will be

required to meet the new demands of large

The Absorbing Aborigine.

WILLIAM E. SMYTHE.

lo the convention Omaha and Nebraska were represented by Richard Smith, expresident of the builders' exchange of this Tuesday evening the election of officers

was neld and resulted in Justus C. Adams of Indianapolis being elected president and Richard Smith of Omaha first vice president. On Thursday, the last day of the conven tion, the members indulged in an excursion to Marion and other points, where many of them, for the first time, witnessed the process of drying and burning brick with natural gas

The Knights in nawaii.

We have just organized "Aloha" assembly The name is a native one and signifies love friendship, and, in fact, everything good, Owing to my inability to absent myself from my work (I am foreman on the little railroad here), I had to advertise the meeting, writes J. E. Sheahan, who recently went to Honolulu, Hawanan Islands, in the interests of the Knights of Labor: cause. The hall was secured for us by one of the officers of the road, who is also a mamber, I am told, of the Oddfellows' lodge where we held the meeting. I am not much of a speaker, but, after reading the general master workman's requirements of knighthood and the declaration of principles, Brother Townsend addressed the meeting briefly, and I, as well as I was able, explained the aims and objects of the order. Then I called for signatures on charter application, and a sufficient number responded to select all officers, and, being personally acquainted with all but two, I think there is a good future in store for Aloha assembly. An assembly was badly wanted. There is not a hen law here worth the paper it is written on. There is no boiler-inspection law. Neither captains, mates, nor, in fact, marine engineers, undergo an examination as to qualification. I am in-formed that a Chinaman is at the present time playing engineer on one of the small craft. He is cheap, and that, of course, is in his (or rather his employer's) favor. The Chinese are 20,000 strong here, and now hold 11 per cent of the drivers' licenses, 19 per cent of the dray licenses, 20 per cent of the butchers' licenses, 235 per cent of the wholesale merchandise licenses, 28 per cent of the back li-censes, 38 per cent of the borse hiring li-censes (hired saddle borses), 57 per cent of the wholesale spirit licenses, 62 per cent of the retail merchandise licenses, 54 per cent of the victualizing licenses, 92 per cent of the pork butchering, 19 per cent of the pastry and cake business. There are at the present time, according to the voters' registry, 700 me-chanics and skilled laborers of Hawaiian and foreign tirth, and about the same number of

jected the manufacturers' reduction The men claim that there ought to vages be an increase instead of reduction.

The labor organization of Switzerland asked the government of that country to increase the annual appropriation for the labor bureau to \$4,000. The bundesrath oppos d the increase, but it was granted by the na tionalrath.

The Scottdale rolling mills and pipe works and the Charlotte furnace at Scottdale, Pa. have shut down indefinitely. One thousand men are thrown out of employment. Next week the Frick coke company will close 1,200 ovens in the vicinity.

In England the monthly dues in the Book nders' union are \$2, and a man is entitled to \$2.50 a week when out of work and 2 cents : mile for every mile he travels in search of em-ployment, until he has drawn \$40, when he can get no more for a year.

In London the hack drivers hire the im proved hansoms for 16 shillings (\$4 per day), except during "the season," when the owners exact a guinea per day, a trifle over \$5. The fare for two passengers for a drive of a couple of miles is 25 cents; by the hour it is 62 cents.

According to the labor statistics of Missouri, just published by Commissioner Lee Meriweather, it appears that where girls and boys are largely employed in that state the average wages of men are less than \$1 per day, while, where there are no children employed, the average is about \$2.50.

Pittsburg tilemakers will ask eight hours on June 1. They recently decided that all journeymen members of the Mosaic and Encaustic tile-layers' union shall receive not less than \$4 a day. Helpers shall receive \$1.50 a day for the first year, \$1.75 a day for the second year and \$2 a day for the third year

A telegram from Pittsburg says that thirty coal mines along the Monongahela river are now idle on account of the strike for an ad-vance of 14 cent per bushei in the price of mining. About three thousand men are out, and the strikers claim the strike will be gen-eral in a few days. The operators say they will not grant the advance, and have arranged for an indefinite suspension of operations. A telegram from Buffalo says that General Superintendent Bell of the Western New York & Pennsylvania railroad has granted its firemen an advance of a little over 10 per cent in wages, equalized the rights of the firemen, made provision for impartial trials on all charges, and guaranteed full pay for the time they remain suspended or discharged when an investigation shows that the men are blameless.

A dispatch from Augusta says that Labor Commissioner Matthews has completed his statistics about the abandoned farms in Maine. Out of the 509 cities, towns and plantations in the state returns were received from 497, and the number of abandones farms reported aggregated 3,310. There are 313 returns which report one or more aban doned farms, while 184 report none. The total acreage of these farms is 254, J13, and they are valued for taxation at \$1,248,769, as average of \$4.99 an acre.

A joint conference of the coke operators and miners' representatives of the Connells-ville region was held in Scottdale last week to consider the demands of the miners. The latter isked an eight-hour day, weigh scales erected at all tipples, and a total repudia-tion of all non-union men in the region. The tion of all non-union men in the region. The coke interests were largely represented, and refused flatly to even consider the men's demands, pleading the late reduction in coke and the depressed state of trade as an excuse. The employers will have until Feb ruary 6 to decide.



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