

TEACHERS COMPLETE WORK

Manage to Keep Busy Up to the Time of Final Adjournment.

LEGISLATORS DRIFTING INTO THE CITY

State Auditor Weston Files His Report and Makes Some Recommendations Concerning Finances of the State.

(From a Staff Correspondent.) LINCOLN, Jan. 2.—(Special.)—After an address by N. C. Schaeffer, state superintendent of schools of Pennsylvania, at St. Paul's church last night on the subject, "Does Education Pay?" the State Teachers' association closed its meeting and many of the teachers immediately began preparations to leave the city. The meeting has been pronounced by all as the most successful in the history of the association, both from the educational and enjoyment standpoint. President Schurman, who had been with the teachers for two days and had delivered as many lectures, was bundled up and taken to Omaha by Attorney J. W. Battin, a former Cornellian, who came for him this morning.

During their entire stay here the teachers have done good, honest work, and the last day there was no relaxation. The meeting opened in general session and an address was delivered by President Schurman, who talked of "The Place of Literature in Education." The curriculum of schools he was inclined to place literature first, history next and science third. Our civilization, he said, is inherited from the Greeks, and the Greek boy's education was largely literature, with music and athletics as its accompaniment, and to this fact he attributed the further fact that the Greeks presented the highest type of civilization. He also referred approvingly to the literary teachings of the Chinese, where the child was taught to participate in the affairs of government, and said that while there was much in the lack of hospitality and other characteristics of the Chinese open to criticism, their attachment to literature was not to be despised. Over against the literary education, which during the last 100 years has produced more civilization in the enrichment of the world than were produced during the 1,000 years preceding. The scientific education taught the practical. It appeals to the reason, while the literary education appeals to the soul and is intended to preserve all that is best in man.

Sarah Louise Arnold of Boston talked of "The Citizen and the School," and Nathan C. Schaeffer talked of "The Grades of Thinking, and Thinking in the Grades."

Election of Officers.

After these literary proceedings the nominating committee forthwith its report on officers and the report was unanimously accepted by the association. The following were elected for the ensuing year: A. W. Palmer, Pawnee, president; W. M. Kern, Columbus, vice president; A. O. Thomas, Kearney, secretary; member of the executive committee, I. B. Doty, Lexington; reading circle board, W. C. Smith; educational council, C. E. Bessey, university. At the afternoon session of the county superintendent's section the principal paper read was "How May the Superintendent Reach the Various Educational Forces," by C. Smith of Fillmore county. This was discussed by W. T. Bottenfield of Nuckolls. The "Graduation of Rural Schools According to a Prescribed Course of Study, and is the New State Course Practical and Usable" was discussed by C. W. Henry, Ed. C. Bishop, Estella M. Daniels and A. E. Ward. The college section wrestled with the question, "Should Four Years of High School Work be Accepted for Admission to Nebraska Colleges?" Reference to the Subjects Pursued" by H. W. Caldwell of the university thought and George Suberland of Grand Island took the negative side of the question. The high school section listened to a paper on the "Strong and Weak Points in the Average High School," by J. W. Crabtree of Lincoln. L. E. Mumford and J. C. Donaldson discussed the question, "Whether the Present Athletic Feature Makes the High School a Stronger Factor in the Community."

A. H. Waterhouse of Omaha talked to the grammar school department of "What the High School Has a Right to Expect of the Grammar School," H. H. Hahn of Blair discussed "The Department Teaching in Grammar Grades" and W. L. Stephen lead the discussion. J. G. Dettell, Lexington, Fremont read a paper on "Pupils Outside Reading," and short talks were made by H. Myers of Oakland and E. B. Sherman of Schuyler. The school board section held another interesting meeting and many points of importance were discussed. In the primary section meeting the following took part in the various discussions: Venia M. Keller, Elizabeth O'Connor, Mabel E. Wilcox, Mrs. F. E. Moore, William Parker, Amelia Will, Nancy L. Lewis and Margaret Perry. During the teachers' stay here the chimes in the St. Paul church have rung out regularly morning, noon and night, and befitting the occasion at the adjournment, played "Home, Sweet Home."

The executive committee of the Superintendents and Principals' association met yesterday and completed arrangements for the program of the association next October. A committee of university and public school men will be appointed to revise the high school manual or course of study for adoption at the October meeting. This is a subject of unending discussion among the schoolmasters.

Discusses Legislative Situation.

The legislative situation is still a matter for conjecture. Several members of the lower house were in the city this afternoon. Among them was Representative Perry, chairman of the committee on anything concerning his candidacy for the speakership, but he did express his conviction that the honor would go to the west. Neither Mockett nor Thompson, according to him, have any positive assurance that they will win out. Mr. Perry said that he would not be surprised to see the caucus take up a western man. Morsman, Gilbert, Nelson and Koetter of the Douglas county delegation have been in the city today. Mr. Nelson, who acted as spokesman for the others, said that the delegation was not pledged to support any candidate and he gave the impression that no guaranty of support would be given to any candidate, unless he was sure to win out. In that event he intimated the whole delegation would make haste to climb into the band wagon. He also said that the outlook is good for the appointment of a Douglas county member as chairman of the judiciary committee.

Despite the statement of Mr. Nelson that the delegation is unpledged, a persistent rumor has been in circulation today to the effect that the delegation would support Thompson when it comes to a show-down.

Monthly Balance Sheet.

The monthly balance sheet of Auditor Weston, compiled the first of the year, shows that on December 31 there was on hand \$432,255.38. The receipts during the month were \$207,416.22; disbursements, \$434,297.39; balance on hand, \$205,374.21. Following is the statement in detail:

Funds.	On Hand Dec. 31, 1919.	Pay- On Hand Dec. 31, 1919.	Dec. 31, 1919.
General	\$ 88,808	\$ 41,720	\$ 47,088
Perm. school	131,092	131,092	131,092
Temp. school	24,712	47,713	204,846
Perm. univer.	641	250	891
Ag. Col. endow.	774	614	1,388
Temp. univer.	44,419	9,833	30,586
University cash	18,546	6,119	12,427
Res. for insur.	1,230	13	1,217
Normal interest	2,948	142	1,832
Normal library	2,071	1,000	1,071
Normal endow.	312	312	312
State library	4,741	1,834	16,608
Gen. spec. labor	6,526	1,890	1,297
Agri. & Mech.	16,990	4,482	12,508
As. Experiment.	1,730	1,985	43
Station fund	4,328	4,328	4,328
Inheritance tax	61	61	61
Totals	\$432,255	\$207,416	\$434,297

Three Would Be Veterinarians.

State Veterinarian Thomas, Dr. Sprague of Butler county and Dr. Lesley of Saunders county would like to look after the state's veterinary business. Today a delegation of Saunders county people was here in the interest of Dr. Lesley and called on Governor Mitchell. The governor has not intimated who will be the fortunate man. This afternoon the governor stated that he had no announcements to make at present. He intimated, however, that Adjutant General Cobly would hold over until after the inauguration at least. Figuring on Coal Contracts. The Board of Purchase and Supply in its session today will be Saturday to purchase supplies for the various state institutions. The coal question occupied some time of the board. Only one firm, however, the Whitebreast company, put in a bid. This firm now has the contract to supply most of the institutions with fuel. This time it put in bids to furnish thirteen kinds of coal, and the company has the option to furnish any one of the thirteen kinds it sees fit. At present, it is said, the Lincoln asylum has two days' supply of coal, the State Penitentiary at Hastings the supply will run out Saturday at noon. These are three of the institutions which received some of the precious emergency coal bought at prices above the contract price some time ago. Most of the other institutions are on the verge of purchasing clothing for the inmates of the institutions. The Board of Irrigation met yesterday afternoon to pass on the appeal asked by William Frank from the decision of Secretary Deboer in the case of the Lincoln Canal company. The board sustained the decision of Mr. Deboer and refused to grant a new hearing. This will throw the case into the courts in the near future. Insuring Without Authority. Ashton & Myer, attorneys, have written a letter to the insurance department of the auditor's office in which they go after the American Benevolent association. The attorneys say that the company has no right to do business in the state and that it advertises "no claims unpaid, no liabilities, no claims in litigation." In contradiction of this the attorneys say that recently one of their clients got judgment against the company for \$225, which is still unpaid, though in the published list of paid claims this client is announced to have received \$50. The company sent him a check for that amount and it was refused. Mr. Babcock of the company in the meantime has fled from the state to do business here. The headquarters of the company is in St. Louis. Auditor Weston's Report. Auditor Weston today filed with the governor his annual report of his office. It contains 280 pages and is issued earlier this year than ever before in the history of the state. His statements of the condition of the state's finances and his recommendations follow: The matter calling most urgently for attention at the present time is the condition of the state's finances, both present and prospective. On November 30, 1919, the floating interest-bearing debt of the state amounted to \$1,762,485.11. On November 30, 1920, it amounted to \$1,969,258.63—an increase of \$206,773.52. This increase will be considerably augmented by the end of the biennial period for which the last legislative appropriations were made, viz., April 1, 1921. My predecessors in office for a number of years just past have directed attention to the gradually increasing debt of the state and the necessity for a revision of the revenue laws. Recommendations made have been passed unheeded by successive legislatures. I deem it my duty to again call attention to these conditions, which have not improved during the biennium that has just expired. The general fund appropriations made by the legislature of 1917 amounted to \$2,350,000. The amount actually received from the two state levies made during the biennium cannot exceed \$1,872,000, and will probably be considerably less. The collections from miscellaneous sources during the biennium credited to the general fund will approximate \$200,000. Thus the total amount of the general fund can realize from all sources will be approximately \$1,872,000. As stated above, the appropriations for the biennium total \$2,350,000, a deficit of \$478,000 for the biennium. Probable Receipts. Statement No. 4 contains an estimate of probable receipts for the biennial period commencing April 1, 1920, and ending March 31, 1921. This estimate is based on the estimates furnished by the various departments and by the heads of institutions and aggregates \$7,252,521. Charges as follows: General fund \$4,254,631.27; University fund \$2,000,000.00; Library fund \$200,000.00; Normal school fund \$2,000,000.00; Penitentiary labor fund \$200,000.00; Temporary school fund \$1,346,181.82. A comparison of these estimates of receipts and expenditures for the next biennium discloses the fact that there will be a general fund deficit approximating \$500,000. This comparison is based on the present conditions. The only way to avoid this impending deficit and consequent increase of the floating debt is to make appropriations much below the estimate or to revise the revenue system so that general fund receipts can be made to meet expenditures. Cause of Decreased Revenue. The primary cause of the decline of the revenues of the state is the decrease of the revenues to respond to the needs of the state and the escape of much property from any taxation whatever. The grand assessment of the state reached its highest point in 1918, when it stood at \$194,724,142. The following table shows the assessment for each year from 1910 to 1919 inclusive:

1910	\$191,723,124.93	\$17,810,763
1911	184,717,456.19	19,145,129
1912	178,208,367.19	19,145,129
1913	167,872,110.11	14,429,928
1914	165,126,126.11	17,974,871

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OMAHA MEN INTERESTED IN ENTERPRISE

Men Who Pretend to Know Say Formations are Particularly Favorable to the Finding of Liquid Fuel.

CHADRON, Neb., Jan. 2.—(Special.)—Eight companies have been organized recently in this county for the purpose of boring for oil, and things have been made on sixty-four placer oil mining claims in Beaver creek valley, about ten miles north-east of Chadron. Two of these companies have their origin in Omaha and Douglas county, Nebraska, one in Chicago, one in Denver, one in Polk county, Iowa, one in Iowa, two in Teller county, Colorado, and one in Chadron. For six months last a party has been surveying and seeking information about certain pieces of land lying to the northeast of this place, but the ranchers of the section evidently supposed it to be the much-talked-of Colonel Mosby and Mosby's terrible gang of fence destroyers, and are yet making use of the incident and the doughty colonel as a bugaboo to frighten a chance untruly youngster into submitting until recently, however, very little thought was given the matter by the citizens, but a few days ago, when several cars of oil well drilling machinery arrived in this city over the Burlington from Colorado and a large force of men and teams were employed to move the machinery to the location of operations, considerable excitement prevailed.

The company which has begun operations is composed of eight persons of Omaha and Douglas county, but it is understood that officials of the Elkhorn railroad are backing the enterprise and are having the work done through the company composed of these persons. The Bee correspondent understands the Burlington has been making some borings in the Big Horn Basin of Wyoming, and at other places on its line, with very little success, and as some of the companies organized were undoubtedly organized in the interest of that road, they are also expected to make some borings here soon, and it is said that the machinery of another large company will arrive in a few days. The geological conditions of this field are certainly the most favorable of any in the northwest. The district, which lies in the basin of the Beaver creek, near its confluence with the White river, has recently attracted the attention of geologists by the parties interested in the exploitation of the enterprise and your correspondent has been able to ascertain from most reliable sources that the prospect of production of crude oil in commercial quantities is unusually favorable. An anticline exists here, exposing the Niobrara and Fort Benton shales, underlying which the Dakota sandstone is found and it is this which is recognized throughout the middle west as the best rock stratum for the collection and storage of crude oil in large quantities. This crest or anticline fold forms a great reservoir in an inverted position which fills up with oil and gas forced into it by the water from the surrounding strata. A complete covering of shale prevents the escape of the oil and gas from the reservoir, very much the same as a cork retains the contents of a bottle. The strata uplifted in this anticline belongs to the lower cretaceous beds which when covered with shale offer the most favorable points for boring from an economic and scientific standpoint. No coal deposits or wood available within its borders, an oil field would be a great boon for Nebraska. Two competing lines of railroad, the Elkhorn and Burlington, enter this region, to which the oil could be piped and distributed throughout the state for fuel, lighting and lubricating purposes. Parties interested in the enterprise say that the work will be pushed with all possible dispatch.

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WOMAN SWALLOWS POISON

Takes Dose of Morphine, but is Saved by Physician with Stomach Pump.

BEATRICE, Neb., Jan. 2.—(Special.)—Mrs. Charles Coburn, residing at 1008 Market street, this city, attempted suicide last night by swallowing a dose of morphine. A physician was summoned when it was discovered that she had swallowed the drug and succeeded in resuscitating her by the use of a stomach pump. It is alleged that Mrs. Coburn had trouble with her husband for the foremost of the week, which resulted in his leaving her. Despondency is said to be the cause of her attempt at self-destruction.

Social Event at David City.

DAVID CITY, Neb., Jan. 2.—(Special.)—One of the most important social events in the history of David City occurred yesterday, when the women of the Ingleisle club entertained the members of the David City Commercial club at the parlors of the Commercial club from 3 to 5 p. m. The Ingleisle club is a new organization with a membership of about fifty. Mrs. S. C. Bonison is president, Mrs. J. F. Axmaker, recording secretary, and Mrs. F. A. Snow, corresponding secretary. The reception committee was: Mrs. A. J. Egan, Mrs. S. C. Bonison, Mrs. J. Ayra, Mrs. E. W. Williams, Mrs. S. C. Beede, Mrs. S. D. Coe, Mrs. Josie Long and Mrs. J. J. Roberts. Light refreshments were served, which were hugely enjoyed by all. George M. Davis of Omaha and Loren Jordan of Gretnaham were among the guests. This will be long remembered by all who were present as one of the most important events of the year 1920.

Business Change at Table Rock.

TABLE ROCK, Neb., Jan. 2.—(Special.)—Quite an important change will take place here in business circles this week. Mr. S. G. Wright, who has engaged here in the drug business for the last eight or ten years, has sold out his business to Fred M. Caldwell of Pawnee City, Neb., who comes well recommended to our people. The goods are being invoiced and the change is to be made at once. Mr. Wright had charge also of the Bell telephone office since its entrance in Table Rock, and its management will pass to the new proprietor. Mr. Wright will be sadly missed from the business circles of Table Rock.

Retiring Member Dines Colleagues.

FREMONT, Neb., Jan. 2.—(Special.)—The Board of Supervisors began its session yesterday. J. W. Seaton was reappointed steward of the poor farm, the bonds of the various county officers approved and considerable routine business transacted. Representative-elect Joseph Roberts, who retires from the board, gave a dinner this noon to the board, county officers, deputies and clerks. County Judge Briggs, who had just returned from his wedding trip, acted as toastmaster, and a pleasant time was had by all who were present.

Dodge County Mortgage Record.

FREMONT, Neb., Jan. 2.—(Special.)—The following is the mortgage record of Dodge county for the month of December, 1919: Farm mortgages recorded 11, amount \$25,458.66; released 18, amount \$23,254.56. Town and city mortgages recorded 7, amount \$4,345.45; released amount \$4,345.45. Chattel mortgages filed 59, amount \$25,407.97; released 15, amount \$120,647.89. Total chattel mortgages filed during 1919 is 925, amount \$220,150.25; released 599, amount \$225,305.94.

Height Young Man of Alma.

ALMA, Neb., Jan. 2.—(Special.)—B. H. Grigsby, one of the most promising young men of this city, will on tomorrow return to Lincoln and re-enter the law department of the State university. Mr. Grigsby will graduate this year from that department and enter the actual practice of his profession in some one of the larger cities of the state. His many friends and the members of the profession here look forward to see Mr. Grigsby one of the leading lawyers of the state.

New Telephone Company Organized.

ALMA, Neb., Jan. 2.—(Special.)—The Farmers and Merchants Telephone company of this place will install its exchange at Orleans next week with fifty subscribers. The company will then have exchanges at Alma, Orleans, Republican City and Stamford, and toll lines connecting these towns. It will soon make application for franchises at Oxford and Holdrege and extend its toll lines to connect with the Franklin County Telephone company.

Women Discuss Labor Unions.

RISING CITY, Neb., Jan. 2.—(Special.)—The women of the Hotel Gould club met in open session at the home of Mrs. Fozzard, one of its members, New Year's eve. An interesting program was listened to, one of the principal features of which was a paper prepared and read by J. A. Reichenback on the subject "Labor Unions."

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LIKELY TO FIGHT OVER OIL

Excitement Over Locations in Wyoming Fields Outlines to Grow.

REPORT OF A FIGHT IN FOSSIL FIELDS

Storm Threatening and Many Locators Are Out from the Settlements Fully Prepared to Meet Its Rigors.

FAIRBURY, Wyo., Jan. 2.—(Special Telegram.)—Intense excitement prevails in the oil fields here, at Hillard and Fossil and a clash may occur at any time. As many locators who want to the remote districts have not returned, it is feared there may have been bloodshed, and the news of tragedy on the plains is expected at any time.

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