

THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S REPORT.

The State Board of Education Will Consider It.

How the Estimates of the Cost of State Text-Books Have Been Arrived at.

The State Board of Education meets to-day and will among other things consider the report that the Governor has asked Secretary of State Brown to make regarding the publication of school books by the State, and in regard to which there seems to be some misconception.

Mr. Brown says it is not, as has been stated, an attack on the school books, but that, in response to the Governor's request, he is simply reporting figures and facts concerning their publication.

State Superintendent of Instruction Black said last night that he had been misquoted by a San Francisco paper as saying that the revolving fund was bankrupt.

"That is impossible," said Mr. Black. "It never can become bankrupt. There is always either money in the fund or books in store. In five months from July 1st to December 1st I paid into the fund about \$86,000 and the amount to be paid in for December will probably be about \$2,500 or \$3,000."

"I do not know anything about the appropriation for the purchase of paper, etc., for the State Printer controls that. Nor do I know much of the system of arriving at the cost of books that has been in practice by the board."

The revolving fund, or as it is termed in the law, the State text book fund, consists of the money received for the sale of books, which is to be again paid out for the manufacture of other books, the idea being to make it self-sustaining by this constant turning over of the money in it.

The records of the State Board of Education show that the various State Printers have all reported on the cost of the first 50,000 copies of each book printed, in order that the State Board of Education might be able to make an estimate of the cost of the books. Some of these reports were in themselves partly estimates, as the editions were unfinished at the time. They were in two parts.

The first part included such expenses as would never have to be repeated in the manufacture of the book, such as composition, electrotyping, engraving, etc. The second part included expenses that would pertain to each edition, as paper, printing, binding, etc.

The board took the first part, and adding to it the cost of authorship, preparation and a certain per cent. of the cost of the printing plant, distributed the total amount over the probable life of the book, on the basis of eight years.

The percentage of the plant being distributed according to the estimated number of pages in the edition of any one book for the eight years, as the different books were not of the same size.

Of course the board could only estimate the number that would be sold in eight years, and some of the estimates were too high, through no fault of the board. In San Francisco, in spite of the State law, for several years the Board of Education did not use the Elementary Arithmetic, the Elementary Grammar and the Speller, and when they took up the Elementary Grammar they dropped the advanced one. Oakland did the same thing for a time, and these two large cities, of course, disarranged the estimates.

As has been stated, a percentage of the plant, which originally was valued at \$95,000, but which was reported in 1893 to be worth \$30,000, has been distributed and added in estimating the cost of each book. The books originally ordered by the Legislature were three readers, a speller, an arithmetic, a grammar, a history and a geography. To these were added by a subsequent Legislature an Elementary Grammar, an Elementary Arithmetic, an Elementary Geography, a Physiology and a book on civil government.

In 1890 the Legislature appropriated \$25,000 from the State text-book fund, or revolving fund, for the revision of certain books, and changed the series of readers—which had been originally limited by law to three books, but which had been found by the teachers of the State to be too few to give the best results—to four readers. In accordance with this change the readers were revised, and the new First, Second, Third and Fourth Readers were printed during the past year. The Arithmetic, Grammar and History are also undergoing revision.

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ter imagined than told. Congratulations and good wishes were expressed for the hostess, and with whisk and other amusements a most enjoyable evening was spent. At a late hour refreshments were served. There were present: Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Eilers, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Schardin, Mr. and Mrs. N. W. Robbins, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Seaman, Robert Philip, J. W. Ross, Miss M. Schardin, Miss Lulu Stickney and Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Tiel.

A social masquerade and watch party was given by Sacramento Lodge, I. O. G. T., at Pythian Castle on New Year's eve. After the grand march by the maskers, numbering over 150, a splendid literary and musical programme was rendered, followed by a comical farce called "McFadden at the Ball," which was enjoyed by all. Games were indulged in till midnight, when, on hearing the bells announce the new leap year's birth, the ladies selected their partners and marched to the banquet hall on the lower floor, where a delightful repast was served, after which games were again indulged in and kept up till the small hours. The general committee in charge of the affair were Mrs. Edward Hart, Mrs. Frank Coulter, Mrs. Harry Wilkerson, Mrs. C. Burton, and Mrs. M. Chapman; Floor Director, Charles Burton.

RED MEN'S TRUSTEES.

Officers and Committees Were Selected Yesterday.

The joint Board of Trustees of the Improved Order of Red Men elected the following officers yesterday: E. Dundas, President; L. W. Grothen, Vice-President; H. Winters, Wampum Keeper; J. Domingos, Secretary; C. F. Leighton, Janitor.

The President appointed the following committees: Hall—H. Winters, J. E. Burd and George Boyne. Cemetery—E. C. Hopkins, H. Winters and N. Hoffelt. Finance—J. P. Counts, N. Hoffelt and L. W. Grothen.

Rules—J. P. Counts, George Boyne and E. C. Hopkins.

SLATER, THE MIND-READER.

He Exhibits His Powers at Pioneer Hall Last Night.

John Slater, the mind reader, gave an exhibition of his powers last night at Pioneer Hall, which was crowded. He performed various feats similar to those he did on his former visit to this city, telling well-known names in the audience occurrences that they thought known only to themselves, giving names of deceased relatives to parties who had never seen him before, and pointing out different persons who had placed articles on the table previous to his arrival at the hall. He created a most favorable impression among the audience.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

Arrivals at the Golden Eagle Hotel yesterday: F. H. Gates and family, Detroit; J. Levy and daughter, Nevada City; Alfred Kroeger, New York; Deanor Coffin, Carson; Frank G. Smith, A. B. Rudell, Sacramento; John F. Moody, Truckee; Mrs. L. M. Culver, Pasadena; R. W. Rupe, J. A. Cohen, J. A. Munn and wife, J. C. Cronn, Sidney Soule, Charles Rueff, San Francisco; C. W. Childs, San Jose; L. C. Morehouse, San Leandro; Mrs. Horace W. Ball, San Francisco.

Real Estate.

The following real estate transfers have been recorded since our last report:

G. W. Dickson to Charles Dickson and wife—An undivided half of eighty acres of the north half of section 25, township 7 north, range 5 east.

Charles Dickson et ux. to G. W. Dickson—South half of the northeast quarter of section 25, township 7 north, range 5 east.

Benjamin Shinkle et ux. to C. J. Barry—South quarter of the northwest quarter of section 23, and two and a half acres in northeast corner of southeast quarter of section 22, township 8 north, range 5 east.

M. J. Curtis and wife to Jessie A. Piercy—Lot 2, Curtis & Bowley tract. L. S. and L. E. Taylor to Edward and Margaret Dooley—West half of lot 4, Q and R, Eighteenth and Nineteenth streets.

G. J. Cross to Fred A. Shepard—South twenty feet of the north sixty feet of east eighty feet of lot 8, L and M, Front and Second streets.

C. L. Ecklon to G. S. and S. W. Hanum—Blocks 79 and 80, Folsom.

Robert Forbes et ux. to Philip Douglas—Lot 1, D and E, Eleventh and Twelfth streets.

J. T. Gore to Charles T. Taylor—One acre in Honora Parrel ranch.

Orangevale Colonization Company to Thomas Wood—Tract 251, Orangevale.

Weather Notes.

The Weather Bureau reports show the highest and lowest temperatures yesterday to have been 56 degrees and 30 degrees, with gentle northerly winds and partly cloudy weather prevailing.

The highest and lowest temperatures on Saturday last were 52 degrees and 28 degrees.

The barometrical readings at 5 a. m. and 5 p. m. were 30.24 and 30.20 inches, respectively.

The highest and lowest temperatures one year ago Saturday were 54 degrees and 45 degrees, with 2.62 inches of rain, one year ago yesterday 54 degrees and 46 degrees, with .02 of an inch of rain, and one year ago to-day 53 degrees and 40 degrees, with no rain.

River, 9 feet 4 inches.

Mortality Report for December.

Health Officer H. L. Nichols has made his statement of mortality for the month of December.

It shows that the total number of deaths in the city was 36, in an estimated population of 30,000, an annual death-rate for the month per 1,000 of 14.40.

Of the deaths, 4 were from consumption, 2 from scarlet fever and 16 from diphtheria. The total mortality for the year was 487, making 16.23 per 1,000.

Pelicans' Practice.

Some of the members of the Pelican Club went out to their grounds at Morrison's yesterday for a practice shoot on live birds, but as they expect to challenge some of the champion shots before long and did not want to make a record that would frighten them from accepting the challenge, no scores were kept.

They Crossed the Bridge.

Yesterday, from the time that the sun began to fairly warm the atmosphere until it sank in the west, a string of people crossed and recrossed the new bridge over the river and admired the view up and down the river from the footway overhead. It was estimated that over 2,000 persons crossed during the day.

Distributed Manner.

A Chinaman named Soon Hop was arrested yesterday morning by Officers Fisher and Talbot for distributing manure from his overloaded wagon over the streets, in violation of the ordinance.

LATTER DAY SAINTS.

Yesterday's Double Services Held at Pythian Castle.

The large upper hall in the Pythian Castle has been rented by the Latter-Day Saints for the purpose of holding their services there on Sundays. Yesterday they held two meetings, one at 2 and the other at 7:30 p. m. They contemplate meeting twice a day, as they are expecting, beginning with Sunday next, to have a series of discourses delivered by their President, who is coming to pay them a visit.

They had a fair audience last evening, considering that it was the first evening session, and they say the prospects are fair for a good work in the future.

The evening discourse was upon the subject: "Was Joseph Smith a Prophet of God?" The speaker considered it important, because Mr. Smith was either a prophet proclaiming the doctrine by which man is to be saved, or he was a great impostor. That, if a prophet, his predictions must come true, his doctrine must correspond exactly with that of the Savior and ordinance performance, if by authority, must be followed by the same gifts and manifestations.

It was stated that authority to administer the gospel ordinance had been given by the Savior to man in the Apostolic dispensation, that this authority had been taken from earth and that it had been restored again in this century.

Numerous prophecies were cited from the Bible which, it was claimed, were literally fulfilled by Mr. Smith, and it was stated that his own predictions, important as they were, were claimed, and witnesses that he was divinely inspired.

BANK STATEMENTS.

People's, Sacramento and Farmers' and Mechanics' Banks.

In to-day's issue appears the semi-annual statement of the People's Savings Bank, showing the present condition of that well-known and substantial financial institution. The showing is a most creditable one for the management of the bank.

It also makes announcement of its semi-annual dividend at the rate of 4.40 per cent. per annum on term deposits and 3.30 per cent. on ordinary deposits, free of taxes and now payable.

The Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank has also declared a dividend for the semi-annual term at the rate of 4.40 per cent. per annum on term deposits, 3.30 per cent. per annum on ordinary deposits, and 4 per cent. on paid-up capital stock, payable on and after to-day.

That old-established and solid institution, the Sacramento Bank, also comes forward with its statement, the figures of which will interest all persons having dealings with it. This bank is prepared to-day to settle with its depositors for their semi-annual interest on the same basis as the banks mentioned above.

GOOD APPOINTMENT.

R. D. Stephens a Member of the State Board of Horticulture.

Governor Budd has appointed R. D. Stephens of this county as member at large of the State Board of Horticulture. Mr. Stephens is an experienced and successful fruit grower, and the Governor could not have found a man better fitted than he for the place.

Governor Budd is in favor of the State Board of Horticulture having its office and holding its meetings at the Capitol, and he evidently had this matter in his mind when he selected Mr. Stephens for a place on the board. There are various matters for that body to consider in the interest of the fruit-growers of the State, and it may safely be said that these interests will be vigilantly and intelligently looked after by Mr. Stephens.

A BIG METEOR.

It Passed Over Arno Station on Saturday Evening.

About ten minutes before 7 o'clock on Saturday evening a large meteor of wondrous brilliancy passed over Arno Station, near the Cosumnes River. When apparently close to the earth it exploded in a shower of sparks.

It lighted up the country about the station as brilliantly as if a great electric searchlight had been suddenly turned upon that locality. The meteor passed westward at apparently an angle of about forty-five degrees, and it seemed as if the fragments must have fallen near Arno.

GONE TO HER REST.

Mrs. Lucy W. Eastman of Walnut Grove Passes Away.

Mrs. Lucy W. Eastman passed away yesterday at her residence near Walnut Grove at the age of 58, leaving behind her two children, Ella and Arthur C. Eastman.

She was a native of Concord, N. H. The funeral will take place to-morrow at her late residence, after which her remains will be brought here on the steamer Fruitvale and services will be held at George Clark's undertaking parlors at 3 p. m. She will be interred in the City Cemetery.

AMUSEMENTS.

"Uncle Tom's Cabin" will be played at the Clunie Opera-house to-night with Hallett as Legree, Barrett as Tom, Eldridge as Marks, Miss O'Brien as Topsy, Miss Bridger as Eliza and a bright and precocious child as Eva. The play will be given in its entirety, and not a mangled edition. It has had very thorough rehearsal and the company will give as good a performance the first night as later.

The box office of the Metropolitan Theater opens to-day for reservation of seats for the Fanny Rice engagement which begins to-morrow night.

BRIEF NOTES.

Frederick Keller and William F. Pearson, natives of Germany, have been admitted to citizenship.

Sam Williams has been sent to the County Jail for sixty days for vagrancy. He was detected in an effort to jump off the big bridge into the river.

Judgment has been rendered by default in the foreclosure case against Antonio P. Valine. The mortgage was for \$2,500 on a small piece of land down the river.

Charles N. Johnson, a Chico hotel-proprietor, has filed a petition of insolvency. His indebtedness is \$7,000. San Francisco, Sacramento and Marysville creditors lose \$8,000.

The Arion Concert Company has selected these officers: Musical Director, S. Hellbron; President, W. Toll; Vice-President, Miss De Pue; Secretary and Treasurer, George Gifford; Manager, I. Hellbron; Board of Directors—William Toll, George Gifford, L. Markquitz, J. Hoskins and I. Hellbron.

California Company, No. 5, of the California Brigade, Uniformed Rank of Knights of Pythias, has elected officers as follows: Captain, W. B. Oldfield; First Lieutenant, Al Gibson; Second

Lieutenant, F. Little; Recorder and Sergeant, Frank J. Detrich; Treasurer and Sergeant, L. Grater.

A CROOKED LEG.

That of Peter Benson Has Been Made Straight Again.

An operation was performed at the Railroad Hospital on Saturday on the leg of Peter Benson, a twenty-year-old youth of Rocklin, to relieve him from the effects of an old injury.

One of his legs, which had been hurt at the knee for twelve years, was straightened by Dr. Huntington by the removal of a callous growth that had formed on the bone. The stiffness cannot be corrected, but henceforth the leg will be straight.

ATTEMPT AT SUICIDE.

William Smith Becomes Despondent and Cuts His Throat.

A man named William Smith was yesterday brought in from the Twelvemile House on the Auburn road and taken to the hospital for treatment for a gash in his throat.

All that could be learned in connection with the case is that Smith became despondent and cut his throat with intent to commit suicide. He is a German and about 47 years of age. It is thought he will recover.

Funeral of Mrs. Menke.

The funeral of the late Mrs. Mary C. Menke took place from 1410 Tenth street yesterday and was very largely attended. The deceased had lived many years in this city and reared a large family here. She possessed many excellent traits of character and numbered her friends by the hundreds. Deceased leaves four sons and two daughters—Charles, Martin, Joseph and Thomas Menke, Mrs. F. J. Beale and Mary Menke.

Mrs. Menke's health had been failing for several months, and she tried various changes of climate but without avail.

Painful Accident.

Barton Greer is laid up with a badly injured leg, the result of having been thrown from Christianson & Co.'s delivery wagon and dragged for a considerable distance in consequence of his horse running away. It is feared he may be permanently crippled.

The Old Bridge Going.

The demolition of the old railroad bridge is going on, and that of this side is almost completed, with the exception of the piles in the river bed. Part of the other end is also demolished.

A Divorce for C. E. Self.

Judge Catlin has granted Charles E. Self a divorce from Jennie E. Self on the ground of desertion. Mrs. Self did not oppose the decree.

Auction at Oak Park.

W. T. Crowell will sell at auction, at 10 a. m. to-day, the contents of Matthei's grocery store at Oak Park. Everything connected with the store will be sold.

Tree-Climbing Fish.

"As unobtainable as a fish out of water" should be used with reservation. On the coasts of Eastern Asia one may often see the climbing bass or "Anabas scandens" deliberately leave the watery element to take a pleasure or a business jaunt along the seashore. The Malays call this queer fish "the tree climber," and quite correctly so because specimens have often been taken from the sides of trees which they actually climbed to a height of six feet or more.

While the silvery herring and the lovely salmon die almost as soon as they leave the water, the climbing bass gets along very well with very little of the nasty brine—the little which the peculiar construction of its gills enables it to take along on its trips on shore.

When not promading the Anabas scandens gets a good grip on the sand with its thin fins and then pushes itself forward with the tail. Climbing trees is effected in the same manner.

Dr. Clark, with his Vivian De Monto snow, went to Stockton yesterday in his new \$12,000 car and will stay there for some time.

NEW TO-DAY.

Semi-Annual Statement

OF THE

PEOPLE'S SAVINGS BANK

OF THE

SACRAMENTO CITY.

WM. BECKMAN, President
J. L. HUNTON, Vice-President
GEO. W. LORENZ, Secretary
A. L. HART, Attorney

STATEMENT

Of the condition of the People's Savings Bank, a corporation doing business in the City of Sacramento, State of California, at the close of business, December 31, 1895:

ASSETS. Loans on real estate, \$706,064 06; Real estate owned, 15,819 13; Furniture, 500 00; Cash on hand and in banks, 124,497 72; Total, \$946,974 91

LIABILITIES.

Capital stock paid in coin, \$225,500 00; Reserve fund, 73,139 89; Contingent fund, 15,166 16; Due depositors, 678,132 03; Dividends unclaimed for, 8,087 03; Total, \$999,974 91

STATEMENT

Of the capital stock of the People's Savings Bank, a corporation doing business in the City of Sacramento, State of California, on the 31st day of December, 1895:

Authorized capital, \$500,000 00; Capital stock subscribed, 415,000 00; Capital stock paid in coin, 225,500 00; Reserve fund, 73,139 89; Surplus or contingent fund, 15,166 16

STATEMENT

State of California, County of Sacramento—Wm. Beckman and George W. Lorenz, being separately sworn, each for himself, say, that William Beckman is the President and George W. Lorenz is the Cashier of the People's Savings Bank, and that the foregoing statements are true to the best of their knowledge and belief.

WM. BECKMAN, President.
GEO. W. LORENZ, Cashier.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 3d day of January, 1896.

HOWARD KIMBROUGH, Notary Public in and for the County of Sacramento, State of California. 11

SEND THE WEEKLY UNION TO YOUR FRIENDS IN THE EAST.

STATEMENT

State of California, County of Sacramento. Wm. P. Coleman and Ed. R. Hamilton, being separately sworn, each for himself, say, that Wm. P. Coleman is President and Ed. R. Hamilton is Cashier of the Sacramento Bank, a corporation doing business in the City of Sacramento, State of California, and that the foregoing statement is true to the best of their knowledge and belief.

WM. P. COLEMAN, President.
ED. R. HAMILTON, Cashier.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 4th day of January, 1896.

M. K. BARRETT, Notary Public in and for the County of Sacramento, State of California. 11

SEND THE WEEKLY UNION TO YOUR FRIENDS IN THE EAST.

ROXBURY CARPETS 70c yard. Sewed and laid. 25 beautiful patterns to select from. Such a large line has never been shown before at this price by any one. John Breuner 604-606-608 K ST., SACRAMENTO

A PRINCIPLE AT STAKE.

The Chicago Man Didn't Propose to be Bamboozled.

A man in a long black coat and baggy-kneed trousers stepped up at the weighing clerk's window at the post-office the other morning and handed in a parcel done up in paper.

"How much will it cost to send that to Milwaukee?" he asked. "What is it?" asked the clerk. "Merchandise." "Any writing inside?" "No."

"It will cost you twenty-two cents," said the clerk, after weighing it. "That's just what I expected," angrily retorted the man. "You knew I could send that package by express for twenty-five cents and put a letter inside of it, and you knew that I sent it by mail I'd have to write a letter to go along with it, which would cost three cents, so you put the postage on the package at twenty-two cents in order to bring the whole thing up to twenty-five cents, and make it cost me just as much and no more than to send it by express."

When the United States and the express companies get up a trust and play into each other's hands in this way I think it's time, by George, for the people to—"My friend, will you please step aside?" said the weighing clerk. "There are several persons behind you waiting to be served."

"Yes, sir!" exclaimed the other in a high-pitched voice, "I'll stand aside! And I won't buy any stamps, either! Not a darned stamp! The United States can't play any gouse game on me! In a week or ten days I expect to go to