

PROGRESS OF THE SCHOOLS

New Departures in Methods of Instruction Within the Past Year.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Study of Pictures and Artists Proves Interesting and Profitable—Methods Designed to Train the Observation of the Young.

Superintendent Pease has filed with the Board of Education his annual report on the work of the schools for the last year. It deals with all important phases of the conditions of the schools and discusses in an interesting way some new departures in the methods of instruction.

The total enrollment in the schools was 269 greater than that of the year before, exclusive of the number added by the establishment of night schools and despite a slight falling off in the number of children of school age in the city. The average number belonging, however, decreased three.

On account of the falling off in daily attendance the cost of maintaining the schools per pupil increased, although a number of other factors, such as increased fuel bills, increased tuition pay to janitors and restoration of reduced teachers' salaries, also contributed to the same result.

One of the many undertakings of recent years to render school life as attractive as possible to the child is the use of pictures in the school room. Until lately the few pictures that adorned the walls of school rooms and halls were very likely to be some kind of cheap, gaudy chromo or print.

The influence of these pictures has been noted particularly in two ways. An intellectual interest has been awakened in the study of the picture, in the artist, his personality, his time and his principal themes. Beyond this the pictures have been felt. The beauty, the dignity, the sentiment have appealed to the children and often moved them without their consciousness of the fact.

Lessons in the elements of natural science, sometimes called "nature lessons," have become part of the work in most progressive schools. These lessons are not taken up systematically or by the use of any text book, but the common animals and insects and plants and the common phenomena of nature which present themselves to the experience of all are studied in a simple, direct, experimental way.

The theory is that benefits come in at least two ways. The children learn something about the common things in nature with which they will be brought in contact more or less in their daily lives; they get a pleasant interest in them and a habit of seeing the things that are about them. Further than this, the studies put through their hands, the little heads and furnish valuable material for use in number lessons, language lessons and in other work of the school.

MAJOR MULLFORD'S DUPLICITY

Deserts the Wife Who Won for Him His Shoulder Straps.

HE MARRIES A SAN FRANCISCO BELLE

Embarrassing Complication in the Major's Divorce Proceedings in Omaha—Decree Not on Record in District Clerk's Office.

Major Harry B. Mulford's romantic marriage at Reno, last Tuesday, as told in press dispatches, may be to him a rebounding boomerang that will dim the luster of his gilded shoulder straps.

The day prior to his marriage, Anna Belle Pope Mulford, the first wife of the major, appeared before Judge Fawcett in this city and obtained a divorce from her husband. Major Mulford was not represented in court, although legal notice had been served, and default was entered. But the major has not paid the costs, so there is no record in the district clerk's office to show that he has been legally separated, and since his recent marriage the question of legality arises.

Major Mulford is well known in Omaha, having lived here for a long time prior to the late war. The announcement of his marriage has caused much adverse criticism from his erstwhile friends, for it is generally accepted that Mrs. Mulford was faithful and devoted to her husband. She is highly cultured and an ardent worker in the cause of the success of her husband, and to her more than to any other he owes his promotion to the rank of major.

Life a Burden to Her. In her petition Mrs. Mulford set forth that for two years past her husband had treated her coldly, but she was inclined to forbear in the hope that sunshine would return to their household. She did not relax her efforts for his promotion, but after the triumph was achieved and he had become more cruel than ever and showed the grossest indignities upon the trusting woman.

What Judge Fawcett Says. When Judge Fawcett was told of Major Mulford's marriage, he said: "Yes, I granted divorce to Mrs. Mulford on Tuesday, but she presented in this court, but if she should appear before me and ask for the decree set aside, I would do so in three minutes."

REV. MR. HATCH'S LECTURE

Talks Entertainingly About the Louisiana Purchase and the Old Trails.

Under the title of "The Romance of Geography" Rev. P. A. Hatch gave a lecture at the Plymouth Congregational church Friday evening which touched upon a subject rarely new to the lecture platform. Going back to the woman's pride that indirectly led to our acquisition of the Louisiana Purchase, the speaker explained the pioneer life of that vast empire were recounted in vivid language, and then some time was given to the stories of the Santa Fe and the Platte River trails, with incidental reference to the part Omaha, Missouri, played in the Union Pacific enterprise.

The acquisition of the Mexican concession and of Oregon afforded an opportunity to descend upon the politics that pressed those sections upon public notice. The perilous trips of agents of the fur companies, of Whitman and Lieutenant Gillespie across the continent furnished opportunity for bits of eloquent description; and such facts as that the cost of the public domain acquired by purchase and cession has been only 4.7 cents per acre in the Louisiana purchase, while we have sold only three-hundredths of 1 cent, a quarter of what the whole cost, served to enlarge the ideas of the untold value of that daring act of Jefferson's. Reference was made to the work of the missionaries and the brave men who risked their lives for the unknown dangers to help make the homes, which after all measure the true wealth of a state.

MRS. ROGERS' WILL IS VOID

Judge Baxter Decides She Was Laboring Under a Delusion When She Signed the Document.

Judge Baxter decided yesterday that the late Mrs. Clara Rogers was laboring under a delusion when she made a will bequeathing the greater part of her property to St. James' orphanage, cutting her husband off completely by a will executed in that honor. Judge Baxter delivered a lengthy opinion in reaching his decision. He reviewed the evidence from both sides, bringing out all of the more striking features. He touched briefly upon the letter left by Mrs. Rogers in which she accused her husband of attempting to murder her and it was probably this letter that convinced Judge Baxter of the woman's insanity, for there was a volume of evidence to show that Mr. Rogers was of this restricted mind to avoid any confusion in the sale of the two funds, similar in all respects except explosive qualities. The storage of explosives is provided for by rigid conditions which several members of the council believe will involve a hardship upon grocers and others. The route to be observed in hauling or conveying dangerous compounds through the streets is also marked out.

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SADDLERS' STRIKE SETTLED

Mark's Men Will Resume Work Monday Morning in Good Feeling.

The visit of Secretary-Treasurer Conine of the Leather Workers' union to Omaha has resulted in a settlement of the labor difficulty between the firm of Mark's Bros. and its harness and saddlery employees. The men have been out on a strike for several days past. He and a committee of the Leather Workers' union met with members of the firm last afternoon and evening and at 11 o'clock last night a settlement was announced, whereby all of the men will resume work Monday morning. It is understood that most of the demands of the men were granted by the firm, showing its interest in preventing the strike from being reported to prevail on both sides. Both have been anxious for a settlement and the firm has not sought to employ other men while the old ones were out.

SAFEGUARD OF LIFE AND LIMB

Council Discusses Ordinance Proposed to Govern the Handling of Explosives.

A long and involved ordinance governing handling of explosives was considered by the council informally Friday night and will probably come up for passage this week. The need for such a measure was pointed out by Councilman Bingham shortly after firemen working at the Allen Bros. fire were killed and maimed by an explosion of gun powder. In accordance with Mr. Bingham's suggestion a committee consisting of the chiefs of the fire and police departments, the building, plumbing and license inspectors, was appointed to draw up an ordinance to remedy the laxness conceded to New York City as a model and adopted its provisions largely as regards dynamite, nitro-glycerine and naphtha. Strict precautions are also outlined as to the sale of kerosene and gasoline, and it is provided that no sale shall be made to persons under sixteen years of age without a written order from parents or guardians. The purpose of this restriction is to avoid any confusion in the sale of the two funds, similar in all respects except explosive qualities. The storage of explosives is provided for by rigid conditions which several members of the council believe will involve a hardship upon grocers and others. The route to be observed in hauling or conveying dangerous compounds through the streets is also marked out.

POPOCRATS WILL PONDER

They Reconsider Resolutions Relating to Democratic Party and Will Wait.

The row over the distribution of the appointive offices under the new fusion ordinance has aroused such interest that the Saturday evening's meeting of the populist central committee was largely attended. It was a miraculously peaceful meeting, but the committee had scraped up another populist who would object to a position in the office of the clerk of the district court. Then the committee became magnanimous and reconsidered and recommitted all resolutions passed in the first of December concerning the failure of the democrats to keep the party promises as to the division of the spoils, and will leave them in pickle until after the election has made their appointments.

WHAT NEW YEAR WILL BRING

Heards of Railroad Brakemen's Dangerous Calling Considerably Curtailed.

SOME NEBRASKA ROADS NOT QUITE READY

Interstate Commission May Extend the Time, but the State Law Becomes Effective on the First Day of New Year.

The secretary of the Interstate Commerce commission has sent out notice that, as numerous railway companies have applied to the commission for a further extension of the time within which to complete the equipment of their cars and locomotives with automatic couplers and power brakes, as required by the act approved March 2, 1893, relating to the equipment of locomotives and cars with safety appliances, a hearing will be had before the commission at its office in Washington December 31, 1899, at which time and place all persons interested will have an opportunity to be heard in person or by counsel, whether for or against such extension, and may forward by mail any affidavit, statement or argument bearing upon the question.

The original act of congress providing for the adoption by the railroads of safety appliances to guard against loss of life among employees fixed the date upon which the railroads should have such equipment completed, but gave the Interstate Commerce commission power to extend the time upon a sufficient and definite showing. Just before the law was to become effective, on January 1, 1898, the commission did grant an extension, bringing the limit down to January 1, 1900. The applications now on file contemplate a further extension of a year, carrying the date to 1901.

Meantime, in 1895, the legislature of this state enacted a law to the same end, declaring that any cars or locomotives which were unlawful for any railway within the state to put in use any freight, passenger or way car not equipped with safety or automatic couplers or drawbars such as shall not necessitate the going between the cars of such cars to couple or uncouple them, or any engine not supplied with a proper and efficient power or drive brake. It also required that trains shall be supplied with a sufficient number of cars carrying automatic brakes to enable the engineer to control the train without the assistance of brakemen going between the ends or on top of the cars to use the common hand brakes. A penalty of from \$500 to \$1,000 for each offense was provided for violations of the act and it was declared that any employee of a railway company injured by engine, train or cars used in violation of the act would not be considered as waiving his right to recover damages by continuing in the employ of the company. The act did not apply to cars received for transportation from companies other than those of this state which are engaged in interstate commerce.

In 1887, following the precedent set by the Interstate Commerce commission, the legislature of Nebraska granted an extension of time to the railroads, bringing the date of the enactments of the law down to January 1, 1900. The last legislature granted no further extension, so that under the state law every railway will be expected to be ready to comply with its provisions promptly on the first day of the new year.

What Railway Officers Say. Inquiry at the various railway headquarters located in Omaha disclosed an intimation that some of the Omaha roads are likely to be among the applicants before the Interstate Commerce Commission for the further extension. At the office of the general manager of the Elkhorn it was stated that the company had fully complied with the requirements of the law and that all of its cars and locomotives were some time ago provided with the required safety appliances. In the absence of General Manager Holdrege of the Burlington no one in his office would say whether or not the company has completed its equipment according to the requirements of the law or what progress had been made in that direction. When asked whether or not the Burlington would be among the applicants to the Interstate Commerce commission for an extension of the time, General Solicitor Manderson replied that he did not know, as such an application would emanate from the general offices of the Burlington system. He knew that a year ago the company had, as he recalled the figures, about 85 per cent of its rolling stock equipped as required. He also knew that, according to the periodical reports filed by the company during the year, showing its progress in that direction, its percentage of progress had been ahead of that of other companies. It had been among the leaders. If it does not have its equipment completed by January 1, it will be nearly so, he thought it likely, however, owing to the delays incident to supplying cars with these appliances, that there may be a small per cent of the rolling stock not equipped on January 1. It was quite positive that over 90 per cent of it will be prepared. Sometimes a car belonging to the company is sent out over another road and does not get back home for nearly a year, and many other equally insurmountable difficulties arise to delay and impede the completion of such a work.

At Union Pacific headquarters inquiry was made of Chief Clerk Sykes in the office of General Manager Dickinson, who said that he could not give any figures showing the progress that had been made by that company, and would not be able to do so until reports come in in the first of December. General Solicitor Kelly was asked if the road had applied to the Interstate Commerce commission for an extension of time, but he was not prepared to answer. He believed that the equipment will be practically completed by the appointed time, but could not say so definitely for publication, as he might be found to be in error when the time arrives.

Attorney General Smyth was asked what steps, if any, he contemplated taking to enforce the provisions of the state law on this subject. He said that as far as he knew he has yet nothing whatever to do with it, and cannot take steps until he has some notice that some one intends to violate the law.

BELIEVE OFFICES MAY COME

Some Railroad Men Confident Oregon Short Line Auditing Offices Will Be Moved to Omaha.

General Auditor Erastus Young and T. M. Orr, assistant to President Burt of the Union Pacific, have denied the rumor which has been current for a few days past to the effect that the auditing department of the Oregon Short Line will be moved from Salt Lake to Omaha January 1. When the capital stock of the Union Pacific was increased at the last joint meeting of the directors and stockholders held in Salt Lake in order to absorb the Oregon Short Line and the Oregon Railway and Navigation company, it was generally believed that the first step looking toward closer consolidation would be the removal of the Oregon Short Line general offices to Omaha. The rumor that the auditing department would be installed in Omaha after the first of the year was looked upon with some credulity owing to the belief that its removal to this city would mark the inauguration of what would eventually be a complete consolidation.

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DON'T NEGLECT YOUR KIDNEYS.

Weak Kidneys Caused by Over-work By Lifting or a Strain.



To Prove what Swamp-Root the Wonderful New Discovery Will do for You, Every Reader of "The Bee" May Have a Sample Bottle Sent Free by Mail.

It used to be considered that only urinary troubles were to be traced to the kidneys, but now modern science proves that nearly all diseases have their beginning in the disorder of these most important organs. Now by this is not meant that you should overlook all the other organs and merely look after the kidneys. Your other organs may need attention—but your kidneys most, because they do most.

If you are sick, do not neglect your kidneys, because as soon as they are well, they will help all the other organs to health.

The mild and immediate effect of Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the great kidney remedy, is soon realized. It stands the highest for its wonderful cures of the most distressing cases. Swamp-Root will set your whole system right, and the best proof of this is a trial. You may have a sample bottle of this famous kidney remedy sent free by mail postpaid, by which you may test its virtues for such disorders as kidney, bladder and uric acid diseases, and urinary troubles, obliged to pass water frequently night and day, smarting or irritation in passing, brick dust or sediment in the urine, constant headache, backache, lame back, dizziness, sleeplessness, indigestion, nervous, irregular heart beating, skin trouble, Bright's disease, neuralgia, rheumatism, bloating, irritability, worn-out feeling, lack of ambition, loss of flesh, sallow complexion. If your water, when allowed to remain undisturbed in a glass or bottle for twenty-four hours, forms a sediment or settling or has a cloudy appearance, it is evidence that your kidneys and bladder need immediate attention.

Swamp-Root is the great discovery of the eminent kidney specialist, Dr. Kilmer, and is used in the leading hospitals; recommended by skillful physicians in their private practice and is taken by doctors themselves who have kidney ailments, because they recognize in it the greatest and most successful remedy for kidney and bladder troubles that science has ever been able to compound. If you have the slightest symptom of kidney or bladder trouble, or if there is a tract of it in your family history, send at once to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., who will gladly send you, by mail immediately, without cost to you, a sample bottle of Swamp-Root, a book containing many of the thousands upon thousands of testimonials received from sufferers cured. Be sure to say that you read this generous offer in the Omaha Sunday Bee.

Swamp-Root is for sale the world over at druggists in bottles of two sizes and prices—fifty cents and one dollar. Remember the name, Swamp-Root, and the address, Binghamton, N. Y.

MAIL ON UNION PACIFIC

Largely Increased Business Makes It Necessary to Put on More Men.

The United States mail handled by the Union Pacific is the heaviest in the history of the road. In fact it has increased to such an extent that, commencing yesterday, three extra clerks have been put to work on the Omaha and Ogden run. The men so appointed are George R. Garland, transferred from Cheyenne; John W. Gill, transferred from Cheyenne and Council Bluffs run, and J. E. Lord of Cheyenne, a new man. Between Columbus and Albin the Union Pacific has put on a new train known as 73 and 74, on which mail service will be established next Tuesday. Joseph E. Archer of Fremont has been appointed postal clerk on the run and will double the road each day. In Omaha C. J. Lindstrom, who was formerly a clerk on the road, has been detailed and assigned as transfer clerk at the Burlington depot. Heretofore on mail runs the looked after the transfer of mail at both the Union Pacific and Burlington depots, but the volume of business has so largely increased that now a man is required at each station.

DAHARSH IS RESTRAINED

Judge Scott Issues an Order Enjoining Him from Taking Possession of the City Jail Gate.

For a while Saturday night it looked as though the offenders against the peace and dignity of the city would be compelled to go hungry over Sunday. The reason for the threatened fast was the fact that an instrument with Judge Cunningham R. Scott's name attached was brought to the police station in which it was expressly stated that one E. N. Daharsh must not set his foot upon the premises of the city jail or in any way molest the utensils and other appurtenances belonging to the jail. It seems the city council some time ago awarded the contract for feeding the city prisoners to the defendant in this action. He was to receive as remuneration the sum of \$9-10 cents per meal. J. S. Stone, who handed in a bid some time ago, thought he was entitled to the contract as he claimed he had made a bid for \$2-10 cents per meal. When Daharsh went down to take possession under the contract he was refused admittance and the next thing he knew he was confronted by a restraining order. The matter will come up for hearing Monday morning in Judge Fawcett's court.

DISCUSSING IMPROVEMENTS

Young Men's Christian Association Figuring for More Room and Conveniences.

The board of directors of the Young Men's Christian association is discussing more or less hopefully plans for a building that will be better adapted to the work of the association than their present structure. Since the erection of the latter ten or twelve years ago the character of the work of such associations has so changed that the building is no longer suitable. There is felt an urgent need for more room for the accommodation of every department of the association's work, and the demand is of such urgency that it can be