BOUGHT ROTTEN BOILERS

One Feature of the Purchase of Dorgan's Penitentiary Bric-a-Brac.

STEAM PLANT POSITIVELY DANGEROUS

Four of Six Boilers Condemned by an Inspector but Paid for by the State After the Facts Were Known.

LINCOLN, Sept. 4.—(Special.)—Here is another addition to the penitentiary appraisement, which is fast growing into a state scandal. It is a well known fact that the steam boilers at the prison are practically worthless, were in this condition at the time the state purchased them of Dorgan, and will have to be replaced at an early day if any good is to result from the peculiar contract just entered into between Al Beemer and the state. After the Board of Public Lands and Buildings had hastily accepted the appraisement of Broatch, Gale and Gaffin, it was brought to the attention of the members that the boilers were hardly worth selling for old iron, aside from their dangerous condition. With their customary penchant for locking the stable after the horse is stolen, the board picked out an inspector, Mr. T. R. Perkins, and had him inspect these boilers. He made a report to the board and a duplicate of the same to Governor Holcomb. The appraisers had first valued these boilers at $3,000, but subsequently modified their estimate and placed them at $2,050. The following is what Inspector Perkins says about them in a report, which, according to other experts, is largely biased in favor of the appraisers:

LINCOLN, Aug. 21, 1895.—Hon. S. A. Holcomb: Dear Sir—There are six horizontal tubular boilers at the state prison. Beginning at the left they are numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6. Boilers 1 and 2 are sixteen feet long and fifty-two inches in diameter. One is in good order. No. 2 needs repairing at back end of second sheets on bottom. Both are under steam pressure and are good for eighty pounds per inch. Each has forty-two tubes, four inches in diameter.

Boiler No. 3 is sixteen feet long and fifty-eight inches in diameter. Has forty-four tubes, four inches in diameter. The second sheet from the front has a crack on left side, seventeen inches long. The boiler is not worth repairing as a boiler. The shell and flues are so scaled up that the life is out of the material.

Boiler No. 4 is sixteen feet long and fifty-two inches in diameter. Has fifty-two flues, three and one-half inches in diameter. This boiler has the life burned out of the flues and shell because the scale is so thick it shuts the water away from the shell. This boiler is crystalized on the bottom and the flues are eaten up.

Boiler No. 5 is fifteen feet long and forty-eight inches in diameter. It has ten flues, six inches in diameter, but is worthless for any purpose.

Boiler No. 6 is fourteen feet long and forty-two inches in diameter. Has eight flues, six inches in diameter, but is of no account as a boiler. All of boilers Nos. 3, 4, 5 and 6 are looking badly at the tubes and in the back heads.

Boilers 3 and 4 could be used for tanks to the returns from the buildings, so that a pump could pump condensations from them into the boilers.

Boiler No. 6 could be used as a heater between the engine and boilers. By doing this much less coal would be required to do the work there. T. R. PERKINS.

This is what the state gets for its $2,050 at the hands of the Board of Public Lands and Buildings. At the time the board made its paltry reduction of $500 when Dorgan was paid his warrant this report was before it. It knew all about the worthless condition of the penitentiary boilers, and could have then discounted Dorgan's $33,408.90 claim. It simply contented itself with deducting what had actually been used up, such as ice, coal, potatoes, etc., between the date of the appraisers' report and the time Dorgan released his tentacles from the state treasury. Anent this matter it is said to be true that Dorgan cleared $5,000 in cash during the time intervening between the appraisement and the day on which he got his warrant from Auditor Moore.

FIGURES STIRRED THEM UP.

The figures published this morning in The Bee regarding the penitentiary contract recently let to Al Beemer created quite a commotion around the state capitol. They set the conservative element of the Board of Public Lands and Buildings thinking, while the more radical disposition of Land Commissioner Russell was greatly aroused. He went to the telephone, and, calling up Warden Leidigh at the penitentiary, asked him if he would take the contract to maintain the prisoners for 11 cents per day per capita. Warden Leidigh replied that he did not understand that, as warden, he could constitutionally do so, and besides that he was under the impression that the contract binding the state had already been let to Mr. Beemer. But he promised to come up and talk the matter over. He did so this afternoon, and, going into Land Commissioner Russell's office, read the riot act. He said that so far as appointing an agent to watch his expenditures, the board was welcome to do so, but he did not propose to have a $3,000 a year man put over him, who also derived an additional revenue of some $10,000 a year from maintenance of prisoners whom he, Leidigh, could maintain for half that sum and save the state $40,000 a year.

Mr. Beemer had an interview with the governor. He did not seem disposed to act hastily, and it is understood that he will decline to go down to the penitentiary as contractor if he is obliged to face a row. This is the same position he assumed when his appointment as superintendent was contemplated by the Board of Public Lands and Buildings. The governor did not commit himself, nor has he, as yet, given out any interview on the subject. While Mr. Beemer was in consultation with the governor Warden Leidigh came in and repeated to Beemer about what he had said to Russell.

WHERE THE MATTER STANDS.

The situation tonight is this: Contractor Beemer has not yet filed his bond for $100,000; several members of the Board of Public Lands and Buildings are inclined to take a second thought, and would, doubtless, recede from the contract made with Beemer could they do so. Russell is for putting Beemer in at all hazards. The board has signed a contract with him, and it is not clear how the state can recede from it. But among quite a number of Lincoln republicans it is thought that the action of the board is extravagant and unbusinesslike. Several of them said the same to The Bee correspondent today. One prominent republican from the southern part of the state said there was a strong feeling of disgust manifested in his party against the prevalence of so much Churchill-Russellism with'n the ranks.

Warden Leidigh says that there are now employed at the penitentiary by contractors but seventy convicts. The more convicts employed, the cheaper per capita would be their maintenance. With 200 employed, their maintenance would never run above 15 cents per capita per diem at the outside figures. Yet Contractor Beemer proposes to let out more than 200, and one can readily figure what his profit at 40 cents per day would be in addition to his salary of $3,000 per annum.

STORIES THAT ARE STARTED.

An attempt was made by Russell this afternoon to counteract the effect of The Bee's startling figures, and the report was circulated that they were untrue. When Warden Leidigh learned of this he immediately filed with the land commissioner an exact duplicate of the statement on file in the governor's office, from which The Bee's showing was made. There are now two copies on file and the warden offers to make affidavit to their truthfulness.

Another story started by the Board of Public Lands and Buildings was to the effect that Leidigh had gone back on his statement to The Bee correspondent, and an alleged interview with him was sent this afternoon to an Omaha morning paper. Warden Leidigh was seen at a late hour tonight, and this was told to him. He denies in toto that he disclaimed the figures and in proof points to the fact of his filing a duplicate with the board.

Funeral of a West Point Pioneer.

WEST POINT, Neb., Sept. 4.—(Special.)—The remains of the late Christopher Lahagen of Hot Springs, Ark., were interred today under Catholic auspices. Solemn requiem high mass was sung by Very Rev. Joseph Ruesing. The deceased was one of the pioneer settlers of Cuming county. In 1881 his health became so shattered that he moved with his family to Hot Springs, where he has since resided. He owned large landed property interests in this county and was highly respected by all who knew him as a man of sterling worth and high integrity. Some weeks ago he was moved to St. Joseph's hospital in Omaha for treatment, but died there Tuesday.

His remains were followed to the grave by a large concourse of citizens and friends.

THOUSANDS WERE PRESENT.

Sunday School Workers' Picnic at Lincoln Well Attende.

LINCOLN, Sept. 4.—(Special.)—There were thousands of Sunday school workers and children out at Lincoln park today in attendance on the Sunday school rally devised and projected by Mr. Trester. The principal streets of Lincoln were crowded between the hours of 1 and 2 o'clock with spectators of the parade. It was led by the State band and followed by an army of small children with banners. There was quite an allegorical display in the procession. After the band came twenty gentlemen carrying banners of black and gold, preceding the various portions of the interior furnishing of the tabernacle. There were the cherubim, standing upon the ark of the covenant, all in gold, and borne upon the shoulders of a dozen enthusiasts. Next came the mammoth golden candlestick and the table for bread. Following these was the First Presbyterian Sunday school, with sixty in line. Then came the golden altar and the great laver borne upon poles on the shoulders of men. About 160 children followed the banner of Judah, and an equal number followed the banner of Dan. There were fifty in the tribe of Manassah, and as many of the tribe of Simeon. There were 137 under the banner of Gad and 200 under that of Benjamin. Fully 500 were followers of other banners, and the long parade was a success in every particular.

The declination of ex-Mayor A. H. Weir as a candidate on the populist ticket for treasurer of Lancaster county has been received by Chairman Eager of the county central committee. Mr. Weir urges that the protests of his business associates against his canvass are emphatic, besides which he says he is not in a financial condition to go through the campaign.

William J. Wells, accused of horse theft at University Place, was held by Justice Spencer in the sum of $500 and is in jail.

Omaha people in Lincoln: At the Lincoln—John A. Krug, T. A. Fisher, C. B. Horton, C. H. Marling, R. Casebert, P. E Winter, D. L. Johnson, A. M. Jeffrey W. N. Dekker, Frank Irvine.

NEBRASKA'S AID IS ASSURED.

Will Send Delegates to the Deep Water Convention at Topeka.

LINCOLN, Sept. 4.—(Special.)—W. B. Slosson of Houston, Tex., called on Governor Holcomb today in relation to the Galveston deep water project, and the governor stated in substance: "Nebraska is deeply interested in the western states conference to be held at Topeka October 1, and you can rely upon a full representation. I shall endeavor to accompany the delegation and hope that the securing of deep water at Galveston will be appropriately celebrated. It is the natural point of shipment for the products of Nebraska farmers and manufacturers. Practically half the distance from Nebraska to New York is saved, and it means more money for wheat and corn and the products of the packing houses and the mills of the state. The people of Nebraska are fully alive to this subject, and it is safe to predict that it will not be long before Nebraska products will be taken southward instead of eastward to find a market. We confidently look forward to a representation of Nebraskans and Nebraska's products at the Interamerican exposition at Galveston in 1897."

OMAHA MAN FATALLY HURT.

Brakeman Richards Caught Between the Cars on the Omaha.

TEKAMAH, Neb., Sept. 4.—(Special.)—Joseph C. Richards, brakeman on the Omaha and living at 720 North Eighteenth street, Omaha, was fatally injured at this place today about noon. Richards was on the way freight that arrives here shortly after 11 o'clock and was assisting in the switching about the yards, and in coupling either slipped or attempted to pass between the cars and was caught between the couplers. He was caught in the abdomen and held until assistance moved the cars. Richards had only been on the road six weeks, having been laid off all summer. His wife and the railroad surgeon from Omaha came up this afternoon on a special. The surgeons hold out no encouragement as to his recovery, although he retains consciousness and recognizes his friends who attend.

Grafton Brevities.

GRAFTON, Neb., Sept. 4.—(Special.)—The Grafton schools opened this morning, with W. M. Sheppard as principal, R. S. Stuckey grammar teacher, George Burt intermediate and Miss Nellie Stevens primary.

Miss Hallie Wilson and sister of Ashland spent Saturday and Sunday with Mrs. J. T. Hinkley.

Rev. Smith, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church, exchanged pulpits Sunday with Rev. Mr. Royce of Sutton.

Dr. McLeod of Lincoln is staying here a few days on his way back from a summer in the mountains of Colorado.

Mrs. Prof. Layman and family left Friday morning for Lima, O.

Miss Grace Keelor is spending a few days in Juniata.

Councilman Casper Bound Over.

BEATRICE, Sept. 4.—(Special Telegram.)—Ex-Councilman Casper, whose preliminary hearing on a charge of changing the ballots cast by his delegation in the republican county convention was held this morning, was bound over to appear at the coming term of the district court. His bond was fixed at $500 and he was accepted as his own bondsman.

While the Postoffice Gun club was participating in target practice last evening Carrier Aaron Palmer received a charge of shot in his side, a boy named Sisson allowing his gun to be accidentally discharged. Palmer's route will be carried several days by a substitute.

Polk County's Fair Opened.

OSCEOLA, Neb., Sept. 4.—(Special.)—Polk county's fair was opened yesterday and from present appearances it looks as though it would be the best fair ever held in the county. The display is hard to beat.

The board of insanity has declared Reuben Noyd insane and will send him to the asylum at Lincoln as soon as there can be room made for him. Noyd is a young man 22 years old, and his insanity, it is said, was brought on by too close attention to study, and it is thought that with a few months care in the asylum he will come out all right again.

Polk county's mortgage record is climbing, and the county clerk's office has plenty to do these days. In one day last week there were over $18,000 of mortgages recorded.

Weston Schools Opened.

WESTON, Neb., Sept. 4.—(Special.)—The Weston schools opened yesterday, the first day's enrollment being 150, with Will T. Mauck principal, Miss Anna Johnson, Miss Maud Cachelin and Miss Minnie Jones teachers.

The recent rains have put the ground in fine condition and a large acreage of rye and wheat will be sown. The rainfall at this point since March measures fifteen inches.

Morrison Murder Case On.

CHADRON, Neb., Sept. 4.—(Special Telegram.)—The case against Thomas Burns, charged with murder, was today dismissed by the county attorney. In the Morrison murder trial the regular panel was exhausted trying to obtain a jury, and a special venire of fifty was called. The case will probably get started tomorrow afternoon. It is creating more interest than any for a long time in this section.

J. D. Wolf Bound Over.

WEST POINT, Neb., Sept. 4.—(Special.)—The case of J. D. Wolf, accused of mailing improper matter, was brought before United States Commissioner Sonnenschein this morning. The prisoner was bound over to the United States circuit court at the November term. The letter in question was a dun accompanied with threats.

Peru Normal Open for the Year.

PERU, Neb., Sept. 4.—(Special.)—The State Normal opened for the year today. The building has been undergoing repairs during the summer. Several thousand dollars have been spent in a new roof, paper and paint. Over 400 students were registered before 8:30 this morning.

DEMOCRATS HAVE FULL SWAY

Administration Wing Out in Force at Lincoln Today.

CONVENTION TO BE LARGELY ATTENDED

This Evening the Sound Money Element Will Be Addressed by Several Speakers of National Repute.

LINCOLN, Sept. 4.—(Special Telegram.)—The administration democratic state convention will be called together at the Funke opera house tomorrow at 3 o'clock p. m. The clans are gathering tonight. Secretary John B. Sheehan is already on the grounds with headquarters at the Capital hotel. There will be a full representation from all the counties in the state. Delegates from the following counties are in Lincoln tonight: Dawes, Sherman, Cherry, Brown, Keyha Paha, Rock, Holt, Boyd, Antelope, Boone, Merrick, Pawnee, Johnson and Nuckolls. Euclid Martin will arrive in the morning and the state central committee will be called to meet at 1:30 p. m. Conspicuous among the notable rock-ribbed bourbons now here are Dr. Bradshaw of Kearney, J. F. Crocker of Kearney and Dan W. Cook of Beatrice. The convention will not be short on candidates. Already a number have been mentioned for supreme judge. Prominent among those who will doubtless be nominated in the convention are Charles G. Ryan, Grand Island, and R. S. Bibb, Beatrice. Omaha may present two names, T. J. Mahoney and Judge Irvine, present supreme court commissioner. For regent Omaha may name J. H. McIntosh. Editor Ashby of Arapahoe will also have friends in the convention who will be pleased to honor him with the complimentary nomination for regent.

In the evening there will be a hard money round-up at the opera house, in which the doctrine of honest currency will be advocated by speakers of national reputation. Ex-Congressman M. D. Harlock of Ohio has promised to be present, and others are expected.

At present there is every indication that the democratic convention at Omaha will be discounted in point of numbers and solidity by the gathering of those tomorrow.

LANCASTER DEMOCRATS ACT.

Select Delegates to the State Convention and Name a Ticket.

LINCOLN, Sept. 4.—(Special.)—N. S. Harwood, chairman of the central committee, called the Lancaster county administration democratic convention together at 2:30 p. m. Every ward and precinct was represented, some of the delegates coming from a distance of twenty-five miles. Chairman Harwood prefaced the business of the convention with a concise statement of the administration democratic situation as it at present existed. The fact that the "straight" democrats cast nearly 20,000 votes last fall was, he held, a complete justification of the present attitude of this wing of the party. George F. Collins was elected temporary chairman and J. G. P. Hildebrand secretary. As there were no contests the list of delegates as shown by their credentials were accepted and the temporary organization was made permanent. Dr. Farnum, N. S. Harwood and J. J. Angleton were appointed by the chair a committee to name nineteen delegates to the state convention to be held tomorrow. A. S. Tibbetts, George F. Collins and S. L. Geistlehardt were nominated for district judges and J. J. Angleton for county judge.

W. H. Atwood was named for county commissioner, and for county treasurer Joseph Wittmann was nominated. The ticket was completed by the following nominations: Clerk of the district court, J. G. P. Hildebrand; county clerk, M. T. Gilbert; sheriff, James Kelley; county surveyor, F. M. Ellsworth; coroner, Dr. Smith; county superintendent, L. T. M. Easterday. Delegates to the state convention: N. S. Harwood, J. G. Sherman, J. J. Angleton, John H. Ames, Charles R. Millington, Albert Walker, W. H. Atwood, N. Z Snell, H. G. Whitmore, S. S. Royce, James Kelley, R. F. Steele, Frank J. Kelly, George O. W. Farnum, J. R. Gilkison, Tobias Caster, C. L. Eaton, A. R. Mitchell. The resolutions adopted strongly endorsed sound money and President Cleveland.

M'COOK, Neb., Sept. 4.—(Special Telegram.)—The democratic judicial convention for the Fourteenth district, which met here this evening, was uproarious and developed into two separate conventions. Of the first convention D. J. Fitzgerald of Indianola was chairman, L. W. Smith of Indianola secretary. There were five delegates in all present. W. W. Barngrover of Stockville was unanimously nominated for judge. Thomas Duncan was chosen chairman of the judicial central committee, and L. W. Smith secretary. They were authorized to fill all vacancies in the central committee.

At this juncture in the proceedings the free silver men were interrupted by the appearance of the straight or administration faction of the party. Bitter speeches were made and a row almost ensued. An adjournment was finally taken, and the administration faction organized a convention with H. W. Sipe of Cambridge as chairman and J. F. Forbes of McCook as secretary. W. W. Barngrover was unanimously nominated as their candidate for judge. The candidate was empowered to name the central committeemen from Gosper and Frontier counties. The other committeemen are: Chase, J. D. Shahan; Dundy, J. L. Remaley; Hayes, J. F. Dyer; Hitchcock, W. S. Cornutt; Red Willow, J. S. Lehew; Furnas, H. W. Sipe, and Chairman J. W. Hupp. There were ten persons present in this convention. The affair has caused much hard feeling between the contending democratic factions.

COUNTY AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITS.

Knox and Other Sections Have Very Attractive Fairs.

CREIGHTON, Neb., Sept. 4.—(Special Telegram.)—This was the second day of the Knox county fair. It would have passed off very smoothly had it not been for a stiff southwest wind which made the grounds very dusty. The sports consisted of a ball game and races. The races were good, but the ball game which was played between Wausa and the home team was extremely bad. It resulted in 15 to 6 in favor of Wausa. The agricultural products are enormous. The fancy work and art exhibits are splendid, and live stock is showing up nicely.

WILBER, Neb., Sept. 4.—(Special Telegram.)—There was a good attendance at the Saline county fair today. The display is especially fine in hogs and farm products. In the races, half mile, 2:30 trot, St. Joe won; Binnine E, second; best time 2:22½; half mile and repeat, Dr. Briggs, won; Whipsaw, second; Midnight, third; time, 0:52; pony race, John Knott, won; Pumpkinseed, second; Topsy Girl, third; time 0:54.

Exeter People Viewed the Eclipse.

EXETER, Neb., Sept. 4.—(Special.)—A large number of Exeter people viewed the eclipse Tuesday night. Those who remained up to see the end say the moon left the shadow at 1:30 Wednesday morning. It was a beautiful sight.

Rev. and Mrs. H. G. Claycombe arrived here from the west Monday and will probably remain for the winter, as they own a residence at this place.

Phillip Priston left this week for an extended visit with his brother in Chicago.

William Randall and wife are making preparations for an extended trip, which will take in the national encampment at Louisville, the cotton exposition and a visit with relatives in Tennessee.

Prof. J. T. McKinnon has charge of the schools again this year, with an excellent corps of teachers.

Had Some Fun with the Railroad.

PLATTSMOUTH, Neb., Sept. 4.—(Special Telegram.)—John Hansen, about 19 years of age, was arrested by Sheriff Eikenbarry and brought to the city this afternoon, charged with placing an obstruction on the Missouri Pacific railroad near Eagle. There was an old worn out handcar that had been left standing near the track for some time, and young Hansen only saw the funny side of placing the old machine on the track to allow the first train to knock it off. He will be given a hearing tomorrow before Judge Archer.

Prepared for an Emergency.

PLATTSMOUTH, Neb., Sept. 4.—(Special Telegram.)—Chief Engineer I. S. P. Weeks of the B. & M. was in town today making final arrangements for the laying of a two-mile switch on the east side of the river and above the bridge, for which purpose the company recently appropriated $15,000, so as to be ready for an emergency should the river again begin cutting above the bridge. The track will be put down as soon as possible, but no riprapping will be done unless its needs are apparent.

MORE CROOKEDNESS AT BEATRICE.

Warrant Book of the Fire Department Mysteriously Stolen.

BEATRICE, Sept. 4.—(Special Telegram.)—Some little excitement was caused today when it was discovered that what is known as the city fire department warrant book has mysteriously disappeared from the city hall. Since the arrest of Clerk Phillips and Commissioner Hawkins a close guard has been kept on the city's books and records, a policeman sleeping in the office each night, and if the book in question has been stolen it is certainly the work of some one who has access to the office during the day. The fact that there has been a suspicion that there was fraud in connection with the purchase of 1,000 feet of hose recently made and the warrants in payment therefor being from the last book gives the whole matter a rather suspicious appearance.

Dodge County Affairs.

FREMONT, Sept. 4.—(Special.)—Barbara Dufek has commenced for the fourth time a suit for divorce from Wencel Dufek. She claims in her petition that he is a bad man. The other three cases she has commenced were dismissed by her, the last one at the May term of court.

Bicycle thieves are working the town again. Last evening P. H. Bethge had a high grade wheel stolen from the alley between F and Main streets, near Sixth street. A short time ago Archie Smith had one stolen.

Considerable interest is being taken here in the election of judges for this judicial district. Judge Marshall will no doubt receive the delegation from this county. He is careful and painstaking in his decisions, and his rulings are almost always upheld in the supreme court. No district judge in the state has a better record in that respect. While Hon. C. Hollenbeck has the delegation from Dodge county, it is possible that he may refuse the nomination. The populists will nominate a full ticket. Ewing and Grimison from the western part of the district and Martin and Carey from this county are talked of.

La Platte Notes and Personals.

LA PLATTE, Neb., Sept. 4.—(Special.)—After an absence of two weeks visiting relatives and friends in Saunders county, Mrs. Leipold returned to her home, near this place, Saturday.

Ed Bailey spent last week in Rock county, this state, in the interest of his business.

Rev. Mr. Stewart, chairman of the Omaha district of the Free Methodist church, and Rev. W. M. Adams, the new pastor for the La Platte and Omaha circuit, will be at this place Tuesday evening to hold an official meeting.

Mrs. Myrtle Hoold of York returned to her home Monday, after a two weeks' visit with relatives in and around La Platte.

The Burlington company will open the depot at this place Tuesday, and F. B. Hood will be appointed agent. Hood served as official here until the closing of the office last February. The depot will receive some much needed repairs and things here will be somewhat reanimated.

The La Platte public school began its fall and winter term Monday, with Prof. Wood of Bellevue as teacher. The new school house is now used in place of the old store building.

Plattsmouth Social Event.

PLATTSMOUTH, Neb., Sept. 4.—(Special.)—Mrs. W. N. McLennan last evening gave a delightful "eclipse party" in honor of her niece, Miss Sarah McLennan of Cleveland, O., on which about thirty couples were in attendance. The house was decorated with goldenrod. Those present from abroad were Misses Sarah McLennan, Emma Atkins, New Albany, N. Y., and Ada Lubolse, Ashland. Refreshments were served, while games and dancing furnished the amusement.

Vilas Sheldon, manager of the University Foot Ball team, came down last night in search of foot ball material for the coming season.

George Davis, who was arrested yesterday, charged with the theft of a pair of earrings and a dress pattern from Mrs. Will Simmons, was tried yesterday afternoon and subsequently discharged.

Will Pickett, recently appointed agent for the B. & M. at this place, came in last night to look over the location. The present agent, Fred Latham, will act as cashier under Pickett.

Changes in Schuyler Schools.

SCHUYLER, Neb., Sept. 4.—(Special.)—Under the management of Prof. Burkett the Schuyler schools were opened Monday. Enrollment, 525.

At the meeting of the school board Monday night J. W. Stewart, who has been president for a year, resigned, his resignation being accepted. John E. Arnold, for three years secretary of the board, was elected.

Editor Pont of the Howells Journal was in the city Monday.

Ex-Postmaster Thomas Walker and F. W. Busch of the Howells Milling company were here Tuesday in search of a teacher for the Howells schools.

Mrs. B. Dunkel and son, John, were down from Howells Monday and visited Mrs. Dunkel.

Booming Things at Arlington.

ARLINGTON, Neb., Sept. 4.—(Special.)—Work was begun here yesterday on a new brick hotel, which is to be completed before snow flies. B. H. J. Jungbluth has the contract and has leased the building for two years after its completion.

Dr. R. D. Harris and family of Ogalalla, Keith county, arrived here Monday, and will permanently locate. The doctor was a member of the lower house in the legislature last winter from his district, carrying every county in the district by handsome majorities, while several of these counties went populist on other offices.

Favored the School Board.

BERTRAND, Neb., Sept. 4.—(Special Telegram.)—Several weeks ago the members of Bertrand's school board voted in favor of employing Mrs. Belle Hedlund to teach in the High school, but later a majority reversed the decision before her contract was signed by the directors or treasurer. Today Judge Beal at Minden decided in favor of the school board.

Advertising Nebraska Products.

BEAVER CITY, Neb., Sept. 4.—(Special Telegram.)—A B. & M. baggage car, filled with Furnas county corn, wheat, alfalfa and vegetables, left here today for exhibition at the Iowa and Illinois state fairs. The exhibition is in charge of Prof. J. W. Olmsted and Hon. H. W. McFadden.

Wrote Insulting Letters.

FALLS CITY, Neb., Sept. 4.—(Special.)—Benton Bowers of this city was before Judge Musselman this morning for writing insulting letters to Miss Mertle Goesett of this city. He was given forty days in jail.

Seven Hours in Advance.

WESTON, Neb., Sept. 4.—(Special.)—By the new schedule, The Bee now reaches Weston readers seven hours earlier, which is very satisfactory.

Social Science Convention.

SARATOGA, Sept. 4.—The American Social Science convention occupied its session this morning as a department of health. An address was made by Chairman of the Department Dr. Frederick Paterson of New York City on the "Craig Colony of Epileptics." Papers were read by Dr. R. L. Duncan Bulkley of New York City on "Plea for the Legal Control of Certain Dangerous Communicable Diseases," and by Dr. Grace Peckham Murray of New York City on "The Relation of Education to the Cerebral Development of the Child."

M. K. & T. Bought the Road.

WACO, Tex., Sept. 4.—The Waco & Northwestern railroad, extending from Bremond to Ross, Tex., fifty-four miles, was sold today under foreclosure proceedings. W. F. Boyle of St. Louis was the purchaser at $1,055,000. He is understood to represent the Missouri, Kansas & Texas railway in the purchase.

Haydens sell sheet music, 1c up.

DURRANT ON TRIAL FOR LIFE

Conversation Which Tends to Show a Motive for the Terrible Crime.

HIS BEST FRIEND TO TESTIFY AGAINST HIM

New Evidence Discovered Against the Man Accused of the Murder of Blanche Lamont—First Witness Called in Court.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 4.—At the Durrant trial today the taking of testimony was begun. The first witness was Dr. Barrett, who performed the autopsy on Blanche Lamont. He gave in detail a description of the numerous wounds and bruises upon the body of the dead girl. His testimony was listened to with the closest attention by the crowd which packed the court room. The prisoner maintained a cool demeanor through the trying ordeal of the doctor's testimony.

The Examiner says the prosecution has a witness whose testimony will show a motive for the murder—a thing lacking heretofore on account of Durrant's standing in social and religious circles. The name of the witness is Clarence Wolfe and it is said that he will swear that on April 2, one day before Blanche Lamont was murdered, he and Theodore Durrant held a conversation which explains with terrible significance the young student's motive for luring the unfortunate girl into the sanctuary.

Wolfe has told the police and will tell the jury that on the afternoon of April 2 he and Durrant held this conversation which meant so much to the pretty girl whom both had known only a few months. Durrant commented upon the beauty of Blanche. In a tone of exultation and not of respect he assured Wolfe that she was a pure girl and that he intended to rob her of that virtue which she so prized. The girl prized her honor more than her life; that explains the tragedy of the following day.

This overwhelming testimony which Wolfe will give has been kept a profound secret by the prosecution. The defense and the public have held that the young friend of the accused would take the stand only to speak a good word for the man whose life is at stake. Intimations were given that Wolfe would be dragged into the case in a manner little to his liking, but there was no suspicion that Durrant had confided to his friend the ignoble purpose which inspired him.

He spoke in words far plainer than those which have been published. He left no possible doubt of what he meant. The source of this evidence is, in the opinion of Captain Lees, one of the strongest proofs of its reliability. Had some one who enjoyed no more than a simple acquaintance with Durrant come forward with it there might be some doubt, but its sponsor here is one who possessed the student's confidence, shared with his pleasures and took part in much of the daily routine of his life. From his own circle his condemnation has come like a thunderbolt.

One of the most interesting and sensational probabilities in the great case which is now in progress is that Attorney General Fitzgerald may be called upon to make the closing argument for the state. The attorney general is one of the ablest criminal lawyers in the state. He has been a member of the supreme court of the state and is thoroughly familiar with every snag which awaits the pleader in criminal law. It is urged that the great public importance of the case demands his presence and active participation. In the discussion a question of delicacy has arisen. Those who are urging that the attorney general should make the closing argument wish in no way to reflect upon District Attorney Barnes. They are frank to acknowledge his great ability, but would like to see him fortified in a matter which touches the state so closely as this case. Acting upon that view they hope that the attorney general will be asked to make the closing argument. Attorney Fitzgerald has been questioned about the matter and will willingly take part if he be invited to do so.

A social good time will be had at Pabst's hall, 1216 Farnam, Thursday evening, September 5, by the O. R. B. U., to which all butchers of Omaha and South Omaha are cordially invited. F. E. Cutler, secretary.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Fair and Cooler Promised for Nebraska Today.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 4.—The forecast for Thursday is:

For Nebraska and Kansas—Fair; southerly winds, becoming variable; cooler in the eastern portion.

For Missouri—Generally fair and slightly warmer; east to south winds.

For Iowa—Fair; southeast winds, becoming variable.

For South Dakota—Generally fair; winds shifting to westerly; cooler in the eastern portion.

Local Record.

OFFICE OF THE WEATHER BUREAU, OMAHA, Sept. 4.—Omaha record of temperature and rainfall, compared with the corresponding day of the past four years:

	1895	1894	1893	1892
Maximum temperature	90	87	91	71
Minimum temperature	62	62	61	56
Average temperature	76	74	76	64
Precipitation	.00	.00	.00	.00

Condition of temperature and precipitation at Omaha for the day and since March 1, 1895:

Normal temperature	68
Excess for the day	8
Accumulated excess since March 1	269
Normal precipitation	.11 inch
Deficiency for the day	.11 inch
Total precipitation since March 1	18.53 inches
Deficiency since March 1	5.56 inches

Reports from Stations at 8 p. m.

STATIONS.	Temperature at 8 p. m.	Max. Temperature of day.	Precipitation.	STATE OF WEATHER.
Omaha	84	88	.00	Clear.
North Platte	80	92	.00	Clear.
Valentine	78	88	.00	Clear.
Chicago	78	82	.00	Clear.
St. Louis	80	84	.06	Part cloudy
St. Paul	70	86	.00	Clear.
Davenport	78	84	.00	Clear.
Kansas City	82	88	.00	Clear.
Helena	54	60	T	Raining.
Denver	82	88	.00	Clear.
Salt Lake City	82	86	.00	Clear.
Bismarck	66	72	T	Clear.
St. Vincent	58	66	T	Clear.
Cheyenne	76	80	.00	Part cloudy
Miles City	66	72	T	Cloudy.
Rapid City	70	78	.00	Part cloudy
Galveston	82	86	.00	Clear.

"T" indicates trace of precipitation.

L. A. WELSH, Observer.

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