

SAINT PAUL.

LOCAL NEWS NOTES.

After post, G. A. R. will elect officers this evening. Biphtheria was reported at the health office yesterday existing at 355 Sherman street and 421 Virginia avenue.

SAFETY TO HEALTH

CHARTER COMMISSION PRACTICALLY ADOPTS A SECTION SEEMINGLY ALMOST IMPROVISED.

FEW IMPORTANT CHANGES

ARE MADE IN THE SYSTEM OF ORGANIZING THE BOARD AS NOW.

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Col. Clough and Judge Clark voting in the negative.

Section 7, empowering the health commissioner to remove any subordinate without pleasure, was adopted without debate.

Sections 8 and 9 were also adopted, the latter section being slightly amended so as to give the assistants of the health commissioner power to perform certain duties when so directed by the health commissioner.

Section 10, providing for the serving by the health commissioner of written notices upon owners of lots or buildings, upon which any nuisance may be found, and authorizing the health commissioner to abate the same, occasioned some discussion.

Dr. Stone suggested that the section provide for abating the nuisance by action in the municipal court, through the existing section the health department was practically powerless to enforce an abatement.

Section 10 was thereupon referred back to the committee.

Section 11 provided that any expense incurred by the health department in abating nuisances, should be recovered in an action of debt to be brought in the name of the people of the state against the party offending.

Dr. Stone suggested that a fund be provided to defray the expense of the department without the permission of the health commissioner, but this was not adopted in its present form.

Section 12, making it the duty of the health commissioner to visit or cause to be visited, all persons reported to him as being afflicted with any contagious disease, was adopted.

Section 13, empowering the health commissioner to cause printed notices to be placed upon or near any house in which any person may be affected with smallpox, scarlet fever, or other infectious disease, and holding the occupant responsible for the removal of the same, was amended by striking out the final clause, which holds the occupant responsible for the removal of the same, and amended so to provide for the removal of the same without his knowledge. The section was then referred back to be re-drafted.

Section 14, giving the commissioner of health charge of the health department, was adopted without debate.

Section 15, authorizing the health commissioner to take such measures, in case of an epidemic of cholera, as he may deem proper, for the purpose of protecting the public safety and health to demand, was adopted.

Section 16, authorizing the health commissioner to cause the vaccination of small-pox, was adopted.

Section 17, authorizing the health commissioner to cause the disinfection of buildings and dwellings, was adopted.

Section 18, authorizing the health commissioner to quarantine all public conveyances, persons, baggage, etc., on account of reports of contagious diseases, was adopted.

Section 19, authorizing the health commissioner to regulate the matter of quarantine, establishing quarantine stations, enforcing quarantine regulations, and enforcing the same, as adopted, are the same as the existing provisions, with the exception of two or three minor changes. Sections 19, 20 and 21 were referred back to the committee.

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Section 24, requiring the corporation attorney and judges of the municipal court to act promptly in all proceedings prompted by the health commissioner, was adopted.

Section 25, authorizing the health commissioner to clean any place, receptacle, premises, etc., and to remove any obnoxious substances removed therefrom, was adopted.

Section 26, prescribing the duty of the health commissioner to aid in the enforcement of all state laws for the preservation of human life and promotion or protection of health, was adopted.

Section 27, authorizing the health commissioner to require the officers of public dispensaries, hospitals, asylums, schools and other institutions of such institutions to promptly give such reports in writing, as may be required by the health commissioner, was adopted.

Section 28, requiring physicians to report deaths within thirty-six hours thereafter, was amended by requiring the report to be made within twenty-four hours, and was adopted as amended.

Sections 29, 30 and 31, defining the power of the health commissioner to make rules governing the reporting of contagious diseases and regulating the internment, burial and disposal of dead bodies, were adopted.

Section 32, as adopted, makes it the duty of the health commissioner to prescribe rules and regulations governing the internment, burial and disposal of dead bodies in all the cemeteries, private as well as public, in the city.

Sections 33 and 34 were adopted. Section 33 says that all copies of the proceedings of the health department, by laws, rules, regulations, etc., when authenticated by the commissioner, shall be regarded as presumptive evidence of the truth of the facts therein stated.

Section 35, as amended, declares that the jurisdiction of the department of health of St. Paul shall extend to Ramsey county, the same as within the limits of the city.

Section 36, as amended, provides for the health commissioner's annual report.

Section 37, defining the duties of the assistant health commissioner, was then considered.

At this stage Dr. Stone said that it was absolutely necessary that the assistant health commissioner should be a physician in regular practice. At Dr. Stone's suggestion, Section 37 was amended accordingly.

Section 38 was adopted after striking out the clause "or when directed by the mayor," which was considered superfluous.

Section 39 was also adopted. It simply requires the assistant health commissioner to carry out the orders of the health commissioner.

Section 40, making it the duty of the chief of police to cause to be executed all orders of the health commissioner for the preservation of the health of the city, was adopted.

Section 41, as amended, makes it the duty of the health department any violation of the rules of the department that may become known to him while on duty.

PRISON IS POPULAR.

More Convicts Than There Were a Year Ago.

Secretary Hart's report of the population of the various institutions in the city, as compared with the same date in 1898, is as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Institution, 1898, 1908. Rows include: Total insane, 1896-1897, 1908; Soldiers' home, 217, 224; School for deaf, 269, 275; School for blind, 515, 564; State public school, 201, 205; State training school, 174, 173; State prison, 491, 658.

Totals, 1898, 1908. Includes 22 U. S. prisoners from other states, 18 includes 9 U. S. prisoners from other states.

Smokers' Holiday Presents.

Call at Adam Fetsch's, Fifth and Robert, for smokers' presents.

WILL CLEAR THE ROADWAY.

Repairs Are to Be Made on Wabasha Street Bridge.

Superintendent Smith, of the street railway company, held a conference with the mayor yesterday and agreed to have the planking of the Wabasha street bridge removed.

At this juncture, E. J. Darragh, who said that he represented the St. Paul Plumbers' association, was given the floor by the mayor.

Col. Clough thought that some restriction ought to be imposed upon the power of the common council in this matter.

Section 6 was adopted as read.

Section 6, giving the health commissioner power to increase his force, in case of necessity or an emergency arising, was also discussed.

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IN STRICT PRIVACY

PRISON INVESTIGATING COMMISSION LISTENS TO CONVICTS' STORIES OF PRISON LIFE.

FIFTEEN INMATES CALLED IN.

WHAT THEY HAD TO TELL, OR DID TELL, ONLY THE COMMISSION KNOWS.

AND STILL ANOTHER SESSION

Will Be Devoted Today to the Narratives of Men Who Are Now in the Prison.

With the assurance of the state prison investigating commission that all their testimony would be kept an inviolate secret, fifteen convicts yesterday unobscured themselves and told what they knew of life in the Stillwater penitentiary.

Just what they told, naturally, is not given to the press, but may be interesting to note that, whereas the commission at first decided to hear the testimony without even the official stenographer present, this plan was shortly abandoned and Gus Wing sent for to come to the solitary, where the secret quest is being pursued.

It was explained to the reporters afterward by Chairman Flandrau that this was a "precaution taken to guard against disagreement between members as to just what a prisoner might have said," and accordingly betrays the fact that something of importance to one side or the other was elicited early during the inquiry.

Thomas Fleury, the robber of a bank messenger here a few years ago, was, according to report, the first witness called in the star chamber, and he occupied all the forenoon after the retirement of the commission. The other convicts in the afternoon occupied less time, and the commission expressed themselves last evening as greatly gratified with the progress they had made.

At the opening of the session in the morning Attorney Penny stated that it seemed to him that the testimony of the convicts now in the prison should be taken secretly and only the commission hear or learn the testimony.

Judge Nethaway objected to this. He said there would be no objection to the exclusion of the warden and deputy, members of the board or officers of the prison, but he believed that the defense should have an opportunity to refute the charges. Mr. Lemon was on trial, he might be subject to indictment, even placed on trial for his life, even for murder.

The commission retired for a few minutes, and when they returned Judge Flandrau announced that its verdict was that every convict who wanted to should be heard, and it was the judgment of the commission that it should be a private hearing.

Judge Nethaway protested against the ruling of the commission.

Judge Flandrau assured the counsel for both sides that they would be protected and if anything in the secret testimony was brought out by the rebuttal, the counsel would be notified.

Warden Wolfer suggested that after the commission had heard these men, it might be better to register on any system of regularity it might wish, and thus get a fair consensus of the opinion of the convicts. This was agreed to.

It was decided, for safety, there being no grating on the windows of the administration building, to hold the sessions with convicts in the solitary.

It was also decided that the list furnished to the commission by Mr. Penney, Judge Flandrau thought the examination would not take long.

"You won't have any cross-examination, you know," he said, with an arch glance at Judge Nethaway, who blushed modestly and did not reply.

Judge Nethaway requested that he be permitted to call one witness, namely, H. Rose, who was released last summer, after serving over twenty-two years for a homicide in lower town in 1874.

It had been testified in the accusation by ex-Guard Ewing that he had seen Deputy Warden Lemon kick Rose, and that he had never laid hands on him since.

Lemon ever since the latter came into the prison in 1876, a year after his sentence began, and not only did Lemon never kick him, but he had never laid hands on him since.

He heard him swear at convicts, nor seen him use any violence. He had heard things but had not seen any of them.

Section 39 was adopted. It provides that the trust and confidence of the convicts in the prison, but did not remember any specific instances. Rose stated on cross-examination that he came to the inquiry in response to a note to his name which was brought by one of the police captains in St. Paul. He did not read the note, but his brother told him they wanted him over here at the prison.

The list of about a dozen convicts which was presented to the commission by Mr. Penney was exhausted about early in the afternoon, and it was determined that the list would be continued for a short time this morning until the members have obtained what they consider a fair consensus of opinion, and then the stage will be cleared, so to speak, for the regular defense testimony.

WAS HE THE ROSE?

It should be stated in justice to the witness, Ewing, to impeach whom ex-Coroner Rose was brought in, that he examined yesterday, that Ewing said the man Rose, who was kicked by Lemon was a convict who carried water to the guards. He did not say whether or not the man pardoned his sentence, and another one of the same name, the defense, however, claims that at the date given by Ewing, this was the Rose who was on such work. The Rose who testified yesterday had previously told the Globe that he had never been ill-treated.

SECOND WARDENS PROUD.

There Are Few Unnaturalized Voters Here Now.

Ex-Alderman F. W. Bott presided over the meeting of the Second ward Democrats which was held last night in Kaitanher's hall, on Dayton bluff, and he complimented the representatives of the different precincts.

The testimonials in behalf of Hood's Sarsaparilla tell of Grand, complete, and marvelous cures, proving you may take Hood's Sarsaparilla with the utmost confidence. That it will do you Wonderful good.

upon the fact that all but 300 unnaturalized citizens had been persuaded to take out their papers.

All the others who are entitled to citizenship will be notified