SOURCE OF PROFIT TO MANY

Report of South Dakota's Engineer of Irrigation is Interesting.

ARTESIAN WELLS SUPPLY MUCH MATERIAL

Power to Turn the Wheels of Manufactures Thus Obtainable in Addition to a Permanent Source of Moisture.

PIERRE, S. D., Dec. 26.—(Special.)—The report of the state engineer of irrigation, Hon. J. H. Baldwin of St. Lawrence, is one for which the legislature this winter should make an appropriation for its printing and circulation. It is full of information as to the artesian system of South Dakota, with statements of results of irrigation in different portions of the state, and practical suggestions as to the best manner to conduct this work.

Comparatively few wells have been sunk by the public in 1896 on account of investors being afraid of the bonds issued for this purpose, their fear being founded on the decision of the California supreme court on the Wright law, which is very similar to the law of this state. But now that the United States supreme court has sustained that law, the doubt will be removed, and bonds for the purpose of sinking wells will find a more ready market.

Brule county has taken the lead in the way of sinking wells, more having been sunk in that county than in any other in the deep well section of the state. In that county the county commissioners have issued warrants for the purpose and collect from the townships, and from the land directly benefited for the purpose of payment of the warrants. Up to the present that county has issued $78,565.73 of such bonds.

ONE FEATURE A FAILURE.

Several counties have tried the experiment of purchasing well machinery and allowing parties who desire to sink wells the use of the machinery, and in all cases the plan has proved a failure.

While public wells have been delayed on account of the failure of townships to float bonds, private parties have been more active in this line than in past years, and a number of wells have been sunk by private capital.

A number of cases are cited where artesian irrigation has proved a complete success, and others where it has proved a failure. In the latter cases the failure has been largely from ignorance of the experimenter in the right methods of applying the water, and in this line the report is quoted in full: "The great fault with Dakota irrigators is in using too much water. They go on the plan that if a little water is good more is better, without realizing that every bit of water in excess of what is needed to mature the crop is an injury and lessens the yield. Land should not be soaked nor water left on the land to exceed twenty hours and water should not be allowed to stand on the ground if we wish to obtain the best results, but should be spread evenly over the ground." The cost of an irrigating plant is put at about $10 per acre on half sections.

There are two classes of artesian wells found in the state, one the deep strong pressure wells and the other the shallow flowing wells. The deep wells are found in all counties of what is known as the "artesian basin of the James river valley," and the shallow wells from the south line of Beadle county, especially in the counties of Miner, Sanborn, Hutchinson, Douglass and Yankton. Hutchinson county has about 400 of these wells from 60 to 300 feet deep; Davison has about 100, which average 550 feet in depth and flow from 200 to 300 gallons per minute, but there is little pressure from these wells.

There are about 1,100 of both classes of wells in this state, the strong pressure wells being in the counties of Beadle, Spink, Brown, Faulk, Hand, Hyde, Hughes, Jerauld, Brule and one well at Cheyenne agency and one at Crow Creek which have been sunk by the government.

INTERESTING FEATURE.

Special mention is made of the wells in Hughes county, the one at the Locke hotel in particular: "It is a very fine well 1,200 feet deep, and was constructed two years ago. The water has a very high temperature—96 degrees—with a strong flow. But the most remarkable thing about this well is the amount of gas it produces. At a depth of 450 feet the drill went through a hard strata of earth, and a small quantity of gas was produced; the flow was never lost afterward, but constantly increased as the work progressed. Gas has flowed steadily ever since, found at apparently the same volume. The gas has been utilized for heating and lighting the hotel and the operation of the cook stoves ever since the well was completed. R. H. Proudfoot, manager of the hotel, estimates the gas as worth $1,500 per annum to the hotel for fuel and lights. One peculiarity of the gas is that it gives no odor and is perfectly clean, and gives a much better light than the gas from the city gas works. Gas is also found at the well put down by the government at Cheyenne agency, but I do not know of any arrangements to utilize it."

In regard to power from artesian wells, grist mills are being operated by artesian power at Newark, Marshall county; Springfield, Bon Homme county; Mellette, Spink county; at Yankton and the cities of Huron, Aberdeen and Redfield use the power for their water systems. Turner & Son, who operate the mill at Springfield, give a few figures as to the cost of operating their mill by artesian power: Their well, which cost them $3,250, has a pressure of eighty pounds to the inch and flows about 3,200 gallons per minute. They use a sixteen-inch turbine and their expense of keeping it in operation is about $25 per year. With this power they manufacture from fifty to sixty barrels of flour per day.

The durability of wells depends upon the quality of the pipe used in their construction. At Andover a well has been in operation for fifteen years and is yet in good shape, while others in which poor pipe was used the piping has given out in a few years, necessitating new piping at a heavy expense.

COST OF THE WORK.

The expense of sinking wells has been very much reduced by improved methods of construction the past few years. The estimated cost of wells by present methods is put at: Two-inch well not to exceed $1.60 to $1.75 per foot; four and one-half-inch from $2.10 to $2.25 per foot; six-inch not to exceed $3 per foot.

It has been shown by chemical analysis that there is nothing contained in the water which is injurious to plant growth. However, it has been found that water from the wells at Pierre, when applied to the soil in the immediate vicinity of the wells, destroys some kinds of vegetation, but an examination and analysis show that if the same water is applied to the uplands away from the river, the result would be the same as that from water from other wells, the fault being in the chemicals in the soil near the wells, and not in the water itself.

For the best distribution of the water it is necessary to construct a reservoir for the storage of the water as it flows from the well. By this system from 10,000 to 12,000 gallons per minute can be put upon the land, and two men can irrigate from twelve to fifteen acres per day.

In the construction of the reservoir it should be built with the sides sloping inward, so the water will not wash it down, and the embankment should be planted to willows and grass to make it more substantial.

A large part of the report is devoted to the several laws of the state bearing on the sinking of wells and the use of water for irrigating and other domestic purposes.

Lyman County Election Contest.

CHAMBERLAIN, S. D., Dec. 26.—(Special.)—In the contested election case of Auld against Bartine, involving the office of state's attorney for Lyman county, the face of the returns gave Bartine a majority of six, but the recount just completed by Judge Smith reduces this majority to two. There is a legal question involved, which may possibly yet give the election to Auld. Bartine, whose name was placed upon the ballot by petition, was designated in the petition as representing republican party principles, while the auditor placed his name upon the ballot as an independent. Therefore the contention of Auld is that this action rendered the nomination void. In the case of Church against Walker, involving the office of county judge of Lyman county, upon the face of the returns Walker had three majority, while on the recount by Judge Smith, Church (rep.), was shown to have had three majority.

SOUTH DAKOTA TEACHERS TO MEET

Fourteenth Annual Session of the State Association.

VERMILLION, S. D., Dec. 26.—(Special.)—The prospect now is that there will be the largest attendance of teachers at the fourteenth annual session of the State Teachers' association of this state, which will meet in this city next week, that has ever assembled in the history of the association. Letters of inquiry have been coming in from all over the state to Prof. C. M. Young of the university, who has charge of the arrangements of the program, from teachers and educators of note, who are desirous of being present. All the sessions will be held in University hall, in the chapel, with the recitation rooms conveniently near for reception and visiting. The committee which was appointed by the mayor to canvass the city for funds to defray the expenses of the meetings reports that the citizens have responded freely, and as a result of the canvass there has been raised $250. The entertainment will be all that can be asked. Preparations have been made for entertaining 100 at East hall dormitory, and many of the citizens will open their homes to the visitors. It is expected there will be at least 300 in attendance.

Pickler a Candidate for the Senate.

HURON, S. D., Dec. 26.—(Special.)—Congressman Pickler is at home from Washington. After a few days' stay at his home in Faulkton Major Pickler will go to Pierre to care for his political interests. It is understood that he will receive the republican caucus nomination for United States senator, and it is openly asserted that several democrats will support him in preference to any candidate named by the populists.

Huron Couple Weds.

HURON, S. D., Dec. 26.—(Special.)—Wallace W. Baker and Miss Addie Warrington, two well known Huron young people, were united in marriage Christmas night at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Noah Warrington. Rev. B. H. Burtt performed the ceremony, which was witnessed by relatives and near friends.

Pender's Comfortable Position.

SIOUX FALLS, S. D., Dec. 26.—(Special Telegram.)—Judge Carland this afternoon appointed O. S. Pendar clerk of the United States district court, to succeed C. E. Mellette, resigned. Mr. Pendar now has both clerkships, which are worth $3,000. He is a republican, and Judge Carland is a democrat, and who was recently nominated by Cleveland.

THIRD VICTIM OF THE MAD DOG.

Robert Perry Dies and the Efficacy of Pasteurism is Questioned.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 26.—Robert Perry, one of the eight boys bitten by a mad dog on December 1 and subsequently treated at the Pasteur institute, New York, died today of hydrophobia. This makes the third victim, Robert Henry and Conrad Eppers having died from the same cause within the past week. All the boys were taken to the institute and treated within forty-eight hours after receiving their injuries and all who have thus far died were bitten in parts of the body unprotected by their clothing.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—Dr. Paul Gibler, who followed the boys to Baltimore from the Pasteur institute in this city after they had been discharged as immunized from hydrophobia, returned tonight. He refused to say anything about the death of Robert J. Henry and Conrad Eppers, two of the patients, from rabies. Dr. Labladie of the institute said that the deaths of the boys did not prove that the Pasteur system was a failure.

"We do not," said he, "absolutely guarantee that our treatment will prevent hydrophobia, any more than that vaccination is an unquestionable preventative against smallpox. About one patient out of 200 we have treated have died, while 50 per cent of those otherwise have died. We cannot tell whether innoculation has been effective until fifteen days after the patient has been treated. Eppers was bitten about the head and neck, which were the worst parts of the body to be bitten. The boys were not brought to the institute until four days after they had been bitten, instead of being sent here immediately. Had they come here at once, I believe their recovery would have been assured."

Troubles in the Business World.

COLUMBUS, O., Dec. 26.—J. O. Moss of Sandusky was this evening appointed receiver of the Columbus & Hocking Valley Coal and Iron company, and his bond fixed at $40,000. Mr. Moss is president of the company. The receivership was precipitated by the receivers of the Baltimore & Ohio taking judgments aggregating $60,405 against the company for freight charges. The receiver will continue the business of the company. It is understood the receivership is a provisional arrangement, as the bondholders and stockholders have appointed committees to effect a reorganization. The capital stock is $5,000,000, mostly held by eastern capitalists. Indebtedness, $930,000. The company owns about 13,000 acres of valuable coal land, and five iron furnaces in the Hocking valley. The outstanding debts are estimated at $30,000 in excess of the judgments taken by the Baltimore & Ohio.

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—Judge Nancy this afternoon appointed the Chicago Title and Trust company receiver for the firm of Norton & Co., which operates the Lockport flouring mills, one of the oldest concerns in the vicinity of Chicago. The appointment of the receiver was made upon a bill filed by John L. Norton, one of the members of the firm, against his partner, Lemuel D. Norton, to which the latter filed an answer agreeing to the receivership. The partnership has been in existence for nearly forty years, the present partnership having taken the mill from their fathers. The failure is regarded as a large one, the assets reaching nearly $500,000, while the liabilities are said to be considerably less. The failure is attributed to heavy speculations by one of the partners on the Board of Trade some years ago.

AKRON, O., Dec. 26.—Andrew Jackson, a prominent business man of this city, assigned today. The action also precipitated the assignment of Jackson & Brodbeck, brick manufacturers, and the appointment of a receiver for the firm of Jackson & Lyman, lumber dealers, Andrew Jackson being heavily interested in both concerns. The liabilities of Mr. Jackson, including the debts of Jackson & Brodbeck, are placed at $65,000, with assets probably exceeding that amount.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 26.—An execution was issued today against Samuel Lee's Sons for $40,000. The total liabilities will reach nearly $100,000. Lee's Sons were in the dry goods business, having stores at 39 and 41 North Eightieth street, 2, 5 and 7 North Second street, and Eighth and Spring Garden streets. The execution was issued on a judgment note.

DALLAS, Tex., Dec. 26.—The Security Mortgage Trust company passed into the hands of Harry F. Kahler as receiver today. The appointment was made upon the petition of the company's directors. The financial condition is set forth in the petition: Liabilities, $1,296,225; interest, $25,000; quit sale mortgages, $50,000; taxes, $17,000; liabilities on stock, $500,000; total liabilities, $2,488,225. Assets: Notes and mortgages, $1,500,000; in substitute companies, $114,000; bonds in various corporations, $50,000; mortgages sold (not collected) $650,000; total assets, $2,314,000. The substitute companies are the Trust Company Building association, the Texas Land company, the Security Investment company, and the Cotton Mills Building association. The Security Mortgage company was organized in 1881. Hard times and poor collections are given as causes for the failure.

WALKERTON, Ont., Dec. 26.—F. V. Messner, banker, has assigned. It is charged that the money deposited in his bank was used by him to pay premiums on his heavy life insurance. The liabilities are believed to be $80,000; assets, $40,000.

Astor Now a Full-Fledged Brittisher.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The Press says that a letter received in New York from a relative of William Waldorf Astor declares that the millionaire has renounced his American citizenship and sworn allegiance to Queen Victoria.

HOLIDAY BUSINESS IS LIGHT

Railroads Shed Tears Over Nonarrival of Christmas Traffic.

POSSIBLE TWO-CENT RATE EXCITES FEAR

Officials Cannot Discover the Promoters of the Idea—Pacific Coast Through Rate Irregularities May Be Adjusted.

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—The roads running out of Chicago were much disappointed this year over the amount of the holiday traffic. It was smaller than for several years past, and the general opinion had been that it would be heavier than ever before. The Canadian excursion business, over which there has been such a row and which usually reaches its climax at Christmas time, has panned out not over 50 per cent of the usual amount, and proves not to have been worth all the fighting and squabbling that the western roads have been doing with the Soo, the Canadian Pacific and the joint traffic lines in order to secure what they considered their portion of the business.

Railroad officials are much worked up over the effort that will apparently be made at the next meeting of the Illinois legislature to get the roads down to a maximum of 2 cents per mile in this state. They have been making efforts to find who is behind the idea, but have not been able to secure the information they desire. Some of the roads declare that the central idea comes from the Board of Warehouse Commissioners, but of this they admit they have no direct or tangible proof.

It is likely that a meeting of the transcontinental lines will be called for an early date in this city. There are several irregularities in the matter of through rates to the Pacific coast that are sadly in need of adjustment, and the committee which put in two days last week working on the question of circuitous routes is about ready to make its report to the association. The matter may be settled without a meeting being called, but one or two of the roads are loaded up with charges of one sort and another and they wish to fire them off in good shape and it is possible that they will insist upon a meeting being held.

INCREASE IN THE MILEAGE.

Record of Railroad Track Laid During the Present Year.

The mileage of new railroad track laid in the United States during the year just closing is almost precisely the same as that in 1895, which corrected returns showed to be 1,803 miles. It is possible that a few miles may be added to the record of the past year. Such figures show only main line track laid and make no actual account of the work of grading and bridge building for the very considerable mileage which did not reach the tracklaying stage.

How the new mileage of 1896 compares with that of the previous years of the decade may be seen by the following figures compiled by the Railway Age: 1887, 12,983; 1888, 7,106; 1889, 5,250; 1890, 5,670; 1891, 4,281; 1892, 4,192; 1893, 2,635; 1894, 1,949; 1895, 1,803; 1896, 1,802 miles.

For ten years the railway builder has traveled a steadily descending road of activity, from 13,000 down to 1,800 miles. It is believed that the bottom has now been reached and that the annual record of railway construction will now begin to show an upward tendency.

The construction work of last year was well distributed over the country, thirty-eight of the forty-nine states and territories having a share, although in some states it was excessively small. The largest mileage was laid in California, 186 miles on eight lines, followed by Louisiana with 154 miles on five lines, Michigan with 146 miles on eleven lines, Georgia, 97 miles on fourteen lines, Pennsylvania, 90 miles on fifteen lines, Florida, 79 miles on seven lines, and so down.

In eleven states and territories no track was laid, these being: New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Nebraska, South Dakota, Wyoming, Arizona, Nevada, Idaho and New Mexico.

The great area of the south continues to receive the benefit of a larger mileage of new road than any other section, about 550 miles having been added in eleven of the states commonly called southern. The central northern states, however, obtained an addition of nearly 400 miles to their already great mileage, and the southwestern and Pacific coast country fared as well as the history of railway investments there would seem to warrant just at present. The railway mileage of the United States is now a little more than 182,800 miles.

FROM COUNCIL BLUFFS TO OMAHA.

Denton Succeeds Snyder as Local Agent for the Rock Island.

As forecasted in The Bee of Thursday, George H. Denton of Council Bluffs will be the new general agent of the Rock Island's freight department in this city. A sketch of him was given at that time. He will enter upon the performance of his duties on Tuesday next, though his appointment is dated January 1, 1897.

First Assistant General Freight Agent Snyder, whom Mr. Denton succeeds, will leave for Chicago to assume his new duties in the general headquarters of the road on Tuesday. His desk was pretty well covered this morning with congratulatory letters and telegrams from all parts of the country, especially from Philadelphia, where he was formerly connected with the Philadelphia & Reading railroad. To a Bee reporter Mr. Snyder said yesterday: "I dislike to leave Omaha. My relations with the railroaders, the shippers, the press and the public generally have been most pleasant during the seven years I've been here, and I rather hate to break away. Yet one can hardly refuse such an appointment. I hope that my successor shall be received as well as I have been."

OF INTEREST TO LOCAL SHIPPERS.

Missouri Pacific Succeeds in Solving a Problem.

The Missouri Pacific yesterday morning announced the following solution to a problem that has been receiving considerable attention from shippers in this part of the country recently:

Effective January 3 the differential on packing house product, in car loads, from Omaha-Davenport territory over Kansas City will be reduced 1 cent per 100 pounds. The differential effective on that date will be 6, instead of 7 cents, as heretofore. Also effective, same date, the boundary of Omaha-Davenport territory as now provided: "From a point just north of Davenport, Ia., along the Rock Island to Gailatin, Mo., thence along the Wabash to Council Bluffs and Omaha," will be changed to "from a point north of Davenport, Ia., along the main line of the Rock Island to Council Bluffs and Omaha." This will have the effect of transferring from Chicago-Cincinnati territory to the Omaha-Davenport territory points indicated within the boundaries mentioned, principal point included being Des Moines, Ia.

LOMAX PUTS OUT PRETTY PICTURE.

Sending Interior Views of the "Overland Limited."

General Passenger Agent Lomax of the Union Pacific is celebrating the holiday season and the near approach of the first anniversary of the "Overland Limited" express train by the issuance of what will undoubtedly be voted a masterpiece in the line of railroad advertising. It is a souvenir of the "Overland Limited," and is a triumph of typographical art. A local photographer recently took interior views of the entire train. These have been reproduced as richly colored engravings, and adequately show the equipment of the smoking and library cars, the double drawing room sleepers and the dining cars. A fine picture of the train as it appears on the road occupies two pages, and is one of the most faithful pictures in the series. Only a limited number of these souvenirs have been issued, and they are intended for the eastern agents who desire to capture all the transcontinental business there, and expect to on the presentation of these magnificent colored photographs.

ATLANTIC & PACIFIC FORECLOSURE.

Final Decree Filed in the Circuit Court at San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26.—The final decree of foreclosure and sale of the Atlantic & Pacific railroad was filed in the United States circuit court today. This is the last of a series of similar decrees which have been made in suits in the same parties and for the same action in every district in which the insolvent Atlantic & Pacific has property. It is ordered that unless the sum of $2,582,843.16 is paid by the railroad to its debtors within thirty days the entire property shall be sold at auction at Gallup, Bernalillo county, N. M.

The foreclosure proceedings were instituted by the United States Trust company of New York to recover the interest on an issue of bonds. The bonds were in two sets, aggregating the sum of $16,000,000 with interest at 6 per cent, payable annually. The issue was held in trust by the Mercantile Trust company and was known as the mortgage on the western division of the railroad. A second issue, with terms similar, was taken by the Boston Safe Deposit and Trust company. The suit came up in the United States circuit court in this city on October 5, 1896, before Judge Ross, who appointed Owen N. Marron to take testimony in the case at Los Angeles. Marron has filed his report and, consequent thereupon, Judge Ross has filed the decree just mentioned. The bonds, aggregating $12,000,000, delivered to the Boston Safe Deposit and Trust company, have been decided to be subordinate to the first issue. It has been decided by the court that after the proceeds of the sale have been received the complainants distribute to the holders of the first mortgage bonds the sum of $83,823.50, the first balance due. It is further ordered that unless the rebate be paid within thirty days the sale shall take place as above mentioned, the proceeds to be used in the liquidation of the debts of the corporation.

CHANGES ON THE UNION PACIFIC.

Separation of the Short Line Will Cause Complications.

CHEYENNE, Dec. 26.—(Special Telegram.)—It is reported here tonight that several important changes will be made in the management of the Mountain division of the Union Pacific the first of the year. The reports are to the effect that when the Short Line is taken from the Union Pacific, W. A. Bancroft of Salt Lake will go with it. W. A. Deuell of Denver will be general superintendent of the Mountain division, with headquarters at Denver. Superintendent Malloy, with his office force, will be moved to Ogden, and trains on the Denver Pacific and fifth district of the Union Pacific will be dispatched from Cheyenne. Superintendent Malloy was questioned tonight concerning the reported changes, and would not deny or affirm the story.

MUNROE RETURNS FROM THE EAST.

Adjusts Freight Traffic Between Colorado and California Points.

Freight Traffic Manager Munroe of the Union Pacific returned yesterday morning from Washington and found a most beautiful inkstand waiting on his desk for him. He has been attending a session of the Interstate Commerce commission, endeavoring to have the long and short haul clause relating to the freight traffic between Colorado and California points more favorably adjusted. The commission heard arguments and took the matter under advisement.

Speaking of local matters that had transpired during his absence, Mr. Munroe said: "I was very much pleased to hear of the promotion of Mr. Snyder of the Rock Island's freight department. It is a well deserved tribute to a most competent man."

TAPS A RICH COUNTRY IN THE HILLS

Dakota, Wyoming & Missouri River Road Being Extended.

RAPID CITY, S. D., Dec. 26.—(Special Telegram.)—Work will be recommenced on the Dakota, Wyoming & Missouri River railroad during February and pushed as rapidly as possible and completed to Mystic. This road runs through the rich timber, iron and gold districts of the southern part of the Black Hills. The road will turn over to the Elkhorn at Rapid City and to the B. & M. at Mystic 500 tons of freight for Omaha, Sioux City and Denver every twenty-four hours. This business is now in sight. The money to complete it has been secured by William T. Coad, in Chicago.

Rules for Carrying Bicycles.

The Western Passenger and the Transcontinental Passenger associations have decided that a new form of bicycle crate, which only partly covers the wheel, cannot be checked free of charge, but is to be classed as excess baggage. When a bicycle is completely boxed it may be checked, but when it is shipped in a half-box and a half-crate it is to be charged as required by the bicycle rules of the western roads.

Takes Out a New Pullman.

The Union Pacific's "Overland Limited" train will today carry a brand new Pullman palace car westward from Omaha to San Francisco. It is a most complete exhibition of the latest designs and improvements in palace car construction and is designed especially for service on Union Pacific trains Nos. 1 and 2.

Railway Notes and Personals.

Miss Wilson of the Union Pacific's executive offices is visiting friends at Chariton, Ia.

Traveling Freight Agent John Barron of the Union Pacific is in from a short trip over the Nebraska division.

Charles Anderson of the Rock Island's city ticket office and Mrs. Anderson spent Christmas day among friends in Davenport, Ia.

Chief Engineer Pegram of the Union Pacific has returned from a trip of inspection of the new steel bridges being erected at Payette and Weiser, Idaho.

General Agent Kuhn has just received an elaborate set of fine menu cards, adorned with steel plate engravings, for use on the Omaha-Chicago through trains.

Fred J. Baker, formerly connected with the Union Pacific ticket office in this city and now passenger rate clerk for the Soo line in Minneapolis, spent Christmas day with friends in Omaha.

There is Nothing so Good.

There is nothing just as good as Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds, so demand it and do not permit the dealer to sell you some substitute. He will not claim there is anything better, but in order to make more profit he may claim something else to be just as good. You want Dr. King's New Discovery because you know it to be safe and reliable, and guaranteed to do good or money refunded. For Coughs, Colds, Consumption and for all affections of Throat, Chest and Lungs, there is nothing so good as is Dr. King's New Discovery. Trial bottle free at Kuhn & Co.'s drug store.

Regular size, 50c and $1.00.

LOCAL BREVITIES.

A meeting of Cuban sympathizers is called for Wednesday evening at Washington hall.

The Omaha Guards will give their regular drill next Monday night at the armory on Capitol avenue. The prize to be contested for is a handsome gold medal.

Vesta chapter No. 6, Order of the Eastern Star, will give an entertainment and social at Masonic hall Tuesday evening, December 29, for the benefit of the order.

The annual dinner of the Omaha City Mission, Industrial and Sunday school will be given at Masonic hall next Wednesday noon. The committees having the matter in charge are meeting with considerable success in securing provisions.

Three prisoners were arraigned in the federal court yesterday, Gus Samuelson and E. Scholnest, for cutting timber on the Fort Randall reservation, and Elmer Campbell of Steele City, for selling liquor without a government license. They each pleaded not guilty.

Mrs. Ellen Hart, living at 1920 South Thirteenth street, was removed yesterday to St. Joseph's hospital, where she will receive treatment for numerous burns caused by the overturning of a lamp. The accident occurred on the evening of December 19. The woman was severely burned about the hands, body and legs.

END OF EARTHLY TROUBLES

Traveling Man Named McElrath Escapes Them by Shooting Himself.

DESPONDENT OVER FINANCIAL MATTERS

Friends Follow and Try to Prevent Him from Carrying Out His Purpose, but He Gave Them the Slip.

D. R. McElrath, a traveling man for the L. G. Doup Mattress company, The Murphy-Wasey company and several other local firms, committed suicide at his residence, 1812 Chicago street, last night, between the hours of 6 and 7 o'clock. His death was due to a bullet from a 38-caliber revolver, the wound being located a short distance above the right ear.

The circumstances surrounding the affair are somewhat peculiar. Yesterday morning he called at the factory of the Doup company, and, in a conversation with the manager, J. H. Driscol, appeared very despondent. He requested the loan of $50, and said he wished to leave the city and his troubles behind him. When questioned more closely as to his reasons for such a move, he said that his present income from his employment and from the boarding house which he and his wife kept, had proved inadequate, and he was forced to give up the struggle. Half the amount requested was given to him by his friend, and he left, saying that he would go to George H. Brewer at South Omaha and get the balance.

During the afternoon Mr. Driscol and James Taggert met McElrath near the corner of Sixteenth and Dodge streets. He seemed more despondent than before, and told them that he had been unable to secure the amount he required from his South Omaha friend. He then added that he was obliged to support a large family, consisting of his wife and son, a brother-in-law named George Igoe, who has been out of work for some time, and Mr. Igoe's mother. A handsome overcoat, which his wife had given her brother Christmas appeared to worry him particularly, as he stated he did not consider himself in a position to make any presents.

While talking in this strain he suddenly held out his hand to his friends and said: "Well, old friends, good bye." He then turned on his heel and walked toward Douglas street. The remark awakened the suspicions of his friends that he intended to take some desperate course, and they followed him to the corner of Fourteenth and Douglas streets, where they succeeded in overtaking him. An officer who stood near by was requested to watch him while his friends telephoned to an intimate friend who is known to have exerted considerable influence over him. While they were thus conversing McElrath walked rapidly down the street and disappeared. He had previously stated, however, that he was going to purchase a revolver with which to kill himself, and did not wish to be followed.

Last evening about 6 o'clock he returned home, and going into the kitchen asked for his wife. He was told that she was absent. He then went to his room, situated in the rear of the building on the third floor, and this was the last seen of him alive. At 8 o'clock Mrs. McElrath sent her son Earl to call his father, but the lad was unable to get any response to repeated calls. At 10 o'clock Mr. Brewer called, and upon asking to see McElrath was told he was in his room. Getting no answer from several knocks upon the door, Brewer burst it open and discovered McElrath dead upon the floor. He had evidently sat upon the edge of the bed, and upon the discharge of the weapon had fallen face downward.

The deceased was 36 years of age at the time of his death and was one of the most popular men traveling out of this city. He had resided in Omaha for eight years. He leaves in addition to his own family a father, mother and sister, living at Macomb, Ill., and a brother who resides in Texas. Mr. McElrath was a member of the A. O. U. W. and the Modern Woodmen, who will take charge of the funeral, which will occur Monday. The remains will be sent to Macomb, Ill., for interment after an inquest has been held by Coroner Burket.

ANNIVERSARY OF LABOR TEMPLE.

To Be Celebrated with an Entertainment December 30.

A little over one year ago the laboring men of Omaha conceived the idea of having a place they could call "home," where the different labor organizations could meet, with lodge rooms, reading rooms, reception rooms, etc. Out of this idea grew the Labor temple, which was opened to the public January 1, 1896. Being the first institution of the kind established in the United States, it has received notice in all the labor papers, and has thus widely advertised Omaha.

During the last year the Labor temple has been a great benefit to the large number of unemployed men in the ranks of labor. A free labor bureau has been conducted by Superintendent Scott, and has been the means of assisting many worthy men in their efforts to secure a chance to earn an honest living.

The board of directors has arranged to give an anniversary entertainment Wednesday evening, December 30. The following persons will take part in the program: Miss Bay Brewer, elocutionist, Council Bluffs; Mr. Joseph F. Barton, soloist; Mrs. B. Evans, accompanist; Henry Schieber, zither; Charles H. Keefer, pianist; Mr. Harry Burkley, soloist; Howard Bruner, elocutionist; Robert Linberg, pianist, and Mrs. H. H. Hawkinson, banjo.

The board of directors will keep "open house" that evening from 6 p. m., and the Ladies' auxiliary will serve refreshments in one of the halls at the close of the entertainment.

BARTON PUT UP FIVE HUNDRED.

Donation to Help Along the Free Silver Cause.

The legislative investigating committee met yesterday morning at 10 o'clock in the rooms of the Jacksonian club. Those who expected to be entertained with some clever stories of how the politicians handled the various moneys that came into their possession during the recent campaign were disappointed. The witnesses who were expected were either out of town or still celebrating Christmas day. None were called and after a few minutes of deliberation as to how best to proceed the anxious inquirers adjourned until 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

Guy C. Barton was the only witness examined at yesterday afternoon's session of the legislative inquiry. He was on the stand only a short time, but long enough to tell to what extent he had aided the lost cause. He testified that he had personally contributed the sum of $250 to the democratic state committee, and donated $250 more to the managers of the free silver headquarters. This was the import of his testimony, and after he had delivered himself of this he was allowed to step down.

The inquiry then adjourned until Monday afternoon, December 28, at 2 o'clock.

Found an Owner for the Goods.

Henry Leichenberg was given thirty days in the county jail yesterday by Judge Gordon on a charge of vagrancy. Henry was arrested Christmas night, while attempting to dispose of three monkey wrenches, an overcoat and a set of harness to some railroad men down under the Tenth street viaduct. Last evening a man named Beecher, living near Sherman avenue and Manderson street, called at the station and identified the property as having been taken from his barn a few nights ago. Mr. Beecher stated that he usually leaves his barn door open, and that while he and his man was away Leichenberg sneaked in and appropriated the articles. As soon as Leichenberg serves his sentence at the county jail he will be rearrested on a charge of larceny.

Painter Takes a Tumble.

Bernard Peterson, a painter, while at work yesterday on a scaffolding under the Twentieth street Union Pacific viaduct, was thrown violently to the pavement below by the breaking of a plank. Upon being picked up, it was found that he had sustained a fractured ankle, that his face was badly cut and bruised and that he was injured internally. Peterson resides with his family at 421 Center street. He was taken to St. Joseph's hospital for treatment.

UNITING THE HORSESHOERS' UNIONS

State Organization Perfected at a Recent Meeting.

In response to nearly 500 invitations issued by Master Workman W. A. Watson of the local Horseshoers' union, sent to nearly all the prominent horseshoers throughout the state, there congregated in Labor temple Saturday evening, December 19, a representative body of this craft. Mr. Watson, who is state organizer for all the various unions throughout Nebraska, has long been considering the project of combining the unions into a central organization. The perfecting of the scheme has been one of no small magnitude on account of the scattered condition of the unions and the fact that they were not very strong numerically.

About twenty-five representatives of the trade were on hand Saturday afternoon, and at 1:30 they were called to order by W. A. Watson, who was selected as chairman. The presiding officer delivered a short address, in which he outlined the object of the meeting, and then invited suggestions as to the proper method of perfecting the new organization. The afternoon was taken up largely in these discussions, and shortly before adjournment those present were addressed by Governor Holcomb and Mayor Broatch. The speakers gave their approval to the project and promised their assistance in furthering it.

At 5 o'clock the body adjourned, after an invitation had been extended by a local hardware firm for those present to participate in a banquet at the Commercial Club rooms. At the conclusion of the banquet the men once more assembled at the Labor temple, and the work of balloting for the officers was in order. W. A. Watson was elected as president, with C. H. Isard as secretary and treasurer. In connection with the remaining officers it was decided to elect a vice president from each legislative district of the state. Those selected were: J. D. Spragins, Falls City, first vice president; P. J. Mellia, Greina, second vice president; J. W. Edwards, Norfolk, third vice president; G. H. Gates, Lyons, fourth vice president; J. Wooster, Hastings, fifth vice president, and E. J. McDermitt, Shelton, sixth vice president. Each sub-officer was vested with the power to act as organizer for his district, and to report progress at times ordered by the president. After a committee had been selected to draft a constitution and by-laws, the executive committee was ordered to call the next annual meeting for such date as it might select in September, 1897.

One of the most important features of the new organization will be the establishing of schools of pathology at the headquarters of the various districts in the state. The local union has for some time past conducted a college of this description at the Labor temple, which has been productive of excellent results. Lectures on the pedal treatment of equines, with demonstrations by prominent veterinary surgeons and others, will be given from time to time as soon as the new body takes permanent shape.

SOME PROPOSED CHARTER CHANGES

Fifth Ward Kickers' Club Makes Its Desires Known.

The Fifth Ward Kickers' club held a meeting last evening at Erfling's hall to discuss proposed changes in the city charter. There was a large attendance and the various changes were debated at length. The club voted to recommend a change in the number of councilmen from eighteen to nine and that they be nominated by wards and voted for by the entire city, the councilmen to receive $1,200 per year and be required to devote their whole time to the affairs of the city. It was also decided that they should give a bond of $10,000.

Another change recommended was to abolish the present Board of Health and create one composed of the city physician, mayor and chief of police.

The sections creating the office of building inspector and city prosecutors were recommended to be stricken out, and the one relating to the Fire and Police board amended to restore the appointive power to the governor.

The meeting recommended a new section providing that the salary attached to any office created by ordinance should not exceed $750.

Another proposed amendment was to the effect that no franchise should be granted except by a two-thirds vote of the electors of the city.

A resolution was also passed calling for the enforcement of the present provision of the charter which requires that the wards shall be set off as nearly equal as possible in point of population.

BOY'S IMAGINATION IS VERY GOOD.

Tells a Wierd Tale of Murder Which Proves a Fiction.

A son of Henry Born, a barber at Sixth and Pierce streets, is possessed of a most vivid imagination. Yesterday he told his father that while playing under the union Pacific bridge down in the bottoms he saw a woman run wildly out of a shack near by, pursued by a man. The man had a revolver and proceeded to empty it into the woman's back. She fell to the ground, spattered by her own blood, and the assassin coolly wiping the dust off his gun, walked up the railroad tracks, leaving his victim where she had fallen. The police were notified and two detectives detailed to work up the case. They went to the house indicated, but found nothing except several hungry curs and some people who did not speak English. Henry, jr., will be rewarded with a medal as soon as a good thick piece of leather can be secured.

BURGLAR PROVED TO BE BOARDER.

Owner of the Premises Had Him Locked in a Bath Room.

J. B. Webster, 207 South Twenty-fourth street, telephoned the police last night that he had corraled a desperate housebreaker in a room of his residence and asked help in completing the capture. The patrol wagon went on the jump to the number given. When the officers had lined up before the room in which the alleged burglar was confined it was thought trouble would ensue. No response was made to a summons to surrender and after a parley the officers opened the door and found a man calmly reposing in the bathtub, too full of Christmas cheer for utterance. He proved to be a boarder who had come into the house unobserved and had taken lodgings in the family plunge instead of in his own room.

MAILS ROBBED IN NEW YORK

Envelopes from Which Money Has Been Taken Found in the Water.

MERCHANTS LOSE HUNDREDS OF DOLLARS

Postoffice Inspectors Are Looking for the Robbers, Who Are Supposed to Be on Their Way to Some Foreign Land.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—The World tomorrow will publish the following: Several business firms that had wondered why important letters, containing large sums of money, had been delayed in the mails, have received the letters, but not the enclosures, stained with the waters of the bay, in which they had been tossed for two or three days before being picked up. The letters had been opened, the money inside, transmitted by the firms' correspondents in Chicago, Cincinnati, San Francisco, Philadelphia and Pittsburg taken out, after which the thief had dropped the letters into the bay. Investigation made at the postoffice confirmed the story. The robbery is evidently one of the largest and cleverest ever known in the history of the department, and the total loss reaches many thousands of dollars. The postoffice officials admit this much, but decline for official reasons to say anything further. It was learned the mail bags were stolen at a depot in this city from a western express that reached here Tuesday; that the letters were carried away, and that the thieves boarded an outgoing steamer and are now on their way to Europe or to one of the southern ports.

"All that I am at liberty to tell," said Postmaster Dayton today, "is that these letters were found in the bay just off Coney Island, having been dropped by an outgoing steamer. That is all we can tell at present. There has been a robbery and the postoffice inspectors have the case in hand."

TRAIN