

TEACHERS HAVE BUSY TIME

State Association Starts the Year with a Day of Hard Work.

INTEREST CENTERS UPON OFFICERS

President Schurman of Cornell Lectures in Evening—Arrangements Being Made for Shorthorn Breeders' Convention.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

LINCOLN, Jan. 1.—(Special.)—The second day of the teachers' association was as strenuous as the first and a little more so. The maps of the city issued by the state superintendent, locating the principal objects and points of interest in Lincoln, were evidently studied well last night, for early this morning the teachers were astir and all cars to the downtown and suburban places were crowded. Others who get enough of nature at their rural homes visited and saw the sights of the city. The state capital has been a special feature and dozens of the younger set of teachers have lined up for a sight of its excellency. Next to the governor the greatest attraction at the state house is the dome, and the janitors are kept busy steering the sightseers straight up. The police court has also come in for a share of the attention of visitors and many were down this morning and heard Judge Cosgrave "sock" it to the transgressors.

Considerable interest has been manifested as to who will be the next president of the association. The nominating committee, composed of representatives of the various congressional districts, was appointed this afternoon. It was said today that State Superintendent Fowler could be the next president if he would take the place. Others who are prominently mentioned are Rodwell of Omaha, Palmer of Pawnee City, Chancellor Andrews and Stephens of Beatrice.

Superintendent Pearce of Omaha said last night that he had heard of no one mentioned for office so far, and that the teachers were too busy doing good work to think about the election. As for himself he said he wanted any one that would get the teachers and that he was glad there was no friction and no politics mixed up in the race for the presidency. Heretofore Mr. Pearce has taken quite an interest and a part in the election, and he has just as regularly been at downtown Lincoln as the teachers and that he has a candidate he desires the matter kept quiet, in order that the man would stand some chance of election.

Lectures in Morning.

This morning Mr. Pearce talked at the general session held in the new university chapel on the course of study and the methods of instruction. Others who delivered lectures were: Wilber S. Jackman of the University of Chicago on "Nature Study Adapted to a Given Area"; "How to Study the Birds and Insects of a Given Area," Robert W. Wolcott of the Nebraska University; "Illustrative Lesson in Nature Study," by Charles Fordyce Wesleyan university. Among other things Mr. Jackman said that education is dependent in a considerable measure on nature study.

It must be remembered that nature study is a part of the system of general education. The schools are gradually adopting the study as one of the means of developing the youthful mind. There has of late years been a healthful improvement in the theories of education, and this improvement is reflected in the growing interest in nature study. The subject matter for the work must be found in the immediate surroundings of the school where the work is to be done. The child must be brought into contact with nature. It is impossible to use the conditions existing on the shore of Lake Michigan for the purposes of nature study in this state. Such work would be of small profit compared with the gains to be derived by actually touching and handling the subjects of study, and in such way can the attention of the young learner be held.

High Schools and Colleges.

The county superintendents met at 2 o'clock and discussed "The High School." Those who took part in the discussion were: J. R. Baker, Kearney; George Croker, Richardson; J. W. Mengel, Saunders; W. C. Smith, Cass.

The session of the college section was devoted to a discussion of the question, "Shall the Courses of Study Leading to the Bachelor's Degree be Reduced to Three Years?" C. E. Bessey of the State university thought it would be desirable to have reasons for so thinking. D. R. Kerr thought not. The entire attendance took part in the debate.

The high school section listened to addresses by J. K. King, Albion; L. P. Sorenson, Ewing; George C. Loomis, Hastings; G. O. Ord and F. E. Edgerton of Fremont on the question, "Do Educational Conditions Demand a Normal Course in the High School?" J. L. McBrien of Lincoln, at the conclusion of the debate told what he thought about it.

The grammar school discussed, "Who, She, It," and tried to find out where "they were at" on the question of promotion from the eighth grade. This department also listened to talks by Wilber S. Jackman, Edith Morrow, Fremont; Emma Morrill, Lincoln; C. A. Follmer, Pawnee City; B. E. Dill, Tecumseh, and Miss Knox, Geneva. Wilber S. Jackman also got in on the primary department with a nice little talk, after which the Lincoln primary teachers gave a reception to the visitors.

This was the primary feature of the work done by this department. The kindergarten section dissected the child at home and at school and did everything else with the little fellows that would tend to make the child and his mother's club. Those who spoke at this meeting were: Mrs. E. B. Stephenson, Lincoln; Mesdames J. M. Lucas, S. H. Atwood, Calla Phillips, Lincoln; C. G. Pearce, Helena Drake, Grace Hungerford, Omaha; Miss Johnson, Lincoln; Miss Hatilton, Edith Otis, Florence Randall, Carrie Boutell, Omaha; Eva Miller, Fremont Normal school; Miss Adeyn Stuff, Beemer; Miss Greves, Fremont; Miss Foster, Beatrice; Miss Cora Steel, Lincoln; Mrs. Sarah Brindley, Columbus.

A good attendance was present at the school board session when it was called to order at 2 o'clock. F. M. Currie of Sargent talked on the relation of the superintendent to the public. This was discussed by A. B. Allen of Tecumseh and J. W. Pearson of Wahoo. A paper on the "Relation of the Board of Education to the Superintendent" was read by C. H. Westrand of Wahoo and discussed by J. H. Arcades of Syracuse and D. C. O'Connor of Norfolk. An interesting paper was on the subject, "Whom Shall We Elect for Members of the Board of Education," by J. H. Moore of Arapahoe. Others who took part in the meeting were: J. H. Rushon, Fairmont; J. D. Pepe, Fried; E. C. Calkins, Kearney; I. C. Elmer, Blair; George C. Loomis, Fremont; J. E. Hoover, Benedict; W. H. Poll, Weeping Water; E. N. Kaughman, Wymore; J. H. Sager, Geneva, and G. E. Pearce, Omaha.

Schurman Talks at Night.

Tonight at St. Paul's church President J. G. Schurman of Cornell university delivered an address on "Our Philippine Question." This open session was largely attended and well enjoyed. Mr. Schurman arrived in the city last night and in the guest of friends. He spent the day

AGED COUPLE FOUND DEAD

Indications Point Strongly to Their Having Been Poisoned.

WHOLE AFFAIR SHROUDED IN MYSTERY

Man Was Lying on the Bed and Woman in Kneeling Position, with Her Head Resting on a Trunk.

WILCOX, Neb., Jan. 1.—(Special.)—Mr. and Mrs. John E. Johnson, an aged couple living north of Ragan, Neb., were found dead. Johnson was found lying on the bed, while Mrs. Johnson was in a kneeling position, with her head on a trunk. The condition in which they were found seems to indicate that they were found some time before a coroner's inquest is being held. They had been seized with violent stomach trouble just previous to their death. John Horta, a son-in-law, came downstairs last Friday morning, according to his story, and found them in the positions described, still in their night clothes.

WILCOX, Neb., Jan. 1.—(Special.)—Up to the present time no solution of this strange and sudden death of both at the same time has been found. They were in good circumstances and apparently lived happily together.

REST ONE DAY IN LILLIE CASE

Attorneys, However, Are Busy Preparing for Opening of Court This Morning.

DAVID CITY, Neb., Jan. 1.—(Special.)—The third day of testimony taking in the Lillie murder case was concluded last night and court took a recess until tomorrow morning. During the recess the attorneys are busy in getting their evidence in readiness. Mrs. Lillie is spending New Year's day at home. Her father, mother and Sam Lillie are with her.

The witnesses tomorrow will be Dr. S. C. Beede and Dr. H. E. Burdick. These are the surgeons who were called to the Lillie residence on the morning of October 24 and who assisted Drs. Stewart and Sample in the autopsy, and it is said will corroborate the testimony of Dr. Sample. The next witnesses will be W. D. Westover and J. D. Sprague, two members of the coroner's jury. It is claimed that they will testify as to the testimony given by Mrs. Lillie before the coroner's jury, and Westover will also be used as an expert in the use of firearms and different grades of gunpowder. Following these, L. C. Ren, ex-sheriff, will be called, the character of his evidence counsel for the state would not say.

The revolver which was unintentionally brought into court yesterday forenoon is said to have been found by Sheriff West in the commode drawer on the morning of the murder. There were four cartridges in it, two empty and two loaded. As stated yesterday it is a .32-caliber long, and the bullets now in evidence fit this revolver. Early next week this revolver will be more fully identified by the sheriff and offered in evidence. The attorneys for the state say this is possibly the pistol with which the murder was committed. It is also claimed that this revolver was the property of Mr. Lillie and that Mrs. Lillie so testified before the coroner's jury.

County Attorney Walling was asked this morning if any other revolver would be produced. He said, "I have nothing to say on that point now."

CHILD IS FATALLY BURNED

Pulls a Lighted Lamp Over on Itself with Serious Results.

TILDEN, Neb., Jan. 1.—(Special.)—By the overturning of a kerosene lamp last evening in the home of Otto Johnson a child was fatally and a young girl seriously burned. The children were left alone for a few minutes and the supposition is that the older one pulled the lamp from the table. Prompt action on the part of neighbors prevented what might have proven a destructive fire to the town.

JAIL BREAK IS FRUSTRATED

Men Charged with Bank Robbery Attempt to Escape from the Beatrice Jail.

BEATRICE, Neb., Jan. 1.—(Special.)—O'Brien and Hall, the two men suspected of the Clatonia bank robbery, attempted to escape from the county jail by boring a hole through the jail wall with a drilling tool which they obtained possession of in some mysterious way. The attempted escape of the men was frustrated just in time by Sheriff Waddington, who will hereafter keep a double guard over them.

Court Terms in Fifteenth District.

O'NEILL, Neb., Jan. 1.—(Special.)—At a meeting of Judges W. H. Westover of Rushville and J. J. Harrington of O'Neill the dates for holding the terms of court in the various counties in the fifteenth judicial district were decided upon for the year 1903 as follows: Holt, March 16; November 3; Boyd, March 2, September 15; Rock, May 11, September 28; Brown, May 15, October 5; Keysa, Paha, May 4, September 8; Cherry, June 1, November 23; Sheridan, June 8, November 15; Deves, June 15, December 7; Box Butte, April 21, December 14, and Sioux, April 13, October 12. A panel of twenty-four jurors are to be drawn and summoned to attend each term of court unless otherwise ordered. No grand jury has been ordered for any county in the district. No agreement was reached as to the counties that each will preside over, but it is thought that Judge Harrington will have Brown, Keysa, Paha, Sheridan, Box Butte and Sioux, and Judge Westover Holt, Boyd, Rock, Cherry and Deves. During the year 1902 there has been more business in the district than for any previous year and the indications are that with the exception of a two months' summer vacation the judges will be busy all the time.

Woman Attempts to Kill Herself.

MEMPHIS, Neb., Jan. 1.—(Special.)—Mrs. Thomas J. Colbert, wife of a farmer living near Memphis, attempted to commit suicide by hanging Wednesday morning. Her husband left the house temporarily and during his absence she took advantage of the moment to hang herself in the kitchen house. Mr. Colbert, hearing a commotion among the chickens, came into the house and asked for his wife. The children told him to go out to the chicken house. He made haste and upon investigation found his wife hanging from the rafter with a piece of cloth around her neck. Reports from her home today state that she will recover. Mrs. Colbert has had spells of mental aberration occasionally and when she comes to cannot realize why she makes the attempts on her life.

Busy Cutting Ice.

WYMORE, Neb., Jan. 1.—(Special.)—M. L. Rawlings of this city now has a force of over seventy-five men at work cutting ice on Indian creek. The ice averages from ten to twelve inches in thickness. At present they are working on a contract for the D. & M. which calls for 200 carloads.

BATTLE IN RUSH FOR OIL

Armed Prospectors Overran Uinta County, Wyoming.

CLAIMS STAKED ARE QUICKLY JUMPED

Blood Has Not Yet Been Shed, but Scenes of Riot Are Reported, and It is Anticipated Akin to War Will Occur.

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, Jan. 1.—A special to the Tribune from Evanston, Wyo., says: The rush for claims in the Uinta oil fields still continues and from the present outlook more than a week will elapse before the locating will have been completed.

So far as known there has been no bloodshed, although shots were exchanged in many cases. Up to midnight last night a person would imagine themselves in the heart of a hostile country. Fires marking the corners of claims were lighted by the thousands, and locators camped near them reminded one of bivouacs at war.

Colonel Kitchum, at the head of a force of twelve well armed cowboys, who were mounted, carried the Aspen country by storm. At midnight they rode forward down the section lines, setting stakes as they came to the corners. As the first stakes were being driven they were greeted by a volley, but the bullets went wild. Swinging to their saddles the party dashed forward, nor did they cease until they had located every section open for filing. Then retracing their way they found the opposing parties had in many cases pulled their stakes and burned them in the fire. These were replaced and the triumphant party returned to file their claims on record.

In the Spring Valley country there were fist fights on all sides, but the men refrained from the use of firearms as far as known, but up to this time not one locator in ten has returned and the next few hours may bring stories of conflicts.

The whole oil field is the scene of intense excitement and it is not believed the trouble can pass without bloodshed, as a string of bivouacs has existed between the locators for some time.

HYMENEAL.

Jones-Forbes.

A quiet wedding occurred at 8 o'clock yesterday evening at the home of R. Forbes at 306 South Twenty-sixth street, the high contracting parties being Miss Estella Forbes, daughter of Mr. Forbes, and Clyde Jones of East St. Louis, Ill. Rev. John H. Cloud of Kansas City performed the ceremony according to the ritual of the Episcopal church in the presence of about fifty relatives and friends of the couple. The father and mother of the groom were present. The bride did not answer "yes" to the momentous question in the faltering and scarcely audible manner of brides, but answered and the groom, as well as Rev. Mr. Cloud, are mute. Judge Ferguson read the service aloud as it was performed. After the wedding supper the bridal pair departed for East St. Louis, where they will make their home. The rooms of the Forbes home were decorated in red and green, with ribbons and ferns. Mr. Jones is a son of Charles A. Jones, general manager of the stock yards, and is employed in the registry department of the St. Louis postoffice. The bride was last year a popular teacher at the Nebraska Institute for Deaf and Dumb.

NEEDS OF COUNTRY SCHOOLS

Committee Points Out the Greatest in Report to Educational Council.

According to the report of the committee on country schools recently made to the educational council of the Nebraska State Teachers' association, the greatest need of the country schools at the present time is teachers.

"It is strange," says the report, "that the state of Nebraska has done practically nothing to supply teachers for its schools. This weakness in our school system has been recognized by every state superintendent for the last eight years, and all have repeatedly urged the legislature to provide liberal means for training teachers. Yet nothing has been done.

"Eighty per cent or more of our teacher material comes from the high schools. To the university was sent only 65 per cent of the children that come within its radius complete their education there, matters not; that it is the only normal training school for 80 per cent of new teachers—the teachers of 175,000 children—has been and continues to be ignored.

"The chief need of the country school is teachers. We do not ask for normal graduates. But we do ask for those who at least are thorough and accurate in their knowledge of the subject matter of the subjects they must teach, and who have some knowledge of school management and the art of teaching. This, the big schools could give us if they were manned by men prepared for the work and were not straining every nerve under the burden of college preparatory work.

"It is contended that it is not the province of the high school to do normal training. We would call your attention to the fact that about 75 per cent of high school graduates attempt to teach, and they have as much right to demand that the diet be prepared for their work by which they would earn their livelihood, as the 1 or 2 per cent have to be partly and poorly fitted for college. Besides, there is no other place where this large body of young people can be trained for this important work. For eighteen years our state superintendent has urged more normal schools. For eighteen years the legislature has attempted at each session to provide them. And for eighteen years the selfishness and influence of the city of Lincoln and the State university have frustrated these attempts. Normal schools are out of the question in Nebraska. If we would improve the teaching force in country schools we must do so by changing high school conditions."

FORECAST OF THE WEATHER

Fair in West, Rain in Eastern Nebraska Friday, with Fair Weather Saturday.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—Forecast: For Nebraska—Fair in west, rain in east portion, colder; Saturday, fair. For South Dakota—Fair Friday and Saturday; colder Saturday in western portion. For Iowa—Rain or snow Friday, colder in northwest portion; Saturday fair, colder in east and central portions. For Missouri—Rain Friday, colder in northwest portion; Saturday, fair and colder. For Illinois—Rain Friday and Saturday; fair Saturday. For Kansas—Rain and colder Friday; Saturday, fair. Local Record.

OFFICE OF THE WEATHER BUREAU, OMAHA, Jan. 1.—Official record of temperature for precipitation compared with the corresponding day of the last three years:

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W. R. BENNETT CO. 16TH & HARNEY STS. E. E. HASTINGS, Receiver.

We begin the new year with a continuance of the Forced Receiver's Sale

We have not satisfied the court yet—there are still too many goods on hand. Our cut price and discount sales are again renewed with even greater vigor than ever.

Friday and Saturday in the Women's and Children's Clothing Dept.

- Women's Jackets and Cloaks One-Third Off
Children's Jackets and Cloaks One-Third Off
Women's Fur Coats and Capes One-Third Off
Women's Muffs, Laces and Collarettes One-Third Off
Women's Golf Street Skirts One-Fourth Off
Misses' Skirts One-Fourth Off
Misses' Skirts One-Third Off
Silk Petticoats 20 Per Cent Off
Sateen Petticoats One-Fourth Off
Silk and Wool Waists One-Fourth Off
All Jersey Sweaters One-Third Off
All Women's House Slippers One-Fourth Off

DISCOUNTS WILL BE MADE ON EVERY ARTICLE IN THIS DEPARTMENT

- WOMEN'S VESTS AND PANTS—a late shipment just opened—heavy fleeced, worth, each 40c. 25c
WOMEN'S BLACK FLEECE STOCKINGS—a late shipment of two cases to sell at 20c a pair—will be sold 2 pairs for 25c
Discounts on Notions
Discounts on Handkerchiefs
Discounts on Gloves
Discounts and cut prices on everything
BLEACHED HUCK TOWELS—good quality, 16x32-inch, worth 9c, for each 5c
CREAM LINEN HUCK TOWELS—20x40 inches, worth 20c, for each 12 1/2c
FINE SATIN DAMASK BLEACHED, ALL LINEN KNOTTED FRINGE TOWELS—22x46 inches, worth 40c, at each 25c
CREAM TURKISH BATH TOWELS—good quality, 21x40 inches, worth 15c— 10c
60-IN. BLEACHED TABLE DAMASK—nice flower pattern, worth 25c, at, per yard 19c
70-IN. WIDE SILVER BLEACHED LOOM DAMASK TABLE LINEN—nice flower pattern, worth 60c, at, per yard 43c
22-IN FINE BLEACHED LOOM DAMASK TABLE NAPKINS—variety of nice patterns, worth \$1.25, at, per dozen 89c
SHAKER FLANNEL—If you want something really good in Cream Shaker Flannel, here is the best ever offered for the money—31-inch wide, regular 12 1/2c grade, for 8c
SHORT LENGTHS OF FINE INDIA LINON AND PLAIN WHITE LAWNS—worth up to 25c—at, per yard 8c
YARD WIDE PERCALES—the best quality made—all good patterns—worth 12 1/2c, at 5c

Bennett's Good Clothing

- Usters—Are you in need of a high collar coat? Think of getting a
\$35.00 Ulster for ... 20.00
\$18.00 Ulster for ... 10.00
\$25.00 Ulster for ... 15.00
\$15.00 Ulster for ... 7.50
\$20.00 Ulster for ... 13.50
\$10.00 Ulster for ... 5.00
other Overcoats in proportion.
Broken and hand-tailored Coats are in these lots. Do you need an Overcoat?
Suits that were sold up to \$8.75, still at your call for 2.95
As long as they last:
Suits that sold up to \$40.00 for ... 28.00
Suits that sold up to \$35.00, for ... 20.00
Suits that sold up to \$25.00, for ... 14.75
Suits that sold up to \$20.00, for ... 9.75
Suits that sold up to \$10.00, for ... 6.75

BOYS' AND CHILDREN'S SUITS—SPECIAL VALUES

- 35c and 50c Knee Trousers for ... 15c
Suits that sold up to \$4.95, all styles, for ... 1.95
Young Men's Suits, long trousers, sold up to \$10, for ... 4.95
Hats and Caps at Half Price
Furnishing Goods
\$2.00 and \$2.50 Underwear—shirts and drawers ... 99c
Wilson Bros. and Lion brands of Soft Shirts, \$2 values 89c
Odd lots of Trousers worth up to \$3.50, for ... 1.50

Come Friday and Saturday for the BANNER BARGAINS of the FORCED RECEIVER'S SALE

because of a shortage of fuel of every description. The immense piles of wood and well filled bins of soft coal were quickly and disposed of when cold weather set in, and within a very few days the demand for fuel far exceeded the supply; many were turned away without a stick of wood or a pound of coal. Dealers acted wisely in dividing the supply, so that as many as possible should have a portion, but there was not sufficient to go round, and there is an incessant clamor for fuel. Conditions in the country and in districts remote from railways are alarming; scores of farmers have purchased hay-burning stoves and are now using hay and straw instead of coal or wood. Unless the situation is relieved soon there will be much suffering.