

PLAN TO IMPROVE SOCIETY

Prison Reform Association Officials at Lincoln in the Scheme.

STATE ASKED TO CREATE A NEW BOARD

No Salaries to Be Attached to the Various Positions and Public Funds Contributed Will Be Quite Limited.

LINCOLN, Oct. 23.—(Special)—Several prominent and influential gentlemen of this city who are connected with the local Prison Reform association and the board of Associated Charities have been holding a series of meetings to inaugurate a movement looking to the creation of a state board of charities and correction. Chancellor Canfield of the State university has been among the number, and with him are associated Messrs. J. S. Harwood, Will Hardy, A. E. Harvey, Rev. E. H. Chapin, Prof. Fling and others. At a meeting held a few evenings since they formulated a bill which they propose to introduce in the legislature at the next session providing that the governor shall appoint four persons who, with the chancellor of the state university, the board of regents of that institution and the governor himself, shall constitute the state board of charities and correction for investigation and counsel.

The measure provides that the governor shall be the president of the board; that it shall have the power of selecting a secretary and a clerk; that the full term of the appointive member is eight years, although on the appointment of the first board their respective terms shall be graduated; that the commissioners shall draw no salaries and shall only incur actual traveling expenses; that the governor shall have the power to remove a member for neglect, incompetency or other good cause and that the board shall have a room in the state capitol for its executive uses and shall meet at least once every three months.

It is authorized to employ a general secretary at a salary not to exceed \$2,500, who shall be not less than 30 years of age, shall be a graduate of some college or university recognized standing and shall have had no less than five years of special service in the associations involved in the work of the board. He shall also serve as an instructor in the State university on his peculiar line of work and the objects and work of the board and at least \$1,000 of his salary shall be paid by the board of regents of the university.

The duties of the secretary are enumerated at considerable length. He is expected to gather together every variety of information concerning the conduct of the state, county and municipal reformatory and correctional institutions, past and present, and all objectionable features of their conduct; suggest any desirable modifications and improvements and exercise a general supervisory function in merely an advisory capacity, all reports being referred to the board, which in turn transmits them to the report of the governor. The authorities of such institutions are required by the law to allow free access to their respective institutions to the secretary and the commissioners, and to afford all information for which the board may ask.

The bill appears to embody a desire to prevent in future the frequent change in the management of state institutions, now common with every change of administration.

AN OFFICIAL INVESTIGATION.

For the third or fourth time since his official functions began the water commissioners are again facing an investigation of the affairs of the department. A meeting of the council Monday evening called a meeting from acting Mayor Woods directed attention to the fact that some of the patrons of the water department were paying great head money for the same service as were others. It was charged that a water commissioner was in effect guilty of favoritism in the conduct of his office. The report also showed that a large number of business men were far behind in their water rentals, while many of the poor patrons are obliged to pay up to give the water shut off at their homes. The reason given was that a committee, comprising Comptroller Sawyer, Webster and J. D. Parker, was directed to make an investigation of the affair of the water commissioner's office.

POPULIST RALLY IN LINCOLN.

The local leaders of the populist party are preparing for a rally tomorrow that is to be the biggest of the campaign. There will be a parade in the morning, in which delegations from every labor and marching clubs of the city, a brigade of horsemen, the city officials, the mounted police, the fire department, and many others are expected to join. It will occur at 10 a.m. in the M. Street Basin Park, and at night in Bohanan's hall. Among the speakers are announced to speak are Holcomb, Gaffin, Powers, McFadden, Jones and Mayor Weir. This is the opening of the vigorous campaign that the populist candidates for state offices propose to wage throughout the same part of the state during the next two weeks.

A TRUE PHILANTHROPIST.

William Garrison of Maxwell, Neb., recently addressed to Mayor Weir a letter that holds him up to this community as a man whose heart is throbbing with the inspiration of true benevolence. He informed the mayor that he had heard that there in this city a great many women who were in almost destitution, without homes or employment, and said that as he was a bachelor, trying to keep house for himself, he was very much in need of a housekeeper, and could give a home to any honest woman. He did not omit mentioning the fact that he owned a farm, unencumbered, with some live stock upon it, that he was 33 years old, weighed 130 pounds, and would like a wife from 18 to 30 years. He also mentioned that if the mayor would only give the address of one whom the mayor thought would suit him, he would send the kind-hearted executive \$10 when he shall have married her. The mayor wrote him to send on some recommendations, since which time he has not been able to hear from the lonesome gentleman.

DISTRICT COURT NEWS.

The Lincoln Street Railway company's power plant is located on K street, between Eighth and Ninth Streets. Recently the company also took possession of about two-thirds of the street on the K street front, and gridded it with tracks. This was done over the protests of the property owners whose premises faced K street, but it avoided nothing.

Mrs. E. Murphy, one of the property owners, filed suit against the company for \$2,000 damages. Today the court filed its answer, raising a very pertinent point. The company claims that the power house, car house and all tracks are necessary, reasonable and proper appurtenances to the system, and were built and laid by virtue and authority of the franchise granted by the city. They, therefore, ask the dismissal of the case.

PROMOTING IRRIGATION.

President of the State Association Ad-dresses Junta Citizens.

JUNIATA, Neb., Oct. 23.—(Special)—Mr. Pope of North Platte, the president of the State Irrigation association, addressed the people here Saturday evening on irrigation, the possibilities and probabilities of the same, and the probable cost of successful irrigation in this state. His talk was listened to attentively and made many friends for irrigation. After the speech an irrigation ditch was dug, and Mr. F. H. Rieckel, president, W. C. Preston, vice president, and C. C. Tawer, secretary,

Hastings W. C. Tawer.

JUNIATA, Neb., Oct. 23.—(Special)—The Hastings Women's Relief corps was represented by about forty members at the inspection of its sister lodge here Saturday afternoon. The Junta members treated them to a good supper after the exercises.

Aided an Unfortunate Family.

VALPARAISO, Neb., Oct. 23.—(Special)—

Yesterday neighbors and friends to the number of about thirty turned out and busied themselves with a thousand bushels of corn for Alvin Porter, a mile south of town. Porter's family are nearly all down with typhoid fever, and about three weeks ago the wife remained unmarried. This is an

about of the famous Dawson will case, which rendered valueless the titles to a large tract of Lincoln property.

TAKES AN APPEAL.

Detective Auble of California is getting some very vivid object lessons in how not to get the man he wants, under Nebraska law. Some weeks ago he telephoned the police to arrest T. Wesley Van Sover, a state Law Agent, for embezzlement by a lawyer. Van was arrested, but before the detective got here his attorney had got him loose on a writ of habeas corpus. He immediately skipped the town, but was later located in Missouri by means of letters he had written there, his wife. Detective Auble and his wife, both of whom had begged so hard to see his wife and son in Lincoln that the detective, on his promise to make no more trouble, brought him around this way. No sooner did he reach here, however, than he hired attorneys to fight the charges. Mayor Weir, the temporary Governor, Crouse decided Saturday morning to recognize the regulation, and the moment Auble got his papers he rushed his prisoner out of town in a carriage, intending to board a Rock Island train at some small point. Van was never seen again.

Others are suspected. Hutchinson's son is only held as witness for the trial, but the detective has been told that the man who got him loose is still at large. Rock Island train at some small point. Van was never seen again. The friend with a bicycle telephoned that the detective and his mate were waiting at Hallam, the third station south of Lincoln, and the deputy sheriff was there to meet them. The gang is still at large. The preliminary hearing will be in the justice's court tomorrow. Part of the stolen goods have been recovered and the sheriff with others are making a thorough search to recover the balance.

FLIGHT OF A POOR FAMILY.

Destitute with a Large Number of Children to Care For.

YORK, Neb., Oct. 23.—(Special).—Yesterday a covered wagon arrived at this place, drawn by two old horses, which looked as though they were ready to drop at any time. The covering on the wagon was not more than two feet high. No especial attention was paid to it, as it stood near a hitching post, until it was observed that a woman, carrying a baby, was walking to and fro by the side of the vehicle. A man was also seen about the wagon. On being questioned they said that they were without a home, having been for several days several children, who in the wagon, under a heap of old rags trying to keep warm. When they came out of their hiding place it was found that they had nothing on but thin calico dresses, with no underwear or shoes.

To add to all of this it was found that the woman was ill, having a fever, and the effects of want and exposure, as explained by the man. A subscription was taken up and a small sum given the people. Besides this the merchants of the place gave them clothing and shoes, etc. They left for Lincoln, at which place the mother will be placed in the asylum. The youngest child was not more than six months old.

FOR PONCA POSTOFFICE ROBBERY.

James F. French Voluntarily Surrenders to the Federal Authorities.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23.—(Special Telegram).—James F. French has a conscience and he doesn't care now who knows it. He is a young man, not more than 30 years of age, good-looking and well dressed. He hails from El Paso, Tex., and does not look like a villain. He came from Texas recently and today walked into the office of the United States marshal at Denver, Colo., explaining that he came to voluntarily surrender himself having robbed the postoffice at Ponca, Neb., on January 8, 1894. He says that he was at Ponca without friends or money, when he met a man whom he asked for assistance. The man, who was named Mitchell, the mayor, disapproved of this and advised the attorney to catch hold of him and to advise the council to digest. One of the members of the council last evening in referring to the matter of the controversy between the city weighmasters to the city attorney and chief of police for action, J. W. Mitchell, the job was not recommended to be worth very much and Mitchell, who is a democrat, was allowed to remain. Lately it was discovered that it was a neat little job and a scheme was put up to get possession of it. Mitchell was afraid it would be a good idea to let him go, but the council did not interfere.

He was released on a \$200 bond.

At the next meeting of the council

Eckert, a republican, made a similar offer with the addition of a \$300 bonus.

His prompt acceptance of this bonus named as city weighmaster, Mitchell, however, had stumbled, and he refused to give up possession. Action in replevin was begun to seize the property belonged to Mitchell. Eckert appealed to the attorney general to take the case, and Mitchell was allowed to remain. The attorney general, however, advised the council not to interfere. That body refused by resolution last night to abide by the attorney's advice and ordered the mayor to catch hold of him and to advise the council to digest. One of the members of the council last evening in referring to the matter of the controversy between the city weighmasters to the city attorney and chief of police for action, J. W. Mitchell, the job was not recommended to be worth very much and Mitchell, who is a democrat, was allowed to remain. Lately it was discovered that it was a neat little job and a scheme was put up to get possession of it. Mitchell was afraid it would be a good idea to let him go, but the council did not interfere.

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