HARD WORK ON THE BUDGET

Committee on Finance, Ways and Means Has Plenty of Business.

SCALING DOWN THE PAY OF EMPLOYES

Appeals of Chairman Edmisten for Clemency on Political Grounds Have Little Weight with Members of the Committee.

LINCOLN, Feb. 12.—(Special.)—There is bound to be a great fight precipitated in the house when the committee on finance, ways and means brings in the appropriation bills. They will report radical reductions of salaries all along the line and then the fun will begin. State Oil Inspector Edmisten, who is also chairman of the state central populist committee, has been before this committee on finance, ways and means twice. Each time he has strenuously opposed the proposed reductions. Several members of the house who belong to the majority element are as strongly opposed as Mr. Edmisten to the reductions. They say that the state house employes are called upon every campaign to furnish the sinews of war, and that it is not good politics to weaken by so much the political exchequer of the populist party. There will be a vigorous attempt to restore the scale to what it was before the committee makes its report.

SCALING THE SALARIES.

The house finance, ways and means committee, Clark of Richardson chairman, held a prolonged session this afternoon at the state house. Work on the appropriations bills occupied most of its time. Radical reductions in salaries of state house employes will be recommended. Every office is affected and it would seem that the state treasurer has cause of complaint. He voluntarily dispensed with one clerk at a biennial stipend of $2,400, and the committee has taken steps to scale down all the other employes. It is understood that the $2,000 per annum salary of the governor's private secretary, Benton Maret, has been cut to $1,500.

The committee did not complete its work on the employes of the state departments, but it toiled faithfully all the afternoon. Among the other reductions that will be recommended the salaries of all the deputies hitherto drawing $1,700 per annum were cut to $1,500, with the exception of the deputy attorney general. His salary was left at the old figure, $1,800. The committee argued that this deputy should be a good lawyer and his ability ought to command at least that figure. This will leave the salaries of the deputies in the treasurer's, secretary of state's, land commissioner's, school superintendent's and auditor's offices at $1,500 per annum. Other clerks in these offices were cut from $1,000 to $800. The secretary of the State Banking board was reduced from $1,500 to $1,200, and the clerk from $1,000 to $800. The salaries of the three secretaries of the State Board of Transportation are attacked specially in a bill now pending before the house, and the committee did not consider their case today.

The following statement shows the amounts asked for by the numerous bills and claims pending before various house committees. These are altogether outside of the regular biennial appropriation bills passed for the maintenance of the state departments and different state institutions:

Committee on Claims—For the relief of George Empsom, $222.30.

Internal Improvements—House roll No. 223, appropriating money for sinking three experimental artesian wells, $15,000.

Finance, Ways and Means—House roll No. 18, appropriation for stand pipe, ice house, morgue, boilers, pumps and machinery for the Hastings Asylum for Incurables, $73,-60; house roll No. 34, appropriating annually for maintenance of farmers' institutes, $4,000; house roll No. 118 appropriation for a Nebraska display at Nashville, Tenn., May to November, 1897, $25,000; house roll No. 127, authorizing issue of bonds for a state beet sugar factory, $250,000; house roll No. 204, appropriation for a college of agriculture and mechanic arts, $20,000; house roll No. 196, appropriation for a new dormitory for the Peru Normal school, $9,000; house roll No. 203, appropriation for a new wing to one of the university buildings, $30,000; house roll No. 219, appropriation for printing proceedings of Nebraska Brick Manufacturers' association, $2,000; house roll No. 226, appropriation for the payment of wolf bounties, $25,000; house roll No. 224, appropriation for additional wing for the Norfolk Hospital for the Insane, $25,000.

University and Normal Schools—House roll No. 253, for the relief of George L. Farnham, late principal of the Peru Normal school, $207.49.

Irrigation—House roll No. 218 appropriation for sinking six artesian wells, $25,000.

Railroads—House roll No. 161, appropriation for the Iowa, Lake Superior & Gulf railway, $350,000.

Agriculture—House roll No. 272, appropriation for experimental station at Culbertson, Hitchcock county, $15,000.

PROTECTS VALUED POLICY LAW.

Senate Declines to Adopt an Amendment Offered by Mr. Murphy.

LINCOLN, Feb. 12.—(Special.)—The senate was in a fighting mood this morning and involved itself in the liveliest kind of a row over the valued policy law. The contest arose over the report of the judiciary committee recommending that senate file No. 30, a bill introduced by Mr. Murphy of Gage, be indefinitely postponed. The bill proposes to extend the provisions of the valued policy law to personal property. During the debate the remarks of several senators took on a personal aspect and no little bitterness of feeling was manifested on both sides.

The discussion commenced as soon as the reading of the journal had commenced. The committee on judiciary, through its chairman, Mr. McGann, recommended the indefinite postponement of the insurance bill. Mr. Murphy moved as an amendment that the bill be sent to the general file. He stated that the only purpose of the bill was to extend the provisions of the valued policy law to personal property. He said that the bill had been treated unfairly by the judiciary committee. He had himself appeared before that committee with an amendment exempting mercantile stocks from the operations of the proposed law. The judiciary committee declined to consider his amendment and voted to summarily kill the bill. He declared, moreover, that the bill was in line with the valued policy law and that it would put an end to one of the extortions now practiced by the insurance trust. He contended that the man who paid premiums year after year for insurance upon his personal property was entitled to the benefits of the valued policy law, just as much as was the owner of a building.

Mr. Ransom said it was well enough to rail against the insurance trust, but the senator who offered the bill under discussion was not acting in good faith. For two years he had been the county attorney of Gage county. During those two years a republican filled the office of attorney general. When did the senator from Gage make any effort to proceed against the insurance or any other trust? It was well enough for the senator from Gage to insinuate that he had not received fair treatment at the hands of the judiciary committee, yet that committee had rejected the bill by an almost unanimous vote.

EXPLAINING HIMSELF.

"I didn't say I had not been fairly treated by the committee," remarked Murphy.

"You did say so," retorted Ransom.

"I said my bill had not been treated fairly. The committee strangled the bill without considering it."

"Yes, we did strangle it, and the senate will justify our actions," was Ransom's reply.

"I want to ask you a question: Did I not offer to include the provisions of my bill in an entirely new measure, so as not to amend the present valued policy law in any manner?"

"Well, you just keep still awhile," said Ransom. "I'll come to that question further on in my speech."

Continuing his remarks Mr. Ransom insisted that the bill under consideration had not been introduced in good faith. It was introduced with the deliberate purpose of destroying the valued policy law, at the behest of the insurance trust.

Mr. Feltz opposed the bill under discussion. Insurance companies were a necessity to the state, and the bill would have the tendency to drive insurance companies out of Nebraska. He thought the bill clearly contemplated overinsurance and thus offered an incentive to incendiarism.

Mr. Howell said the bill very forcibly recalled the recent campaign. The republicans in their platforms said they were opposed to any amendment to the valued policy law. Yet this bill, introduced by a rebublican senator, did propose to amend the valued policy law by a bill which, if it should become a law, would deprive the law of its effectiveness.

MURPHY DEFENDS HIS BILL.

Mr. Murphy spoke in defense of the bill. He said he was not surprised to hear the senator from Douglas (Mr. Ransom) appeal to the prejudice of the senate and attempt to draw the party lines when any measure affecting the insurance trust was up for consideration. He was not surprised that the senator from Douglas, in his zeal to serve the insurance trust, should charge that the bill was not offered in good faith. As far as his record as county attorney was concerned, that record showed that he had by his personal efforts broken up the local insurance board at Beatrice. The emissaries of the insurance trust used every means at their disposal to re-establish the board, but he had threatened to bring action against them if they reorganized the board, because the local insurance board, as it exists in Nebraska, was conceived in the womb of corruption and fraud.

Mr. Ransom resumed the discussion, but was interrupted by a point of order from Mr. Murphy, who insisted that the senator from Douglas could not speak more than twice on a pending motion. The point of order was not sustained, and Mr. Ransom then directed a few sarcastic remarks toward that part of the senate chamber occupied by the senator from Gage.

Mr. Caldwell said there were some things in the discussion which he took exceptions to. If a party platform means anything at all, the republican party in the last campaign announced its opposition to any change in the valued policy law. He admitted that the republican party had been disgraced by many barnacles, but he thanked God that some of them had been scraped off and that the time was soon coming when the rest of them would be swept away, and the republican party purified.

The previous question was then ordered and debate ceased. The report of the committee was adopted and the bill indefinitely postponed.

A large number of bills were reported and placed on general file.

TURNS DOWN JEFFCOAT.

The committee on privileges and elections submitted the following report:

Your committee on privileges and elections, to whom was referred the matter of the contest of John Jeffcoat, contestant against John H. Evans, contestee, to a seat in the senate from the Sixth senatorial district of Nebraska, begs leave to submit the following report:

Your committee upon consideration of the evidence in said matter and the law applicable thereto finds against the contestant and in favor of the contestee, and that said John H. Evans is entitled to the seat in the senate from said district per his certificate of election.

W. H. DEARING, Chairman.
JOHN M. GONDRING.
M. W. M'GANN.
WILLIAM MILLER.
C. F. STEELE.

Committee on Privileges and Elections.

Mr. Beal moved that the consideration of the report of the committee on privileges and elections be deferred until next Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock, and the senate agreed.

A determined effort was then made to adjourn the senate until next Tuesday afternoon at 5 o'clock, but the motion was vigorously opposed by Lee, Mutz, Heapy and others. Finally a simple motion to take a recess until 2 o'clock this afternoon was put and carried.

After recess the senate took up the regular order and the following bills were introduced and read the first time:

By Caldwell, senate file No. 274, to regulate stock yards and to provide for a penalty for the violation thereof.

By Dearing, senate file No. 275, to provide for the granting of divorces in certain cases, with the emergency clause attached.

By Schaal, senate file No. 276, to amend section 5, of chapter xliv, of the Compiled Statutes of Nebraska for 1895 and to repeal said section as now existing.

By Ransom, senate file No. 277, to amend section 3, subdivision 5, of chapter lxxix, of the Compiled Statutes of 1895, and to repeal said section as now existing.

By Osborne, senate file No. 278, to amend sections 9, 16 and 17, of article viii, of chapter lxxii, of the Compiled Statutes of Nebraska, 1895, and to repeal said sections.

Senate file No. 173, the bill providing for a tax on state banks for the protection of depositors of insolvent banks, was read the third time and passed by a vote of 17 to 12. The roll call resulted as follows:

Yeas:		
Beal,	Heapy,	Osborn,
Canaday,	Howell,	Ransom,
Dearing,	Johnson,	Schaal
Farrell,	Lee,	Sykes,
Feltz,	Muffley,	Watson—17.
Grothan,	Mutz.	
Nays:		
Caldwell,	Fritz,	Ritchie,
Conaway,	Hailer,	Steele,
Dundas,	Miller,	Talbot,
Evans,	Murphy,	Weiler—12.
Absent:		
Gondring,	McGann,	Spencer,
Graham—4.		

MATERIALLY ALTERS THE MEASURE.

In explaining his vote Mr. Howell stated that while he favored the main provisions of the bill he objected to the ninth section, but the friends of the bill had given him their personal assurances that they would have this section amended in the house to suit him, therefore he would vote aye. The amendment demanded by Senator Howell to section 9 is as follows:

Provided, that of such banks as shall have complied with the provisions of this act no other security for the safe return of public money shall be required; provided further, that such national banks as in addition to the bonds now required by law shall deposit as security with the state treasurer, government bonds or state, county, city, township or school district warrants, or bonds of this state for the full amount of the moneys to be deposited in such bank; and upon the certificate of the state treasurer of the receipt of such deposit, running to the officer or manager of such bank, then it shall be lawful for the officer or officers having the custody of public money to deposit such money in such national bank, not exceeding in amount the value of the security for such deposits; and in case of the failure of any of the national banks of the state having on deposit such public money, it shall be the duty of the state treasurer to collect the money on securities so deposited with him, or sell such securities and pay the proceeds to such officer or officers, or such part thereof, as may be necessary to make good the losses that they might otherwise have sustained.

Senate file No. 194, by Mr. Beal, was read the third time and passed. It provides a legal procedure by which two or more counties may be consolidated into one county. The bill is for the benefit of such counties as Grant, Hooker, McPherson and Logan. The people of these sparsely settled counties feel that their taxes may be lessened if their county governments can be consolidated.

The following resolution was offered by Mr. Mutz and agreed to:

Whereas, There are now pending in the legislature of Nebraska bills for the amendment of laws relating to the moving of convicts to the penitentiary from the several counties of Nebraska, therefore be it

Resolved, That the auditor of public accounts be and he is hereby instructed to furnish to the senate and house of representatives a statement of all prisoners sent to the penitentiary from each county during the years 1895 and 1896, and also an itemized statement of all fees of sheriffs and assistants paid by the state, to whom paid, and all expenses of the state incurred in caring for and bringing all convicts to the penitentiary after the sentence of the district court.

POSTPONE EXPOSITION ACTION.

Mr. Murphy then called up his resolution of yesterday urging immediate action by the lower house on the Transmississippi Exposition bill. In speaking to the resolution he stated that he offered it in no spirit of partisanship, but only in the interests of the exposition. The present session was half over and no progress had been made toward passing the bill. It was on the general file in the house, where it was likely to remain until it could be reached in its turn, and there was grave danger that final action would be delayed until the closing hours of the session. In the meantime the legislatures of other western states were nearly ready to adjourn. Bills to aid the exposition were pending in all the states, but all were waiting to see what Nebraska would do. Delay might be fatal to the exposition itself.

Mr. Beal, populist of Custer, stated that there were objectionable features to the resolution, which he would like to have stricken out before a vote was taken. He referred to the paragraph which criticised the house for its delay.

Common consent being given, Mr. Murphy expunged the objectionable features complained of by Mr. Beal. The latter then stated that he had other objections. He therefore moved that the resolution be referred to the committee on labor.

Mr. Graham, populist of Frontier, moved that the resolution be laid on the table. This resolution was then referred to the committee on labor by an almost strict party vote, Senator Healy of Sherman being the only populist to vote no; but as he had previously voted to lay the resolution on the table it could hardly be said that he was friendly to the subject matter.

The senate then went into committee of the whole and unanimously ordered Mr. Howell's joint resolution requesting the governor to issue a proclamation inviting all states of the union to participate in the exposition, advanced to a third reading.

The committee then rose and the senate adjourned until Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

OMAHA'S NEW BILL OF RIGHTS.

Howell's Charter with Its Distinctive Features Retained Reported Back.

LINCOLN, Feb. 12.—(Special Telegram.)—Senator Howell, just as the senate was ready to adjourn this evening, reported back the Omaha charter, with many amendments, and the bill was sent to the general file. The charter has been materially changed from its original form, although its distinctive features are all retained. The Park commission is allowed to remain as it is under the present charter. The appointment of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners is vested in the governor, but the mayor is to be ex-officio chairman of the board. The petitions of the Omaha ministers were disregarded in respect to the fire and police board. The tax commissioner is retained, but the office is made elective instead of appointive. The provision which through an oversight exempted national banks from taxation has been corrected. The cut in official salaries is adhered to, all being reduced from the present figures, except the mayor, city engineer and city attorney. The committee disregards the protest against the spring elections. That feature is retained, although the first election in 1897 will be held in May. After that the triennial municipal election will occur in April as originally contemplated in the charter. The charter makes provision for but nine councilmen.

The committee on municipal affairs will hold an open meeting next Tuesday evening to listen to arguments on the Lincoln charter.

Gossip from the State House.

LINCOLN, Feb. 12.—(Special.)—The Board of Public Lands and Buildings held a meeting this afternoon in the office of Land Commissioner Wolfe. There were present Treasurer Meserve, Land Commissioner Wolfe, Secretary of State Porter and Attorney General Smyth. Several appointments were discussed, but the only one made was that of Dr. J. L. Bennett of Kearney to be the physician at the Kearney Inqustrial School for Boys. The salary is $800.

The board also named Rev. E. V. Forvell of Kearney chaplain, and Edward Grant, Omaha, bookkeeper of the Kearney Industrial school. A number of names of candidates for teachers at this institution were presented and the fortunate ones will be named in the future.

Articles of incorporation of the Ohio and Tennessee Gas company were filed today with the secretary of state. The principal place of business is at Deer Lodge, Morgan county, Tenn., but the company is authorized to maintain offices at Chillicothe, O., and Lincoln, Neb. The capital stock is fixed at $102,000, and the incorporators are: Charles Hoyt, James P. Meyers, Samuel Epstein, Thomas Murphy, jr., and S. H. Beery.

Observe Lincoln's Birthday.

LINCOLN, Feb. 12.—(Special Telegram.)—The anniversary of Lincoln's birthday was celebrated by a banquet at the Lindell hotel this evening by the Young Men's Republican club. Covers were laid for 250 guests. Hagenor's string orchestra furnished the music and the hall was handsomely decorated. The guest of the evening was Hon. M. L. Hayward of Nebraska City. President John B. Cunningham of the club presided as toastmaster, and responses were made by Ernst C. Folsom, "The First Voter;" J. L. Caldwell, "The Name We Honor;" Hon M. L. Hayward, "Lincoln, the Politician;" H. H. Wilson, "Ideals in Political Life;" T. F. A. Williams, "The Late Unpleasantness." Before the banquet Judge Hayward was tendered a reception in the parlor.

Butler County Farmers' Institute.

DAVID CITY, Neb., Feb. 12.—(Special.)—The farmers' institute being held here has created considerable interest among the farmers and there is an increasing attendance each day. The instructive and scientific lectures of Dr. Peters of the experimental station at Lincoln and Hon. G. A. Marshall, president of the State Horticultural society, have done much to remove the prejudice against scientific and book farming that exists in the minds of many. Rev. Ludden's lecture on poultry was closely listened to, as there are many chicken fanciers in this vicinity, many of whom make exhibits at the state and county fairs.

Huffman-Kleinschmidt.

YORK, Neb., Feb. 12.—(Special.)—Samuel Huffman and Lydia Kleinschmidt were married last evening. Both are well known York people, the bride being the daughter of H. C. Kleinschmidt, deputy county clerk, and formerly connected with the First National bank. Mr. Huffman is the junior member of the firm of Jasper Huffman & Son, real estate dealers. Rev. A. C. Crosthwaite, presiding elder of the Methodist church for the York district, officiated at the wedding in the presence of relatives and friends of the bride and groom.

Place for Crane.

LINCOLN, Feb. 12.—(Special Telegram.)—The board held an adjourned session at the state house this evening, lasting till after 10 o'clock. J. H. Crane of Omaha was named as engineer of the capitol building. O. E. Goodell of Lincoln was an applicant for this position, and it had been considered that his chances were quite favorable.

PROGRAM FOR CHARTER DAY

Exercises Start with an Electrical Exhibit on Monday Evening.

CADETS AND RIFLES WILL DRILL

President Carter of Williams College is Booked for an Address on University Training at the Lansing on Tuesday.

LINCOLN, Feb. 12.—(Special.)—Arrangements for charter day exercises at the State university are now completed. The electrical exhibit will be given Monday evening next. An elaborate program has been prepared, illustrating the most improved advances in electrical science, as well as the superior equipment of the university department. A powerful searchlight, similar to those seen at the World's fair, will be placed on the tower of University hall, while in front of the building will flash an immense sign inscribed with various designs and sentences.

At 10 o'clock Tuesday morning the Phi Beta Kappa will give a reception to President Carter of Williams college at the residence of the chancellor.

In the afternoon the young women's gymnasium exhibition will be given in the "gym." This is only for members of the legislature and is intended to demonstrate to them that young women have muscles as well as men.

Following this, if the weather permits, the cadet battalion will be inspected by Governor Holcomb and staff, and elaborate exercises have also been planned by Captain Guilfoyle. The Pershing rifles will give an exhibition drill. A drill will be given consisting of the marching movements and ending with the battle exercises. Should the weather be unfavorable, the rifles are prepared to give a novel indoor drill.

The dairy school and state farm will be open for inspection in the afternoon and cars will leave at 3:30 o'clock for the state farm.

The chemical department will have an interesting display in the laboratory, where all kinds of chemical apparatus may be seen set up and in full operation.

Nebraska hall will also contain many things of interest and, in fact, every department of the university will have a display of some sort and will keep open house from 2 o'clock until 6 p. m.

The following program will be given at the Lansing theater at 8 o'clock:

Music.
Prayer.
Song by the University Glee club.
Address, "Thoughts on University Training," by Franklin Carter, Ph. D., LL.D., president of Williams college.
"America."

The committee of arrangements is composed of the following members of the faculty: L. A. Sherman, chairman; E. W. Davis, H. K. Wolfe, R. B. Owens, John White, secretary.

BIBLE INSTITUTE.

The Bible institute at College View, as a preliminary to the international conference which is to begin next week, is growing more intresting every day. A number of delegates from a distance are here, and more are on the way. Among those now here are: F. W. Howe, president of the college at Healdsburg, Cal.; Prof. J. H. Haugherty of South Lancaster academy, Massachusetts; Prof. E. A. Sutherland of Walla Walla college, Washington; Prof. C. B. Hughes of Keen academy, Texas; Prof. W. T. Bland of Graysville academy, Tennessee; Prof. G. W. Caviness of the Battle Creek, Mich., college, and Dr. E. J. Waggoner, editor of the Present Truth of London, England.

Education is one of the main subjects discussed at this institute, and this branch is taken up at 5 o'clock each day. Prof. W. W. Prescott, the educational secretary of the General Conference association has charge.

Interesting talks and sermons from Dr. Waggoner, Evangelist Fifield and others are listened to every day.

The international conference of the Adventists will be one of the most important gatherings ever held in Lincoln.

Quite a number of citizens today observed the Abraham Lincoln anniversary, and decorated their residences and places of business with the stars and stripes. Early this morning the flags were observed floating from a number of residences, and before noon the example was followed by many others.

CITY SUES EX-TREASURER.

One of the most important cases on the docket of the district court for this term is that wherein the city of Lincoln sues ex-Treasurer Stephenson and his bondsmen to recover some $17,974, which he lost in the Capital National bank failure and therefore never turned over. The attorneys on both sides are evidently preparing for a trial in the near future. Today John H. McClay, one of the bondsmen, filed his answer.

In this document he says that Stephenson never took the oath of office that his bond was never executed, that it never received proper and legal approval and that Stephenson's failure to take the oath deprived the mayor of any legal authority to approve the bond; that it was never executed or delivered.

The preliminary hearing of Nimrod Meek, charged with criminal assault upon the person of Laura Lenge, stepdaughter of Mr. Nagle, residing at 733 North Sixteenth street, was held this morning in the police court. Meek was bound over to the district court in the sum of $2,000. While the prisoner was in the court room Mr. Nagle became quite excited and rushed for Meek with his fists doubled up. He would have done the man great physical injury had he not been restrained by bailiffs. The defense is insanity. The little girl told a straightforward story of the crime, and as she proceeded the assembled audience became quite excited. On the part of the defense Meek's father testified that while a boy his son was injured by falling from a high chair and has been mentally unbalanced ever since. Meek could not furnish bonds and will remain in jail until his trial.

RAILROADS REFUSE TO PAY TAXES.

Question Legality of the Levy and Will Go Before the Court.

KEARNEY, Feb. 12.—(Special.)—The city of Kearney is being held out of about $20,000 in taxes from the railroad companies, as the roads claim that certain levies are excessive and illegal. The levies complained of are 5½ mills for school bond purposes, in addition to the 20 mills levied for general purposes, and a levy of 4½ mills for judgment purposes by the city. The B. & M. and Union Pacific have each tendered the county treasurer the amount of the tax, less these two items, but the county treasurer has refused to accept part of it in that way. Accordingly the railroad companies have secured a temporary injunction and the case is set for hearing March 8. The result is looked forward to with considerable interest, as the levies were made just as low as possible, and if the city is defeated it is liable to complicate matters next year.

Judge Refuses Probate.

FREMONT, Feb. 12.—(Special.)—The will of the late Siebelt Dierks was discussed before Judge Plambeck yesterday. Owing to glaring irregularities in its execution probate was refused and the estate will be divided according to the terms of the statutes. A handsome bequest was left by the will to a church organization of this city. No appeal is likely to be taken.

Indians Get Their Money and Spend It.

LYONS, Neb., Feb. 12.—(Special.)—The Winnebago and Omaha Indians were paid off this week, and as a result the merchants are doing a big Indian trade. Most of the Indians are well dressed and show signs of thrift and prosperity.

Special Music for Sunday.

HASTINGS, Feb. 12.—(Special.)—A special musical program has been arranged to be rendered at the Presbyterian church Sunday. In the morning the program will be as follows: Voluntary, Vesper Bells, Te Deum in B minor, "Love Not the World," solo and chorus, Postlude. In the evening: Elevation by Guilmant, "Holy, Holy, Holy," by F. E. Goeb. Solo, "Fear Ye Not, Oh, Israel," vocal solo by Mrs. W. E. Barnes. Offertoire in A flat by Read. The choir will be composed of about twenty of Hastings' best singers.

FOUND GUILTY OF HOG STEALING.

One Brother Convicted and the Other Acquitted—New Trial Granted.

WEST POINT, Neb., Feb. 12.—(Special Telegram.)—The verdict of the jury in the Flowers hog stealing case was Wilbur Flowers guilty, and Thomas Flowers not guilty. A motion was filed for a new trial.

This was the most hotly contested criminal trial ever had before the district court of this county. About a year ago Farmer Renter, living near Bancroft, missed fourteen of his fat hogs. After vainly searching the neighborhood he filed an information against Wilbur and Thomas Flowers, young men of Bancroft, boys of good standing in the community, highly popular, and of excellent character. The case was opened before Judge Donahoe of Bancroft, and on change of venue brought before Justice Briggs of West Point. At this examination the defendant boys were bound over to the district court. Six attorneys were retained in the case. Much contradictory evidence was given, some of the witnesses for the defense attempting to prove an alibi. Exhaustive and eloquent arguments were made by counsel. Public interest in the trial was intense. The court room was crowded during the five days of the trial.

The case went to the jury at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon and the verdict was not brought in until nearly twenty-four hours later.

SAY THE MILL WAS BENEFITED.

Witnesses in the Damage Suit Give Contradictory Evidence.

WAHOO, Neb., Feb. 12.—(Special.)—It now looks as if the Kendall & Smith case may possibly be concluded this week. The evidence of the defendants yesterday and last night went to show the value of the lands in controversy before the taking and immediately thereafter, exclusive of the milling plant. The witnesses who testified to the value of the land on behalf of the defendant placed it at $40 per acre. They all testified that the lands were benefited rather than damaged in the changing of the channel of Salt creek through the lands. The agent at Havelock testified as to the number of cars shipped through that station on the Kendall & Smith switch from April, 1892, to the end of the year. He gave the number at about thirty, and stated that cars could be shipped in from any other station and he would have no record of them. Two witnesses from Lincoln gave testimony to show that there was water on the premises in dispute, sufficient in kind and quality to operate a steam mill. The deposition of one of the professors of the university was introduced to show that he had made a chemical analysis of the water on the premises in dispute and that it was suitable to use in a steam boiler.

RANG BELL WHEN BROWN DIED.

Story that is Told of a Winside Banker in His Boyhood Days.

WINSIDE, Neb., Feb. 12.—(Special.)—When A. T. Chapin, now president of the Merchants' State bank of this place, was a boy he lived for some time with a relative of his, one "Parson" Halliday, who was a prominent abolitionist, near Harper's Ferry, Va. The execution of John Brown at Harper's Ferry was a subject of vital interest to the people in that vicinity, Mr. Halliday being among his most ardent sympathizers. When the deed had been accomplished beyond recall and the soul of John Brown had begun "marching on" Mr. Chapin was sent to the church near his uncle's home to toll the bell as a proof of the grief of John Brown's friends, but, being a boy, and not realizing the situation too fully, he gleefully rang the bell instead of tolling it. Those opposed to Mr. Halliday made much of the fact at the time.

Mr. Chapin lived to be a boy soldier and fought for his country right valiantly, was in Ford's theater when President Lincoln was assassinated and joined in the general grief over that sad event, but he has often been reminded of his mistake in ringing the bell because John Brown was dead.

HASTINGS BOY STRIKES IT RICH.

Goes West to Seek His Fortune and Finds It in Two Years.

HASTINGS, Feb. 12.—(Special.)—About two years ago Johnnie Sherman, a young boy living with his parents on a farm three miles southwest of Hastings, started out to make fame and fortune in the mountains of Colorado. He first secured a position as mail carrier across the mountains, which position he held for nearly one year, but finding this a slow way of accumulating wealth, he decided upon taking a couple of claims and digging his fortune out of the earth. He was successful from the start and this week closed a deal whereby he sold his interest in one claim for $36,000, which gives him a little over $15,000 clear. He says he has a couple of other claims which will bring him quite a neat sum before long.

BOY IS KIDNAPED FROM SCHOOL.

Supposed to Have Been Carried Off at His Father's Instigation.

BEATRICE, Feb. 12.—(Special Telegram.)—Willie Booth, aged 10 years, was kidnaped from the South school in this city this afternoon by a man named W. R. Brown of Summerfield, Kan., and no trace can be found of man and boy. The boy has been making his home with an uncle, J. S. Atherton, his mother being dead and his father, O. O. Booth, having become dissolute after the death of his wife and removed to Illinois. Brown and the father of the boy were at one time intimate friends and it is thought the father may have hired Brown to steal the child for him and that it will be held for ransom.

G. F. Bidwell Gives an Address.

CHADRON, Neb., Feb. 12.—(Special.)—A large crowd was in attendance at the Young Men's Christian association rooms last night to listen to the talk of General Manager G. F. Bidwell of the Elkhorn, who spoke to men only and to railroad men especially. The association has been making marked progress under the efficient charge of General Secretary Hogue and is getting on its feet again financially, the proceeds of a match game of basket ball played at the rink last Saturday night helping materially. There was a large as well as a most enthusiastic crowd present to see the Reds defeat the Blues.

Postoffice at McCook is Moved.

M'COOK, Neb., Feb. 12.—(Special Telegram.)—The end of the McCook postoffice relocation fight was realized today when the office was moved from the Strasser building, where it has been located for eight or ten years past, into the Menard building. Nothing in recent years has attracted more attention or perhaps stirred more feeling. There are those who think the change will not be permanent.

Dividend for the Depositors.

KEARNEY, Feb. 12.—(Special.)—The receiver for the First National bank has given notice that he will pay a dividend of 10 per cent on receiver's certificates next Monday. This will make a total of 30 per cent paid, and the receiver is being congratulated on his successful management.

FRUIT GROWING PAYS WELL

Marshall of Arlington Gives Advice to East Nebraska Farmers.

MONEY TO BE MADE FROM GROWING APPLES

Farmers' Institute at Fremont Considers Many Subjects of Interest to Agriculturists—How to Cultivate Corn.

FREMONT, Feb. 12.—(Special.)—The sessions of the Farmers' institute last evening and today have been well attended and the papers and discussions of a high order. At the close of the program conducted by the women yesterday afternoon, O. C. Holmes of the Nebraska Manufacturers' and Consumers' association briefly stated the objects and work of the association and invited all present to inspect their exhibits. The extent of the development of the manufacturing industries in Nebraska, as shown by the display of the association, was a surprise to many.

F. H. Vaughn read a practical paper on "Benefits to Be Derived from Dairying," which was listened to with close attention. Mr. Vaughn is an experienced dairyman who has made a success of the business, and his paper was based largely on his personal knowledge and experience.

At the evening session Prof. Card of the state university read a paper on "Diseases of Poultry." His address was highly entertaining and the poultry men received a good many useful ideas from it. The income derived from poultry raising, and the amount of money invested in the business was a surprise to many who were present. A paper by J. N. Newell, a sugar beet grower of North Bend, on beet culture closed the evening. Mr. Newell considered beet raising no experiment, but to have secured itself a fixed place in agriculture and a profitable one if rightly managed. The normal quartet was present and rendered two selections during the evening.

At the session this morning C. A. Whitford of Arlington spoke on the subject of education. He argued for a more practical and less theoretical education for farmers. In the discussion which followed the value of farmers' clubs as educators was generally discussed and Hon. J. R. Cantlin of Webster spoke of the results accomplished last spring by the organization of the farmers of this county in securing lower rates on stock and the abolition of certain charges at the South Omaha stock yards. The paper by H. W. Marshall of Arlington on "Commercial Fruit Growing" explained all the details of orchard growing and the care of fruit trees. He stated that much larger profit could be obtained from commercial fruit raising than from any other branch of farming in this vicinity. In the western fruit belt of southwestern Iowa, northwestern Missouri, northeastern Kansas and eastern Nebraska farm land commands a higher price, and there is less indebtedness than in other parts of the same states. The commercial orchard should have at least 90 per cent winter apples. There are two generally adopted methods of orchard cultivation. In the first, hardy, long-lived trees are planted thirty feet apart. Half-way between these quicker bearing and short-lived varieties are planted. In the other method, the trees should be in rows about twenty-four feet apart; the space between the rows while the trees are reaching maturity should be planted with raspberries or blackberries, which will themselves pay a good profit. An orchard well cared for will be self-sustaining in from six to nine years, and at from twelve to fifteen years should pay a profit of $125 per acre. Cherry trees and grapes paid well and should be planted in all commercial orchards.

Mr. Conklin of Maple Creek read a paper on "Cultivation of Corn." He advocated deep plowing, followed by shallow cultivation of the plants. The ground should be plowed deep, harrowed and disked in good shape and after the corn is up harrowed with a light harrow. Corn roots are injured by deep cultivation, while shallow cultivation does not disturb them. A crust forming after a rain is an injury to corn for it draws up the moisture from the roots of the plants and should be broken up. Corn, he said, was a grass and its manner of growth was like grasses. Its upper roots were as necessary to sustain it as the lower ones. Experiments in the various government experimental stations have demonstrated that this is the best plan of raising corn.

This afternoon Mr. H. W. Campbell of Sioux City outlined his theory of soil culture, which is in substance deep subsoil plowing, followed by a subsoiler or machine of some kind which pulverizes and cuts up the lower soil, then packing the soil hard and surface cultivation. Care should be taken to thoroughly pulverize and break up the soil so that there are no clods or large masses of earth in it. For this purpose a special kind of harrow was best, one that cuts up the soil underneath. The seed should be put in at a medium depth and cultivated by shallow cultivation and the rows of corn or potatoes should never be ridged up. Mr. Campbell's paper was one of deep interest to all present and many questions were asked him in regard to the details of his plan. Deep plowing, followed by shallow cultivation, has been practiced by many farmers in this county with very satisfactory results.

Inspect the Insane Asylum.

HASTINGS, Feb. 12.—(Special Telegram.)—The committee composed of Messrs. Rouse, Sheldon, Zimmerman and Lemar, which was appointed by the legislature to visit the state Chronic Insane asylum in this city in regard to finding out the amount necessary for an appropriation, met at that institution last night and today. After a careful inspection of the institution it is thought they were convinced that a large appropriation is necessary. The committee left tonight to visit the Industrial school at Kearney.

York County Farmer Commits Suicide.

YORK, Neb., Feb 12.—(Special Telegram.)—Word was received here today that A. A. Adams, a farmer residing five miles north of Bradshaw, committed suicide at about 11 o'clock this moring by hanging himself with a rope. He leaves a wife and seven children. No particulars concerning the cause of the rash act have been obtained. Coroner Holbrook of Gresham left here late this evening to hold an inquest.

Poncas Visit the Omahas.

DECATUR, Neb., Feb. 12.—(Special.)—A number of Ponca Indians are down here visiting some of their Omaha friends. They bought a quantity of the usual grade of bootleggers' whisky and had a little "root" on the quiet with their hosts and hostesses. The secret of the symposium has leaked out, however, and Captain Beck has ordered the visitors home.

Man from Kansas Blows Out the Gas.

BEATRICE, Feb. 12.—(Special Telegram.)—A man named Edwards, from some point in Kansas, blew the gas out in his room at the Paddock hotel last night and would beyond question have met his death had not a bell boy discovered the condition of things and succeeded in getting into the room.

Buys Out His Opponents.

ALMA, Neb., Feb. 12.—(Special.)—The lumber firm of Alter & Sullivan and the W. C. Murray Lumber company were consolidated today, Mr. J Alter purchasing the interest of his partner, Dan Sullivan, and the yard of the Murray Lumber company. This move places the lumber business of the city entirely in the hands of Mr. Alter.

Arrested for a Street Assault.

LYONS, Neb., Feb. 12.—(Special.)—Charley Neay assaulted Arthur Babcock last evening on the street by striking him with his fist. Babcock swore out a warrant and had Neay arrested.

TWO VIEWS OF HEAVEN AND HELL.

What Christianity Teaches and Judaism Believes.

Rabbi Leo Franklin spoke to a large congregation last evening at Temple Israel in this city. His subject was "What Shall I Do to Be Saved?" In the course of his remarks he severely criticised the Christians of today for their narrowness and bigotry, and placed the Jew with the Unitarian, the agnostic and the ethical culturist, all of whom he maintained were in accord with the growing liberal spirit of today.

Among other things he said: "The Christian's heaven and hell have been most dreadfully abused. In my opinion the extreme ardor that has been exhibited in the discussion of these two localities has done more to make Christianity distasteful to the citizen of today than any other one thing. The most fanatical views have been freely expressed and circulated concerning these places, and they have done much to create a feeling hostile to Christianity.

"Belief in the Christian's test of salvation. Therefore the Jew, Unitarian, the agnostic, the atheist and the ethical culturist, no matter how pure their lives may be, must suffer in hell, while the murderer, with his fingers still red with the blood of his victim, is baptized, and, because of that, goes straightway to heaven. No wonder orthodox Christians are sending out missionaries into the world to save the poor Jew!

"Is it any wonder with such beliefs prevailing that reasonable men everywhere are today loosening themselves from the bonds of such religious bigotry? What says the Jew of heaven and hell, in contrast with such opinions of the orthodox Christian? He says, 'heaven is the beautiful, heaven is the true, heaven is love, heaven is life unended. Hell is laziness, hell is hatred, hell is the ugly in thought, in deed and in consciousness.' The Jew believes that manhood is honorable, womanhood is sacred, and childhood is divine. He believes that such as so regard these estates may enjoy the happiness of heaven. He believes that those who believe that God is love and love is love, those to whom duty is a pleasure and pleasure is