which lasted until long after midnight. In fact, the fusion elements of the house had been in caucus off and on all day, but the only progress made up to the supper hour was the adoption of a resolution providing for the manner of distribution. It was agreed that the populists should have the speaker, chief clerk, first assistant clerk, sergeant-at-arms and doorkeeper. The democrats were put off with the certainty of the second assistant clerk after the big places had been accorded the populists. It was further agreed that the remaining positions should be divided on the basis of twenty-eight sixty-sevenths for the democrats and thirty-seven sixty-sevenths for the populists. The latter, however, tied a string to the chaplaincy by leaving the race for that position open to the field. It was 9 o'clock this evening, when the caucus was finally called to order. The chaplaincy was taken up first. Five ballots were taken, and on the fifth C. C. Malow of David City was elected. He is a free silver republican. Then J. N. Gaffin of Saunders county was elected speaker by acclamation. This action released the democratic members, and most of them left the caucus room, their further participation being unnecessary. The big fight over the chief clerkship then commenced. After an interminable discussion, the members who still remained reached the point where they were willing to vote. Eight ballots were taken, and on the last one Frank Eager of Lincoln received a majority and was declared the caucus nominee. The rage of the democrats, when it was announced that another Bryan protege had been selected and from Lancaster county, too, was something worth staying up all night to witness. The remaining offices were filled with much less difficulty. U. E. Foster of Plainview was made first assistant chief clerk, without opposition. L. A. Beltzer of Osceola was again made sergeant-at-arms. He served the house in the same capacity six and four years ago. John C. Hammings of Arlington was named for doorkeeper, and Ralph B. Parsons of Holt county for postmaster. The caucus then, at 1:30, adjourned.

REFORMERS IN SIGHT.

The coming legislative session gives promise of being a busy one in more ways than one. Lincoln swarms with reformers tonight. Every populist member has a few ideas of his own which he hopes to graft upon the annotated statutes. But up to the present time the interest over the organization of the two houses has forced legislative matters into the background.

As the day for the inauguration of the newly-elected state officials draws nearer, the interest in the contemplated effort to seat the two new judges of the supreme court increases. Judges Neville and Kirkpatrick are here in an expectant attitude. Judge Neville said today that he was here for a twofold purpose. First, he wanted to ask the legislature to make a liberal appropriation for the Transmississippi Exposition. Then he wanted the same body of lawmakers to seat him upon the supreme bench. He felt sure, he said, that his first wishes toward the exposition would be granted. Everybody here expects the legislature to seat the contingent judges; but very few of the members have a definite idea as to just how the desired result is to be accomplished. At any rate an expectant public will not be held long in suspense, for the cards in the judgship controversy will be laid face up on the table within a few days.

Valley County's Mortgage Record.

ORD, Neb., Jan. 4.—(Special.)—Valley county's mortgage record for the month of December is as follows: Eight farm mortgages filed, $3,372.32; thirty-six satisfied, $32,512.69; eight town mortgages satisfied, $2,564.80; seventy-one chattel mortgages filed, $27,302.61; sixty-six satisfied, $20,443.19.

Firemen Make Money at a Ball.

ORD, Neb., Jan. 4.—(Special.)—Friday evening the Ord Fire department gave its annual ball at Reithardt's opera house. The affair was a success in every way and netted the boys a neat sum.

Dream Brought Tears.

OMAHA, Jan. 4.—To the Editor of The Bee: As a subscriber to the Transmississippi fund I have a little interest in its location. And after reading a communication from the poor farm committee to locate it there, I went to bed and soon fell asleep and began to dream. I seemed to see a large crowd of people assembled in a large room discussing its location. Some wanted it in one place and some in another. I thought of the miserable location of our fair grounds, way out of our city among the hills, and wondered if the committee would lose sight of the general interest of the city and the location of the grounds in order to grind somebody's axe. Just then I began to cry, and I did cry and sob as though my heart would break, knowing there were such good grounds right on the borders of the city which could be had, and buildings built for the government and all improvements made could be left for future use if desired. Here I woke up, comforting myself with the fact that it was a dream and the dreadful calamity of locating it elsewhere had not come upon us yet, nor would it whilst its location is in the hands of such wise men.

SUBSCRIBER.

Two Cigar Thieves Sent to Jail.

Ralph Messersmith and Carl Brunner were given thirty days each in the county jail yesterday by Judge Gordon, on a charge of larceny. These young men broke into a showcase containing cigars, the property of A. Anderson, near Twenty-second and Cuming streets, a week ago, and abstracted about $10 worth of goods. They are also supposed to have been implicated in the burglary of C. W. Hull's coal office at Twentieth and Nicholas streets about a fortnight ago.

Old Soldier Attacked by Heart Failure

J. E. Dempster, an old soldier, while engaged with a friend yesterday afternoon in making out some pension papers, fell senseless to the floor. A physician was hurriedly summoned and applied restoratives. It was then discovered that Dempster was suffering from heart failure. After he had recovered somewhat from the shock he was removed in the patrol wagon to his home at 2315 Blondo street. Dempster is over 60 years of age.

Fifty Years Ago.

No theory of germ to chill
Affection's budding blisses;
When ardent lovers took their fill,
No microbes on their kisses.
How happy they were not to know
The germ-fad—50 years ago.

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral

is the standard family remedy of the world for colds, coughs and lung diseases. It is not a palliative, and is not therefore put up in small cheap bottles. It is put up in large bottles for the household. They cost more but cure more.

Fads come and go but no theory or fad can overthrow the fact, that the greatest cure for all colds, coughs and throat and lung diseases, is Ayer's Cherry Pectoral.

50 Years of Cures.

RUSSELL NAMES BIRKHAUSER

Surprising Outcome of the Selection of a Police Commissioner.

CHOSEN TO SUCCEED PAUL VANDERVOORT

Appointing Board Takes a Ballot, Explains the Vote and the Old Combine Works Easily on the Second.

LINCOLN, Jan. 4.—(Special.)—Peter W. Birkhauser was this afternoon named as a member of the Omaha Board of Fire and Police Commissioners, to succeed Paul Vandervoort, whose term expired three days ago. Birkhauser's appointment was a surprise to a number of people, himself included, for after looking the ground over this morning, he intimated to a friend that his chance had slipped by. It was generally understood that Commissioner Russell would vote with Governor Holcomb for any name the latter would suggest. Mr. Russell so informed The Bee just before noon.

The board met at 2:30 this afternoon. A ballot was at once taken. Governor Holcomb voted for Dr. J. H. Peabody, Attorney General Churchill named P. W. Birkhauser as his choice, while Russell voted for Dr. J. J. Saville.

Governor Holcomb then made a statement to the effect that personally he favored the selection of either Dr. Peabody or Elmer Thomas. Either, he stated, would be acceptable to him. Another ballot was then taken. Governor Holcomb voting first for Dr. Peabody. Churchill followed with a vote for Birkhauser. Russell then said that he had been led to believe all along that Governor Holcomb had selected Birkhauser as his personal choice, and expressed surprise that the chief executive had voted for Peabody. Russell then voted for Birkhauser and the thing was done.

Peter W. Birkhauser was born in Prussia September 1, 1839, and when 10 years of age, with his parents, came to America, settling on a farm near Milwaukee. Later he removed to Kansas and engaged in farming. Quitting the farm in 1868, he came to Richardson county, this state, and bought a grist mill at Salem. This mill he operated until 1876, when he removed to Falls City and engaged in the retail drug business. Three years later he sold out and opened an implement house. In this line of business he continued for several years, and selling out came to Omaha and at once became a politician. Mr. Birkhauser served as a member of the Board of Public Works under the administration of ex-Mayor Cushing.

Mr. Birkhauser has tried all of the political parties. He was a republican for a number of years and then went over to the greenbackers. Later on he went into the independent camp, but did not remain there long, as he slid over into the democratic ranks, remaining there until last fall, when he blossomed out as a popocrat.

FOR THE GOVERNOR'S RECEPTION.

Staff and Line Officers of the Guard Are on the Committee.

LINCOLN, Jan. 4.—(Special Telegram.)—Adjutant General Barry has addressed a communication to the governor's official staff, Brigadier General Bills and aides, and the field officers of the First and Second regiments, Nebraska National Guards, stating that as members of the committee on reception to be given to the governor and the new state officers-elect they will report at the adjutant general's office at 7:30 sharp on Thursday evening, January 7. It is requested that they appear in full dress uniform, the belt to be worn over the coat, but without sword.

D. W. Forbes, cashier of the Citizens' State bank of Butte, is in the city. His mission is to secure if possible an appropriation from the state to reimburse Boyd county for the expense incurred in the trial of the alleged lynchers of Barrett Scott. It will be remembered that Attorney General Churchill ended the trial, which had been commenced in Holt county, and began it de novo in Boyd county, where the prisoners were acquitted. The amount asked for is something over $4,200. Attorney General Churchill has assured Mr. Forbes that he will appear personally before the committee and urge the recommendation of the appropriation.

PREACHER AND JANITOR FIGHT.

Elmwood Minister Breaks His Cane and Is Struck with a Poker.

ELMWOOD, Neb., Jan. 4.—(Special.)—Sunday morning at about 9:30, while the custodian of the Christian church, Con Critchfield, was attending to his furnace fires in the basement of the church, Rev. Mr. Pallister approached him and accused him of going through his desk drawers in his study and appropriating $15 which he had left there. Critchfield denied the charges and after a wordy war the minister struck him over the head with his cane, breaking it into three pieces, then he seized a chair and tried to complete the chastisement with that. During the encounter Critchfield seized the stove poker and endeavored to return blow for blow. Since then it is stated the two have met at the minister's house and each has apologized for his hasty actions and bad conduct at the church.

Stores Entered by Burglars.

MASON CITY, Neb., Jan. 4.—(Special.)—Last night burglars broke into Chase's drug store and attempted to force open the safe. They got tools by getting into W. N. Hurley's blacksmith shop through a window. The parties are evidently amateurs. The combination to the safe was smashed, but the door was not opened. There are no indications that any other places were molested.

COLUMBUS, Neb., Jan. 4.—(Special.)—The barber shop of Zinnecker & Watts was looted by thieves last night. They carried away all the razors and barber tools in sight and ransacked the safe. Loss about $50. No clew.

Buys the Saunders County Bonds.

LINCOLN, Jan. 4.—(Special.)—The State Board of Educational Lands and Funds held a meeting at the office of the state treasurer this afternoon, at which Governor Holcomb presided. After a brief discussion the board voted to accept the proposition made by the commissioners of Saunders county to sell to the state for its permanent school fund bonds to the amount of $100,000, to run for ten years, and to draw interest at the rate of 4½ per cent per annum. The state gets the bonds at par, and a check for the full amount of $100,000 was drawn for the amount.

Bennet Grand Army Beau Banquet.

BENNET, Neb., Jan. 4.—(Special.)—The Bennet Grand Army of the Republic post had its annual installation of officers and bean dinner last Saturday. A large number of the boys in blue and their families and friends met and enjoyed themselves for a few hours. After the dinner the young folks gave a program of interest.

Nebraska News Notes.

Crete has a thief who has a special mania for stealing bibles.

Burwell people are agitating the question of organizing a volunteer fire department.

Some Plainview people have been amusing themselves breaking windows out of residences.

While out hunting recently E. T. Comer of Elmwood accidentally shot Rev. Mr. Turrill. The injuries were not serious.

A large quantity of pipe has just been received for use on the Crawford irrigating ditch. It is confidently expected the ditch will be completed this year.

A woman who had escaped from the Norfolk insane asylum wandered into the house of a Pierce county farmer one morning recently. She was returned to the asylum.

Leander Jones, an old man who has been working at what he was able to do for a Pierce county farmer for several years for his board and clothing, froze his hands while at work some time ago. His injuries were neglected until it is feared he will not recover.

PACIFIC COAST RATES CONSIDERED.

General Passenger Agents Hold a Session at Denver.

General Passenger Agents Sebastian of the Rock Island, Townsend of the Missouri Pacific, Francis of the B. & M., and Nicholson of the Santa Fe, accompanied by Chairman Caldwell of the Transcontinental Passenger association, left Omaha Sunday afternoon to attend the meeting of the association at Denver.

The chief matter that is expected to come before the transcontinental meeting will be the trouble existing in rates from Colorado common points to the Pacific coast. There have been charges and counter charges without number, running all the way from accusations of cutting rates to the assertion that free berths have been given in sleepers. There is nothing in the air, however, that cannot be adjusted, and there is a general feeling that at the adjournment of the meeting California rates will be in a more stable condition than they have been for a long time.

UNION PACIFIC RECEIVERS MEET.

Only Formal Matters Pertaining to the Road Considered.

The receivers of the Union Pacific, with the exception of S. H. H. Clark, met yesterday afternoon in the executive offices of the Union Pacific headquarters and transacted considerable routine business. An executive officer of the company, in speaking of the meeting afterward, said that absolutely nothing of public importance transpired during the meeting. He said it was merely a regular meeting of the receivers, such as is held at the New York offices right along. The affairs and accounts of various departments of the road were examined at some length. Neither the union depot problem nor a subscription to the Transmississippi Exposition were considered. President Clark was unavoidably detained in St. Louis, but will arrive here this morning at 6 o'clock. Another meeting of the receivers will be held today.

UNION PACIFIC RECEIVERS ARRIVE.

Conference to Be Held When President Clark Comes.

Oliver W. Mink, E. Ellery Anderson, John W. Doane and Frederic R. Coudert, receivers of the Union Pacific, reached Omaha yesterday from New York City. They came in a special car attached to the Northwestern's train. From the depot they went to the Millard hotel and there waited for the arrival of President Clark from St. Louis. Owing to the delay of the train bearing President Clark no conference was held in the morning. The receivers will be in Omaha for two days and with another party of railroaders interested in the foreclosure of the Oregon Short Line & Utah Northern will leave for Salt Lake City on Wednesday.

Milwaukee Road's Case Postponed.

There was a special meeting of the local passenger association yesterday afternoon, to further consider the charges of violation of the passenger agreement brought against the Milwaukee road by Solicitor McBride, the representative of the Western Passenger association, who has been stirring up the "low joints" to a remarkable degree of late. In the absence of Mr. Munn, George E. West, city passenger agent of the Northwestern, was made chairman. The case was called and hostilities were about to commence, when the Milwaukee requested a postponement of the case for ten days in order to secure further evidence. The request was granted and the meeting adjourned.

Report of the Omaha Road.

The Nebraska division of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha has made its annual report to the State Board of Transportation. Among other things it contains a marked deficit in the lists of accidents and mishaps that entitles it to receive especial commendation.

Among other items contained in the report for the twelve months of the past year are the following: "No passenger killed or injured. No employe killed or seriously injured. No serious train accident. No damage by fire from locomotives."

Railway Notes and Personals.

Assistant General Freight Agent Wood of the Union Pacific will go to Kansas City today to attend the meeting of the transmissouri freight committee.

General Traveling Passenger Agent Hutchison will look after the Union Pacific's interests at the Denver meeting of the Transcontinental Passenger association.

W. F. McMillan, general agent of the Burlington at Salt Lake, and George W. Vallery, general agent of the same road at Denver, were in the city Sunday.

Chief Clerk Munn of the Elkhorn's passenger department will look after the interests of his road at the Denver meeting of the Transcontinental Passenger association.

Herbert Taylor and party will leave for Denver, Laramie and Green River this afternoon to take further testimony in the Union Pacific hospital fund and the Dresbach cases.

General meetings of the Western Passenger association, Chicago, January 11, and of the Transcontinental Passenger association at the same place, two days later, have just been announced by Chairman Caldwell.

The Union Pacific made a present of $66.50 the other day to the widow of Fred Stabler, the brakeman who was shot on the Wyoming division not long ago. The check covered the amount of his funeral expenses.

General Agent Frawley of the Union Pacific's passenger department is in town from Kansas City. He says that the newly remodeled office now occupied there by the "Overland" route is the finest in Kansas City.

R. B. F. Pierce, receiver of the Toledo, St. Louis & Kansas City (the Clover Leaf), announces that W. S. Weed has been appointed freight traffic manager of that road, in charge of all freight traffic, both rail and lake. The appointment was effective on Friday last.

There will be an important conference of freight men in St. Paul today. It is the annual meeting of the freight representatives of the through northern lines and other transcontinental lines on business of joint interest. The Union Pacific will be represented by Messrs. Clifford of this city and Maze of Butte.

It is stated that the Natchez, Red River & Texas railroad will build into Shreveport, La., during the next few months. Should this line be finished as projected it will be an important link between the west and the Mississippi valley, as it will connect at Shreveport with the Texas & Pacific, the Kansas City, Watkins & Gulf, the Queen & Crescent and the Gould system.

It looks as though the railroads are already weakening on their good New Year's resolutions about the restriction of passes. That part of the pass agreement for 1897 that prohibited traffic managers, general passenger and freight agents from requesting or issuing free transportation has already been modified by Commissioner Midgely, and these officials will enjoy the same privileges as in years past.

The Illinois roads are preparing to enter the fight against the passage of a law creating the 2-cent rate as a maximum on passenger business, and it is likely that among the bills introduced at the coming session of the Illinois legislature will be one making the granting or acceptance of a pass punishable by law. The roads say they could stand a 2-cent fare if the pass business were entirely abolished.

Anticipating new management of the Oregon Short Line and Utah Northern the people of Pocatello are already clamoring for daily local train service. A letter received from there, among other things says: "The people between Cache Junction and Market Lake, Idaho, for four long years have been without a day passenger train. With the number of people that there are between these places we know the railway company would profit by putting on a day train, except Sundays."

Meeting of the Real Estate Exchange.

The Real Estate exchange held an unimportant meeting at the Commercial club at noon yesterday. Its membership was increased by the addition of one new member, C. E. Miller. Secretary Shriver reported three applications for membership, G. L. Green, George W. Carlock and L. S. Skinner. The exchange endorsed the scheme to issue Transmississippi postage stamps and the secretary was instructed to write to the congressmen from Nebraska, requesting them to do all in their power to authorize the issuing of such stamps.

FITZ AND CORBETT TO FIGHT

Articles of Agreement Finally Signed by the Australian.

BIG PUGILISTS TO COME TOGETHER

Finish Fight for the Heavyweight Championship and a Purse of $15,000—Stuart Will Pull Off the Affair.

NEW YORK, Jan. 4.—The only hitch which now seems possible to prevent the meeting of Corbett and Fitzsimmons in the ring will be the failure of Dan Stuart of Texas to secure a place where the two heavyweights may settle the long-looked-for contest.

On December 17 James J. Corbett affixed his signature to the articles of agreement. This afternoon Bob Fitzsimmons, accompanied by his manager, met Dan Stuart at a Jersey City hotel, in the presence of a number of well known sporting men and representatives of the press, and Fitzsimmons affixed his signature underneath Corbett's on the articles. There was a parley between Stuart and Julian as to the terms of the agreement. Fitzsimmons said all was satisfactory to him, except that of a side bet, and the last clause of the agreement which gave Stuart the right to reserve all privileges.

Stuart throughout the meeting, assured all at the meeting that he was confident that he could bring off the fight on the date mentioned, March 17, without any interference, and he further stated that the question of privileges, especially the photographing of the contest by any persons, would be considered later on, when an offer had been made by any company wishing to enter into an agreement with him. In case an offer was made, he said, he was willing to meet either of the contestants, or other representatives, and make an arrangement as to the division of the money derived from this source of revenue. As soon as this assurance was given, Fitzsimmons handed over the articles signed by him, to Stuart, although he really had affixed his signature a few minutes previously. As to the side bet, Fitzsimmons said he would put up from $5,000 to $10,000. There was very little quibbling, and it looked as if all parties concerned are in earnest about deciding who is the the recognized heavyweight champion of the world.

The articles call for a purse of $15,000, to be given to the winner, and each of the principals to post $2,500 in the hands of a stakeholder to guarantee an appearance in the ring, the one failing to live up to this agreement to forfeit to the other and Dan Stuart. As a guarantee of good faith Stuart agrees to post $5,000 with a stakeholder to be divided equally between Corbett and Fitzsimmons if he (Stuart) fails to carry out the provisions incorporated in the agreement. Stuart further agrees to post the remained of the purse ($10,000) in the hands of a stakeholder thirty days prior to the date of the contest, and that the said $10,000 be forfeited by him to Corbett and Fitzsimmons if Stuart fails to bring off the contest on March 17. Five ounce gloves are to be used. George Siler of Chicago is agreed upon as referee, and Fitzsimmons decided that Al Smith of New York City was satisfactory stakeholder, as far as he was concerned.

Stuart refused to say where he expected to bring the mill off, but the articles called for him to notify the pugilists of the place one month prior to the date of the contest.

Fitzsimmons' right hand was bandaged from the effects of his fight with Sharkey, when he received an injury to one of his knuckles in delivering a blow. Julian, his manager, would not say where or when Fitzsimmons would go into training, as he had not yet made arrangements.

CORBETT SEEMS TO LIKE IT.

DETROIT, Jan. 4.—James J. Corbett, when shown the Associated press dispatch announcing the signing of articles for the big fight by Fitzsimmons tonight, said:

"That's the best news I've had in a long time. I only hope Stuart will not be troubled in locating the battle ground. I will be on hand and ready to fight."

Reading the complaint made by Fitzsimmons in relation to outside privileges, such as photographing the battle, Corbett said he did not blame Fitzsimmons, as he himself had made similar objections. Stuart's statement that he would do the right thing in case he let any privilege of the sort seemed satisfactory to Corbett. As to the amount of the stake Corbett said:

"I put up $5,000 for my share of the stake when I signed the articles, and also $2,500 to guarantee my appearance. Fitzsimmons now says he is willing to make it $10,000 a side. There is no question with me about the stake, but I want to see their $5,000 up first."

JAMES DUFFY, PUGILIST, DEAD.

Death Caused by a Blow Which Produced Hemorrhage.

NEW YORK, Jan. 4.—James Duffy, the Boston pugilist, who collapsed at the conclusion of a ten-round boxing match with George Justice at the Broadway Athletic club Saturday night, died today without having regained consciousness. The physicians who attended Duffy found no fracture or indentation of the skull, but trepaning disclosed meningeal hemorrhage, which may have been occasioned by jarring of the head by a blow of the fist or a fall.

Manager O'Rourke, Boxer Justice and Referee Roach were held on a charge of assault in $2,500 bail, and further hearing of the case set for tomorrow.

NEWBURGH, N. Y., Jan. 4.—Daniel Flamagan, who was knocked senseless in the prize fight with William Catskill near Long Point Saturday night, is in a serious condition. They fought nine rounds, and in the final round Catskill delivered his knockout blow.

RACE MEETINGS FOR THE SUMMER.

Events Arranged For, but Size of Purses Undecided.

The details of the race meetings of the coming summer at Omaha, St. Joe and Lincoln were partially arranged at a meeting held at the Millard hotel yesterday afternoon. Palmer L. Clark represented the St. Joe association and D. T. Mount the Omaha organization. Morris Jones of Red Oak, Ia., and representatives from Lincoln, were also present. After some discussion the following events were agreed on, for which purses will be offered: Trotting, 2:30, 2:40, 2:30, 2:22, 2:17, 2:12, and a free-for-all for 3-year-olds in the 2:30 class. Pacing, 2:30, 2:25, 2:25, 2:18, 2:13, 2:09, and a free-for-all for 3-year-olds in the 2:25 class.

There was some discussion in regard to the amount of the purses to be offered. The St. Joe and Lincoln people wanted the purses fixed at $600 in each event, but the Omaha representatives favored a higher purse. The matter was left partially undecided, but the purses will be fixed at somewhere between $500 and $1,000.

The date of the Omaha meeting was also left for future consideration. Omaha can have either the week beginning June 8, or that beginning June 29. The meetings at St. Joe and Lincoln will be held between the two dates mentioned.

Female Bicycle Racers.

CLEVELAND, Jan. 4.—A six-day bicycle race for women riders began in the Central armory here tonight. The five riders ended closely bunched. Tillie Anderson, Chicago; Dellie Farnsworth, Minneapolis; Jennie Brown, Rochester, N. Y.; Pearl Keys, Rochester, N. Y., and Amy Kalgren, St. Paul, each scored thirty-eight miles and one lap. May Allen, Liverpool, England, covered thirty-seven miles, two laps. The women will ride two hours each night.

Fought a Draw.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 4.—Jack Everhardt of New Orleans and Owen Zeigler of this city fought six rounds at the Quaker City Athletic club this evening. Everhardt had the best of the fight from start to finish and in the fourth round nearly finished Zeigler. The referee announced the bout a draw, but the spectators made loud calls for Everhardt.

Movements of Ocean Vessels, Jan. 4.

At New York—Sailed—Zaandam, for Amsterdam.

At Liverpool—Arrived—Wanderer, from New Orleans.

At New York—Sailed—La Normandie, for Havre.

QUIET REIGNS IN POLICE CIRCLES.

Guardians of the City Find Little to Do.

At noon yesterday it was just thirty-eight hours since the police of this city had made an arrest. The last man to be booked on the police station blotter was brought in at 10 o'clock last Saturday night. Between that time and noon yesterday not an arrest of any description was made. This is a record breaker in local police history.

The condition of the weather is held responsible for this condition of affairs. The police officers are firmly convinced of it and maintain that in addition to its other uses the weather is a barometer of vice and crime.

The session of the police court was very uninteresting yesterday. There was no grist to dispose of and the only drunk and disorderly case to come up was that of G. A. Wagner, the last man to be gathered in last Saturday night. Judge Gordon looked at the empty prisoners' dock and then sentenced the culprit to serve out a fine of $5 and costs for blotting the otherwise clean record of the day.

The only other case that was taken up yesterday was that against J. M. McReynolds, the friend of May Williams, the woman held on the charge of larceny from the person. McReynolds is the man who met George W. Bray of Oakland, Ia., several days ago and induced him to make the acquaintance of the Williams woman. Bray cultivated the acquaintance to the extent of $50. He was robbed of that amount in a wine room. McReynolds could not satisfactorily explain his connection with the case, and consequently was sentenced to the county jail for thirty days.

May Williams was also arraigned for trial, but she was not ready to plead. She has admitted to the police that while she was being brought to the station in the patrol wagon she "ditched" the money by the wayside.

OMAHA MEN TO HELP THE CUBANS.

Company of Sharpshooters Being Enrolled for Service Against Weyler.

C. G. Vanness, in the Sheeley block, is enrolling a company of Cuban fighters, who are to be part of the Rhodes Independent Sharpshooters. The regiment is so named because the colonel is to be Julius D. Rhodes of Washington. The company from Omaha is to consist of 100 men, all American citizens and under 35 years of age. The contingent will be supplied with arms and with transportation to Cuba, and will be paid the same wages American soldiers receive.

Damaged by Fire.

Yesterday morning fire was discovered in the residence of Hal McCord, 2201 Cass street. A swinging gas jet in the boiler room set fire to the woodwork. The blaze extended upward through the center of the building. Before it was extinguished several partitions were destroyed. The total damage to the building and contents amounted to about $200, which was fully insured.

Winter Term of School Begins.

The winter term of the public schools opened yesterday, but owing to the condition of the weather the attendance was much lighter than before the holiday vacation. Superintendent Pearse is of the opinion that as soon as the weather moderates the attendance will increase until it exceeds that of last term.

Unity Club Meeting Postponed.

Only two members of the Unity club assembled in the Omaha Public library rooms last evening to discuss the "Civic Section of American History." The tendency of the mercury to remain in its bulb, and the searching winds, kept many away who would otherwise have attended. The club will hold its regular meeting January 18, at which the interesting program arranged for last night will be given.

ABOUT WILLIAM WALDORF ASTOR.

Some of His Numerous Objects in Becoming a Briton.

The report that William Waldorf Astor has quit-claimed his allegiance to Uncle Sam for the livery of Queen Victory is no surprise to Americans, says the Chicago Tribune. After taking up his permanent residence in England, breaking with his American relatives, and deciding to sell his vast realty holding in New York, his hobnobbing with royalty and aspiring, by rumor, to marry into the reigning house—not to recall his declaration that America is not fit for a gentleman to live in—have rendered his formal act of becoming a naturalized subject of the queen seem, if anything, a trifle delayed.

Mr. Astor's life has been of interest to the people of two continents not so much for the accident of his wealth as for the eccentric uses to which he has devoted it in furthering social ambitions. Whatever may be the verdict upon him by his ex-countrymen, none can say William Waldorf Astor has not been fascinatingly original.

William Waldorf Astor is 48 years old. His present position in English society is that of a widower, eligible beyond the dreams of impoverished nobles, who has also two daughters, almost at the threshold of society, and a son who may, through the ancient sagacity of the Heidelberg fur peddler, marry to any social position.

It is but two years since Mr. Astor's wife died at Cliveden-on-the-Thames, the family's magnificent residence. She was Miss Mary Paul of Philadelphia and was the niece of Admiral Dahlgren. The marriage took place on June 6, 1878, being a simple home wedding. This branch of the Astor house did not figure as conspicuously in society for years as some of the cousins and nephews.

In 1888 Mrs. William Waldorf Astor really began her social prominence. She led off with participation in the series of exclusive dinners given by Egerton Winthrop, Mrs. Coleman Drayton and Mrs. Frederick Bronson. Out of this alliance, with Mrs. Astor recognized as the guiding mind, came the segregation of the extremely wealthy set of New York from the ordinary aristocrats, which finally established hard boundaries.

Then there came the rivalry between Mrs. William Waldorf Astor and Mrs. William Astor to succeed to the title of plain "Mrs. Astor," at the passing of Mrs. John Jacob Astor. The latter was the mother of William Waldorf, and William Astor is his uncle.

Mrs. William Astor wanted the distinction of being "Mrs. Astor," because she had been the most conspicuous society woman in the family. William Waldorf wanted the distinction to fall to his own wife. A letter directed to "Mrs. Astor" without other identification was sent to Newport, and both women claimed it. The postoffice refused to arbitrate. It could not be settled between the families and an irreparable break occurred.

How far the repudiation of each branch of the house by the other went was shown at the death of Mrs. William Waldorf Astor two years ago. The families had not exchanged civilities since the Newport letter incident. When the widower brought his wife's body to New York for burial, the William Astor branch showed its entire contempt of kinship and propriety by holding aloof recognition and sympathy and plunging straightway into lavish social demonstrations.

Mr. Astor returned to England as soon as his mission was over and has not been to America since.

In America Mr. Astor's career was not confined wholly to the realms of finance and moneyed aristocracy. He has a record also in diplomacy and literature. He was minister to Italy from 1882 to 1885. While in that land he wrote his novel, "Valentine," and planned "Sforza," which was published later.

Upon removing to London in 1892 William Waldorf Astor took up his residence in Lansdowne house, formerly rented by Lord Rosebery. He also rented another elaborate home at No. 18 Carlton House terrace. Then he purchased the magnificent Cliveden on the upper Thames, where royalty has feted.

Mrs. Astor began her new career conservatively, but there was no doubt at any time the Astor ambition was lusty, and at length Mrs. Astor, who at least could wear that cognomen without dispute in England, was presented to the diplomatic circles in the queen's drawing room, a rare mark of favor to bestow upon one untitled.

Mr. Astor found favor in the eyes of the prince of Wales. Gossip is severe enough to say that the ancient fur peddler was at the bottom of it. Their close acquaintance came in the wake of the death of Baron Hirsch, who had advanced the prince vast loans, which were recalled suddenly by administrators upon the death of the philanthropist. The Rothschild purse-strings had been drawn tight against the prince for years, notwithstanding the social elevation he gave members of the house, and in his emergency the prince had to turn somewhere for a new benefactor and banker.

Mr. Astor was on the lookout for a social climb and had "money to burn." Because the prince of Wales paid the Hirsch loan, notwithstanding his comparative bankruptcy, and Mr. Astor took the social climb, notwithstanding his "plain" origin, the native Britisher concluded the Hirsch mantle had fallen on Astor. They think he is wearing it today, and there is this much ground for the argument: Creditors are not complaining that the prince has no money.

The widower did not feel his social ambitions abate with the death of his wife. British society is not able to agree whether Mr. Astor is now most concerned about a new alliance for himself or for his 17-year-old daughter. Gossips think both ideas engross him.

It was guessed two months ago that Mr. Astor had conceived no less an ambition than the wedding of the Princess Victoria, only unmarried daughter of the prince of Wales, who is now sixth in line of succession to the throne. The thought almost paralyzes the British pride, but there are no constitutional barriers to such an alliance, several snatches in the royal family having been contracted with "plain" people, titled through courtesy.

The presentation of a costly diamond by Mr. Astor as a wedding present to the Princess Maud was taken as convincing argument by many that Mr. Astor was acceptable to the prince of Wales.

In British journalism the American financier has cut a wide swath. He became the head of the Pall Mall Magazine and would have none but royalty on his pay rolls as editors and writers. He heard Henry Cush make a brilliant speech in Parliament and made him his chief editor. Last February Mr. Astor asserted his prerogative as a publisher by discharging Cush. It caused a sensation. Mr. Astor discontinued the Budget after the death of his wife out of his wish to make its tomb a memorial to her.

SHOULDERING A PICK.

What Would Happen if Threat Were Carried Out as Often as Made.

Whenever a discussion as to the failure of some unfortunate to make a decent living is in progress, there is usually heard the remark: "I would rather take a pick (or shovel) on my shoulder and go out to work." There is a lofty and independent flavor about this sentiment that causes it to be received with approval, says the Washington Post. Without stopping to consider whether or not such a proceeding is practicable, the audience absorbs the idea as something eminently correct and worthy of admiration.

One thing in this connection is overlooked, and that is that neither the person who formulates the scheme nor the persons who have heard it uttered have ever tried the thing itself. A pick is not an article of scientific appearance, but should any inexperienced individual undertake the manipulation of one, he will make a number of discoveries. Five minutes of swinging a pick will make a pair of twenty-pound dumbbells appear insignificant and the handling of them child's play.

Aside from the actual inability of one unaccustomed to handling the instrument to do any serious amount of work with it, there are after effects—sore hands, stiff joints, disabled muscles, and an unconquerable desire the next day to refrain from exertion. The shovel is worse than the pick. In the first burst of enthusiasm it can be operated somewhat longer, perhaps, without panting and getting short-winded, but the next day there is the same feeling of forlornness, the same disabled hands, the same stiff joints, the same rigid muscles, and in addition a back which cannot be made to assume the perpendicular without great effort and some pain.

The theory of going out to work with pick or shovel is beautiful and high-sounding, but the practical application is another affair altogether. Besides, there is an additional item in the matter which has eluded the observation of the shovel or pick bearer. Work even for experienced hands is not always to be found. There are hundreds, probably thousands, of men expert in the use of the shovel or pick seeking work unavailingly. What chance would one who knows nothing about such work have to display his ignorance and incapacity? A manly and proper independence is a fine thing, but the shovel business should not be entered into lightly. It should be approached with caution and examined with intelligence. Only strong and able-bodied men should prank with the pick or shovel. Unless you are fit for hard work, shy at these implements. Picking and shovelling are honorable and necessary vocations, but as a means of demonstrating independence, unless accompanied by physical ability, they should be avoided. Make due study of the proposition, weigh the chances of success, and having fully mastered the situation—unless you are strong and healthy—don't try it. Let it alone.

Campaign Amenities.

The late presidential campaign lent additional piquancy to a political anecdote of the Montana congressional election two years ago, relates Harper's Magazine.

Mr. Corbett was the democratic candidate and Mr. Smith his populist opponent. It appears that one day, in their campaign, they traveled a short distance in company. They had a very interesting conversation, and in consequence Mr. Smith was compelled to leave the car hurriedly when his station was reached. He caught up one of the two traveling bags in the seat in front and rushed out. A few miles further on Mr. Corbett left the train, taking the other bag. He reached his hotel without noticing anything unusual. The following telegram, however, was waiting for him:

"I have the wrong bag. Contains plug of tobacco, bottle of whisky, six-shooter and democratic platform. Is it yours?

"SMITH."

Mr. Smith was about to open his meeting when the following "rush" telegram was handed to him:

"I, too, have wrong bag. Contains 'Treatise on Dynamite,' picture of Mary Ellen Lease and bundle of hay marked 'collateral security.' Is it yours? CORBETT."

The Average Warrior.

Atlanta Constitution: "I would give my heart's blood for Cuba," shrieked the patriot.

"Good!" exclaimed a bystander. "I'm getting up a troop now. Will you join us?"

"Well—er—er—my family," replied the patriot—"I've got a family to support, and—"

"Well, take care of your family," said the other, "and pay you well besides. What do you say?"

"Sell my patriotism for money?" cried the patriot, indignantly. "Never, sir, never. It's too sacred."

And he vanished in the crowd.

Your anxiety is for your delicate child; the child that in spite of all your careful over-watching, keeps thin and pale. Exercise seems to weaken her and food fails to nourish. That child needs Scott's Emulsion with the Hypophosphites—not as a medicine, but as a food containing all the elements of growth. It means rich blood, strong bones, healthy nerves, sound digestion. No child refuses Scott's Emulsion. It is pleasant and palatable.

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The directors of the Middle Loup Valley Irrigation district invite sealed proposals for $100,000 (in part or whole) of bonds of said district up to 2 p. m. of January 19, 1897. Address,

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A Public Test Agreed Upon and the Result to Be Published in This Paper.

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In view of the great importance of this challenge, not only to the citizens of Omaha, but to the entire civilized world, the public will be interested in the outcome of what may be properly termed a public investigation of a discovery that will become famous and prove of incalculable importance to the great mass of people who are suffering in one way and another from kidney ailments and other attending ills.

The offer made by Dr. Hobbs in his challenge above al