Less adjustm't bonds canceled Total....\$1,528,627 10
These statements show an increase in these funds in two years of \$1,382,610.85, and an aggregate accumulation of \$9,601,637.14. There yet remain unsold of the congressional grants of land from which these funds are derived (estimating the full grant to common people). schools at 3,000,000 acres), 1,887,571 acres in the common school grant, 89,823 acres in the university grant, and 175,317 in the internal improvement land grant. It seems likely that former estimates of the ultimate accumulations of these funds will be realized, and that when all the lands are disposed of the perma-nent school fund will amount to fully \$18, nent school fund will amount to ful 300,000, the university fund to over \$1

### Its Reduction in Two Years Nearly Half a Million.

The indebtedness of the state is represented by the following issues of bonds: Railroad adjustment bonds, is-

nearly \$3,000,000.

sue of 1881, due in twenty and redeemable in ten years, 4½ per cent......\$3,965,000 00
Revenue bonds, issue of 1883, redeemable at the pleasure of the state, 41/2 per cent......

Total....\$4,026,000 00
The state debt has been reduced in two
years \$457,000, by the redemption of \$139,000 of revenue bonds and the cancellation of \$322,000 of adjustment bonds held by the in-ternal improvement land fund. The balance of the revenue bonds, \$31,000, will be re-deemed from the revenues of the current fiscal year. The internal improvement land fund is practically a sinking fund for the redemption of the railroad adjustment bonds.

That fund now holds securities to the amount for the immediate future of the institution of \$1,528,627. The balance of lands belonging are as fol to this fund will, when sold, add more than a million dollars to this accumulation and thus reduce the state debt without taxation to less than \$1,500,000.

#### EDUCATION. Over \$6,000,000 Expended for

Schools in Two Years. The superintendent of public instruction reports that "in all departments of our edureports that a department of the durational system there has been unintercupted prosperity." He, however, no some defects which detract from its harmonious working, and recommends in that behalf such remedial legislation as will secure its more perfect organization. I would especially call attention to his recommendation that the common school organization be canged from the district to the township plan. The advantages of this change are succinctly set forth in the superintendent's report, and in his conclusions I cordially concur. His suggestion, also, that the school district or township furnish text books free to all pupils is in the line of the policy of the state that our common schools shall be made "free schools." in the fullest signification of the term. From a table in the superintendent's report, "showing the general distribu-tion of the expense of instruction," it ap-pears that with a much bigher rate of local taxation the country districts of the state expend less per scholar than those in the cities and towns, notwithstanding the children in the latter receive over a third longer term of instruction each year. These facts prove that the property of the country is bearing an inequitable burden of taxation for educadepartments of education, but is giving directly no such aid to the common (the present 1 mill tax being simply a compulsory local tax), the thought is suggested that we are neglecting the great source of education for the people. The superintendent's recommendation in this connection that a special tax of 1 mill be levied for the benefit of the common schools of the state, to be added to the present apportionment from the income of the permanent fund, is commended to your favorable consideration. The theory of our system is that the greatest

There has been expended for the support

possible facility for an education shall be of

fered every child in the state. The greatest

burdens society bears are the outgrowth of ignorance and the vices with which it is associated, and for their relief preventative influ-

ences, which education provides, are surely

more effective than the curative measure

fimited to the instruction received in the

common schools. Comparatively few reach

rst duty of the state, therefore, and con-ucive to its highest interest, to foster and

evelop our system of common schools. They are the schools of the people, and the burden of their support should be borne by all the people equally, or as nearly so as prac-

| as follows:               | two years   | \$6,122.077, |
|---------------------------|-------------|--------------|
|                           | 1885.       | 1886.        |
| For common schools        | \$2.620,821 | \$3,198,815  |
| For state university      | 69,385      | 79.156       |
| For high schools          | 23,000      | 23,000       |
| For normal schools        | 48,000      | 48,000       |
| For teachers' institutes. | 6,000       | 6,000        |
|                           |             |              |

Total.....\$2,767,106 \$3.354,971 The enrollment in the public schools was 25,215 in 1885 and 243.059 in 1886. The state university had 310 students in 885 and 406 in 1886. Under the able admin-1885 and 406 in 1886. Under the able admin-istration of President Northrop the univer-sity is making substantial progress in all re-

spects. Its efficiency is, however, somewhat impaired by the lack of buildings required in some of its departments. The wants of the institution in this respect are fully set forth in the report of the board of regents. Additional appropriations to the amount of \$150. 000 are required to provide structures ne your body for that sum. It must be the policy of the state to make her university a complete institution, and one that will co pare with the best of its class in the country. It cannot reach the rank of these after which it is modeled unless thoroughly equipped in all its parts. The legislature has heretofore responded promptly to the wants of the university and I do not doubt it will do so in the present case. It is the judgment of the regents, as expressed to me, that the appropriation might be distributed over a period three years, or \$50,000 per annum, without embarrassment to the university. There was expended for new buildings during the past

year the sum of \$38,000.

For current expenses \$40,000 per annum will be required for the ensuing two years.

The high schools of the state have increased to 59 and their enrollment to 3,195. In the character of their work and results accou character of their work and results accomplished these schools have made much progress and give ample promise for the future.

The normal schools have increased their enrollment until the capacity of the Mankato and St. Cloud buildings has become insufficient for the accommodation of the pupils in attendance, and appropriations are asked for their enlargement.

The requirements of the three schools, in addition to the annual appropriations for their support, as reported by the board, are as

| Man-     | St.  |
|----------|--|
| kato.    | Cloud.   |
| \$50,000 | \$40,000   |
| 1,500    |  |
| 5,000    |  |
| 5,000    |  |
|          |  |
| 500      | 2,700  |
| 5,000    | 2,000  |
|          |  |
|          | 3,000  |
|          | kato.<br>\$50,000<br>1,500<br>5,000<br>5,000<br>500<br>5,000 |

Totals............ \$6,000 \$67,000 \$47,700 The Winona school also asks an appropriation fof a ladies' home, but no estimate of its | 15 sost is given. The normal schools sustain a prominent and most important relation to our educational system, and should command in the future, as in the past, the fostering care of the state. Their necessities increase with the development of the commonwealth, and their requirements should receive such liberal consideration as is bestowed upon all our

state institutions.

| and repairs were at St. Cloud \$21,500.<br>at Winona \$1,480.68. | .35 and |
|--|---------|
| The enrollment was:  |         |
| 1885   | 1886    |
| Winona 516   | 576     |
| Mankato 577  | 614     |
| St. Cloud 342  | 875     |
| Total1,436   | 5 1,565 |

CORRECTIONS AND CHARITIES. Valuable Information on Charitable. Penal and Reformatory Insti-

tutions.

from the advisory relations it has sustained towards them. An important service re-cently inaugurated by this board has been the adoption of a unifom system of accounting by the several state institutions. tables prepared by the secretary of the board. as published in the report, show at a glance the per capita cost of maintenance of inmates in each institution, and a division of such cost among the several items of expense incurred. I commend to your considerate attention the review of the work of the board and the recommendations contained in its re-

The Institution Commended to the Legislature's Fostering Care. Under the provisions of chapter 146, of the General Laws of 1885, which provides for the establishing and conducting of a state school for neglected and dependent children, there has been established and recently set in op-eration in the city of Owatonna an institution of the character contemplated. An eligible site, including 160 acres of land, was donated by the city, upon which have been erected three cottages, furnishing accommodations three cottages, furnishing accommodations for about sixty pupils. The school is in charge of Prof. G. A. Merrill as superintendent, a gentleman of peculiar qualifications for the position, who has bad much experience in the same line of duty in connection with the state public school of Michigan. While the buildings were constructed at a cost within the appropriation of \$20,000, that and the internal improvement land fund to cost within the appropriation of \$20,000, that sum was insufficient to furnish them and provide for current expenses of the institu-tion until such time when the legislature could make further appropriations for its use. The deficienc, has been supplied, how-ever, by the citizens of Owatonna, who gen-erously advanced \$5,000 for the purpose indierously advanced \$5,000 for the purpose indi-cated. An early appropriation will be asked for their reimbursement.

The report of the commissioners will advise you of all details respecting the location of the institution, the construction and equip ment of its buildings and the organization of the school. I heartily and confidently commend to your fostering care this young insti-tution, believing that in the near future it will demonstrate its great possibilities for good. As a most worthy public charity, as a certain agency of moral reform and as an undoubted measure of public economy, the state public school asks for your generous consideration.

The estimate of appropriations required

| For current expenses balance of flis-<br>cal year 1887 | \$7,000 |
|--|---------|
| For reimbursement of citizens of Owa-                  | •       |
| tonna  | 5,000   |
| For deficiency and incidentals                         | 3,000   |
| For current expenses 1888                              | 12,000  |
| For current expenses 1889                              | 15,000  |
| For new buildings                                      | 80,000  |

#### REFORM SCHOOL.

Much to Commend in the Manage-

ment of the Institution. The reform school had under its care, July 31, 191 inmates. During the two years there were committed to the institution 168, and discharged 96. The expenses of maintenance were \$29.457.03 for 1885 and \$32,564.62 for 1886, as appears from the report of the board of managers. Forty thousand dollars for ex penses and \$2,000 for repairs per annum, are the estimates for the next two years. There is little to criticise and much to commend in the management of this institution. If it maintains in the future a record consistent with its past history it will not fall short of a full ac-complishment of its mission. Additional ac-commodations are required at this institution, but before appropriations are made fo the purpose of increasing them, I would suggest the advisability of a change of location. The growth of population in the vicinity of the school has a detracting influence upon its inmates, which is likely to develop into a serious hindrance to its successful management. The property the institution occupies has become very valuable and could doubt less be sold for a sum sufficient to purchase an eligible site elsewhere, and erect thereon suitable buildings sufficient for its use for several years to come.

#### DEAF, DUMB AND BLIND.

Figures Showing the Financial

Status of the Institution. The administration of that most beneficen public charity, the state institute for defective children, embracing the schools for the deaf and dumb, for the blind and for the feeble minded, is characterized, as heretofore, by ability, efficiency and an intelligent economy. During the past year there have been in attendance 157 pupils in the school for the deaf and dumb, 35 in that for the blind, and 78 in that for the feeble-minded. For admission to the latter there are now on file 70 applications in excess of accommodations furnished by the present buildings, and the board of di-rectors therefore ask for an appropriation for their enlargement. The estimates sub-

| lows: For construction and furnishing custodial buildings, school for feeble- |           |
|---|-----------|
| minded  | \$45,000  |
| laundry, boiler house, steam heating, etc                                     | 15,000    |
| For purchase of land  | 2,500     |
| For current expenses, 1888  | 90,000    |
| Total.  | \$247,500 |
| Disbursements on account of the in  |           |

the past two years were: Additional building, feeble-minded \$30,000 00 Additional building, deaf and dumb 10,000 00 Current expenses, 1886.....

Full information respecting the organiza-tion, work and requirements of these schools is furnished by the reports of their respective superintendents and the board of directors. A continuance of the liberal policy the state has heretofore exercised toward this institute I believe to be warranted by the character and the results of its work.

#### INSANE SOSPITALS. The Two Hospitals in a Healthy

Fecuniary Condition. At the end of the last fiscal year there were 1,479 patients under treatment in the two its sane hospitals of the state, 874 at St. Peter

the two years.

The estimated requirements for the next biennial period are as follows:

| S                                       | t. Peter. B       | cochester.     |
|---|-------------------|----------------|
| New doubled detached ward               |                   | \$50,000       |
| Reconstruction of cen-<br>tral building |                   | 72,000         |
| Improvements and re-                    |                   |                |
| pairs Electric lights                   | \$14,500<br>5,000 | 7,300<br>5,000 |
| Current expenses, 1888                  | 163,800           | 131,040        |
| Current expenses, 1889                  | 163,800           | 131,040        |
| Total                                   | @94# 100          | P000000        |

mateswill give a maximum capacity for the care of 2,000 patients, sufficient to meet probable requirements for three years to come. It is assumed that the third hospital, the location of which is provided for in chapter 161 of the general laws of 1885, will be available for occupancy in part by the time this class of population shall exceed the number stated. number stated.

#### STAVE RISON. The People Want a Reformatory

Made of the New One. The capacity of the state prison has been enlarged since 1885 by the addition of 150 cells, at a cost of \$55,500. It now affords accommodation for 600 inmates. The population of the institution numbered 386 at the

date of the inspectors' report, July 31, 1886, which has been increased to 407 since that

5, and \$65,135.32 in 1886, and the earnings \$43,179.74 and \$47,472.60 for the same ears respectively. The net per capita cost of maintaining the convicts has been reduced from \$100.79 in 1881 to \$42.88 in 1886. The estimates of the warden for two years he development of the commonwealth, and heir fequirements should receive such libral consideration as is bestowed upon all our tate institutions.

Expenditures for permanent improvements and repairs were at St. Cloud \$21,500.35 and \$25,000 and \$25,000. An inventory of the property of the prison, real and permanent improvements and repairs were at St. Cloud \$21,500.35 and \$25,000 and \$25,000. An inventory of the property of the prison, real and permanent improvements and repairs were at St. Cloud \$21,500.35 and \$25,000 and \$25,000. An inventory of the property of the prison, real and permanent improvements are repairs where the prison is also become a second and the prison of t

ary, 1884. The inspectors report the "insti-tution out of debt, with no deficiency or special appropriation to be asked for."

The present capacity of the prison will be sufficient to meet the requirements of the state in this regard until accommodal ons are provided in the second prison contemplated by chapter 157 of the genera laws of 1885.

I believe it to be the sentiment of the people of the state that the new prison should bear the character of a reformatory, rather than of a prison proper. A large proportion of the inmates of our prison are young men sentenced for their first offense and serving

service would be made dependent upon their good conduct and manifest disposition to abandon evil ways, it would stimulate the better instincts of their nature, and they would go forth again among their fellowmen, hopeful and determined, rather than despair-

ing and reckless. An adoption of this policy would involve permit indeterminate sentences, and provide for conditional discharges from the institution. It has been tried in other states with

#### SOLDIERS' HOME.

An Obligation th State Incurred in Sending Her sons to War. The Minnesota department of the Grand Army of the Republic at its last encampment appointed a committee to present to your body the subject of the establishment of a home for this shed indigent, yet any residome for "disabled, indigent veterans residing in the state," and of temporary provision for the relief of such veterans as might not wish to become occupants of a soldiers' home. I desire to supplement the appeal of that committee by the expression of an earnest hope that the necessary appropriation will be made by your body to carry out the objects specified. There is no obligation more sacred or binding upon the people of this country than that ample provision should be made for the care and comfort in their declining years of the veterans of the late war, who from dis-ability or misfortune become needy or de-pendent. The adjutant general in his report cites cases of disabled soldiers who are now cared for in some of our county poor houses. This is a discredit to the honor and patrotism of Minnesota. It is unworthy of the proud record these veterans made for our state dur ing the war. The Grand Army of the Republic asks not for a charity for their comrades, but rather for the discharge of an obligation the state incurred when she sent her sons to the front to risk their all in defense of the republic. Their efforts and sacrifices secured to the country that peace and prosperity which is the present heritage of us all, and the obligation is ours that in their last days they may be made to realize in fullest meas-ure that their services are remembered with gratitude by their countrymen. The homes provided by the general government are already overcrowded, and many of the states have established soldiers' homes or otherwise made provision for their disabled veterans, Minnesota should not be largard in the performance of so grave a duty. With a view of alding you in the consideration of this subject, I have obtained from several of the states such printed matter as could be supplied relating to the establishment and management of their soldiers' homes, which is erewith transmitted for your information. he condition of the state finances may not warrant the purchase of grounds and the erection of buildings at the present time, but there should be no delay in provision for temporary aid. Our experience in the case of soldiers' orphans furnishes a hint of the means by which her funds may be applied to furnish immediate and sufficient relief with the axast possible waste in administration.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH. Pertinent Remarks Upon Cholera

and Fleuro-Pneumonia.

The functions of the state and local boards of health were materially enlarged and their efficiency correspondingly increased by the legislation of 1885 respecting the control of infectious diseases of animals, the regula tion of offensive trades, the supervision of sources of water supply, and the act reorganizing and defining the duties of local boards. The state board have now effected a very thorough sanitary organization throughout the state, and through its efficient executive officers, Dr. C. N. Hewitt, keeps a watchful eye upon every township. Through the agency of the 1,060 local boards, prompt in-

formation is received of the presence of any epidemic or infectious disease in any quarter among men or animals, and equally prompt measures are applied for its isolation and suppression. The value and importance of such an organization has been repeatedly demonstrated in the successful management by the board through its agency of several outbreaks of small-pox and diphtheria in widely separated districts, and of a particu larly aggravated outbreak of glanders in orses in 1885.
The board has adopted elaborate precau-

tionary measures to protect the herds of the state against pleuro-pneumonia, which has recently developed to an alarming extent among cattle in states to the south and east The danger of a spread of the infection to Minnesota is regarded as remote, but in the event of its appearance here most en-ergetic measures for its quarantine and ex-tirpation have been prepared.

Doubtiess the most valuable service per-

formed by our boards of health is in the line of preventive work. They seek, by the adop-tion of a thorough system of sanitation in usly realized by every inhabitant of this

A careful collation of the vital statistics of he state would prove of great value to our boards of health as well as the general public. now collected they are practically worthless for any purpose, as they bear no pre-tense of accuracy whatever. I would there-fore, renew my recommendation made to predecessors, that the collection of such statistics be placed by law in charge of

the state board of health.

As the danger of the appearance of cholera in this country has not wholly passed, I recommend a renewal of the contingent appropriation made in 1885, to meet expenses

arising from such an emergency.

The recommendation of the state board of health respecting amendments to the statutes will doubtless receive your early examination

## PUBLIC EXAMINER.

A Word of Commendation for His Lucid Report. I especially commend to your attention the report of the public examiner. His lucid ex-position of the defects in our system of ad-

ministering the public revenues should command thoughtful study, with a view of a thorough revision of the methods now in use. His suggestions and recommendations and 605 at Roshester, an increase of 283 since the last biennial report of the trustees. There was expended for the maintenance of the insane \$223,905.71 in 1885 and \$228,696.97 in 1886, and for new structures and improvements at the two institutions \$112,674.41 for and disbursement of the public funds by county officials. The receipts into the county treasuries of the state for the year ending February 1886, were in excess of \$9,000,000. The present system provides no checks whatever upon county treasurers for a verification of their transactions covering this vast sum. All vouchers and entries pertaining to the receipt of these millions of the people's money are practically within the control of the treasurer alone. One would suppose that a statement of this character would startle the taxpayers of the state, but it has been repeated in this form and by the public examiner from year to year, and re-ceived no heed. This state of things is accountable for the occasional defalcations of county treasurers reported from time to time, and is a standing temptation to their frequent recurrence. The evident remedy is suggested by the examiner, that "all receipts for money should originate in the auditor's office," thus providing an accurate and effective check upon all transactions of the treasurer. I venture to express the hope that this session will not close without legis-lation necessar, to effect this reform. The recent rapid development of the state and the corresponding number of moneyed corporations, over which the examiner exer-cises supervision under the law, has greatly added to the duties of his office. The worl he must now perform in connection with the accounts of county officers has increased threefold since the office was established in 1878. Our continued growth must constantly add to the labor mposed upon him. He already finds it a ph-sical impossibility to comply with the requirements of the law reg-ulating his duties, and asks for an increase in his clerical assistance. It would be difficult to exaggerate the importance of this service to the public interests, and it would be a most mistaken economy to limit the ex-pense of its maintenan e in a manner to impair its thorough efficiency.

## THE MILITIA.

Status of the Citizen Soldiery of the North Star State. The Minnesota National Guard, as now constituted, consists of two regiments of in-fantry, one battery of artillery and a troop of cavalry, representing a total strength of 1,299 officers and men. There have also been organized at different points in the state reserve companies of infantry to the number of seven, to which the state has furnished arms and equipments. The National Guard is fairly well equipped and has attained a satisfactory degree of proficiency in a knowledge of the military art. Great credit is due the officers and men for the time and attention they have given to their duties as citizen The report of the board of corrections and charities contains much valuable information and makes important recommendations respecting the charitable, penal and reformatory institutions of the state. A perusal of the report will show that most valuable service has been rendered by the board in its efforts to improve the methods obtaining in the management of county jails, poor houses and reformatories, and that our state institutions as well have received much benefit

tions and recommendations in this regard which I commend to your favor.

An interesting feature of the adjutant general's report is an exhibit of the work

general's report is an exhibit of the work of that department in the prosecution of sol-diers' claims for pension. During the past five years it five years it has prosecuted 1,572 claims of this character, secured the allowance of 849, representing a monthly pension of \$7,113.43 and arrears of pension of \$130,969,47, without the cost of a dollar to the claimants. As an agency through which our disabled veterans may secure without cost recognition of their rights from the general government, the ad-jutant general's office renders invaluable

#### service. ATTORNEY GENERAL.

Important Recommendations as to

amending the Statutes. The attorney general makes several imneattorney general makes several important recommendations respecting amendments to existing statutes. I would particularly eatly your attention to his reference to section 15, title 1, of chapter 34 of the general statutes, and to a recent decision of the support of the section 15. preme court constraing the same. This section relates to the mode and manner by which a railroad company may acquire its right of way through lands belonging to the state. In relates to the mode and the case of the Northern Pacine Railway Company vs. The University of Minnesota, it was held by the court that town lots belonging to or held in trust for the state university, but not set apart or occupied for public purposes, might be acquired by condemna-tion proceedings as in the case of lands of private persons or corporations. In this connection the attorney general remarks: "In view of the fact that the property of the university is the property of the state, and consequently could not be taken without express legislative authority, and in view of the foot that it is the foot that i e fact that in the clause found in section the fact that in the clause round in section 15 supra, there is nothing limiting the right to take the class of property referred to, to property not devoted to a public use, this decision would seem to place all the lands of the state because considered. decision would seem to place an the lands of the state, however occupied, at the mercy of any railroad enterprise passing near the same." This statement of the attorney gen-eral will be sufficient to indicate to you the importance of so amending the statute that it may by explicit language, be limited to the lands granted by congress to the state to en-dow the university, for the benefit of schools, for purposes of internal improvement and lands of that character. With the object of forcing the old land

with the object of forcing the old land grant railroad companies, whose roads have been sold, but which kept up their organizations for the sole purpose of holding their lands exempt from taxation, to dispose of such lands and thus place them in the tax lists, the attorney general commenced proceedings against five of these companies in the supreme court to forfeit their charters, in two of these areas such as companies. In two of these cases such a conveyance of the lands was made by agreement, as de-stroyed their immunity from taxation. One case was decided adversely to the state, but the others have very recently been adjudged in its favor. This action will result in large additions to the tax lists of several of the counties of the state and in a more equitable distribution of the burdens of taxation. The attorney general has successfully prosecuted a claim for an increase of taxes due from the Northern Pacific Railway company, which under the independent under the judgment of the court will add \$40,154.49 to the revenues of the state for the current year. In all these proceedings the attorney general has manifested that industry, energy and ability that has peculiarly signalized the administration of his department throughout the term of his incumbency of

#### STATE DAIRY COMMISSION. The Introduction of Olemargarine

Seriously Checked. The dairy interests of the state were at one time threatened with irreparable injury by the competition of oleagineous products which were being generally introduced into our markets. As a measure of protection to this important and rapidly-growing industry of our people, the legislature of 1885 enacted a law prohibiting "the sale or manufacture of unhealthy or adulterated dairy products. commissioner and assistant authorized by the law were appointed to inforce its provisions: The very interesting report of the commissioner will advise you of his proceedings and experience in the discharge of his duties. As was expected, he encountered the energetic opposition of manufacturers and dealers in the fraudulent product, who attacked the law in the courts and by every possible device sought to defeat its execution. The commis-sioner and his able assistant, however, were indefatigable and persistent, and as a result of their efforts the base fabrications sold as pure dairy products are substantially expelled from the state. It is estimated that the im-ports of olcomargarine for the past year have formed by our boards of health is in the line of preventive work. They seek, by the adoption of a thorough system of sanitation in our cities and towns, a careful scrutiny of sources of water supply and their protection. the production of oleomargarine and its kindred abominations.

## VARIOUS MATTERS.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY. The report of the secretary of the State Historical society shows for the organization collection of historical and archæological

relics have received large and valuable cesions during the past two years. The in-teresting details of the report will repay perusal. FISH COMMISSION. The fish commission have distributed 22,-813,147 fish and 14,100,000 eggs in the waters of the state during the past two years.' These include the most desirable species of food fishes adapted to our lakes and streams. The work of the commission has been prosecuted intelligently, and, as indicated by its report,

with results of a highly satisfactory charac-STEAM BOILER INSPECTION. The report of the board of inspectors of steam boilers and steam vessels, herewith transmitted, exhibits as a result of its work since the passage of the law creating the board, the inspection of 76 steam vessels and 3,889 steam boilers, of which latter 34 were condemned and 315 ordered to be repaired; 893 chief engineer licenses were issued, 1,487 assistant and 3,355 special. But one boiler explosion is reported, resulting in the loss of one life. The average loss of life from such cause prior to the passage of the law is stated

demonstrating the utility of the service. The law needs some amendment, the character of which will be suggested by the inspectors in INSURANCE STATISTICS. The report of the insurance commissioner gives valuable information, and contains many practical suggestions respecting the insurance business transacted in the state. Its aggrerate in 1886 was: Risks written, \$203,824,824,premiums received, \$2,770,318,19; losses paid, \$1.268,387.30. The companies paid in taxes and fees to the state \$64,705.76

in 1885, and \$75,089,57 in 1886. LOGS AND LUMBER.
The several surveyors general report the following statistics respecting the lumber interests of the state:

Feet Logs Scaled. First district.....300,022,380 221,423,390 248,127,980 70,964,356 38,120,540 581,636,266

Feet Lumber Manu-First district......149,370,370 129.965.960 Second district.....378,160,690 Fifth district......128,520,000

Totals.... .......656,051,060 HAIL STORM SUFFERERS.

# Relief for Those Whose Crops Were

On the 24th day of July, 1886, a hall storm of great violence passed through Marshall county, totally destroying the crops and greatly injuring much other property, over an area of many square miles, and thereby reducing almost to destitution about two hundred families. The sufferers appealed to me for aid through the county authorities. There was no fund at my command from which relief could be afforded in such cases, but a conference with the mayors of St. Paul and Minneapolis with reference to the emergency resulted in the advance of \$5,000 from each of the two cities for the purpose of succeeding. A committee was sent to the desorrelief. A committee was sent to the desorrelief. lated district to ascertain and report respect-ing the condition and necessities of each individual victim of the storm, and upon the basis of that report supplies of teed, breadstuffs and provisions were purchased and distributed through a local committee according to the necessities of each case. Feed for stock was furnished to enable parties to plow so much of their land as would probably grow crops sufficient for their support another year, and provisions given each family in such limited quantitaties as seemed to be

#### WORLD'S EXPOSITION.

The Part Binnesota Took in the

Great New Orleans Show. I transmit herewith a com nunication from Oliver Gibbs, Jr., state commissioner at the World's Exposition in 1885. respecting his re-Oliver Gibbs, Jr., state commissioner at the World's Exposition in 1885, respecting his report of our state collective and collateral competitive exhibits in the exposition. As is generally known, Minnesota presented a most complete and comprehensive collective exhibit of her products, arts, industries and resources at the exposition, and in the competitive departments received the highest awards for her display of dairy products (institute made in the world), wheat, corn, flour, fruits, seeds, amber cane sugar, poultry, etc., and "the grand diploma of honor" for her educational exhibit. The commissioner was instructed to make a report in full detail of our exhibits for publication. The main portion of his report was ready months ago, but its completion has been delayed by causes which he fully explains. In the meantime the commissioner has removed from the state, but its still ready to finish his work of the contemplated work. The state has diverted them to other purposes and has related to make a report in full detail of our exhibits for publication. The main portion of his report was ready months ago, but its completion has been delayed by causes which are now lable in we seasons to be rendered almost useless for cultivation. Included in this area are large tracts to the state by the general dange tracts of almost useless for cultivation. Included in this area are large tracts ton. Included in this area are large tracts to the propertion of a fraud upon the public. Rates of transportation must be tixed onarges are met. As a specified in the congressional grantitisel of providing the means for their drainage. The state, however, instead of devoting these dividends after fixed onarges are met. As a gratuity to corporations to encorage the building of railroads in sections of the state to the purpose for which they were granted by congress, the building of railroads in sections of the state has diverted them to other purposes and has re
The full area of the franchises of the company. To give these fallows the but is still ready to finish his when the lacking material is sup As the commissioner remarks, effort to represent Minnesota supplied effort to represent Minnesota at the only world's exposition in which she ever took a part was too great, too successful and too costly to have no enduring record made of it." Every citizen is proud of the successes and the distinction won by Minnesota and desires that she should realize to the ut-most their possible benefits. This may not be done if a record thereof is not preserved. I would therefore recommend an appropriation of \$1,000, to be expended under the di rection of the governor of the state, to me such expense as may be incurred by the cor

#### SPECIAL ESSION.

of the state auditor.

Why the Legis ature Was Not Convened in 1886.

missioner in completing and properly illus-

trating his report, and that its publication be

expenditure made in the collection and mathetenance of the exhibit are on file in the office

An extra session of the last legislature was urged with considerable pressure for three main purposes: to amend the laws for the regulation of railroads and grain inspection, to amend the tax laws, and to make a lexista-tive apportionment. Some were inclined to see in the existence of three such supposed occasions for immediate legislation an argument for a return to annual sessions. In regard to the railroad and warehouse laws, I have no doubt that the public judg-ment as to the amendments necessary is more harmonious and more just than it could have

been a year ago, and that no considerable harm has come from the delay. The supposed occasion for an extra session to amend the tax laws was a decision rendered by the supreme court in the case of Chauncey vs. Wass, according to which the payment of taxes upon real 6-state and the possession of a treasurer's receipt therefor would not save the owner's title in case the property had been improperly advertised and sold as delinquent, unless the fact of such payment wer shown before the so-called equity had becom barred by time. About the same time it oc casioned general surprise to learn that a provision of law requiring personal notice of the expiration of the time of redemption to be given by county auditors to owners of supposed delinquent real estate sold for taxes had been repealed by a section of a subse

quent statute.

It thus appeared that a citizen who had discharged every obligation to the state in return for its protection to his person and his property, and who felt himself secure in the possession of a written acknowledgement of the state's agent that he had paid his dues, might yet be made bankrupt and homeles through the blunder of an official agent of the state, under the statutes of the state as con.
strued by the highest state court. It would be hard to conceive a clearer case of legalized robbery than the operation of the law as construed by the court. It is impossible to presume that the legislature intended it should have any such effect, and it is equally impossible to assume that the forbearance of human nature will acquiesce in its enforcement. If an extra session had been necessary to save one single citizen from the loss of his rights through these surprising defects or erro be n called. But upon all forfeitures already attached legislation would have been inopera-tive, and it was clear that the publicity given through the press and by excited public com ment to the whole subject, to the danger of ruin in which every man might unwittingly stand and to the means by which he could ascertain the fact and avert loss, would pre-

vent the occurrence of any new forfeiture through surprise or mistake. The supposed repeal of the provision for personal notice of the expiration of the redemption period has since been declared in valid by the supreme court, being in violation of the section of the constitution which for bids that any law shall contain more than one subject, which must be expressed in its title (I may remark that much time has been lost in recent sessions by the introduction of bills with titles defective in this respect, which are often only corrected by recalling the bills from the executive for that purpose.)

The decision in the Wass case has just bee reaffirmed, by a majority of the court, after re-examination. It has thus become your duty to provide some relief or mitigation, i any be possible, of the injustice which may follow from this hard construction, and to so amend the tax law that actual, seasonable payment of a tax shall at all times be a valid protection against any claim to real estate based upon its alleged non-payment. You should also inquire whether the present provision for notice of the expiration of the redemption is sufficient. The state census showed a population of

1,117,798. The increase took place mainly in the northern part of the state and in the cities of St, Paul and Minneapolis. The purpose of an enumeration by the state is plainly to by the report to have been eight, thus clearly ascertain whether a reapportionment of legislative representation is necessary according to the requirement of the constitution that representation shall be apportioned equally throughout the different sections of the state in proportion to the population thereof, and to turnish a guide for a proper aportionment if one be necessary.

The census shows beyond question that

representation is no longer proportioned to population, and it will be among your plain-est duties to readjust the representation to conform to the constitution. I do not doubt your perfect willingness to discharge that constitutional obligation, but you may properly be reminded that your assumed unwillingness to meet the difficulties and inconveniences of a reapportionment was strongly urged upon me as a reason for calling to gether your predecessors for the purpose. If similar circumstances should exist in 1895, as they probably will, I hope your present action will confirm the confidence of all in that day, that the Minnesota legislature will perform its duty, uninfluenced by per-sonal consideration. This duty being per-formed it will be seen that, so far as the reasons urged for a session in 1886 are cerned, biennial sessions sufficiently answer

#### UNNECESSARY OFFICES. Published Agricultural Statistics Not Worth Their Cos .

Frequent examination is necessary to prevent the retention of offices which have ceased to be necessary or useful. I judge the office of state land agent to be now such an one. It seems to me, also, that the preparation and distribution of authoritative docu ments, books or circulars, regarding the advantages of Minnesota, hitherto done by a board of immigration and a secretary, can now be more properly and economically placed in charge of the secretary of state.

Referring to the requirement that the state shall make an enumeration of its inhabitants again in 1895, and to the fact that the United States will now pay one-half the expense of a census taken at that time, if it contain the same matter taken in the same manner as the federal census, I recommend to your consideration the suspension of the annual collection and publication of agricultural statistics view to make in 1895 a comple census which will furnish reliable means for comparison, in all respects, with that of the United States in 1890. Our published statis-tics are becoming less and less trustworthy. I doubt if they are now worth their cost. DRAINAGE.

## The Action of the Red River Com-

mission Commended.

A public meeting held at Crookston on the 8th of last month in the interest of the drain-age of the Red river valley, requested me by resolution to "call your attention to the ur-gent need of careful and judicious legislation upon the subject of drainage; also upon the justice and necessity of a very liberal appropriation from the state to open up the obstructed river channels of this (that) section, and of the wisdom of the state lending her credit to forward the scheme." Walle I willingly comply with this request to the extractional companies respecting

sponse was an assurance that I would present the matter to this legislature, with a recommendation that their necessities receive such favorable consideration as may be accorded in the case of the Marshall county sufferers. The facts in these cases as they will be presented to you will appeal strongly to your sympathy, and I ask for them your prompt consideration, and such generous action in the way of relief for these stricken people as their undoubted necessities should command.

or loaned in aid of any individual, association or corporation," and section 5 of the same article prohibits the state from contracting "any debts for works of internal improvement," or becoming "a party in carrying on such works except in cases when grants of land or other property shall have been made to their property shall have been made to the state specially dedicated by the grant to specific purposes," etc. While it seems to be clear, therefore, that the constitution stands in the way of such state aid to this regulation upon the part of the companies as shall make them or corporation," and section 5 of the same article prohibits the state from contracting "any debts for works of internal improvement," or becoming "a party in carrying on such works except in cases when grants of land or other property shall have been made to the state specially dedicated by the grant to specific purposes," etc. While it seems to be clear, therefore, that the constitution stands in the way of such state aid to this or corporation," and section 5 of the same article prohibits the state from contracting "any debts for works of internal improvement," or becoming "a party in carrying on good ground of objection to this regulation upon the part of the companies them of the upon the part of the companies them of the companies as shall make them or corporation article prohibits the state from contracting "any debts for works of internal improvement," or becoming "a party in carrying on good ground of objection to this regulation of outer proport of th the natural water courses of the Red river valley, will not only reclaim and make valu-able large areas which are now swamps, but means would be at and for the prosecution of the contemplated work. The state has diverted them to other purposes and has received benefit from them through the aid they have given in the development of other portions of the state. It is this which gives an appearance of equity to the claim the valley of the red river presents in this matter. The appropriation of a portion of the internal improvement fund which is biennially valley of the red river presents in this matter. The appropriation of a portion of the internal improvement fund which is biennially distributed to aid in the construction of roads and bridges could very properly be devoted to drainage purposes as herein contemplated.

## Matter Which Materially Con-

cerus Minnesota's Material Interests.

The report of the "state commission for the improvement of the Mississippi river" contains much matter of practical interest to the people of the state. The improvement of our Western waterways is a subject that especially concerns the material interests of Minnesota, and should therefore receive such consideration at your hands as may promise to prove a means to that end. The head of navigation of the Mississippi river, and practically of the great lake system, as well as of the Red River of the North, are within our borders. A large proportion of our products fluds its war to market through the two firstnamed of these waterways, and the cost of railroad transportation upon the balance is greatly lessened by the competition of these water routes in the carrying trade. The same is the case with our imports of heavy merchandise, coal, etc. The low prices prevailing for our agricultural products make the question of the cost of their transportation to market an all important one at the present time. Therein largely lies the solupresent time. Therein largely lies the solution of the problem with which our producers are now wrestling, whether they can successfully meet the competition of cheap laber elsewhere, in the growing of food products for the world's consumption. The moderate expenditure made by the government in recent years for the aid of navieration more our years for the aid of navigation upon our rivers and the lake has resulted in more sub stantial benefit to the internal commerce of the country than like expenditure elsewhere upon its inland waterways. Such results warrant a demand upon the government for a prosecuted.

carrying out of the comprehensive system under which the work has thus for been The utility of the reservoir system at the sources of the Mississippi river has been practically demonstrated during the past sea-son of exceptional dryness. From June 1 until the close of navigation these reservoirs were constantly drawn upon, and for three months of the time to an extent that gave a foot higher water at St. Paul than would otherwise have been the case, as estimated by the United States engineer in charge, thus securing a good stage of water for the largest steamers throughout the season of naviga-tion. The work for the improvement of the channel of the upper Mississppi is embarrassed on account of the meager appropria-tions for the purpose, but most substantial benefit has accrued from the expenditure

already maile.

The wonderful and perhaps unprecedented growth of the commerce of Duluth, and the rapid development of the mineral resources of our territors bordering on the lake, present in commanding form the importance and s,it wouldhave liecessity of the improvement of our harbors on Lake Superior and the enlargement of the Sault Ste. Marie canal. A full presentation of the facts illustrating the influence and effect of these waterways in the development of our resources would doubtless prove a rev elation even to many of our own people. Accurate statistics of the commerce of our rivers and take ports, collected and published in form for general distribution, would prove useful in demonstrating the utility of the im-provements desired. I would therefore recommend that the river commission be auhorized to meur the expense necessary for the collection of such statistics, the same to be reported annually to the governor. A proper expression of this legislature addressed to congress respecting needed appropriations for our waterways, would doubtless aid our representatives in that body in their efforts to secure the recognition demanded.

## RAILWAYS AND WAREHOUSES. Results Obtained and Suggestions

as to the Future.
In response to a manifest demand of the public interest and the popular wid, the legislature of 1885 inaugurated a new policy of state control of railway and warehouse management. The laws enacted for the supervision and regulation of these interests have been on trial the past two years, and the results accomplished thereunder are submitted to you by the board of commissioners, who efficient; showing more substantial results than could reasenably have been expected from the administration of laws necessarily imperfect, inasmuch as they were largely experimental. An early noted defect in the law for "the regulation of railroad companies," was the limited power vested in the commission. This often proved an embarrassment, but the sagacity of the board largely obviated the effect. They could "advise," and in exceptional c:s-s promulgate their judgment in "an order" to, the railroad companies, but compliance, as a rule, could be obtained only by the voluntary action of the corporations themselves It is therefore cause for congratulation that so therefore cause for congratulation that so much has been realized in the way of relief. Briefly outlined there has been secured under sion, a free and open market with the right of unrestricted shipment for grain on every line of railway in the state except one; a material reduction on all the roads of rates charged for the transportation of grain, live stock, lumber, wood and general farm pro-ducts, amounting in the aggregate to over one million dollars per annum; a general resome features.

These results have been reached through of \$194,810 would be realized. the patient, persistent and often prolonged efforts of the commission, involving an exhaustive investigation of the subject of rail-state board of correction and charities was way transportation in its many phases and to its remotest detail, and elaborate illustration by comparison of its relative cost as between different companies under varied and diverse conditions. The facts developed by this research fortified the commission in the presentation of its demands upon the companies, and secured concessions which otherwise it would hardly have been possible to obtain. In but one instance have the commission had to resort to the courts to enforce its demands.

cessful and just adjustment of the relations that should obtain between these corpora-tions and the public, as is possible under separate and independent state action. The problem can not, however, reach a solution entirely satisfactory, until the general government shall supplement state action by a federal policy, which shall have in view the determination of questions relating to interstate commerce. The public sentiment of the country, with marked unanimity, is demanding of congress legislation to this end. It remains to be seen how long adverse influences shall postpone its engertment. problem can not, however, reach a solution state commerce. The public sentiment of the country, with marked unanimity, is de-manding of congress legislation to this end. It remains to be seen how long adverse in-fluences shall postpone its enactment.

The commissioners recommend such amendments and changes in the law as their ex-perience and investigations have suggested are necessary to make it more effective. I bespeak for them your hearty indorsement, and I earnestly invoke your early action re-specting the additional legislation contem-plated in the drafts of laws they submit for your consideration.
Clearly in my view, the commissioners

supply these wants and to reimburse the cities of St. Psul and Minneapolis for the amount advanced as above stated.

I was also appealed to for aid at a later date by citizens of Swift and Polk counties, who suffered from a similar visitation. My response was an assurance that I would present the matter to this legislature, with a recommendation that their necessities receive a recommendation that their necessities receive a retrieve of the same or loaned in aid of any individual, association or corporation," and section 5 of the same equal, reasonable and just. There can be retrieved for transportation of freight and passengers. If upon complaint, or other and passengers. If upon complaint, or other wise, it shall appear to the commission, after anticle 9 of the constitution provides that "the credit of the state shall never be given so the same equal, reasonable and just. There can be not complaint, or other and passengers. If upon complaint, or other and passengers and passengers. If upon complaint, or other and passengers and passengers. If upon complaint, or other and passengers and passengers. If upon complaint, or other and passengers and passengers are in passengers. If upon complaint, or other and passengers and passengers are in passengers. If upon complaint, or other and passengers are passengers. If upon complaint, or other and passengers and passengers are passengers. If upon complaint, or other and passengers and passengers and passengers and passengers and passengers are passengers. If upon complaint, or other and passengers are passengers.

to be clear, therefore, that the constitution stands in the way of such state aid to this project as its promoters seek, there are considerations that strongly commend it to public favor and to such indorsement by the state as may be constitutionally given. Careful surveys and estimates show that a moderate expenditure made in opening and deepening the angular process of the Red river equal or greater amount, representing as a rule no value whatever, but appropriated as

capital stock," will protect the public against a growth of the evil. The evident remedy, as regards existing corporations, is an adjustment of their revenues and dividends upon the i asis of a fair and liberal estimate of the actual cost or value of their properties.

The incorporation into the fundamental law of the state of an amendment asserting the full power of the state as to corporate control, is a recommendation of the commissioners in which I confully concur. Though

sioners in which I cordially concur. Though this principle is sustained by the courts it is not wholly admitted by the corporations. As an authority coming from the constitution it would command acquiescence.

The labors of the board under the law for the regulation of warshouses and the inspection of grain have resulted in the inauguration of a system of state inspection and weighing which has worked most satisfac-torily. The grades established and rules adopted by the board for the handling of grain have had the effect to remove the cause for much of the complaint that had existed among farmers and country shippers, of ir-regularities and abuses respecting the dis-position of their property. Minnesota grades of wheat are now the recognized standard in

Eastern and European markets, and the integrity of our state inspection commands the full confidence of the trade. Undoubtedly the adoption of this system has added appreciably to the market value of our when and resulted in realizing much more to the producer than he would have received under the old order of things. The grades and rules of inspection as first established proved so satisfactory that any change in them was generally objected to by farmers and dealers at the commencement of the present crop Some amendments to the law correcting

imperfections, widening its scope and extend-ing the supervision of the commissioners to county elevators, are recommended by the

board.
The successful results achieved under the ratroad and warehouse laws have been so largely due to the ability, industry and aptitude for their work of the commissioners, that I feel they have earned the thanks of the people of the state. They have secured con-cessions from the railroad companies greater than have ever been accorded to any state railroad commission in the country, and they have inaugurated a system of state grain in-spection which is being quoted and copied as a model in some of the older states.

There are now in operation 4,900 miles of railroad in the state, an increase of 738 mile in two years. Cost per mile, as reported, \$35,744.81. The earnings of these roads were as follows:

Gross....\$22,617,199,71 \$25,102,319.34 Net.....11,456,662.68 13,0 63,052.53 the state.... 611,743.55

## A RESUME.

The Governor Points With Pride at What Has Reen Done During His

Incumbercy. During the five years it has been my priviege to occupy the executive office Minnesota has experienced a development unprecedented in her history, and hardly equaled by that of any other community of the country for a like period of time. Her growth in popula-tion has been nearly 60 per cent., and her as-sessed real and personal estate has increased from \$271,158,961 in 1881 to \$458,424,777 in 1:83. The industries and business interests of her people have kept pace in their development with this growth in population and wealth, and the foundations have been broadened and strengthened for that greatness of empire which is the abundant ise of our future destiny. A brief reference to the measures and policy that have specially characterized the administration of her public interests during this period may not be re-

garded out of place in this connection.

So rapid a growth has necessarily involved largely increased expenditures in the maintenance of the several departments of the etate government and in the enlargement and support of her state institutions. Extraordinary expenditures also have been occasioned by the necessity of replacing public struc-tures destroyed by fire, notably the state capitol, the state prison and the first hospital for the insane. Expenditures for permanent public improvements the past five years have exceeded in the aggregate \$1,500,000. were specially charged with their execution.

The work of the commission has been laborious, difficult, in many of its details extended the tremely delicate, but in all respects most treasury in 1882. But notwithstanding these largely increased demands upon the state treasury they have been promptly the public debt considerably reduced adding to the burdens of the people in the was of taxation; in fact there has been paid as taxes to the state less than was paid during either of the two periods of five years immediately preceding. The average for the five years ending with 1876 was \$472,986.21 per annum, for the five years ending with 1881 \$473,878.58 and for the five years ending with 1886 \$448,\$17.97. This, in view of ending with 1886 \$448,\$17.97. This, in view of the enormously increased assessed valuation of the state, would further show a largely diminished rate of taxation. The avera rate for the first period named was 3.28-100 mills. This showing has been made possible mainly by the largely augmented revenues of the state from other sources, especially receipts from railroad and insurance companies. The trust funds have been increased from \$6,278,911.72 in 1881 to \$9,601,637.14 in 1886. These additions are the proceeds of the sale of land and pine stumpage belonging charged for the transportation of grain, live stock, lumber, wood and general farm products, amounting in the aggregate to over one million dollars per annum; a general reduction of all passenger tariffs to a maximum charge of 3 cents per mile, and a virtual abolition of the olious transit system, by an elimination of its objectionable and burdensome features. the last purchase was made a further profit

As an agency in the line of public reform and retrenchment in public expenses the crease in cost of maintaining their charitable and penal dependents. The board has also instituted a uniform system of accounting, under which all expenditures at our state institutions are spread before the public in an

intelligible form. and in this case the lower court has decided in favor of the law. The cause is now pending in the supreme court.

Minnesota has now fairly mangurated a most salutary.

of the state, and its effective measures for the protection of the public health, together with its ample provision for the maragement and control of diseases among animals, are mainly the results of the legislation of 1885 supplemented by the vigorous and efficient action of the state board of health. No state

work in reclaiming from the contaminating influences of ignorance and vice these inno-cent dependents will be felt in future years in saving to the citizenship of our state thousands who might otherwise contribute to

swell the population of her penal institutions.

In 1881 the state militia was represented by a few independent companies, scattered, neglected and poorly organized and equipped.

From that makes her desardered over From that nucleus has been developed our present effective organization of national guards, as compact, well disciplined and re-liable a body of citizen soldiers, in proportion