NEW LAWS FOR IOWA

Enacted at Twenty-Ninth Session of the General Assembly.

Measures Relating to Taxation, Punishment of Criminals, Salaries of Officials, State Institutions and Railroads Are in the List.

Below will be found a brief summary of the laws passed at the Twenty-ninth session of the Iowa legislature:

Taxation.

Amending section 3, chapter 30, acts of the Twenty-eighth general assembly in order to permit of a levy of two mills for city park purposes in cities of 22,000 and over, instead of in cities of 25,000, as at present. This law applies only to Burlington and Clinton.

Making taxes on assets of any corporation, partnership or person which are placed in the hands of a receiver a prior lien, and providing that they shall be first paid in full by the receiver, claims therefor not being required to be filed.

Extending the provisions of the present statute authorizing the people to vote taxes in aid of railroads to trolley and electric railways, and authorizing the people to vote taxes in aid of interurbans to the extent of five per cent. The law provides, however, that no stock shall be issued by any such company except upon payment therefor of the full par value thereof in cash or its equivalent.

Authorizing library boards of cities to condemn grounds for the location of libraries and for additional library grounds.

Authorizing the improvement of the channels of meandered streams within the corporate limits of certain cities, and to authorize the reclaiming of lands between the meandered lines of these streams within the corporate limits. This act applies to Cedar Rapids and Ottumwa only.

Requiring express companies to file their annual reports with the executive council, instead of with the auditor of state, as at present.

Providing for the elimination of the limit upon fees which shall be paid to the secretary of state for filing articles of incorporation of corporations. The rate for filing articles with the state will be, after the first $10,000, for which $25 is charged, one dollar per $1,000 of additional capital stock.

Making buildings assessed as personal property subject to taxes as a lien from the date of levy until paid.

Reducing interest on warrants issued by counties from six to five per cent.

Providing for an accounting with the auditor of state by the treasurer of state on the first Monday in January and the first day of April, July and October of each year.

Abolishing the road supervisor districts, creating a township unit for the purpose of road improvement, authorizing the levy of a four mill road tax, appropriating three mills of this tax for expenditure by township trustees and one mill by the board of county supervisors, and requiring the payment of the tax in cash.

Authorizing cities to expend the proceeds of a two-mill levy provided for the purchase or erection of municipal waterworks plants in making necessary extensions and improvements of such plants, and authorizing cities to execute additional mortgages upon municipal waterworks of this character for the purpose of making such extensions, provided the interest on the mortgage does not exceed six per cent.

Authorizing cities which have already voted taxes to aid a corporation to construct bridges across navigable boundary rivers to vote taxes for the purchase of such bridges. This law, which is applicable to the city of Clinton only, goes into effect July 4.

Repealing the section requiring boards of library trustees to fix a levy for the maintenance of libraries and permitting a levy of one mill in cities having 22,000 population and two mills in cities having more than 22,000 for maintenance purposes, and a levy of three mills in cities of more than 25,000 for building purposes.

Authorizing the expenditure of taxes raised for the operation of waterworks in their renewal, repair and extension.

Providing that property not to exceed $800 in actual value of any honorably discharged union soldier or sailor of the Mexican war or of the war of the rebellion, or of the widow remaining unmarried of such soldier or sailor, shall be exempted from taxation.

Making the laws with reference to levying and collecting taxes the same in special charter cities that they are in other cities.

Levying a special tax of one-fifth of one mill for building purposes for the State university.

Levying a tax of one-fifth of one mill for five years for building purposes for the benefit of the State agricultural college at Ames.

Permitting communities to vote five per cent. taxes in aid of railroads once in ten years.

Reducing the taxes upon foreign insurance companies from 3½ to 2½ per cent. upon gross premiums.

Authorizing the levy of a tax of one-tenth of a mill for five years for building purposes for the state normal school at Cedar Falls.

Authorizing a refund to administrators of surplus paid the treasurer of state as collateral inheritance tax in excess of that legally due.

Authorizing cities of over 20,000 to levy a two-mill tax for library purposes; the law now limits them to a 1½-mill tax.

Providing for the issuance of school bonds to pay indebtedness contracted in the construction of buildings, the board being given the right to issue such bonds without submitting the question to the people.

Fixing the amount to be raised during the year 1902 by taxation at $2,300,000; during the year 1903 at $2,000,000; on the present valuation this will make a levy of about four mills for the two years.

Legalizing Acts.

Legalizing the election held in Osceola county relative to the building of a courthouse and jail in Sibley.

Legalizing the acts of the county auditor and board of supervisors of Lyon county relative to the location of county roads on section lines.

Legalizing the acts of boards of waterworks trustees in all cities in which trustees were appointed by the district judges in conformity with the law which has since been held to be unconstitutional.

Legalizing the acts of the independent school district of Stanwood in voting bonds to rebuild a schoolhouse.

Legalizing the incorporation of the town of Rudd, Floyd county.

Legalizing the incorporation of the town of Minden, Pottawattamie county.

Legalizing the acts of the town council of Orleans, Dickinson county, relative to the sale of West park, in that city.

Legalizing the independent school district of Ralston, Greene county.

Legalizing the official acts of W. E. Haskins, a notary public in Howard county.

Legalizing the incorporation of such companies as had their notices of incorporation published once each week for four consecutive weeks in some daily, semi-weekly or tri-weekly newspaper, instead of causing the same to be published in each issue of such paper for four consecutive weeks.

Legalizing the official acts of the town of Sumner, Bremer county.

Legalizing ordinances and resolutions passed by the councils in cities and towns by less than the required number of votes.

Legalizing the acts of the board of supervisors of Jefferson county relating to the levying of a tax for the support of the poor, and in which there was an error in apportioning the levy between the county and poor funds.

Legalizing the official acts of George C. McMurtry and Herbert J. McMurtrie, notaries public in Polk and Warren counties.

Legalizing the acts of the independent school district of Allerton, Wayne county, in voting bonds to rebuild a burned schoolhouse.

Legalizing an election in Dallas county for the erection of a courthouse, held in November, 1900.

Legalizing the ordinances of Conway, Taylor county.

Legalizing the acts of Schaller, Sac county.

Legalizing the contracts made by Spirit Lake, Ia., for the construction of a sewer and the levy of a tax of five mills therefor.

Legalizing the ordinances of the town of Shannon, in Union and Ringgold counties.

Legalizing the ordinances of the town of Cresco, Howard county.

Legalizing the certified copy of record of the supreme court of the United States in the case of the Burlington & Missouri River railroad from Fremont county.

Legalizing the conveyance of real estate to the township trustees of Fox River township, Davis county, for graveyard and church purposes.

Legalizing the extension of the limits of the town of Laurens, Pocahontas county.

Legalizing the ordinances of Swan, Marion county.

Legalizing the incorporation of the town of Kinross, Keokuk county.

Legalizing the acts done by the town of Bondurant, Polk county.

Legalizing notice and votes for the incorporation of the town of Gravity, Taylor county.

Legalizing the election at Clinton establishing a free public library.

Criminals.

To punish by imprisonment in the penitentiary by any term of years between ten and life whoever kidnaps, takes or carries away any person, or decoys or entices such person away from any place in Iowa for the purpose of or with the intention of receiving or securing from anyone any money, property or thing of value as a ransom.

To provide that any person convicted of the murder of another person shall not receive any interest in the estate of the decedent as surviving spouse.

Giving the state board of health full power to enforce rules and regulations within the territory of local boards, when local boards shall refuse or fail to enforce the rules and regulations of the state board.

Making the interference with or theft of any part of bridges of electric railways or apparatus thereto belonging, or of telephone, electric light wires, etc., subject to penalties provided for malicious mischief and trespass.

Making it a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of $100 or imprisonment in the county jail of not more than 30 days to use bottles, boxes, barrels, casks and kegs belonging to another.

Making the possession of burglars' tools subject to the penalty of imprisonment in the penitentiary for not more than five years or a fine not exceeding $500 and imprisonment in the county jail for not more than one year.

Prohibiting the sale of cocaine and providing a penalty of a fine of $100 and costs of prosecution for the first offense and a fine of $300 or imprisonment in the county jail for three months for the second offense. Nothing in the act prohibits the sale of the drug to dentists or physicians for use in their professions or to wholesale and retail houses for use in their business.

Punishment by imprisonment for not more than 20 years persons who advise, counsel, encourage, advocate or incite murder, although no such killing takes place.

Providing that creameries which fail to make reports to the state dairy commissioner within 30 days shall be punished by a fine of $25 to $100.

Authorizing sheriffs to take and secure photographs of criminals and to have measurements taken by the Bertillion system; also authorizing the exchange of these photographs and data with other sheriffs by mail.

Providing that the escape of prisoners from buildings or places outside the walls of a penitentiary shall be punishable by the same penalty as escape from within the penitentiary itself.

Providing that prisoners may be worked in buildings or places outside of penitentiary inclosures.

Providing that persons charged with murder or treason may be admitted to bail before but not after conviction.

Salaries of Public Officials.

Fixing the salaries of sheriffs as follows: In counties having more than 45,000 population, $3,500; between 28,000 and 45,000, $3,000; between 11,000 and 28,000, $2,000; provided that any excess over the sums mentioned collected by the sheriff shall be paid into the county treasury. In all counties the expense incurred in the performance of official duties, in serving criminal processes, commitments to the penitentiaries and industrial schools or asylums shall be allowed as other claims against the county. The sheriff is allowed to retain all mileage collected by him in the service of civil processes. In counties having a population of less than 11,000 and in which the receipts together with the salary do not amount to $1,500, the board of supervisors shall allow the sheriff the deficit. In all counties the chief deputy shall be paid the sheriff and all other deputies shall be paid by the county.

Fixing the salary of shorthand reporters of the district court at six dollars per day and providing that in case this per diem does not amount to $1,200 a year the difference shall be made up by the counties in which the court is held in proportion to the number of days of court held in each county; reporters shall receive six cents per 100 words for transcribing their notes, and in case of criminals the expense shall be paid by the county.

Authorizing counties of more than 60,000 population to furnish office and supplies to city assessors; authorizing supervisors to approve appointments of assistants by the assessor; providing also for compensation of $1,500 for assessors in cities of more than 60,000 and compensation of $2.50 per day for deputies.

Reorganizing the supreme court and increasing the salaries of the members from $4,600 to $6,000 per annum, effective after January 1, 1904; providing that the court shall meet in continuous session during 9½ months in each year, holding open court in the city of Des Moines once each month for the submission of cases, and requiring the court to take submission of only that number of cases which it shall be able to finally determine and decide within the ensuing month.

Increasing the salary of the governor of Iowa from $3,000 to $5,000. The governor receives biennially house rent amounting to $600 a year and $500 for services on the executive council, so that the increase is really from $4,100 to $6,100. The law will take effect January 1, 1904.

Fixing the salary of county superintendents of schools at $1,200 per annum instead of four dollars per day.

Increasing the salaries of district judges from $2,500 to $3,500 per year.

Providing that the compensation of official papers shall be 33 cents per ten lines of brevier; the present law reads "not to exceed 33 cents."

Providing that the minimum salary paid to county attorneys shall be $500 per annum, and also providing that in counties of 36,000 and over the county attorney may employ an assistant with the approval of the board of supervisors at a salary not to exceed $1,000 per annum.

Appropriations.

Inauguration ceremonies..		$ 1,260 86
To supply Indians on Tama reservation with substitute for property destroyed on account of being infected with smallpox		7,000 00
Express, freight and cartage due and unpaid	$1,222 09	
Claims approved by executive council	321 52	
Express and freight, 29th General assembly	400 00	
		$1,943 61
Railroad commissioner's maps		2,500 00
To complete insane hospital at Cherokee		138,000 00
Additional employes of general assembly		4,500 00
Erection of Vicksburg monuments		150,000 00
Custodian's employes for March, 1902		1,620 48
Total		$306,824 95
To transfer patients to hospitals for insane		$6,000
For erection of monuments in memory of Iowa troops at the battles of Chattanooga		35,000
For erection of monument in Forest Home cemetery, Mount Pleasant, in memory of Charles Shepherd, a revolutionary soldier		500
Board of control—state institutions:		
Marshalltown	$77,200	
Davenport	69,200	
Anamosa	32,602	
Vinton	9,700	
Council Bluffs	12,100	
Glenwood	109,075	
Mitchellville	37,100	
Mount Pleasant	104,450	
Independence	79,200	
Clarinda	67,500	
Fort Madison	81,000	
Eldora	47,430	
		$716,557
State educational institutions:		
State university	$215,000	
State normal school	84,269	
State agricultural college	135,000	
		$434,269
Benedict home, Des Moines		7,000
Sioux City mothers' and babies' home		2,000

For laundry building at Mt. Pleasant, to replace one destroyed by fire, $15,000; to reimburse Greene county for care of Frank Brainerd, non-resident insane person, $31; Dubuque Rescue home, $2,000; to reimburse Dr. F. M. Powell for money expended in securing vacation of road for the benefit of institution of feeble minded, Glenwood, $160; to reimburse Charles Gray for publication of original notice in case of Bettannier vs. Cailie, $21; state library commission, $6,000 annually, $12,000; to indemnify Matthew R. Sadler for damages caused by sewer from Mitchellville industrial school, $500; additional support for State Historical society, $1,500 annually, $3,000; Iowa national guard, $57,200 annually, $114,400; to reimburse Greene county for care of non-resident insane, $288; for the purchase of the portrait of James Harlan for the historical art gallery, $1,000; capitol improvement commission, $250,000; pavilion at state fair ground, $37,500; St. Louis exposition, $125,000; State Historical society, $9,500.

State Officers.

Providing for the defense of the state treasurer as such in suits brought to recover taxes or fees unlawfully collected.

Giving the executive council power to appoint expert accountants and assistants to examine and account with state officers.

Requiring the state board of medical examiners to issue certificates to practice osteopathy to graduates of legally incorporated schools of osteopathy recognized as of good standing by the state osteopathic society upon passing the examination in prescribed branches.

Providing for accounting for state paper between the state printer and binder and the secretary of the executive council.

Giving the board of control power to discharge or parole inmates of the industrial schools at their own discretion.

Empowering the state labor commissioner to inspect factories to elicit information concerning the employment of children, the relations between capital and labor, protection of life of employes, educational, sanitary, family and financial condition of wage-earners, cost of food and of living, causes of strikes and lockouts, etc.

State Institutions.

Making the support fund of the institution for the deaf and dumb at Council Bluffs $22 per month per capita for all purposes, the support to run for nine months in each year for each resident pupil actually supported in the school. This support fund is for all the ordinary and current expenses of the institution, including salaries, and for supplies.

Providing for a support fund of $22 per month per capita for all salaries and supplies at the College for the blind at Vinton for each resident scholar in that institution, for nine months in each year.

Providing for the payment of a salary of $75 a month to the physician of the penitentiary at Fort Madison, instead of $50, as at present.

Fixing the age at which girls may be detained by the state in the industrial school at Mitchellville at 21 years, instead of 18, as at present.

Giving the authorities of the institution for feeble-minded children at Glenwood the right to admit and care for women under 46 years of age.

Providing that the support fund at the insane hospitals at Clarinda, Independence and Mount Pleasant shall not exceed $12 per month per capita; at Cherokee, $15 when the population is under 600, $14 when the population does not exceed 750, $13 when the population is in excess of 900, and $12 thereafter, provided, however, that all in excess of $12 shall be paid out of the treasury of the state.

Providing for an allowance of ten dollars per month per capita for the officers and employes of the soldiers' home at Marshalltown.

Increasing the per capita allowance for Eldora industrial school from nine dollars to ten dollars per month.

Providing for a department in one of the state hospitals for the treatment of inebriates, dipsomaniacs, etc.

Railroads.

Fixing the time at which the executive council shall make the assessment of railroad property on the first Monday in August, instead of the 25th day of March, giving the railroads until the first day of April instead of the 15th day of February in which to report their business for the preceding year to the executive council, and providing that the executive council shall begin the assessment of railroads on the second Monday of July, instead of the first Monday in March, as at present.

Requiring railroads to file plats of all lands owned or occupied in the several counties of the state with the county auditors thereof.

Defining any railroad operated upon the streets of a city by electricity or other power than steam which extends beyond the corporate limits, or any railroad operated by electricity or other power than steam extending from one city to another, as an interurban railway.

Providing that Iowa railroads may acquire, own and control other railroads in other states not adjacent to Iowa; this is known as the Hubbard bill.

Game Laws.

Relieving the state game and fish warden of liability for destroying illegal fishing and gaming apparatus; promoting catfish to be game fish; placing pickerel in the class of game fish with reference to the closed season; prohibiting the killing of fish by drugs or dynamite, etc.; providing that no person shall take to exceed 40 game fish in one day during the open season; prohibiting the taking of fish within 300 feet of a fishway, and making a penalty of a fine of $50 to $100 for violation of these provisions; authorizing the warden to issue certificates for the taking of buffalo, carp, suckers, etc., in any quantities and for all purposes without reference to the law in order to protect game fish; making the open season for squirrels to begin with September instead of June; making rail, plover, sandpiper and marsh birds game.

Constitutional Amendments.

Proposing to amend the constitution so as to provide for biennial instead of annual elections.

Proposing to amend the constitution of the state so as to give to each county one member of the house of representatives and to such larger counties as have the fixed ratio of population, an additional member, the number of members of the house, however, to be limited to 108. The ratio of representation shall be determined by dividing the whole population of the state by the number of counties, each county having a population in excess of the ratio number of three-fifths or more of such ratio number being entitled to one additional representative.

The Mulct Tax.

Providing that at least five days' notice shall be given to the persons found in possession of each place assessed for the mulct tax, and requiring the assessor to give the tenant, occupant and owner of such places written notice that he intends to list the place for the collection of the tax. In case no such person resides in the assessorial district, the assessor may mail the notice or he may post a copy of the notice in a conspicuous place. Service of notice upon any agent having charge of the property or collecting the rent will be sufficient or any member of the owner's family over 14 years of age.

Compulsory Education.

Requiring children between seven and 14 years to attend school during at least 12 school weeks in each year; making persons having control of such children who do not send them to school punishable by a fine of from three to twenty dollars for each offense; providing for the establishment of truant schools for the instruction of children who are habitually truant; providing that any child who is sent to such truant school who shall absent himself may be sent to the state industrial school by any judge who finds that the child is habitually vagrant, disorderly or incorrigible; giving school directors power to appoint truant officers who shall report violations of this act to the board and who shall apprehend children who are truant, and giving school directors power to provide such reasonable methods of punishment of children who are habitually truant as may be necessary to carry out and make effectual the provisions of this compulsory education act.

Mine Inspectors.

Providing for the appointment by the executive council of a board of five examiners to examine candidates for appointment as mine inspectors, mine hoisting engineers and mine foremen, and requiring members of the board to hold certificates of competency and to have had at least five years' actual experience immediately preceding appointment. Two of these examiners must be practical miners, two must be mine operators and one must be a hoisting engineer. Their terms are fixed at two years. No member of the board shall be interested in or connected with any school, scheme, plan or device for the instruction of persons in the knowledge required of applicants for certificates of competency. The council is given authority to remove members summarily.

Miscellaneous.

Fixing the weight of a bushel of Hungarian grass seed and of millet seed at 50, instead of 48 pounds.

Providing for the appointment of waterworks trustees in cities of the first-class by the mayors thereof.

Creating a commission to annotate and publish a compilation of the laws of the Twenty-seventh, Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth general assemblies as a supplement to the code.

Authorizing the city of Des Moines to lend $50,000 to the Des Moines Waterworks company from the fund raised by taxation to build a municipal waterworks plant, at two per cent. interest for an indefinite period, to enable the company to build water mains from its plant to the federal army post, four miles south of the city of Des Moines.

Defining section 1613 of the code relative to the publication of notices of incorporation, and providing that these notices shall be published once each week for four consecutive weeks whether in daily, semi-weekly or weekly newspaper.

Permitting savings banks to take deposits to 20 times their capital stock, instead of ten times, as at present.

Amending section 508 of the code to authorize the sheriff to collect fees for lodging prisoners, as well as for dieting them.

Authorizing the executive council to procure and purchase engravings, plates and cuts to illustrate publications by the state.

Providing that upon appeal from the decisions of insane commissions the county attorney shall prosecute the action on behalf of the informant without additional compensation.

Providing that judgment against the garnishee shall not be entered until the principal defendant shall have had five days' notice of the proceedings, the notice to be served the same as an original notice.

Making estates of $7,000 subject to the same fees in probate settlements that estates of $5,000 are subjected to under the present law. Heretofore no provision was made for fees in connection with the settlement of estates of $7,000.

Providing for the publication of an edition of 7,500 copies of the code.

Applying to the Big Sioux river the fish and game laws of the state.

Providing that boards of supervisors may enter into contracts for the erection of bridges to the amount of $15,000 without submitting the expenditure to a vote of the people.

Authorizing the Iowa academy of sciences to issue reports of 300 pages instead of 250 pages.

Ceding to the United States government exclusive jurisdiction over all lands acquired by the United States for public purposes within this state.

Permitting cities to enter into contracts with different contractors for the erection of parts of waterworks plants.

Providing that the provisions of the code of 1897 relative to the time for bringing actions on judgments shall apply to judgments rendered after the taking effect of the code of 1873 and prior to the code of 1897.

Requiring all cities and towns to keep their municipal accounts so that the same shall exhibit a detailed statement of all funds collected and expended for every purpose.

Validating conveyances of real estate in which the husband or wife conveyed the inchoate right of dower of the other spouse.

Defining sodomy.

Providing that when corporations have a public way established over the land of another to their property the same may be located wherever necessary and practical, not exceeding 100 feet in width; the present law permits a width of only 40 feet.

Providing for the condemnation of real estate by this state for the use of the institutions of the United States and the payment of damages therefor.

Fixing the compensation of appraisers of real estate for a basis of assessment for collateral inheritance at two dollars per day for each appraiser and five cents mileage.

Providing that an action may be brought against any steamboat or other water craft in any county through which its line passes.

Appropriating the balance in the Shiloh monument fund for the expenses of the dedication of the monument.

Giving cities the power to expend money raised by taxation for the operation of waterworks for the renewal and extension of these plants.

Perfecting the law respecting the regulation of the practice of veterinary medicine in this state. This act provides for the issuance of certificates to persons who have practiced the profession for five years preceding the passage of the act without examination, provided the application for the issuance of such certificate is made before July 4, 1902. The state veterinary commission has power to revoke for cause certificates issued by it.

Eliminating the necessity for ten days' notice of the levy of special assessments for the construction of sewers.

Giving the United States government the power to condemn land for its purposes in the improvement of rivers, water courses, etc.

Permitting the Des Moines street railway to build an extension within the state fair grounds.

Providing that hereafter the mayor shall not be a member of the councils of cities of the second class, as formerly.

Authorizing the attorney general to institute proceedings in the name of the state against the owners of the dam at Bonaparte, to condemn and appropriate for the use of the state the right to erect and maintain a fishway in the dam.

Authorizing the employment of assistant civilian surgeons at the soldiers' home at Marshalltown.

Giving the executive council power to sell debilitated state furniture.

Changing the name of the state insane hospitals from "hospitals for the insane" to "state hospitals."

Giving the executive council jurisdiction over all state buildings and grounds, whether located on the capitol square or otherwise.

Authorizing the courts to set aside the property of insane persons for the support of the wife and all minor children for an indefinite period, instead of for children under 15 years for a period of 12 months, as formerly.

Providing that petit and grand jurors in 1906 may be drawn from the poll lists of the year 1904, if the biennial elections constitutional amendment shall be adopted and no election held in 1905.

Giving farmers' institutes in the state membership in the state department of agriculture.

Providing that the law relating to the use of gasoline for illuminating purposes shall refer to apparatus as well as to lamps.

Providing that the gas or vapor generated from gasoline apparatus or lamps may be generated within as well as without buildings.

Providing that when gifts are made to municipal libraries the council may enforce the performance of the conditions of the gifts by due process of law.

Providing that when a controversy arises between municipalities or between boards of health respecting the location of pest houses the controversy shall be referred to the president of the state board of health and a committee of three members of the board shall make an order in the premises which shall be final.

Permitting the consolidation of school corporations as well as school townships, as at present.

Requiring the annual meeting of local boards of health to be held in November, instead of October.

Creating a board of three police and fire commissioners for the city of Des Moines. This act provides for six-year terms for the commissioners, allows them no salary, but gives them actual expenses, authorizes the employment of clerks and empowers them to examine, hire and discharge members of the police and fire departments of the city.

Authorizing an additional 4,000 copies of the annual report of the State Horticultural society.

Providing that fire escapes shall be constructed on all buildings which are used for hotels, lodging rooms, tenements, boarding houses, opera houses, theaters, public halls, public school buildings, seminaries, colleges, hospitals, asylums, manufactories, warehouses and all buildings three stories or more in height.

Relieving the grantees of John Noble and W. A. Noble, and to reform land patent issued to them under an erroneous description of title.

Conferring upon the Aspen Grove Cemetery association of Burlington the rights, powers and privileges now possessed or hereafter conferred upon corporations for pecuniary profit.

Conferring upon the commandant and instructor in military science and tactics in state educational institutions the title of colonel of cadets, instead of major of cadets.

Giving the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad company the right to run through the lands owned by the institution for feeble-minded at Glenwood upon proper payment to the state

Making chapter 25 of the acts of the Twenty-eighth general assembly applicable to cities under special charter. This law provided that the moneys collected from taxes levied to maintain waterworks shall be paid out by the city treasurer on order of the trustees of waterworks plants, instead of on the order of the mayor of such city.

Providing for the issuance of a patent to the grantees of John Carsner for a certain tract of land which was patented to him under an erroneous description of title.

Granting authority to waterworks companies in cities of this state to extend their mains to any United States military reservation located within a distance of five miles from the boundaries of such cities.

Providing for the establishment of superior courts in any city containing 5,000 inhabitants; at present the limit is 7,000. This act applies to the town of Oelwein only.

Authorizing the district court to appoint trustees who shall care for money that may be donated for the care of cemeteries, and to be expended under the direction of the court.

Authorizing cities to vote taxes for the improvement of river fronts and the construction of dams for beautifying and improving parks and rivers, as well as for park purposes proper; this act also permits park commissioners to construct dams outside of the corporate limits of the cities in which they act.

Requiring the state mine examiners to inspect and examine every mine which has an average output of 50 tons or more per day at least once in every six months.

Giving members of the board of supervisors authority to employ labor and material to repair breaks in levees without requiring a meeting of the board or the advertising for bids to repair the break. This act also gives the supervisors power to establish highways upon levees.

Giving township trustees power to contribute to the maintenance of cemeteries which are not wholly within their own townships.

Providing that transcripts of wills shall be filed in each county in which the testator owned property, the cost of the transcript to be taxed against the estate.

Providing that the inheritance between parent and child by adoption shall be the same as between parent and children born in lawful wedlock.

Providing that one-half of the estate of an adopted child who shall die intestate, leaving no issue, shall descend to the parents by adoption and the other half to the surviving spouse; if no spouse is left, the entire estate shall go to the parents.

Requiring the state educational examiners to inspect annually and make requirements for schools desiring state recognition as training teachers, and providing that the board of examiners shall issue certificates to the graduates of such schools.

Providing that makers of notes given as parts of capital stock in an insurance company may be deposited with the auditor of state and withdrawn upon the substitution of the note of the purchaser of such stock in case of its sale.

Making the agents of itinerant physicians subject to the state license required of such physicians themselves.

Authorizing the state board of educational examiners to issue certificates to teachers upon passing such examinations as the board may require.

Providing that when there are no newspapers in which to print notices of public improvements such notices may be posted.

Requiring railroad companies to keep posted on all depots bulletins of their time cards.

Giving farmers' institutes $100 per year state aid instead of $50.

Requiring county superintendents to file detailed reports with county auditors.

Requiring state officers to report the amount of printing and binding done for them each year and its cost.

Giving the Des Moines city park commission jurisdiction over Governor's square on condition that it will be maintained as a park.

Permitting the disbursement of money in waterworks funds by cities from whatever source derived.

Charging costs in the trial for suspension from the bar, as in criminal cases.

Permitting railroads to condemn additional depot grounds at any time instead of when the road is completed, as at present.

Requiring action to be brought on insurance notes held by the receivers of defunct insurance companies in the county where the maker lives.

Requiring cooperative building and loan associations to deposit approved securities amounting to $50,000 with the auditor of state to guarantee investors.

Leaving it to the discretion of the commandant of the home for soldiers at Marshalltown as to the disposition of the pension money of inmates who break the rules.

Providing that savings banks may loan not to exceed one-half of their capital stock to any person upon farm land worth twice the amount loaned.

Requiring all public bonds to be uniform in their conditions, as provided by the present law, but providing any sureties may cancel their liability by giving 30 days' notice in writing to the persons authorized to approve the bond and to the officers with whom the same is filed and refunding the premium paid, if any, less a pro rata thereof for the time the bond is in force.

Giving cities of less than 5,000 inhabitants power to appropriate money from their general funds for the maintenance of parks.

Authorizing the organization of a naval militia, to consist of one ship's crew and commissioned officers, in connection with the Memorial University of the Sons of Veterans at Mason City.

Recognizing corporations organized for the care and placement of abandoned children.

Requiring coal operators to employ shot examiners.

Making the abatement of nuisances in liquor cases apply to buildings only.

Requiring manufacturing establishments, workshops and hotels which have five or more persons employed to provide suitable sanitary advantages, including protection from dangerous machinery and the protection of the health of employes.

Providing that any person affected with smallpox or any other contagious disease may be removed to a separate house or contagion hospital and if it is impossible for such person to be removed he may be cared for at his home.

Transferring from the state library board to the Iowa library commission all associate and traveling libraries belonging to the state.

Reorganizing the representative districts of the state, the basis of apportionment being 36,500. Lee and Des Moines counties each lose one representative under this apportionment, the two thus gained being transferred to the northwestern part of the state. The following counties retain two representatives each: Linn, Clinton, Polk, Pottawattamie, Woodbury, Dubuque, Scott. The following districts are composed of two counties each: Ida-Monona, Clay-Palo Alto, Lyon-Osceola, Winnebago-Worth, Hancock-Humboldt, Dickinson-Emmet. All the other counties have one representative each.

Providing that voters shall be required to register for school elections in all cities containing more than one voting precinct used for the school election.

Making the laws of Iowa with reference to negotiable instruments uniform with the laws of other states upon this subject.

Fixing July 1 as the uniform time at which all annual appropriations shall begin.

Providing that the county auditor shall issue an annual report of the finances of the county in pamphlet form.

WRONG MAN AT THE KEY.

Odd Sequel of a "Wire Scrap" Between Telegraph Operators Many Miles Apart.

"Fighting" over a telegraph wire with a man several hundred miles away is not an unusual occurrence among telegraph operators. W. H. Le Hew, a Seaboard Air Line train dispatcher, tells of a fight he once had over the wire, with an odd sequel, says the New York Tribune. He was quarreling with an operator, J. H. Chapman, many miles out on the road, and as the quarrel waxed warm Le Hew declared he would go down the next day and personally whip his antagonist. Chapman thought it would result as most "wire scraps" do—in nothing—and did not worry any more about it, believing he and Le Hew would be as good friends as ever the next time they worked together over a wire. The next day, however, Le Hew boarded a local freight train, and, according to promise, got off at the distant station to whip Chapman. He walked into the telegraph office and demanded:

"Are you the operator here?"

"Yes, sir," replied the man at the instrument.

Without further ado Le Hew sailed in and whipped him.

That night Chapman called up Le Hew, saying he was surprised that Le Hew had come there while he was away at dinner and had whipped his substitute.

The Holland society in New York will expend $1,000 for relief work among the women and children and other Boer prisoners.

IOWA STATE NEWS.

Loves an Unknown Girl.

Lieut. Charles A. Barron, of Cleveland, O., has fallen desperately in love with a Council Bluffs girl whom he never met, whom he saw but once, and whose name he does not know. He went to Council Bluffs from Pittsburg, Pa., and took a position as motor conductor in order to find her and win her hand. Barron was a private in battery O, Third Ohio artillery, which passed through Council Bluffs en route to the Philippines four years ago, and saw the young woman in the crowd on the depot platform.

Latter Day Saints.

The Z. R. L. society, an auxiliary of the Latter Day Saints, operated chiefly by the younger members of the church for literary improvement, met in Lamoni. A committee on revision of constitution and by-laws was appointed, and also one on religious quarterlies, which it is urged should be issued. The following officers for the ensuing year were chosen: President, J. A. Gonsollay; vice president, Amon White; secretary, Mrs. Ella Hitchcock; treasurer, W. J. Mattier.

Children Murdered.

The mutilated bodies of two of the children of Peter J. Peterson, Mary, aged 15, and Thomas, aged 11, were found on the north outskirts of Des Moines. The girl was dead and the boy died 15 minutes after the discovery without giving any clew to the murderer. The girl had been assaulted, and, presumably, killed with her brother to prevent discovery. The police arrested a negro, James Hutchins, aged 27, but he proved an alibi.

Death of a Veteran.

Col. Elliott Shurtz, one of the best known war veterans in Iowa, died at the soldiers' home at Marshalltown, aged 74 years. As a boy he served through the Mexican war. In the civil war he served in the Thirteenth Iowa infantry and was commissioned colonel for conspicuous gallantry on the field of Shiloh. He was wounded and taken prisoner in the campaign before Atlanta.

Counter Suit.

Mrs. Anna Graves, of Sioux City, has sued Dr. J. C. Krejci, a well-known physician, for $5,525 damages. Recently Dr. Krejci sued Mrs. Graves for $545 alleged to have been paid for some Nebraska land under misrepresentation. The woman's answer and counterclaim recite that the charges in the doctor's petition are false, slanderous and libelous.

Convicted of Murder.

The jury in the Louis Busse murder case at Waverly returned a verdict of guilty in the first degree and ordered a sentence of death by hanging. There has been no legal execution in Iowa for eight years. Busse was charged with fracturing his wife's skull, cutting her throat, and then placing her on a feather bed and setting it on fire.

Burned to Death.

Returning home late in the evening, W. D. Jacobson, postmaster of the old town of Lyons, discovered the charred remains of his mother lying on the floor in her room. The body was burned beyond recognition. She was alone and there is no theory as to what caused the accident. She was 65 years old.

Three Men Killed.

Frank Meyers, Dudley Boyd and James Shaffer were killed by a boiler explosion at Peoria, a small town south of Grinnell. The men were employed in a sawmill. James Carter, the proprietor, sustained serious injuries. The three victims were blown into fragments.

News in Brief.

Osborn Diegnan, Stuart's Merrimac hero, arrived in Stuart quite unexpectedly. He will be in Iowa about a month, spending his time in Stuart, Valley Junction and Des Moines.

The Dixon creamery was totally destroyed by fire in Sioux City. Loss, $3,200. It is believed incendiarism caused the fire.

W. F. Reynolds, accused of the murder of Rev. Samuel Crofton, a blind negro preacher, near Ireton, August 2, 1901, was acquitted at Orange City.

A naval recruiting station has been opened in Dubuque under charge of Lieut. Blamer.

The first convention of the commercial teachers of Iowa will be held in Cedar Falls May 10.

Cleveland S. Cox, a 16-year-old boy of Harlan township, is out of jail on bond awaiting trial for attempted train wrecking.

The death of Rev. William M. Foreman, aged 89, occurred in Marshalltown. He was one of the oldest Methodist ministers in the state.

The barns and 60 head of cattle and ten horses of John Neimand, a farmer living north of Sioux Rapids, were destroyed by fire, entailing a loss of $8,000.

The University of Iowa defeated the University of Wisconsin in the annual debate held at Iowa City.

At Sioux Falls Louis Mass, an insurance solicitor, was killed in a quarrel in a saloon.

Francis Varga, the well-known Hungarian patriot, passed away at his home in Leon, aged about 85 years.

Dr. W. D. Middleton, surgeon in chief of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific railway and dean of the medical department of the Iowa state university, died in Davenport.

Charles W. Doyle, a traveling salesman for an eastern drug house, and whose residence was Des Moines, fell dead as he entered the store of a customer in Adair.