

NEWS OF INTEREST FROM IOWA. COUNCIL BLUFFS.

ELKS HONOR THE DEPARTED

Annual Memorial Services at New Theater a Most Impressive Affair.

EDIFICE CROWDED TO ITS CAPACITY

Music, Addresses by Hon. S. B. Wadsworth and Hon. John L. Webster. Together with Hymns and Exercises Constituted Ser-vice.

With solemn and appropriate exercises the members of Council Bluffs lodge No. 831, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, held their annual lodge of sorrow in tribute to and in commemoration of their deceased brothers at the New theater yesterday morning.

The exercises, which were open to the public, were attended by a gathering of the members, their families and friends which filled the auditorium. The stage, which was occupied by the officers of the lodge, the speakers and the singers, was beautifully set off with many palms and potted ferns, while the orchestra pit was banked with the same.

Following the opening exercises according to the ritual of the order, conducted by Exalted Ruler Bender and the officers of the lodge, Rev. J. G. Lemen of the Christian Home offered prayer and was followed by the singing of the anthem, "Jerusalem, the Golden," by the choir of St. Paul's Episcopal church.

Mr. Wadsworth said in part: Tribute of a Brother. We meet here on this occasion and pause for a moment in the struggle of life to reflect upon the passing of those who have passed away; to hush our ears to the outside world while our thoughts listen to the familiar tread of the gentle word, the heart pulsations of our once familiar brothers, who, in their journey of earthly trials and who have peacefully laid down to sleep in the pillow of death, in the "widow's chambers of rest."

On this occasion we call to memory our brothers absent in death. Today we lift our souls in memory of all the holy aspirants and noble spirits of our brothers departed. We bow in reverence before the sacred altar of their memory, with tears we thought and sorrow, and we remember the children of Israel, when remembering Jerusalem in their captivity, they hung their heads upon the willows and mingled their tears with the waters of Babylon.

At the close of Mr. Wadsworth's address Mrs. Sherman rendered the solo, "There is a Light Mine Eye Hath Seen," and rarely has Mrs. Sherman been in better voice or heard to better advantage.

Hon. John L. Webster of Omaha then made the principal address of the day, saying in part:

Not Occasion of Grief. I do not look upon this occasion as one of grief or mourning. These exhibitions of feeling before the privacy of the family whose ties have been broken and whose loving hearts have been melted by the sadness of separation. This public meeting is a memorial service and in remembrance and commemoration of the worthy service and lovable characteristics and touching actions of our brothers and benefactors that graced the life of our deceased brothers. We know them as living men; we remember them as living men with noble traits of character who associated with us in the sunshine of happiness. So our memorial service is not one of grief over their departure, but of pleasant remembrance.

In our modern American life we hold memorials in commemoration of the life and services of benefactors to mankind and of leaders in thought and action who have left their impress upon the people. Once a year we keep in memory the noble life and services of George Washington, the father of our country, Abraham Lincoln, its savior. They did not make occasions for mourning or grief over their death, but for the giving of

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JOHN B. ATKINS PASSES AWAY

Pioneer Druggist of Council Bluffs Fails to Find Health in California.

Telegram to friends here announce the death of John B. Atkins of this city Saturday evening at Los Angeles, Cal., where he went about two months ago in the hope of benefiting his failing health. With him when he died were his wife, his son Henry, his son-in-law, Dr. T. B. Lacey, and his grandson, T. B. Lacey, Jr.

Mr. Atkins had been a resident of Council Bluffs for nearly forty years and had always been prominent in its business and social affairs. He was a member of the city council for several terms, his last term being 1897-1900, and for a number of years he was a member of the Board of Education, serving several terms as its president. He was a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity and had held every office in the lodges here. At the time of his death he was treasurer of the Knights Templar grand commandery of the state of Iowa, an honor which had been conferred upon him for the fourth consecutive year. In New Mexico Mr. Atkins founded the first Masonic lodge in the territory and the year of his arrival in this city he became a charter member of Bluff City lodge No. 71, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. He was also a member of Star chapter No. 47, Royal Arch Masons; Joppa council No. 15, Royal Scepter No. 1281, Findlay, H. W. March, 1895; Haas, Samuel, December 16, 1900; Havestock, W. E., May 6, 1902; Mayne, Karl W., June 19, 1902; Powell, Dr. F. M., August 16, 1902; Truison, Dr. Theodor A., November 19, 1902; Wyman, A. W., July 2, 1903.

THE BELT LINE FRANCHISE

Proposal is to Furnish Terminals for Any and All Interurban Lines.

The Council Bluffs, Tabor & Southern Electric Railway company will not ask the city council for a franchise to enter Council Bluffs, but instead the Interurban Terminal & Belt Line company will submit to the aldermen at their meeting tonight an ordinance granting them a franchise to operate within the city limits. The Interurban Terminal & Belt Line company is in process of formation and the men composing it will, it is said, all be identified with the Council Bluffs, Tabor & Southern Electric Railway company. The Tabor line will have its terminal near the Iowa School for the Deaf and from that point its business will be taken care of by the Belt Line company.

The promoters of the Tabor line are confident that when their line from Council Bluffs to Rockport is completed and successfully in operation that other interurban lines will spring up in this section of the country, each of which will seek an entrance to the city. The first of these to follow the Tabor line, they say, will be one from the north, which will enter Council Bluffs on North Broadway. In fact, according to their statements, such a line has already been planned and will be built as soon as the Tabor line is completed. Following this line from the north there will come electric interurban lines from the northeast and southeast, the Tabor line commanding the territory south.

With a view to provide for the future and these other interurban roads, the Interurban Terminal & Belt Line company now seeks to get first in the field and secure a franchise for a line encircling the city. In the ordinance which will be submitted to the city council tonight, the streets sought to be occupied by the Belt Line company are divided into four subdivisions. The first subdivision comprises the streets which the company proposes to occupy at the outset while the other subdivisions comprise such streets as will be required as the proposed Belt line is constructed in the future.

Connecting with the Tabor line at its terminal near the Iowa School for the Deaf the Belt line will enter the city on South avenue at its intersection with Garfield avenue, and thence on Fourth street to Nineteenth avenue; on nineteenth avenue to High street; on High street between Nineteenth and Eighteenth avenues; on Eighteenth avenue from High street to Third street; on Third street from Eighteenth avenue to Ninth avenue; on Ninth avenue from Third street to Fourth street and on Fourth street from Ninth avenue to Story street. At this point the loop will be formed and the end of the line found for the present. The loop will be formed as follows: On Story street from Fourth street to Main street; on Main street from Story street to Fifth avenue; on Fifth avenue from Main street to Fourth street, and on Fourth street from Fifth avenue to Story street.

The right to occupy these streets as named and as indicated in the other three subdivisions will be asked for by ordinance. The ordinance provides for a maximum fare of 5 cents within the city limits. It also provides that construction work on the streets named in subdivision one shall be commenced by July 1, 1904, and fully completed by July 1, 1905. Work on streets in subdivision two within one year from the limit set for completion of subdivision one and to be in operation within two years from the time of commencement. Construction work on subdivision three shall be commenced within two years from the limit set for completion of subdivision two and to be in operation within three years from date of commencement of work of construction.

The ordinance also provides that all any suburb or interurban electric railway

CHILDREN ON THE DECREASE

School Reports Show Less Number Than in Previous Year.

LARGE FAMILIES SEEKING NEW COUNTRY

State Superintendent Makes Numerous Recommendations Regarding the Schools in His Annual Report.

(From a Staff Correspondent.) DES MOINES, Dec. 6.—(Special.)—The fact is made plain in the biennial report of the superintendent of public instruction, just filed with the governor, that while Iowa is a growing state and its population has shown a steady increase, the school population is not on the increase and is actually decreasing. This is accounted for in part by some evidence that there is less care in the securing and perfecting of reports than formerly, because the tendency is to have smaller families as the degree of literacy increases, and because of the fact that there has been a great immigration to the west and northwest in recent years. A great many families have gone from Iowa to Canada and states of the west in recent years, and as a rule they are large families, moving out to places where an abundance of land can be secured cheap. The number of children enrolled in the public schools of the state the past year was 592,562, while last year the report was 590,173, a loss of nearly 2 per cent in one year. Notwithstanding this, the report shows an increase in the number of teachers and the amounts expended for school purposes.

Deputy Superintendent. Superintendent Barrett makes a number of recommendations in his report. He would have a legal deputy authorized for each county superintendent, and he should have authority to visit schools. The legitimate traveling expenses of a county superintendent should be borne by the county. The county superintendent or a county board of education should be given the power to condemn school houses unfit for school use. There are 1,000 school houses in Iowa that are poor and unfit dwelling places for children. The passage of a law making it possible to unite school districts is urged. The law regarding the adoption of books by county boards of education should be amended so that all adoptions and readoptions should occur on the same day throughout the state. There is some doubt, which should be cleared, as to whether text books may be adopted without providing for their sale at the same price to all. There is need of amendment in relation to the extension of city boundaries so that residents of farms annexed shall have a right to be heard before being deprived of independent school life. The school corporations should be allowed to issue bonds to the amount of at least 2 per cent of the actual value of the property. The limitation money cannot be raised to build school houses of suitable size. There should be a suitable penalty provided for failure to comply with the public school library law, which has not always been obeyed. He would have the school corporation authorized to comply with the law by the deprivation of its portion of the school apportionment.

Employment Agency. As a further aid to securing good teachers, Superintendent Barrett makes the recommendation that a sufficient sum be provided to the superintendent of public instruction to employ a competent person whose duty it shall be to assist boards of directors in securing suitable teachers, and to render aid to teachers seeking positions. Many boards annually apply to the department for teachers, and teachers often inquire for vacancies. The annual expenditure of nearly \$6,000,000 for teachers' salaries alone, together with the fact that nearly 20,000 teachers are required to supply the schools, calls for far greater aid on the part of the state to get employer and employe together without unnecessary expense. The present appropriation made to the office of superintendent of public instruction is insufficient to enable the department to employ a competent person to do the work required, and as a consequence teachers' agencies undertake to secure positions for teachers on the payment of certain annual or biennial fees. As a general rule, teachers located by agencies are recruited to the extent of their annual salary to the agencies, in addition to the enrollment fee charges of \$1.50 or \$2. The amounts received by the teachers' agencies are unknown, but are reported to be large in proportion to the services rendered. Superintendent Barrett estimates at \$2,500, five at \$1,500, and ten at \$600, the total income for obtaining positions for sixteen persons is \$275, estimated on the above percentage. To secure positions for three times the number would give an income equal to the superintendent of one hundred cities. Superintendent Barrett says he has made this recommendation on behalf of the teachers, and not against the agencies.

Longer Contracts. The recommendation made in the last biennial report that authority be given boards to employ teachers for a longer period, since the limit as fixed by a decision of the supreme court is now one year, is renewed. Thirty-seven per cent of the superintendents in charge of city school systems in county seat towns in 1888 have changed locations, this leaving 24 per cent unchanged in six years. An estimate made with considerable care shows that nearly 10,000 changes in schools are made annually when all schools are taken into consideration. Permanency in school work is essential if the best results are to be had. Superintendent Barrett says he can think of no objection that can be urged against the enactment of a law granting boards authority to employ superintendents, principals and teachers for two or four years. It is contemplated that such law should be permissive, not mandatory.

Drake College Gets Money. Although Drake college has lost its chief benefactor and namesake by death, its friends are rallying royally to its maintenance. Last evening President Bell was informed by Joel Brown, one of the fiscal agents, that Mrs. Matilda Dodd of Jefferson had given \$25,000 to the endowment fund and Mr. and Mrs. Skinner of Spencer

Minor Mention. Davis sells drugs. Laffert's glasses fit. Stocker sells carpets. A store for men—"Beno's." Celebrated Metz beer on tap. Neumayer. Diamond betrothal rings at Laffert's, 409 Broadway. 14-K and 12-K wedding rings at Laffert's, 409 Broadway. Picture framing, C. E. Alexander & Co., 33 Broadway, Tel. 20. For rent, office room ground floor; one of the most central locations in the business portion of the city. Apply to The Bee office, city. The Woman's Relief Corps No. 180 has elected these officers: President, Mrs. Nettie Brown; senior vice president, Mrs. J. S. Chapman; Mrs. Abbott; treasurer, Mrs. Ota Brown. The funeral of Eugene Gallagher will be held this afternoon at 2 o'clock from the residence of 223 Third street, and will be in charge of Council Bluffs Aerie of Eagles. Members of the Aerie are requested to meet at their hall at 2 o'clock and wear their badges of mourning. Harry R. Knolle, son of Mrs. Scott Carson, 56 South Fourth street, died yesterday morning from pneumonia, aged 16 years. The funeral will be held this afternoon at 1:30 o'clock from the residence, and interment will be held Wednesday. Rev. James Thomson, pastor of the Congregational church, will conduct the services. Mrs. Mary Cronin, wife of John P. Cronin, 238 Avenue D, died yesterday morning from paralysis, from which she has suffered for three years, aged 47 years. She leaves her husband, three daughters surviving her. The funeral will be held Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock from St. Francis Xavier's church, and interment will be in St. Joseph cemetery. The Lincoln Post No. 25, Grand Army of the Republic, has elected the following officers for the coming year: Post commander, Dr. E. H. Craig; senior vice commander, R. E. Wilson; junior vice commander, J. S. Davis; chaplain, John Hutchinson; quartermaster, Samuel Johnson; surgeon, John Allen; adjutant, William Hamaker; officer of the guard, John V. Free; trustee for three years, George W. Cooke; delegate to department encampment, Wallace McFadden; alternate, J. S. Davis.

Haffer sells lumber. Catch the idea! A Sore Never Matters. After Porter's Antiseptic Healing Oil is applied. Relieves pain instantly and heals at the same time. For man or beast. Price, 5c. Prison Volunteer League Grows. JOLIET, Ill., Dec. 6.—Miss Maud Hellington-Booth caused an unusual demonstration today at the prison chapel. She secured 30 recruits for her Prison Volunteer league and spoke so eloquently that the convicts broke through the usual Sunday rules and applauded. All the 126 inmates, except a dozen sick in the hospital and one man in solitary confinement, heard Miss Booth.

McClure's Magazine. "At Any Price The Best". Ida M. Tarbell's STORY OF ROCKEFELLER in her History of the Standard Oil Company is "one of the most remarkable and stirring that has ever appeared in a magazine," says the Chicago Record-Herald. The chapter in the Christmas McClure's is great. Every number of McClure's contains special articles—articles of the greatest interest on subjects of burning national importance; and good short stories—at least a half dozen—and always good. SUBSCRIBE NOW 14 MONTHS \$1.00. The S. S. McClure Company, 615 Lexington Building, New York, N. Y.

"Health is Wealth". Is truly an expression of wisdom, for without the former the latter is an impossibility. Would not many of our multi-millionaires give all their wealth for perfect health? If you wish to enjoy the blessings of health live a regular life, get plenty of sunshine, outdoor air, healthy diet, vigorous exercise, and avoid depression, ill-nature and excitement—keep the bowels regular. Many of the advertised breakfast foods have a tendency to constipation. DR. PRICE'S WHEAT FLAKE CEREAL FOOD. is a natural laxative because it is made from the whole grain of the wheat. Palatable—Nutritious—Easy of Digestion and Ready to Eat. Prepared by PRICE CEREAL FOOD COMPANY, Chicago, Illinois.

College Corn School. The agronomy department of the Iowa Agricultural college has announced January 4 for the opening of the corn judging school, which will continue for ten days. Hundreds of samples of the leading varieties of corn will be on exhibition from all sections of the state. A number of prominent speakers from over the state will deliver lectures, among whom are Governor Cummins, Dean Henry of the University of Wisconsin, Prof. William Hays of the University of Minnesota, Prof. A. D. Shamel of Washington, D. C., R. E. Farnham of El Paso, Ill., Iowa's corn decorator at the Louisiana Purchase exposition, and C. S. Scotland of the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. Farmers' Institute Circuit. Butler, Bremer and Chickasaw county farmers have formed an institute circuit and have arranged to hold institutes at Shellrock, January 15; at Nashua, January 22 and 23 and at Sumner January 24 and 25. The movement is advantageous in that it enables the institutes to secure more and better speakers by coalescing efforts in the district instead of each county going it alone. The formation of these circuits will be encouraged by the State Department of Agriculture. Tell This to Your Wife. Electric Bitters cure female complaints, surely and safely; dispel headaches, backaches, nervousness or no pay. 50c. For sale by Kuhn & Co. THE SUPERINTENDENT. THE BEE BUILDING. R. C. PETERS & CO., Rental Agents. Ground Floor, The Bee Building. MEN NERVE BEANS. A. L. RAMACCIOTTI, D. V. S. CITY VETERINARIAN. TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY FARMER. Best Agricultural Weekly.