PAID ALL LEIDIGH'S BILLS

Board of Public Lands and Buildings Settle Claims Against the State.

MEETING HELD BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Secret Session Discusses the Action of Dealers Furnishing Supplies After Being Warned Not to Do so by Advertisement.

LINCOLN, Feb. 3.—(Special.)—The Board of Public Lands and Buildings held a secret meeting this afternoon behind closed and locked doors. The board commenced its session in the office of the commissioner of public lands and buildings, but this was too much publicity, considering the number of contractors who were present to demand pay for supplies furnished the penitentiary on the order of Warden Leidigh, and the board departed for more secluded quarters. Hargreaves Bros. had a bill for $5,000 and the Western Supply company one for $1,300. Warden Leidigh was not present. He says he has filed his report with the board as demanded by Land Commissioner Russell. The latter says this is not true; that the board has seen nothing of it. According to Leidigh's report, published in synopsis in The Sunday Bee, Mr. Russell has interfered with Leidigh's attempt to secure the state from a loss through the contractors now working convict labor and paying nothing to the state for the privilege. Today Mr. Russell told a Bee representative that the board had done nothing of the kind, and immediately read a letter in which Leidigh was directed by Russell to turn over all the stoves he had held in his possession to secure the state from loss from the Lincoln Stove and Range company and to treat this company in the future on the same basis as the other contractors were treated.

At the secret meeting today Mr. Russell began to read the riot act to the contractors who had bills against the state and who had the temerity to sell goods to the warden of the penitentiary. They were told that the matter would be overlooked this time, but that it must not occur again, but the board was given to understand that, by the recent decision of the supreme court, the advertisement warning contractors not to furnish goods to Warden Leidigh was not worth the paper it was printed on. The result of the meeting was that all bills presented were allowed and the action of Warden Leidigh practically endorsed.

WHITEHEAD FOR AGENT.

Attorney General Churchill, Land Commissioner Russell, Secretary of State Piper and State Treasurer Bartley, all the members of the board, were present. Mr. Bartley left before the meeting, which was continued till a late hour, adjourned. The proposition to appoint an agent to act for the board in the matter of "managing" penitentiary affairs elicited a prolonged discussion. It resulted finally in the appointment of James Whitehead of Broken Bow. He was wired to come down and take charge of the prison on Wednesday next. The board proceeded in this matter under its understanding of the recent opinion of the supreme court. Nothing was done toward appointing agents for any other of the state institutions.

At the governor's office today a requisition was issued for George Mostek, who is now under arrest in Chicago. The charge against him is selling mortgaged property in Platte county, this state, on January 30, 1896. Sheriff Kavanaugh of Cook county, Illinois, was made acquainted with the arrest of Mostek through Inspector J. E. Fitzpatrick of Chicago and immediately wired the Platte county authorities. The complainant in the case is Israel Gluck.

The counties whose treasurers are delinquent in their settlement with the state auditor are Gosper, Otoe, Scotts Bluff and Stanton. State Examiner McCloud is now in Gosper county looking into the conditions surrounding the recent burning of the Gosper county court house, and is expected to make a report to the state auditor in a few days. L. C. Ikhoff and E. B. Brain, county treasurers of Cass and Rock counties respectively, made a settlement with the auditor late Saturday night last.

A compromise has been effected between the citizens of Homesville, Gage county, and the officials of the Omaha & Republican Valley railroad. A short time since the citizens made complaint to the Board of Transportation that the crossing near the town was in a dangerous condition and asked that the road be ordered to raise its roadbed. The board served notice on the company and gave it a certain time in which to make reply. Since then the compromise has been made whereby the road does a portion of the work and the citizens the rest. The board has, consequently, dismissed the case.

The State Board of Irrigation has decided against the claim for water appropriated by E. E. Owens of Dundy county. The board finds that Owens never posted notice of appropriation as required by law, and that his claim is void, but if within ten days from the receipt of this notice he shall proceed to post the notices his claim will be dated back to June 20, 1895.

LANSING THEATER SUIT.

An injunction suit brought by Manager Ed Church to restrain J. F. Lansing from dipping into the management of the Lansing theater was set for a hearing this morning in the district court. As the court was quite busy calling the equity docket the case was passed. A rather sensational answer has been filed by Mr. Lansing's attorneys. Practically the document accuses Church of having abandoned the contract under which he leased the theater. Church, it is alleged, was to pay over to Lansing all moneys left in his hands after paying the visiting company its percentage and taking out his own 5 per cent of the remainder. With the proceeds defendant was to pay expenses of running the theater. Lansing says Church has failed to do this, but, on the contrary, has insisted on paying expenses himself. The injunction, Lansing pleads, ought not to stand, as under it he is prevented from having access to the theater, and it is necessary for him to go in there in order to carry out his part of the contract. It is also averred that Church, instead of paying attention to his business as theatrical manager, has turned the whole business over to William W. Cole and devoted his own attention to a road company. The expense account, Lansing says, has been permitted by Cole to mount up until it now absorbs all the profits. Mr. Lansing demands an accounting from Church and from the court an order cancelling the contract for the reason that Church has violated almost every provision in it.

It is expected that the case of John B. Walker, convicted of murder in Dawson county, will be brought before the supreme court at its next session on Thursday on an application for review of the proceedings of the jury which found him sane. The day of Walker's execution may be postponed.

This afternoon Mayor Graham signed the contract with Elmer B. Stephenson for the sale of the $534,300 Lincoln city refunding bonds. They are gold bonds. The contract reads that the city will not have to print the bonds before the purchaser is ready to take them and until after their legality has been established. It was further agreed that the city might sell any amount of the bonds, not less than $234,000, to go, however.

The Lincoln police authorities have adopted a system, much in vogue in larger cities, to break up the custom of holding up honest citizens on their way home at a late hour of the night. Holding up pedestrians has become quite a fad in Lincoln and much complaint has been made of the apparent laxity of the police force. Every night now policemen are sent out all over the city dressed in citizens' clothes, but armed to the teeth, in the hope that some of the holdup gangs will be tempted to tackle one of them. As a rule two of the officers keep within hailing distance of each other.

Omaha people in Lincoln: At the Lindell—C. P. A. Clough, H. C. Brome, M. Meyer, W. W. Evarts. At the Lincoln—Miss McClellan, C. B. Wall and wife, M. Burton, F. W. Shaw, E. A. Holycke, Frank Irvine.

Funeral of David Martin.

CENTRAL CITY, Neb., Feb. 3.—(Special.)—The funeral of David Martin, who died at Victor, Colo., January 29, was held here this morning, after which the remains were escorted to the train by the Masonic brethren. Mr. Martin was a bridge builder of experience, having constructed the bridges at Burlington and St. Anthony across the Mississippi. He lost his fortune by the wrecking of his bank by the cashier on the Board of Trade in 1872, and in the hopes of regaining his fortune had invested in some mines at Cripple Creek with fair promise of success, when he succumbed to pneumonia, aged 67 years. His wife and son accompanied the remains to Aurora, Ill., where they will be interred.

CHEYENNE COUNTY FARMERS HUSTLE.

Hundreds Meet at Sidney to Promote Irrigation.

SIDNEY, Neb., Feb. 3.—(Special Telegram.)—Another rousing meeting of Cheyenne County Sugar Beet association was held at 2 p. m. today at the court house for the purpose of admitting to membership all the farmers in the east end of the county who are interested in sugar beets. Nearly every farmer in the Lodge Pole valley was present, a distance of twenty-two miles east and west. The farmers themselves did the talking, which was terse and to the point. A resolution requesting E. McLernon to prepare a paper embodying the views and ideas advanced by the speakers and to be ready before the Fremont convention, was unanimously adopted. The paper will be prepared.

OMAHA UNDERWRITERS AT LINCOLN

Regular Quarterly Banquet at the Capital Largely Attended.

LINCOLN, Feb. 3.—(Special Telegram.)—The Omaha members of the Nebraska Life Underwriters' association came down this evening and participated in the regular quarterly banquet tendered by the Lincoln members. The following gentlemen from Omaha were in attendance: H. F. Lambeck, W. O. Taylor, William Barber, H. D. Neeley, J. F. Barron, Francis E. Hartigan, C. B. Gould, J. M. Morris and W. D. Stiles.

John H. Mallalieu, acting chairman of the republican state central committee, received word this evening that his son, Thomas, now living in Kearney, was dangerously ill. Mr. Mallalieu will leave for Kearney tomorrow.

WILL ARREST TWO HUNDRED.

Boyd County Settlers Disturbed by Federal Authorities.

NIOBRARA, Neb., Feb. 3.—(Special Telegram.)—Deputy United States Marshal Lincoln has brought in the Cassady brothers of Boyd county, charged with stealing timber on the Fort Randall Military Reservation. They will have their hearing tomorrow before the United States commissioner. Four witnesses for the government are here and they say that about 200 will be arrested if this test case proves favorable to the government.

Fremont News Notes.

FREMONT, Feb. 3.—(Special.)—The mortgage record for Dodge county for the month of January is as follows: Number of chattel mortgages filed, 83, $23,479.01; released, 73, $13,520.51; number of farm mortgages filed, 30, $35,115; released, 24, $23,629.60; number of town and city mortgages filed, 35, $21,336.86; released, 30, $20,933.34.

Joseph Betts, who turned state's evidence against the hog thief gang, has been released and placed in the custody of Special Officer Dierks. He has rendered a great deal of assistance to the officers in the prosecution of the cases. Peter Milledge will probably be sentenced at the next session of the district court, February 15. Jess Wheeler, who is thought to be the leader of the gang, broke down and cried like a baby when he learned of his pal's conviction and that he would have no trial till March 2.

The New York hotel, which has been closed for some time, has been leased by some parties who will run it temporarily during the sugar convention.

To Pardon William Morrell.

SHELBY, Neb., Feb. 3.—(Special.)—About two years ago District Judge Edward Bates sentenced William Morrell to a term in the state penitentiary for forging the name of a friend to a note for $850. The convicted man served fifteen months in prison, but when the new warden took him in charge he was paroled, and is now laboring on a farm. His friends here are circulating a petition asking Governor Holcomb to grant him a pardon, and as it has been signed freely they have hopes of returning Morrell to this community. The paper states that his wife is dependent upon him for support and infers that he was enticed into the felony.

Entertained a Crowd at Fairbury.

FAIRBURY, Neb., Feb. 3.—(Special.)—Hon. J. C. Kesterson and wife entertained a large number of their friends Saturday evening in commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of their wedding day. The parlors of their residence on Fourth street were appropriately decorated, and a most enjoyable evening was passed by all present. Progressive euchre being a prominent feature of the evening's amusement.

Prisoner at Fullerton Breaks Jail.

FULLERTON, Neb., Feb. 3.—(Special Telegram.)—Gus Wicksby, a prisoner confined in jail here awaiting trial for assaulting a little girl of William Johnson with criminal intent, succeeded in breaking jail last night. He left all doors behind him locked and it is thought he must have had assistance from the outside.

District Court at Springview.

SPRINGVIEW, Neb., Feb. 3.—(Special Telegram.)—District Judge Westover opened court at this place today. The Porter murder case is the most important on the docket, and it will perhaps come to trial this term.

Ogallala Bank Receiver Appointed.

NORTH PLATTE, Neb., Feb. 3.—(Special Telegram.)—Judge Grimes this afternoon at Ogalalla appointed Ed M. Searle of Ogalalla receiver of the defunct Ogalalla bank on a salary of $50 per month.

Nebraska Notes.

Sutton republicans have organized a McKinley club.

Fire at Crete destroyed a residence occupied by I. J. Hightower Sunday.

Frank Tikota of Dodge and Miss Mary Marek of West Point were married at the latter place Sunday.

Rev. E. V. Gardner has succeeded S. W. Maynard as superintendent of the Syracuse Congregational Sunday school.

A temperance drama, entitled "The Turn of the Tide," was rendered at North Loup Saturday evening by local talent.

Rev. Peter Mathews, better known as "Indian Pete, the Evangelist," is conducting an enthusiastic revival at Syracuse.

The United Brethren and Christian churches each begin revival services at Nehawka, with assistance from abroad.

Rev. James Lisle of North Loup is delivering an interesting series of lectures on "The Sabbath in the Old Testament."

A large number of Albion citizens meet at the court room on Friday evening to consider the advisability of building a court house.

The moderate weather of the last few days has taken most of the frost out of the ground, and some farmers at Nehawka are plowing.

The Columbus chess players in the game of Saturday night closed the contest of three games with St. Edward by winning the first and third.

The Dunbar Junior Endeavor society celebrated the fifteenth anniversary of the orders' foundation in America Sunday with appropriate exercises.

A rebounding hammer, carelessly handled by Albert Safferd, in the Havelock shops, struck him in the forehead and knocked him senseless. He suffered no serious injuries.

The articles incorporating the North Platte River Valley railroad have been drawn up by Judge Neville and are now being signed by the incorporators in the several counties along the line of the proposed road.

Chadron is to have a "swell" charity ball. The women of the town, in conjunction with the members of the Red Cross society, will, on the 12th of the month, hold at Loomer's opera house a ball for "sweet charity."

Ed Wilman, a farmer living four miles west of Oconee, left the farm he had rented Thursday night, taking what horses he had with him, but leaving a wife with several small children and many unpaid bills behind him.

Deuel county, for several years past one of the notoriously dry spots of Nebraska, has been effectually moistened with rain and snow the past few weeks and the happy farmers have already commenced spring work.

Peter Perry, a farmer, residing southwest of Plattsmouth, reported to the authorities Saturday that some one had, during Friday night, visited his hog pen and carried off one of the finest animals, after having first killed it, which was easily done, because the hog yards are quite a distance from the house and public road.

On Wednesday evening of this week Rev. C. O. Larison, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church at Albion, delivered a lecture at the Methodist Episcopal church for the benefit of the Ladies' Aid society to a crowded house.

Henry Mohr, an Exeter jeweler, finding himself involved, filed a bill of sale, covering his stock, in favor of his uncle, H. C. Schultz of Fairmont. An agent of Max Meyer & Bro. of Omaha has taken possession of the stock under an attachment.

Ashland farmers are shipping cars of poultry to the New York City market. J. F. Green of that town made twenty-seven trips to the eastern market with poultry shipments last year. As much as $700 profits per car has been made by Ashland shippers.

Mrs. E. W. Peattie of Omaha was present at the meeting of the Fremont Woman's Club Saturday afternoon and gave a short address on a trip to Sitka and other portions of Alaska. Papers were also read by Mrs. Wilson Reynolds and Mrs. Louise Hammond.

At a meeting of those interested in horticulture held at the Nebraska City court house Saturday afternoon the Otoe County Horticultural society, which has been defunct for many years, was reorganized and the following officers elected: President, J. H. Masters; vice president, J. H. Cassel; secretary, David Brown.

Robert B. Windham, president of the Cass County Agricultural association, appointed Messrs. John H. Becker, Hon. Samuel M. Thomas, Henry Eikenbary, Andy B. Taylor and Secretary W. H. Kiefer, as delegates to represent the association at the beet sugar convention at Fremont, Wednesday and Thursday of this week.

Religious circles are all torn up over a recent episode in which a prominent church deacon wrote a note to one of the sisters asking for a secret meeting. The woman gave the letter to her husband, who turned it over to the pastor. The pastor arrayed himself in feminine apparel and kept the appointment with the deacon. There is trouble in that church now.

Messrs. Rood and Wickstrom, after several years' service, severed their connection with the Nehawka Stone company the 1st of February, and will operate the Weeping Water quarries on their own account. The quarries at Nehawka will still run, as the company has a standing contract for 150 cars of broken stone per month. It has had eight teams stripping the earth from the rock all winter, and is preparing for a big output next season.

REFUSED TO GRANT THE EXTENSION

Great Western Will Act Independent of Other Lines.

CHICAGO, Feb. 3.—Chairman Caldwell of the Western Passenger association has refused the application of the Great Western to make a thirty-day limit on its tickets for the Grand Army of the Republic encampment at St. Paul. The denial of the request was a foregone conclusion, the road only making it so that it would be able to appeal from the decision of the chairman and make the extension in accordance with the association agreement, no matter what the other lines may do. It will now give formal notice of its intention and if the encampment is held at St. Paul it will put the tickets on the market. No other road in the association will make the extension, not at present at least. They seem to be inclined to let the matter drift without action of any kind until the next meeting of the legislative committee of the Grand Army February 20.

A meeting of lines interested in Colorado business was held today at the office of Chairman Caldwell, the Denver & Rio Grande being represented. The meeting was informal in its nature, and the old difficulty over Utah business, which has made so much trouble for the roads, was discussed. The best of feeling prevailed and the chances are now that the trouble will soon be patched up.

PREPARING FOR A LARGE CROWD.

Railroads Will Reap a Rich Harvest Out of the Fight Carnival.

EL PASO, Tex., Feb. 3.—The following program was received in this city from W. J. Black, general passenger agent of the Santa Fe route, addressed to E. Copeland, general agent of the same line:

TOPEKA, Kan., Feb. 3.—Have been making a thorough canvass for the past week regarding the athletic contests to be held near El Paso and think we can safely say that we have special trains of Pullman sleepers from Denver, Colorado Springs and Pueblo, with Colorado contingent. I also have advices that there will be quite a number from Utah in addition thereto. Information from St. Louis, Chicago, St. Joseph, Kansas City and prominent intermediate points indicates that there will be large numbers attend. I know the people are fast reaching the belief that the contests will be held as advertised."

"W. J. BLACK."

"I am now getting ready to accord trackage to as many Pullman cars as will be brought here," said Mr. Copeland, "and I think that 200 of these coaches will be used for lodging purposes during the carnival."

Railway Notes and Personals.

General Passenger Agent Nash of the Milwaukee has gone to Chicago.

Major Wolcott of Cheyenne was a caller at the Burlington headquarters yesterday.

General Passenger and Ticket Agent Lomax of the Union Pacific has gone to Chicago.

A meeting of the Nebraska rate clerks will be held at the Burlington headquarters today.

Traffic Manager Munroe of the Union Pacific will attend the meeting for the adjustment of freight rates in Chicago today.

The regular meeting of the Omaha and Council Bluffs Passenger Agents' association, better known as the "low joints," will be held today.

Since the first of the month all mileage and baggage books issued by the Union Pacific system have been good over the Sanpete Valley railroad.

General Passenger Agent Buchanan of the Elkhorn has gone to Chicago. He will be present at the regular meeting of the Transmississippi association today.

Word was received in this city yesterday of the death of James Christianson, one of the oldest engineers in the Union Pacific's service. He was employed on the Wyoming division. His death was due to pneumonia.

The Fireman's Magazine for February gives considerable space to the war now in progress between the firemen's association and the American Railway union. The now famous circular of Eugene Debs is also printed in full.

It is reported from Rawlins that eight car inspectors of the Union Pacific at that point are to be added to the list of men already off on account of the lull in railroad business. The cars on the Wyoming division will now be inspected only at Green River and Cheyenne.

A freight train consisting of nineteen cars of cattle for the Omaha markets made a pretty fast run over a part of the Wyoming division of the Union Pacific one day last week. The run from Rawlins to Cheyenne was made in eight hours and five minutes, equal to passenger time.

The Transmissouri committee of the Western Passenger association is in session today in Chicago. A number of the local roads are represented. The most important thing to come up for consideration is how to secure continuous passage tickets from the Missouri river to Colorado common points. The control of Transatlantic business and the organization of local associations at Colorado common points will also be taken up.

The president of one of the leading western railroads said recently: "The eastern roads will have to watch with great care the movement of grain out of the Transmissouri country if they want to get much of it. The roads to the gulf are making wonderful inroads on this business. They can afford to do it. Rates are lower and vessels are nearer to take it to Europe. It may even be found to be going to New York, by steamer from Galveston. The Burlington's big corn movement is not from the Transmissouri country, but from east of the Missouri."

Holmes Case Up on Appeal.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 3.—The supreme court of Pennsylvania listened to arguments for an appeal in the case of H. H. Holmes, convicted of the murder of B. F. Pitzel and under sentence of death. A full bench was present. District Attorney Graham and Mr. Barlow, his assistant, represented the state and S. P. Rotan appeared for Holmes. The latter claimed that the verdict from which appeal is desired was contrary to the law and evidence. The specific points alleged were against the opening address of the district attorney, the admission of the evidence of Miss Yoke, the alleged wife of Holmes, and the charges to the jury by Judge Arnold. District Attorney Graham replied. The court reserved decision.

COUNCIL AND TAX LEVY

Special Meeting Last Evening to Hear from Citizens.

WHERE REDUCTION COULD BE MADE

Schools, Library, Parks and Police Do Not Need so Much—To Be Further Considered Today.

The city council met in special session last night to discuss the tax levy for the current year, and in addition to the members there were present: Herman Kountze, Joseph Barker, E. Rosewater, John Horbach, Alfred Millard, W. S. Poppleton, Ferdinand Streitz and a number of other property owners. But little, however, was accomplished and at 11 o'clock an adjournment was taken until 2 o'clock this afternoon.

Herman Kountze, in addressing the meeting, said: "The time has come when we must retrench and it is not a question of what we want to do, but instead, it is one of what we must do. Men in business are cutting their expenses to the minimum and in public affairs the burden must be made as light as possible. If the city council sees fit to load the people down with taxes, warrants will be hawked about the streets because taxes will remain unpaid. It is one thing to make a levy and it is another thing to collect the taxes.

"At a meeting of taxpayers and citizens this afternoon it was urged that instead of the council fixing the levy at 44 mills it should be cut to 38 or 39 mills. Believing that we are entitled to be heard, we have come here tonight to ask for that reduction."

President Saunders of the council suggested that it would be in order to discuss where cuts could be made in the levy for the various funds.

Councilman Taylor asked Mr. Kountze how he would manage to bring the levy within 39 mills.

Mr. Kountze replied that in his judgment 1 mill could be taken off the levy for fire and police. It might result in the discharge of some of the men, but the city could get along without them. If this was not deemed advisable, some of the police could be laid off for a time and the firemen could be treated in the same manner. The park and the library levy could be cut to ½ of 1 mill each. "The improvement of the parks," continued Mr. Kountze, "can wait for a year or so, and in my judgment we can get along without buying any new books for the library for a time. The levy for school purposes can be reduced to 5 mills, for that is all that we can afford to pay."

Councilman Kennard questioned the propriety of reducing the park levy to ½ of 1 mill, expressing the opinion that if the park commission felt so disposed the members could step in and enforce the full levy, 1½ mills, which they were entitled to under the provisions of the charter.

Mr. Kountze remarked that the Park commission could better get along with ½ of 1 mill than with nothing. He again added that if the people were loaded down with taxes they could not and would not pay them.

Joseph Barker said that every dollar that he had in the world was invested in Omaha. Seven years ago he had an ample income coming from buildings which he had erected, but owing to the excessive taxation a point had been reached where his rents and profits were insufficient to pay his insurance and taxes. When the enlarged water mains were constructed he was led to believe that insurance rates would be reduced. Notwithstanding this, rates had remained the same, while the city had expended large sums of money for improved machinery for fighting fires. "Every day I see policemen standing upon the streets with nothing to do," he continued, "yet we are taxed the same. What we want to do is to reorganize both the police and the fire department."

TAXPAYERS MAY REVOLT.

W. S. Poppleton said: "There is no use of telling the members of the council of the condition of affairs, for they understand the situation. We have come here as a last resort, seeking relief. We did not come in 1893, nor did we come in 1894, but instead, we cut our expenses. Now we have cut those expenses down to the lowest notch and we come to ask the council to do the same in the management of public affairs. Last fall all of the political parties promised an era of retrenchment and now we ask that those promises be kept. If election promises meant nothing, then we must resort to radical measures. If you intend to grind us down under a burden of taxes, what are we to do?

"I understand that even now there is a movement on foot among certain property owners to refuse to pay their taxes. If this is carried out, what are we going to do? We ask nothing save what is fair; only what your finance committee agreed to, and which proposition was supported by your mayor."

Councilman Kennard stated that it would require a levy of about $152,000 for the sinking fund to meet the interest on the bonded indebtedness.

Mr. Kountze asked if the money that was in the sinking fund had not been diverted.

Councilman Kennard, in reply, stated that a recent report of the comptroller showed that there was $178,000 in the fund, while a later report showed $119,000, yet he doubted if that sum was available.

"If that surplus is there," said Mr. Kountze, "there is no good reason why it should not be applied upon the debt. If the money is not there, or if it has been taken by some one, I don't see how we can get along on a levy of much less than one-half of 1 mill, as we must keep up the credit of the city."

Councilman Hascall said that the fund had not been misappropriated; it had simply been stolen. He ventured the opinion that if the bondsmen of ex-City Treasurer Bolln would get together they might pay some money into the treasury, making it possible to run the sinking fund through on a reduced levy. At this point Hascall suggested that ½ of 1 mill could be taken from the general fund and ¼ of 1 mill from the judgment fund.

T. F. Sturgis, as a representative from the Central Labor union, urged that there be no reduction in the curbing and guttering fund. He expressed the opinion that by keeping the fund intact the streets could be cleaned by day labor, giving employment to many of the laboring men of the city. He urged that in this way the money expended upon the streets would find its way back into business channels. "It is a question," continued Mr. Sturgis, "whether it is cheaper to thus give the laboring men employment or support them in the poor house."

Mr. Kountze declared that it was not necessary to support these men in the poor house. There was no reason why they should be supported by turning over to them the public funds. The streets should be cared for, but he did not believe in putting the laboring men upon the footing of paupers.

President Saunders did not think that there could be any reduction in the fire and police funds. He did not see how the school levy could be reduced, yet he thought that the levy for park purposes could be cut down.

REDUCING POLICE FORCE.

Edward Rosewater said that if there was a desire to help the school fund, the imposing of fines upon the women of the burnt district could be renewed. "It may be argued," continued he, "that taking these fines is exacting blood money, but if this is so, it is blood money to take their cash at the stores or at the churches. By reason of discontinuing these fines, the school fund has already lost $6,000 or $8,000, while next year the amount would reach $12,000, and yet there is no improvement in the morals of the women. With that money the schools could get along with a five-mill levy. I understand that there will be something like $200,000 coming from the saloon licenses, some fines from the police court and the state apportionment. The police force could be reduced something like one-third, or some of the men could be laid off for a time. The park levy could be reduced and by practicing economy the general fund could be cut to eight mills. I would not reduce the sinking and the fire funds. The trouble is that here in this palatial building, we imagine that we have a city like Chicago. So far as the police are concerned, I would rather plant a gasoline lamp upon each corner, yet I would not be hard on the policemen, for I wish that we could employ 500 of them. The question is, how are we going to pay the men when the city warrants are being hawked on the corners at 20 per cent off?"

Colonel Foster of the fire and police commission vigorously opposed reducing the levy for fire and police purposes. Instead of reducing, he would add 2 mills to the levy for police purposes, making the fire levy 5 mills. He did not believe that there was any law for fining the women of the burnt district.

Mr. Rosewater agreed with Mr. Foster upon this last mentioned proposition, and urged that there was an ordinance providing for their arrest for plying their vocation, which made them subject to arrest. He also stated that he was informed that many of the larger establishments in the proscribed district openly sold liquor in violation of the law, and without having secured a license for such sale.

E. L. Palmer of the fire and police commission said that the salaries of the firemen and the policeman could not be reduced, as they were fixed by the charter, but they could be laid off. The trouble, he said was that Omaha had a charter that was intended for a larger city, one like Chicago.

CITY EMPLOYES SUGGEST A PLAN.

They Explain Where Public Money Could Be Saved.

The agitation of economic measures in municipal affairs has revived the discussion of previously abandoned ideas for simplifying the present mode of government. While the legislators are stabbing on economy by reducing the salaries and number of employes, the employes amuse themselves by evolving plans by which they would effect retrenchment if they were in a position to make themselves heard. It is needless to say that their ideas differ materially from those that have been put into effect. The idea of a consolidation of the county and city governments, which has been suggested from time to time, is revived and proclaimed as a potent remedy for financial ills. It is urged that by this, and a consolidation of departments, a vast amount of usless red tape could be done away with.

Employes who are perhaps more familiar with municipal affairs than any member of the city council, declare that the great trouble with the present system is the duplication of work. For instance, the city engineer makes up a plan of assessment for a special tax levy. It is submitted to the board of equalization, amended if necessary and then approved by the council. But this does not end the matter. It must be copied by the city clerk. Here the work is four times duplicated, involving a vast amount of clerical labor which serves no practical purpose. The same practice is followed in numerous other items with the effect that fully half the work that is done in all departments in the city hall is practically a duplication of that which has been done by some other department. And this is alluded to as the main reason why so much clerical work is necessary when the city is doing a comparatively small amount of business.

It is said that if the departments were consolidated, the amount of clerical work would not be greatly in excess of that which is done by one of them under the present system. It is suggested that the abolition of some of the nine departments would still further reduce the amount of labor. A plan is being considered by members of the council for putting the plumbing inspection under the Board of Public Works. There is another case where work is duplicated. The Board of Public Works has charge of the plumbing outside of the lot line, while the inside is under the plumbing inspector and the Board of Health. If a connection is put in, a Board of Public Works inspector goes out and inspects a portion of it, while a Board of Health inspector has to complete the job. It is claimed that one man could inspect the whole job while he is looking over part of it and with more satisfactory results. The only effect of the present system is alleged to be added facility in providing places for political supporters.

He is Ready to Go Home.

Arthur Glass, a young boy, living with his parents at Twenty-seventh and Augar streets, South Omaha, ran away from home yesterday and came to this city with a tramp named Clarkson. The parents notified the police and they found the boy. He said that this was the second time he had tried to leave home, and that it was at the solicitation of Clarkson. Clarkson, he says, got him to promise to furnish a living for both of them by begging on the street, and that in return his older friend was to show him the sights in Omaha, Chicago and other large cities. Glass was not infatuated with his job, and readily promised to return to his parents.

His Relatives in Damascus Killed.

A letter has been received by Stevan Daher, 1201 South Twelfth street, from Damascus, stating that a number of relatives of a friend of his, Iizey Mendi of Norfolk, were killed about a month ago, in an uprising of a lawless tribe near that city. The trouble arose between the Syrians and the mountain people, called the Droos, on account of conflicting religious beliefs. The fight between the two races has existed since 1860, and it was estimated in the letter that over 1,500 people on both sides had been killed in the numerous battles that have taken place. The letter has been forwarded to Mendi by Daher.

Apprehended for Insanity.

Rose Rosengreen, rooming at 1823 Leavenworth street, was taken to the station last night on complaint of a number of her neighbors, who said that they considered her insane, and that it was dangerous to allow her her liberty. At the jail the woman grew violent, and it was impossible to get an intelligible statement from her. It was stated by her landlady that she was brought there about a week ago by a stranger and left to her own resources. Her conduct had been peculiar from the start, and had rapidly grown worse. She will be brought before the insanity board this morning.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS.

Rev. C. W. Savidge has gone to Broken Bow.

Michael J. Hughes of West Point is at the Murray.

Rev. F. X. Handelburg of West Point is in the city.

J. H. Weaver, Philadelphia, Pa., is a Barker guest.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Longfellow of Hardy are in the city.

George Millard, lumberman, Burlington, Ia., is at the Murray.

P. J. Langdon of Gretna, a grain buyer, is registered at the Murray.

Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Howe of Chicago are guests at one of the hotels.

P. Dumphy and George E. Baird, Grand Island, are stopping at the Barker.

George A. McNutt, traveling passenger agent for the "Katy," is in the city.

Lewis Kiesel left for Cripple Creek last night, where he expects to start in business.

E. P. Smith of the Union Pacific law department has gone to Hillsdale, Mich., to be absent a week.

H. D. Watson, Edward Webster, W. S. Clopp and Will J. Scoutt of Kearney are visitors in the city.

O. Jacobson, E. R. South, H. M. Jacobson, H. Nichells and George H. Brough, cattle shippers, Evanston, Wyo., are in the city with stock.

Walter Belasco, William Bennett, Thomas Keims, Horace Thrum, Hugh Ford and Mrs. Edmunds are members with the Henry E. Dixey company registered at the Barker.

At the Murray—J. E. Richardson, Chicago; George Millard, Burlington; H. L. Billings, Chicago; Joe R. Lane, Davenport; Georgie Wells, New York; S. G. Russell, St. Paul; E. B. Wolf, New York; R. J. Langdon, West Point; William Wolf, Syracuse; A. H. Wolf, Chicago; J. H. Willcott, Boston; G. F. Lovejoy, Chicago.

Nebraskans at the hotels are: H. H. Bowes, Tekamah; Jacob Snyder, Fullerton; C. J. Ehrenfeld, North Platte; Anton Nelson, Leigh; H. G. Breitenfeld, Fremont; I. W. Mallory, Grand Island; M. S. Herbert, Gordon; George Miner, Leroy Drake, C. S. Fieldgrove, Shelton; W. H. Needham, Niobrara; G. W. Lang, Litchfield; H. G. Baluss, Atkinson; George A. Brooks, Bazile Mills.

LOCAL BREVITIES.

During the past month the patrol wagons have responded to 365 alarms, and traveled a distance of 498 miles.

Rev. Elinor Gordon of Sioux City lectured before the Unity club last night on "Zangwill." His "Master" she described as almost a poem in prose.

Revival meetings at the First Presbyterian church will continue during the week under the conduct of Rev. Charles E. Bradt of Lincoln, who preached last night.

J. J. Shannon has been arrested on complain of William Garrity for assault, and Frank McKee for the same offense, on complaint of William Scherwinsky.

At 5:30 o'clock yesterday morning a two-story building at 1522 Dodge street, owned by Judge Neville and occupied by William Lyons as a bakery, was set on fire by a gasoline explosion. The loss was $50.

PROTEST AGAINST RECALL

Admirers of Ballington Booth Hold a Monster Mass Meeting.

COMPLIMENTARY RESOLUTIONS PASSED

Speeches Made by Chauncey M. Depew, Mayor Strong and a Number of Prominent Clergymen.

NEW YORK, Feb. 3.—At a mass meeting held in Carnegie hall tonight, it developed that the people represented, as well as the rank and file of the Salvation army, are opposed to the recall of Commander and Mrs. Ballington Booth to England. Among those present were: Dr. Chauncey M. Depew, Bishop E. G. Andrews, William E. Dodge, Rev. A. H. Bradford, Robert Fulton Culling, Rev. Josiah Strong and thousands of others. They were all opposed to it, and said so in as many words. Dr. Depew acted as chairman of the meeting. He read a cablegram from Bramwell Booth to Mayor Strong, explaining the object of Commander Ballington Booth's recall. The speaker said that the gathering was not for the purpose of taking issue with anything contained in the cablegram, but to express our own views. No matter what London will think about it, the infant, which has grown large, is very much alive and liable to kick.

"We are tonight," said Dr. Depew, "to pay tribute to the two leaders—General Booth and Commander Ballington Booth. To General Booth we say we fully recognize your power, the system you have, but about the recall of Commander Ballington and Mrs. Booth we have this suggestion to make. Being 3,000 miles away, our customs are different and we take leave to present a petition and inquire, can they be replaced by a stranger?

"And there is another reason," continued Dr. Depew. "Commander and Mrs. Booth have become naturalized. I met them on an excursion steamer going to Europe a few years ago. The pleasure-seekers were in the first cabin, the ministers and school teachers in the second cabin. Mrs. Booth was in the second cabin and I suggested to the 400 in the first cabin—the fashionable crowd, who at the grand opera are known as the 'crowned heads,' because they wear diamond tiaras—that she be taken into the first cabin. They did so and they found Mrs. Booth a pure and intelligent woman, and she succeeded in converting the 400 not to the Salvation army, but to its uses and services in the world.

"They are part and party of the United States, and in their behalf we will assert the Monroe doctrine. (Laughter.)

PLACE FOR THE MONROE DOCTRINE.

"We cannot surrender to a foreigner any of our territory, and in order to avoid the greatest international trouble, we suggest the appointment of a new commission, or to continue diplomatic correspondence for a few years at least, and we believe that Commander and Mrs. Booth have not fulfilled their mission in the United States."

The cablegram which Dr. Depew read ran thus:

Mayor Strong, New York: Thanks for telegram. General Booth traveling in India. Change in command indicates no disapproval whatever, but confidence that leaders in states, like many others, also changing this year, remain true to the world-wide purpose of the army. The general relies in American auxiliaries, honorably and heartily helping his son and daughter in carrying out their own declarations, and in their continued consecration to the whole world's salvation. Christ's love overcomes all side issues. BRAMWELL BOOTH, Chief of Staff.

Mayor Strong said he, like the others, had attended the meeting to protest against the recall of Commander Ballington and Mrs. Booth and to, if possible, add the dignity of his office to the movement set on foot. Bishop E. G. Andrews described the work of the Salvation army in this country and applauded the magnificent work of the officers recalled to England by General Booth.

Rev. Dr. Strong said that General Booth is the best British general that has been recognized in America for the past 120 years. He, like Dr. Depew, was opposed to the transfer of the commander.

William E. Dodge, after saying a few words in favor of Commander and Mrs. Booth and the Salvation army, read letters from Frances Willard, Governor Budd of California, the St. Louis postmaster and others.

Rev. Dr. Bradford read strongly protesting resolutions which were unanimously adopted.

TALKED ABOUT BONDS.

Discussion by Current Topic Club Last Evening.

"The Bond Issue and the Gold Reserve" was the subject of discussion before the Current Topic club at the Young Men's Christian association last evening. W. H. Salisbury read a paper outlining the policies of the Sherman, McKinley and Wilson bills, and took the affirmative stand that Cleveland, as the head of the government, had a right to issue the bonds when he thought the depleted gold reserve in the treasury required it. He did not think the action of the president during his last term of office had been illegal, unpartiotic, or lacked judgment, as many people would have the public believe.

Elmer Thomas deplored the issuance of the $500,000,000 of bonds by Cleveland, and thought that all currency should have been redeemed by silver; that the two species should remain on a parity in America, and that the president's late actions in dealing with the Rothschilds-Morgan syndicate bore the imprint of dishonesty.

Henry W. Yates followed with a history of the legal phase of the subject, and thought the issuing of the bonds ill-advised, giving his reasons for so thinking.