BUILD ANOTHER BIG CANAL

Stupendous Irrigation Project Given the North Platte Country.

WILL COVER FORTY THOUSAND ACRES

Lincoln and Dawson County District Bonds Sold and Contract for the Work Let at Gothenburg.

GOTHENBURG, Neb., Jan. 17.—(Special.)—The directors of the Lincoln and Dawson county irrigation district met here yesterday for the purpose of selling $275,000 worth of district bonds, as advertised, and to contract for the construction of the same. A number of prominent contractors were present to bid on the work, but the bids for the bonds were limited to the bid of I. E. Doty of David City, who bid 95 cents on the dollar. His bid for the construction of the canal was 8¾ cents per yard for the upland and 10¼ cents for the bottom land, or an average of about 8¾ cents per cubic yard for the grading, and $32 per 1,000 for the lumber in bridges and flumes. Rushart & Co., of Omaha, bid 5 and 6 cents per cubic yard for the grading in excavation and embankment. The bonds were sold to I. E. Doty, who was awarded the contract to construct the canal, as per his bid.

Mr. Kittell of North Platte was awarded the position of chief engineer, Sturnegk of this city assistant, while Channel of Kearney will do the drafting and office work. The work will begin as soon as arrangements can be made to get the machinery and material on the grounds for its construction, and will be pushed to completion as soon as possible. In sixty days they will be working all along the line. The main canal is fifty-six miles long and about 115 miles of laterals, and its capacity is 450 cubic feet of water per second, which is calculated to irrigate 40,000 acres of land, the amount of land in the district.

PROSPEROUS CORNER IN NEBRASKA.

Town of Hershey Has Done Well and is Building New Enterprises.

HERSHEY, Neb., Jan. 17.—(Special.)—The books of the Union Pacific railway at Hershey show the following car lot shipments from Hershey for the year 1896: Hay, 214; wheat, 19; corn, 18; live stock, 16; potatoes, 8; oats, 7; broom corn, 3; miscellaneous, 4; total, 289.

This shows a car a day for each working day in the year. Where is there a newly opened territory in the state that can show such a diversity of agricultural products? This valley is bounded on the north and south by branches of the Platte river, with irrigating ditches in operation that carry water to every quarter section of land, which can be made to raise without any possible chance of failure a full crop every year, giving farmers and stock raisers full value for the time and money expended. Farther back in the foothills are the herds of cattle that consume a part of the corn; nearby mills use a larger part of the wheat, while the shipments show how much of a surplus was sent away the first year the irrigating ditches were completed and in operation. The town of Hershey has two general stores, one hardware store, a lumber yard, a coal yard, a first-class elevator, blacksmith shop, wagon and buggy shop, building contractor, and other enterprises. C. R. Kelsey & Co., the leading merchants, are putting in a complete line of everything that is wanted; W. W. Young has a full stock of lumber and builders' materials. The elevator, erected in October of 1896, is taxed to its utmost to handle all the grain that is brought to it for sale.

The citizens of Hershey are talking and are willing to help, both in a moral and financial manner, the building of a beet sugar mill the coming season. Those that know say that while the plans are yet crude, the building of the mill is almost assured at this time. This, in addition to a creamery and cannery, which are advocated with the same determination and enthusiasm that has made the state of Nebraska what it is, will give a decided advance over any other locality in the western part of the state. Right on the border, between farming and stock raising, brings us in close touch with both the east and the west.

GETS VERDICT FOR FIVE HUNDRED.

Mrs. Frank Havlik Wins a Suit for Damages at Wahoo.

WAHOO, Neb., Jan. 17.—(Special.)—A case wherein Mrs. Frank Havlik sued the First National bank of this place and its president for $10,000 for false imprisonment was brought to a close last night at about 10 o'clock, when a verdict for $500 in favor of the plaintiff was brought in. In 1893 the First National bank obtained judgment against Frank Havlik for $567. About the time the judgment was rendered against Havlik he had disposed of about all of his property except some promissory notes, which he obtained when he sold his farm. He transferred these notes to his wife, Barbara Havlik. Proceedings in aid of execution were instituted in Douglas county against Frank Havlik and a bank of South Omaha, but no securities were found. A creditor's bill was then brought against Mr. and Mrs. Havlik to obtain sufficient property from Mrs. Havlik to satisfy the judgment of the bank and costs. The case was tried in the district court three years ago and was against the bank. It was taken to the supreme court, where it is now pending. In the meantime the bank commenced proceedings in aid of execution before Judge Newman in the county court of Saunders county. Havlik was examined and his testimony showed that $2,300 in notes had been turned over to his wife without consideration. Mrs. Havlik was then cited to appear and submit to an examination. From her examination the court found in favor of the bank and ordered her to bring the notes into court for the satisfaction of the judgment. She failed to obey the order and was brought into court and contempt proceedings were instituted against her and she was sent to jail. She remained in jail about six days, when her attorney obtained her release under a writ of habeas corpus. The constitutionality of the statute on contempt was called in question and in 1895 it was held void and Mrs. Havlik was released from further custody.

WATER SUPPLY FOR CRAWFORD.

Citizens Asked to Grant a Franchise to an Enterprising Company.

CRAWFORD, Neb., Jan. 17.—(Special.)—The Crawford company, which has spent nearly $100,000 here during the past year in putting in an irrigation and reservoir system, has made application to the village board for a franchise to put in and operate a system of underground water works, and to operate the same in connection with the present village system. The granting of the franchise meets with the general approval of the citizens.

The Crawford company has had a large gang of men and teams at work for several months on its 250-acre reservoir, near town. It is putting in a bedrock dam, and for that purpose has in operation a centrifugal pump, with a capacity of 40,000 gallons per minute, by means of which it slushes and pumps out the earth down to rock.

No snow has fallen here since Thanksgiving day until last week, when there was a few inches. There is no frost, however, and it is quickly disappearing. The Elkhorn Railway company has had its ice-cutting gang awaiting at Whitney for several weeks to get ice there, but yesterday the men were taken to Valentine, as no sufficient ice has yet formed here. The Crawford ice dealers are getting uneasy.

Dr. Anna M. Cross, a graduate of the New York Medical college, has located here, being the first woman physician in this part of the state.

Great

Sales naturally result from the great merit which makes the thousands of wonderful cures by

Hood's Sarsaparilla

The One True Blood Purifier. All druggists. $1.

Hood's Pills cure all Liver Ills. 25 cents.

FEEDING STOCK IN CHASE COUNTY.

Winter Is So Mild that Grass Is Green and Farmers Sow Wheat.

IMPERIAL, Neb., Jan. 17.—(Special.)—So far this winter there have been but very few days of cold, and scarcely none of bad or disagreeable weather. The ground is as moist and as full of dampness as was ever experienced at this season of the year, instead of snows, so far this winter, we have had rains. There are some farmers in the county who have been sowing wheat this month, and they report the ground in splendid condition for such work. Owners of cattle have not had to feed their stock anything so far this winter. The grass on the prairies not only keeps the stock, but fattens them for the market. The great advantages this part of the state affords for stock raising is fast becoming known, and many people are coming here to go into that business. The farmers are also largely turning their attention to it. Quite a number of people have been here in the past few months looking over the country with a view to investing in farm lands, and a number of sales and trades have been made. The real estate men look for a large immigration here in the spring.

A number of irrigation ditches have been built this fall and winter along the Frenchman river, which gives this county a very large area of land that can be irrigated.

WOULD HAVE PREFERRED BONDS.

Hastings Property Owners Discuss the Mayor's Announcement.

HASTINGS, Jan. 17.—(Special.)—There is considerable discussion among the property holders of Hastings over Mayor Evan's announcement that a direct taxation will be necessary in order to secure the improvements for the city water works, which are so badly needed. As the last city election held for voting $8,000 bonds for that purpose was declared illegal on the grounds that the public notice had not been printed in the newspaper thirty days prior to election, it leaves the water works improvement matter right where it was several months ago. It seems as if the sentiment is evenly divided. As there were not 600 votes cast at the last election that vote cannot be taken as a public expression in regard to that matter. The carrying of the bonds meant ten years' time to pay the $8,000 in, but if the council decides to issue a direct taxation, the $8,000 will have to be paid in about three years.

Discord Among Butler's Bryanites.

DAVID CITY, Neb., Jan. 17.—(Special.)—The free silver element of Butler, the banner fusion county of the state, is in hard lines, in regard to perfecting its organization for the campaign of 1900. The second attempt was made yesterday, having adjourned from January 2 on account of the small attendance. This meeting was more extensively advertised, but it was a signal failure, as only about forty soft-shell fusionists were present and quibbled away the afternoon on petty differences and adjourned to February 6. The hard-shell middle-of-the-road populists and old-line democrats were generally absent. The conduct of some of their leaders and the present state administration does not seem to be satisfactory to these wings of the party, which rolled up such a big vote in the county and have received no appointments in recognition of their services.

Corn Cribs Are Overflowing.

EXETER, Neb., Jan. 17.—(Special.)—The awful condition of the weather was not bad enough to stop corn from coming to town until Saturday, when the rain was too much for the farmers. For the last ten days the average number of loads of ear corn marketed at this place each day will exceed 100, with an average of thirty-five bushels to the load. The Chicago Packing company already has five cribs, that average 150 feet long and ten feet wide and ten feet high, with the sixth in process of erection and lumber on the track for the seventh; another eastern firm has nearly the same amount of crib room in the eastern part of town. The estimate of the 1896 corn crop for Exeter township alone, is placed at a round 500,000 bushels.

Fremont Woman's Club.

FREMONT, Jan. 17.—(Special.)—The regular meeting of the Woman's club yesterday afternoon was rather slimly attended on account of the threatening weather. The subject considered was psychology. Mrs. M. E. Reynolds, chairman of the scientific section of the club, presided. Miss Lizzie Haas read a well-prepared paper on the general subject of psychology and its especial relation to teaching in the public schools, which contained many ideas of much practical value. Mrs. M. E. Reynolds read a paper on "Memory and Will Power." A vocal solo "Hearts Blossoms," composed by Prof. Roy Smith, was sung by Miss Grace Grieves and a recitation by Miss Nellie Atwood completed the program.

Revival Work at Exeter.

EXETER, Neb., Jan. 17.—(Special.)—The union prayer services, which have been in progress at this place the last week will probably be continued at least another week, owing to the deep interest taken by all concerned. The revival effort which has been in progress at the Methodist church the past ten days, is doing good work. Evangelist Powers of Lincoln assisted Rev. W. T. Cline the first eight days, and drew immense crowds. The pastor of the Methodist church at Friendville, will assist during the continuation of the meetings.

Work of the Chicory Factory.

FREMONT, Jan. 17. — (Special.)—The American Chicory company has nearly finished drying the chicory that was raised near Hastings and shipped to Fremont. The roots were delivered to the factory in good condition, being as smooth and dry when taken from the silos as when first dug. Some of the chicory raised in this vicinity is still in the ground, and will probably be dug early in the spring. The company has not yet made any contracts for the crop of 1897.

Children's Dancing Party.

CHADRON, Neb., Jan. 17.—(Special.)—The annual children's dancing party was held Friday night at Nelson's opera house. The affair was a success in all ways. Misses Helen Dales, Nonnie and Annie Satterlee, Marie McCann, Maud Wilcox, Helen Dorrington, Stella Ellenwood, Aggie Morris, Lillian Spencer, Irene Hargraves, Ether Grace, Pearl Donahue, Frankie Bates and Masters Eb Jameson and Virgil Greene attracted special attention by their graceful dancing.

Curfew Work at York.

YORK, Neb., Jan. 17.—(Special.)—Colonel Alexander Hogeland spoke here last night in the interests of the curfew ordinance. He spoke at length on the need and advantages of such a law, and cited various examples to show its practical working. Colonel Hogeland spoke today at several of the city churches on the same subject. It is doubtful if the city council will act in accordance with his wishes, as this question has been agitated here before without any practical result.

Defending a Damage Suit.

HASTINGS, Neb., Jan. 17.—(Special.)—City Attorney Dungan is in St. Louis, where he is in the interest of Hastings in the case of Mrs. Emma Thomas against the city of Hastings. Mrs. Thomas claims $10,000 damages from the city for receiving a broken leg several years ago, which she asserts was caused through the carelessness of the city officials in power at that time.

Will Reopen the Store.

HASTINGS, Jan. 17.—(Special.)—The Hastings Fair, the large department store of H. B. Rollins, which was closed December 23, as Mr. Rollins confessed judgment to claims aggregating nearly $17,000, will be open in ten days. Satisfactory arrangements were made yesterday whereby the store will be open and the stock sold at retail.

Entertained by Miss Cherry.

HASTINGS, Jan. 17.—(Special.)—A very pleasant party was given Friday night by Miss Jessie Cherry, who entertained a few of her many friends. Those present were: Misses May Comley, Marion Stichter, Lucy Hakes, Zelma Willoughby, Josie Abrams, Claudia McPeak, Emma Stichter, Daisy Anderson, Lottie Noyes, Messrs. Eugene Serf, Roy Van Fleet, Ross Yocum, Bert Sprague, Theodore Sims, Otto Ladd, Fred Holmes, Wilson Stichter and Frank Noyes.

Arrests a Buggy Thief.

HAVELOCK, Neb., Jan. 17.—(Special Telegram.)—Constable Lawson of Manilla, Ia., arrested a young man here today, named Bert Grow, alias Frank Thompson. He is wanted for the theft of the buggy he was driving. Grow was on his way to his parents, just west of Lincoln, and claimed to have hired the rig. He went back without a requisition.

Beet Sugar Factory for Wayne.

WAYNE, Neb., Jan. 17.—(Special Telegram.)—Wayne is now assured of a beet sugar factory. Pending negotiations are rapidly nearing completion.

Nebraska News Notes.

Madison is agitating the project of erecting a chicory factory.

Genoa people are congratulating themselves on a revival of trade.

William Shuey of Albion has been bound over on the charge of bootlegging.

The railroad business out of Tecumseh was greater in 1896 than in 1895.

Rising City people are holding public meetings to agitate the beet sugar question.

Some of the Chappell sportsmen have organized a gun club and purchased an outfit of traps, etc.

J. G. Moir of Wakefield had his foot crushed by the falling of a scaffold on which he was working.

J. A. Harris of Ord proposes to start a paper devoted exclusively to Nebraska real estate interests.

Bob Purcell of Bloomfield has been arrested and bound over for appropriating another man's team.

A company is being organized at DeWitt to lease the creamery building and put the machinery in operation.

Gothenburg farmers who turned their horses into the stalk fields report numerous deaths among the animals.

The Gresham Gazette devotes a column to telling the people of that town how to behave themselves in the postoffice.

A meeting of the creditors of the defunct Citizen's National bank of Grand Island has been called for January 19.

Mrs. S. S. Willis of Gothenburg has turned her three children over to the Orphan Home of Omaha, being unable to support them.

The teachers in the Aurora schools have consented to a cut in wages rather than have the schools closed before the end of the school year.

Some parties without the fear of the school board in their hearts entered the Cortland school house and stole a quantity of pencils and other little things.

Some one went into the barn of George Christianson of Kearney county and shot one of his horses. The animal was not killed, but was injured so the owner was compelled to finish the job.

Frank Edwards and Charles Burns, two McCook boys, started to run away from home and shift for themselves, but were captured and brought back before they had proceeded further than the next station.

THINGS YOU SEE AT UNION DEPOT.

Line Between Want and Necessity Clearly Defined.

An old friend stood conversing with Ticket Agent Fonda at the Union depot the other day. They had not seen each other for years. He leaned his arms on the ledge just outside the ticket office and the two dug up old reminiscences with a relish. The engine attached to the southbound Burlington train stood out on the track, working its air pump with that nerve-racking sound which warns the tourist of a sudden departure.

A tall man in a shiny plug stood just out of view of the affable ticket seller, at the side of the window. He drummed nervously with his fingers on the pine partition of the office and waited for the stranger to get through. Time flew. They coupled the two sections of the train together. The stranger at length concluded his remarks with a flourish and passed on.

"Kept you waiting. Sorry indeed. You want to go to Lincoln, I suppose," said he of the pasteboards.

"No, I don't want to go to Lincoln," said the tall man.

"Excuse me; Chicago, of course," rejoined the ticket man, with the imperturbable habit acquired by long contact with a cranky traveling public. He had already stamped the ticket, but shoved it back into the rack. He reached for another one. The stamp fell with a thud.

"I don't want to go to Chicago," resumed the passenger; "neither do I want to go to Lincoln. Business forces me to go to Lincoln, however, so give me a ticket there."

He got the ticket.

Was Willing to Join Forces.

A lean, lanky individual, covered with a white sombrero and a red poker chip twisted into his necktie, ranged alongside the ticket window at the Union depot not long ago.

"Hullo, pard!" he ventured. The individual addressed shrank back, as visions of six-shooters came uppermost in his mind.

"Gol dern my pelt. You be the cuss I'm looking fer!" He attempted to thrust his hand through the little aperture at the bottom of the netting. He looked stealthily around. "Say! Be you the feller wot sells stamps?" He was assured that such was the case.

"You're my meat!" shouted the man from the wild west. The agent prepared for annihilation. "Looky here, pard," continued the visitor; "you and me is goin' into cahoots. You-ve got the pizter ribbons, and I've got the wom and the hull consarned apparatus out on my ranch. The revenoo officers cut it pretty fine, but wot kin they do when we come under the law? You pony up the ribbons. I'll make the tanglefoot. Is she a go?"

The agent grasped the idea. "I'm afraid not, my friend; I only sell postage. You will have to go elsewhere for revenue stamps."

The tall stranger went over and borrowed a chew of tobacco from Chief Fleming.

SEVENTEEN WAIFS ARRESTED.

Jailer Girke Surprises Lodgers at the Police Station.

Last night Jailer Kirke arrested seventeen of the lodgers at the police station and locked them up on a charge of vagrancy. Many of these men have been making the police court room their lodging place during the past week, when the chilly atmosphere would not permit of their stowing themselves away in some quiet doorway. The register at the station shows that upon Monday night last twenty men slept on the benches in the court room. Tuesday twenty-six were accommodated; Wednesday, thirty-two; Thursday, thirty; Friday, thirty-seven; Saturday, thirty, and Sunday, forty-seven. Upon the persons of the seventeen men arrested last night but seventeen cents was found, 10 cents upon one, 7 cents upon another. Some of them had musty crusts of bread wrapped in old handkerchiefs and various odds and ends in their pockets, ranging from a bladeless knife to old gloves, from which fingers had departed.

No provision is made by the city for the accommodation of these waifs and strays of humanity, except the hard upper surface of an oak bench in the court room. When a great number of the genus "hobo" congregate in this sleeping room the atmosphere is something dense at times. No provision is made for bathing purposes. Officers of the "dog watch," who are forced to sleep a portion of the night in quarters constructed upon a balcony of the same room have been complaining of late of the foul air. In two instances sickness was traced to this cause alone, yet no provision has been made to cleanse the lodgers, or separate their quarters from those of the patrolmen. Diseases of a contagious character have been discovered three times during the winter among the men who have applied for lodgings at the station, yet no inspection has been deemed necessary by the city, and the discovery of the cases mentioned was but accidental.

Six-Thirty P. M. Train.
of the
CHICAGO,
MILWAUKEE
& ST. PAUL RY.
Best service.
ELECTRIC LIGHTS.
Dining car.
City office: 1504 Farnam.

IT COVERS THE NORTHWEST

Storm Severe and General from Mountains to Great Lakes.

SIXTY-MILE WIND BLOWS AT CHICAGO

Tremendous Gale at the Windy City, but a Much Slower Breeze at Other Points of Observation.

People passing the weather bureau station yesterday morning were surprised and alarmed when they observed that the inland storm signal, a red flag with a black center, was flying from the masthead, and many of them hurried to their homes, anticipating a blizzard. Those persons who were upon the streets during the later hours of the day, however, were more alarmed than the early risers, for beneath the storm signal they saw the cold wave flag floating in the wind.

The storm signal was hoisted late Saturday night on an order from the Chicago weather office, Forecaster Cox of that station predicting severe winds and a storm of snow. The cold wave flag was hoisted yesterday morning on account of telegrams having been received, indicating that the temperature would fall twenty degrees or more before this morning. This fall will bring the temperature down to some ten degrees above the zero point.

Ice dealers and ice cutters hailed with joy the hoisting of the cold wave flag, as they realize that if the cold weather continues for a few days several hundred men will be put to work harvesting the annual crop of ice.

The local weather office received another telegram from Prof. Cox of Chicago yesterday afternoon at 4:30, in which it stated that the cold wave approaching would be very severe. The night reports from the observations points, however, did not show much severity except at Chicago, where the wind was reported as blowing at the rate of sixty-four miles an hour.

The speed of the wind at other points was reported as follows: Des Moines, thirty-four; Davenport, thirty-six; Detroit, thirty-eight; El Paso, thirty; Bismarck, forty; St. Paul, thirty; Rapid City, thirty-six; Dodge City, thirty-six; North Platte, thirty-four. The rate at Omaha was twenty-four miles, being the slowest reported from any of the stations.

The local weather office recorded that snow fell for ten minutes last evening, between 7:45 and 7:55 o'clock, without a cloud being apparent anywhere. The weather officials think the worst of the storm prevailed last night and that it will soon begin to moderate.

AINSWORTH, Neb., Jan. 17.—(Special.)—Snow began to fall yesterday, continuing until after noon. As soon as it ceased the wind began to raise and at present is blowing a gale. About four inches of snow fell and all is drifted badly. Trains are reported late from all directions. The mail carrier between Ainsworth and Springview came in on time last night, notwithstanding the severity of the storm, and reports it very hard to get through the drifts in many places.

FREMONT, Jan. 17.—(Special.)—The mercury dropped about fifteen degrees last night and there was a strong wind from the north, which has blown all day. It is cloudy and there are indications of snow. Farmers are anxious for dry cold weather, which they say is necessary to dry out the corn crop.

MITCHELL, S. D., Jan. 17.—(Special Telegram.)—The blizzard of two weeks ago was nearly repeated today. Snow fell nearly all day yesterday and last night a heavy wind came up, which has increased in velocity today, blowing the loose snow in every direction. The Milwaukee road to Chamberlain is blocked and the passenger train was abandoned last night, expecting to go out this morning. The Aberdeen passenger train left here last night, but had to stop at Wallace, eighty miles north of here. The roads are nearly in as bad condition as two weeks ago.

PIERRE, S. D., Jan. 17.—(Special Telegram.)—Wind blew the loose snow into drifts here today, which will block roads for a day or two, but will clear the range and did not interfere with the grazing. The wind was a warm one and should do no injury to the stock.

ST. PAUL, Jan. 17.—Last night and today throughout the Dakotas, Minnesota and Wisconsin, a regular, old-fashioned snow storm has been prevailing, and the mercury is dropping slowly. A heavy snowfall has been very generally reported, and a gale has drifted it badly, demoralizing street cars in the cities and generally interfering with transportation facilities. The heavy fall of snow will be good for the coming crops, and therefore, welcomed by farmers. The usual reports of big drifts have been received from various points. Yesterday the storm was reported first over in Dakota, and by the afternoon it put in its appearance in this state, a warm, but heavy snowfall opening the siege, but today the temperature is much lower, and a high wind adds to the difficulties of belated pedestrians.

DETROIT, Jan. 17.—Unusually heavy winds were experienced all over Michigan this afternoon. Conditions developed into a severe blizzard in the northern region. At Marquette the temperature fell 22 degrees in ten hours, and two feet of snow fell. In western Michigan sleet and snow storms prevail. At Jackson the roof was blown off the malt house of Haehnle's brewery, doing $1,000 damage, and leaving 10,000 bushels of malt exposed.

CHICAGO, Jan. 17.—Polar blasts are due in Chicago tomorrow morning. The advance agent came here tonight in the shape of a gale that blew sixty-four miles an hour. The wind did much damage to property throughout the city. The signal service office predicts zero weather in the morning after the three days' rains, which ended today. Tonight's gale did considerable damage to plate glass windows, chimneys, signs and the like, but no heavy individual losses were reported.

Flood in Illinois.

PRINCETON, Ill., Jan. 17.—The waters of the Illinois and the Bureau rivers rose rapidly last night and today and have caused much damage. A portion of the Hennepin canal embankment, thrown up along Bureau river to turn the river from its natural bed, was washed out and the overflow is now running through the unfinished portion of the canal, causing much damage. It will be some time before the flow can be stopped, as the locks of the canal are without gates. Along the Illinois river farm lands have been overflowed and a large number of horses and cattle are reported drowned.

Wall street speculation is being gradually stripped of its pitfalls. To Messrs. De Wolf & company, bankers and brokers of 50 Broadway, New York, is due the credit for this new feature. Small investors can now safely engage in speculation by utilizing their plan, which is especially adapted to their wants.

Burglars at Work Again.

The residence of Rev. Charles E. Taylor, pastor of the Grant Street Christian church, located at 2312 North Twenty-seventh street, was entered by a tramp last night and two knives and six silver tablespoons taken from a sideboard. This is the second time within a fortnight that Dr. Taylor's home has been broken into by thieves. The articles stolen upon the former occasion consisted of a pair of baptismal boots and pants. They were afterwards recovered from a Douglas street pawn shop, where they had been pledged by the thief.

Child Chokes to Death.

VERMILLION, S. D., Jan. 17.—(Special.)—A little child of Even Johnson, living near Westerville, this county, was choked to death by a bean, which became lodged in its throat. The child was seized by its father to prevent it from doing something contrary to its father's wish. The bean, which was in the child's mouth at the time, became lodged in the throat, causing death in a few moments.

Released on Bond.

Dennis Lynch, arrested a fortnight ago for stealing $35 from the pockets of his former employer, John C. Moody, a blacksmith, was yesterday released from the county jail on bonds of $600. Lynch admits having taken the money during a call at Moody's room, 602 North Seventeenth street, but asserts that he was not responsible for his actions, as he was intoxicated. Lynch is charged with grand larceny.

LOCATING THE EXPOSITION.

OMAHA, Jan. 16.—To the Editor of The Bee: I wish to call the attention of those interested in selecting the site for the Trans-Mississippi Exposition to a few figures, in regard to the transportation of the visitors from the exposition ground to the center of the city, if located in Miller or Elmwood park, or in Riverview park or the Hanscom park site. Taking as an average daily attendance of from 30,000 to 50,000 persons, and supposing the street car company would run fifty trains of one motor and one trailer, each train carrying 100 people, from the exposition ground to Farnam street, the run from either Miller or Elmwood park will take not less than one hour, whereas, from the Riverview or the Hanscom park site, eighteen to twenty minutes is the time required. The fifty trains do here the service requiring 150 on the distant sites, and it is not only the difference in the number of cars required, but being in the heated season, you know how disagreeable it is to be jammed in for one hour, when for twenty minutes one does not mind it so much. At 6 o'clock almost everybody would want to come home. From 6 to 7 o'clock only 5,000 could leave via street car, if located in the two distant sites, whereas, in the others 15,000 could be landed in the center of the city.

To double the attendance locate the exposition as convenient and centrally as possible.

A CITIZEN.

OMAHA, Jan. 17.—To the Editor of The Bee: The merits of Miller park as a location for the Transmississippi Exposition have been thoroughly aired for several months, while so far, little or nothing has been said or written as to the advantages of the site adjoining Hanscom park. It is located right in the city, within walking distance of the business center, and also within easy walking distance of two-thirds of the population of Omaha and South Omaha. It is accessible on all sides over paved streets and good sidewalks. There is sufficient land available to accommodate all the necessities of the exposition; the ground in its natural condition is peculiarly adapted for the purpose and with reasonable expense can be made very attractive. A one and one-half mile circle, struck from Thirty-third and Pacific streets, takes in nearly all of Omaha, and part of South Omaha, while the same circle from Miller park as a center, hardly reaches the extreme northern residence portion of this city, and to all in the north part of Omaha, south of Kountze Place, the Hanscom park site is more convenient than Miller park. Locating the exposition at this place would certainly add enormously to the revenue, as so many people within walking distance would visit the fair many times, where once or twice would satisfy them were they compelled to make a street car or railway journey in order to reach it. Besides, all visitors to the exposition being right in the city, would spend some time in the business portions, and consequently, benefit the merchants. The people have subscribed liberally, expecting returns in the way of substantial benefits to Omaha, and a difference of a few thousand dollars in landscape work, water or sewer service, should not influence the directory in the selection of a site.

If we are to have an exposition at Omaha, let us have it in Omaha, and not five miles in the country, accessible only over unpaved country roads.

JOHN M'DONALD.

Protect the Lunch Room.

OMAHA, Jan. 16.—To the Editor of The Bee: We wonder how many of the citizens of Omaha know and appreciate the fact that the Omaha High school is considered by the best educators of the land as one of the very best in this whole country, far ahead of many of the high schools in the large eastern cities. It is indeed a great pity that the building is so inadequate. With the fine corps of teachers, under the most competent and conscientious supervision of Prof. Levlston and Miss McHugh, what might they not accomplish with even an addition to the old building properly equipped? It would pay the parents who have children attending the school to take a day and go through the building to see its crowded condition and the many difficulties with which the teachers have to contend. You will receive most courteous and hearty welcome from Prof. Levlston and all the teachers, who are anxious to have the parents co-operate with them.

When you go, do not fail to visit the lunch room at noon, and see what a blessing the Woman's Christian Temperance union of Omaha is conferring upon our boys and girls. The lunch room is kept in perfect order, and an average of 200 lunches given a day at the following prices: A bowl of delicious soup and crackers, 5 cents; tea, coffee and cocoa, per cup, 3 cents; glass of milk, 2 cents; ham sandwich, 3 cents; two slices of bread and butter, 1 cent; buttered rolls, 2 cents; cream puffs, 2 cents; pickles, 1 cent; baked apples, with cream, 3 cents; baked apples, without cream, 2 cents; escalloped potatoes, 2 cents; home-made cookies, 1 cent.

A change is made each day in the bill of fare, at the same reasonable prices. The room is in charge of Mrs. Tilden, who is assisted by a competent cook and ten ladies, who donate their services.

We understand that when the February classes enter the High school there is great danger that this lunch room will be crowded out. This should never be allowed. These ladies, at great personal sacrifice, are striving to keep the bodies of our boys and girls healthy and sound for their school work.

We would suggest that every mother who appreciates this good work would drop a card to Mrs. Tilden, corner of Nineteenth and Douglas streets, to that effect, and thus give these ladies a word of encouragement. We feel sure if any of you had ever partaken of their deliciously cooked lunches, you would be anxious to do this.

MRS. C. W. DAMON.

Deaths of a Day.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—Joseph Willard, for years prominent in the business life of Washington, died today from a complication of diseases, aged 77. Mr. Willard was very wealthy and was the owner of the hotel in this city bearing his name, which has been the stopping place in Washington of public men from the entire country. One son, J. E. Willard of Virginia, survives him. His funeral will take place Tuesday.

NORFOLK, Va., Jan. 17.—Mr. Charles D. Owens, vice president and general manager of the Atlantic & Danville railroad, was found dead in the bath room in his residence. Heart disease was the cause. The deceased was 63 years of age, and has been for years a prominent transportation man, being formerly general traffic agent of the Plant system of railroads.

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 17.—Nathan Dreyfoos, an old resident, is dead here of dropsy. He was 61 years of age. He was associated with Colonel Cody (Buffalo Bill) and William Hickcock, well known as "Wild Bill," in the early days of the west before the advent of the railroads.

BOONE, Ia., Jan. 17.—(Special Telegram.)—Charles Goetzman, one of the most popular merchants in the city, died last night. Mr. Goetzman was born in Germany 63 years ago, but came to this country at an early age. He learned the trade of a harness maker in Davenport, and then came to Boone, where he established himself in business, and has since prospered, until he was one of the wealthy men of the city. He continued in the harness business up to the time of his death, but was also vice president of the Boone county bank and a director in the Boone National Building association. He was a lifelong democrat, going with the gold wing of the party last year. He was an enthusiastic Mason and Knight Templar. He was not a politician, but has held a number of offices in the city, and was a man of high integrity and character, enjoying the confidence of all. A couple of years ago, in company with his wife, he made a tour of the old world. His wife survives, as do seven children, some residing in this city, one in Chicago and two in Denver.

ATLANTIC, Ia., Jan. 17.—(Special.)—Mrs. Scott Hatton of this city died Saturday afternoon of typhoid fever. Mrs. Hatton was an active society woman. She leaves a husband and two young children to mourn her.

ROME, Jan. 17.—Count Cassell, the pope's private chamberlain, formerly of Denver, died here on January 10. He was born in London in 1829.

LONDON, Jan. 17.—A Rome dispatch to the Daily Mail reports the betrothal of the count of Turin, the brother of the duke of Aosta, and the infanta Maria of Spain, sister of King Alfonso. The count of Turin was born in 1870 and the infanta de Las Mercedes, the princess of the Asturias, was born in 1880.

Emigrants Robbed.

GUTHRIE, Okl., Jan. 17.—A party of emigrants, en route from Missouri to Oklahoma by wagon, were held up and robbed of all money and valuables in the mountainous country on the western line of the Creek reservation. The robbers secured about $1,000.

POOR FARM CASES AGAIN

Possibility that They Will Be Tied Up in the Courts for Several Years.

ATTORNEY BECKETT'S GOOD CONTRACT

County Commissioners Faced by Litigation, Whatever Course They May Take in Disposing of the Complications.

Unless the unexpected should happen the people who have claims against the county of Douglas on account of money paid to the county for lots purchased in Douglas addition are not likely to receive any money in return for at least three or four years, or until after the cases have been taken to the supreme court through the tedious processes which surround litigation of that nature in this state. This course will almost certainly be taken, regardless of the action that may be taken in the matter of allowing the claims on the part of the Board of County Commissioners. This result is the natural outcome of the complications which surround these cases. In order to make this clear it will be necessary to review the events leading up to the present situation.

In 1887 a proposition was submitted to a vote of the people of Douglas county authorizing the county commissioners to plat a portion of what was known as the "poor farm," and sell the lots at public sale. The addition thus provided for was to be known as "Douglas addition." This proposition received a large number of votes, more votes being cast for it than were cast against it, but the number of votes cast in its favor was not a majority of all the votes cast at the election. It was decided that the proposition had carried and preparations were made to place Douglas addition upon the market.

This was at the height of "the boom," and the sale of Douglas addition was made a jubilee occasion. There were brass bands and a barbecue and a good time generally. The lots were sold at auction and were "knocked down" at what would now be regarded as fabulous prices. The addition was favorably situated and property there was regarded as very desirable, hence lots brought fancy figures. The county did a rushing business and $60,000 or $70,000 was realized from this sale, and this amount was added to the fund for the construction of the county hospital building, this being the purpose for which the lots were sold.

As time went on payments were made on these lots until the county had received about $200,000 from this source. It was then discovered by some of the purchasers that there was a flaw in the title to the lots, and that the county commissioners could not give a good title, for the reason that the proposition authorizing the sale of the lots had not received a sufficient number of votes and had not carried. This was in 1892 and claims commenced to pour in upon the county board from the purchasers of these lots, who wanted their money returned to them.

Some of the claims were rejected, and the claimants thereupon commenced suit in the district court to recover their money. A number of other claimants were advised by the commissioners not to commence suits, as a multiplicity of suits would simply put the county to additional expense, and the commissioners promised that the outcome of the suits then pending in the courts would govern the action of the board upon the other claims. Among these claimants was William I. Kierstead, now a member of the Board of County Commissioners, and he states, most positively, that the members of the board at that time, as well as subsequent members, promised faithfully that the result of the suits then pending would settle the whole matter without the necessity of additional suits.

The county was defeated in the district court, and the case was appealed to the supreme court, where the county was again defeated. The attorney for the claimants, C. B. Keller, in the latter part of December, 1895, or the first part of January, 1896, commenced mandamus proceedings in the district court to compel the commissioners to make an estimate for the payment of the judgments affirmed by the supreme court. A writ of mandamus was issued, and it was at this point that the county commissioners employed special counsel to defend the interests of the county in these suits.

At that time the county had a county attorney drawing a salary of $2,500 per year, and three assistant county attorneys drawing $100 each per month. Notwithstanding this fact, the county entered into a contract with W. D. Beckett, by which he received $1,500 as a retainer, and, in case he defeated the judgments, he was to receive 10 per cent additional, which would amount to about $10,000. The contract also covered the numerous claims which had been filed against the county, but which had not been taken into court, and if he afterward succeeded in defeating these, he was to receive an additional 5 per cent, which would amount to about $5,000, making $16,500 altogether, in case the county won in every instance. In addition to this it was specified that the county was to pay all the costs incurred in prosecuting the cases.

It is recent history that the supreme court decided against the county so far as the judgments are concerned, and that nothing remains to be done but to pay them. As a matter of fact, the supreme court has passed three times upon the merits of the case, deciding against the county upon every issue raised. It is now proposed by Mr. Beckett to take the claims into court and set up the statue of limitations as a defense.

This question has formed the subject of several discussions among the commissioners during the past week. Commissioner Stenberg, who was a member of the board at the time the contract was made with Beckett, favors exhausting every legal resource before allowing the claims. Commissioner Kierstead, on the other hand, is in favor of effecting some kind of a compromise with the claimants, and thereby save the county the additional expense of further legal proceedings, as well as carrying out the moral obligations entered into with the claimants by former boards. Commissioner Hector is said to favor compromising the matter. The two new members of the board, Messrs. Ostrom and Hofeldt, say they have not formed definite opinions in the matter, as they are not entirely familiar with all the circumstances.

The demand of Mr. Keller, that the board act at once on the claims in some way, with a polite hint that mandamus proceedings will be commenced if action is not taken, is now in the hands of the finance committee, of which Commissioner Kierstead is chairman. It is expected that a report of some nature will be made to the board at its meeting next Saturday.

If the action of the board is against the payment of the claims on the same basis as the judgments already rendered, there seems to be no question that the matter will be taken into court by the attorneys for the claimants. If the board should decide in favor of the claimants, it is expected that Mr. Beckett will go into court to prevent the board from settling the claims out of court, and thus prevent him from earning his contract fee by defending the interests of the county in court. In either case it seems to be a foregone conclusion that the claims are destined to be tied up for several years more by litigation.

Manufacturers to Meet.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 17.—Returns th