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REFORM IN ORDER.

New Methods of Conducting the Penitentiaries.

LEVI WATERMAN'S SOUND VIEWS.

The Genesee Commissioner Was in the City Yesterday and Briefly Expressed Himself to an Argus Representative - A Course Which Has Been Approved by Governor Altgeld.

Hon. Levi Waterman, of Genesee, one of the new appointees as commissioner of the Joliet penitentiary, as made by Governor Altgeld, was in Rock Island yesterday on business, and incidentally he talked briefly to an Argus reporter who met him, concerning reforms in conducting the penitentiary at Joliet.

New Methods Needed.

"There is no doubt whatever," Mr. Waterman said, "but that decided reforms are necessary in the methods of conducting our state penitentiaries. There is no doubt, furthermore, that the people of the state expect the institution of such reforms. In fact the promise of such reformation was one of the issues upon which John P. Altgeld was elected governor. It will be remembered that during the campaign Judge Altgeld repeatedly and openly made specific charges in detail as to the methods employed in conducting the penal institutions of the state, charges that were never successfully contradicted, and upon his election it became incumbent on him to carry out the necessary reforms he had proposed. The commissioners appointed to succeed those long in power, found upon investigation that the governor's charges had been well founded—that decided reforms are absolutely necessary. There is no doubt whatever that the penitentiaries as now conducted are not in accordance with the law.

Will Sustain the Law.

"Now what we propose to do is to bring the manner of running the penitentiary within the law. To this end we have adopted a plan, which, while we are not prepared to make it public yet, has been submitted to the governor and meets with his entire approval. In a short time we hope to have these plans ready to inaugurate them, and then the public shall know of them.

"We find the labor problem a serious one to meet in conducting the penitentiaries. The convicts must be kept busy. To enforce hard labor and at the same time avoid conflict or competition with the legitimate compensated labor of the outside state is a matter to which we have given much thought and study. The matter of making contracts has received our most careful attention. We find it an utter impossibility to conduct the labor branches of the penitentiary without bringing us in conflict with somebody. What we propose to do, is, first and foremost, to stringently enforce the law; that has not been done heretofore. Then we will so regulate the methods of labor that they will entail as little competition with the regular channels of labor as possible."

As to the J. S. E.

In a letter to the Union F. H. Caldwell sustains the course of Representative Henry in his work in Rock Island for the J. S. E. road and says: "To show to the people who have read your article, also to the one that some one did not know or care anything about the facts of the case wrote for the ARGUS to show that we did nothing but what was right, we paid one Rock Island man \$5 per day for the time he worked for us besides others that were paid for work." As far as the ARGUS is concerned it is for Rock Island. It is for the J. S. E. road, and is willing to do all in its power to assist that road to enter Rock Island. It so expressed itself to Mr. Henry, but was informed by that gentleman that whatever was done must be as he said, and in accordance with his ideas, etc., and it was not until he had failed in his own peculiar way of doing things, that he condescended to encourage any cooperation on the part of the ARGUS or the Improvement association. The ARGUS reserves the right to conduct its own policy with reference to public enterprises. It did not like Mr. Henry's sub-rosa tactics and believes such a course on his part, and nothing else, has caused the misunderstanding in the relations of the road to Rock Island.

The ARGUS does not know anything about the road's expenditure of \$5 a day for work in Rock Island, but it regrets that nothing more has come from the outlay on Mr. Henry's part.

A Double Fatality

Distressing news from Liberty township, Scott county, across the river, involves a strange double fatality. Mrs. Carl Schroeder, wife of a retired farmer residing in the vicinity of New Liberty, died Tuesday afternoon from the effects of an apoplectic stroke. When the sad news was carried to her daughter, Mrs. Charles Brockman, wife of the clerk of Liberty township, she, too, dropped to the floor, dead, as soon as the mother's death was mentioned. While the exact cause of the latter death has not been reported, the conditions indicate it to have been caused by a stroke similar to that which carried the mother away.

R. H. Patton, 613 Walton Ave., N. Y. City, writes: "I have used Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup for years and find it the most efficacious remedy for coughs, colds and laryngitis I have ever tried."

COUNTY CONCERNS.

Yesterday's Session of the Board of Supervisors—The Business this Morning.

At yesterday afternoon's meeting of the board of supervisors, no great amount of business was transacted. An additional amount of \$25 was allowed for the taking of a colored girl from the poor farm to the Iowa Educational institution. A communication from Frank Snell asked the board to direct the clerk to cancel a certain mortgage held by the county on a piece of land in Cordova township. The matter was referred to the finance committee, which is composed of Supervisors Wilson, Sinnet, Cralle and Forsyth, and later the committee submitted its report, recommending that the prayer of the petition be granted and that the clerk be instructed to release the same of record. No other business of importance was transacted and the board adjourned until this morning at 9 o'clock.

Today's Session.

The board met at 9 o'clock, pursuant to adjournment. The special committee on the Drury toll road matter made its report, the substance of which was given in THE ARGUS heretofore. An amendment to the report making the term of the franchise 25 years instead of 20 years and substituting other changes, was brought in and its adoption moved by Supervisor Spickler. A long discussion followed, Supervisor Britton, of Andalusia, who was one of the special committee, making a lengthy statement of the matter from its inception. Other members of the committee and several of the supervisors entered into the discussion, and later the amendment was voted upon, it being rejected by a vote of 22 to 3, the report of the committee then being adopted by a vote of 23 to 2.

WOULD WELCOME IT.

The Yerkes Telescope Looking for a Home—Rock Island's Claims.

All the world knows that Charles T. Yerkes, of Chicago, has opened his generous heart and purse and taken therefrom half a million dollars to pay for a telescope now in course of construction for the Chicago university. This telescope will be the largest ever constructed by mortal men, and will have a power of searching out the heavens and studying the stars more thoroughly than any instrument ever constructed. The Chicago university is now looking around for a place to put its telescope, observatory and astronomical school. It cannot be located at Chicago nor within 40 miles of that city, on account of the pillars of smoke by day and night that hang over it and the region round. So the faculty are looking to the east and the west, the north and the south for a suitable place to pitch their astronomical wonder's tent. All Chicago knows this, and that Freeport, Geneva, Lake Forest and other ambitious towns, are working for the site.

We Would Welcome It.

The Peoria Herald is calling attention to the advantages of that city for the site, and in this same connection the ARGUS may mention that Rock Island may rightfully claim attention to its position as affording all the requisites for the location of the observatory, and to modestly assert that nothing in the world would give the city more pleasure than to offer a home to this great scientific enterprise.

Wedded Last Evening.

Last evening at 7 o'clock at the residence of William Roth, 431 Fourth street, occurred the marriage of Ernest Servis to Miss Regula Hilpert-hauser, Rev. C. A. Mennicke, of the German Lutheran church, officiating. The ceremony was witnessed by a large number of friends of the high contracting parties, Miss Laura Young and Harry Young acting as bridesmaid and best man, respectively. After the ceremony had been concluded, a fine spread was served to the company that was heartily enjoyed. The bride is a cousin of Mr. Roth and is well and favorably known. The groom is an engineer on Weyerhauser & Denkmann's boats and popular among his associates. They were the recipients of many handsome remembrances from friends, and left on a night train for Chicago and the east on a wedding tour, after which they will return and make their home at Le Claire, the former home of the groom.

Hung Himself.

Coroner McCortney was called to Buffalo Wednesday morning by information that a suicide had been committed there. He went down and saw the body of a man who had evidently hanged himself. At least the man was dead, there was every evidence of self murder and none of foul play, and a verdict was rendered in accordance with the facts. The man was named John Chumm. He was unmarried, a laborer and dissipated. It appeared from the evidence that he had drunk till his money was exhausted, and that he had committed the desperate act because he was despondent and discouraged, or perhaps mentally unbalanced. The scene of the hanging was some distance below the village of Buffalo.—Davenport Democrat.

Tax Notice.

The taxes for 1892 are now due and may be paid to the undersigned at Hurst & Donaldson's office in Masonic Temple block. Please bring your last year's receipt, which will enable the collector to find your description on the tax books.

WILLIAM J. GAMBLE, Township Collector.

POURAM BALL.

A Very Pleasant Affair at the Standard Club Rooms Last Evening.

The Pouram ball given at the rooms of the Standard club last evening was attended by the Jewish society of the three cities. It was a brilliant affair, the early part of the evening being occupied by the juveniles in dancing. Bleuer's orchestra furnished excellent music for the occasion, and the little people arranged in a variety of beautiful costumes made a pretty picture as they mingled in the mazy dance. At 10 o'clock the little folks gave away to their elders, who enjoyed several hours in dancing. A sumptuous spread was served and the affair on the whole was an exceedingly pleasant one. The following little folks were present:

- Misses— Ruth Kohn, Gertrude Kohn, Blanche Mosenfelder, Jasette Mosenfelder, Selma Frellich, Hanna Rosenstein, Della Cohn, Ray R. Sarnstein, Fannie Basberger, Laura B. Moberg, Selma Bear, Elsie Simon, Marco Kohn, Irma Kohn, Masdie Bear, Stella Kohn, Edna Kohn, Myra Bear. Masters— Jackle Simon, Allie Simon, Simon Mosenfelder, G. M. Mosenfelder, Morris Simon, Hugo Simon, Arlie Mosenfelder, Lee Goldsmith, Joe Goldsmith, Joe Rosenfeld, Sidney Loeb, Arthur Hirsch.

The Bridge Line Service.

The entertainment at the Burtis Opera house at Davenport was concluded considerably earlier than is customary last evening, and a large number of Rock Island people who attended, and were enabled to catch a car at 10:25, expected they would get over before the last regular trip. Hence when the conductor demanded extra fare there was a general remonstrance, the passengers thinking that while the car did not start promptly from Davenport as it might have done, it was nevertheless a regular car. When the matter was referred to Assistant President Lardner this morning, he immediately made an investigation and found that the last regular car due to leave Davenport at 10:20 had gone a few minutes before, which made the theatre car a special. Mr. Lardner stated, however, that the company was purchasing horses as fast as possible, with a view to putting more cars on the bridge line and reducing the time between cars, that as soon as possible the last car would leave Davenport at 10:30 p. m., but cars thereafter would run for special accommodation as now.

In Rock Island the company charges no additional fare for theatre cars, and the result is that everybody rides and there is "no kick coming." If it is to be regretted that such an arrangement cannot be made on the bridge line for the benefit of the theatres on each side of the river. It would probably pay the street railway in the end.

Perhaps, however, we must await the coming of electricity on the bridge line as bringing about this among other desired reformations it has wrought for the public good in the cities on either side of the river.

The Argus Circulation.

In view of the steady growth of the circulation of the THE ARGUS and, realizing the fact that to the average subscriber it is more satisfactory to have the subscriptions paid promptly and at regular intervals, our collector will hereafter visit each subscriber every month, and to the end that the department may be conducted as systematically as possible and as satisfactory to all concerned as may be, our patrons, it is hoped, will be prepared to receive the collector when he comes. At such times, too, any complaints should be made as to the manner of serving the paper, while it is desired that at any time causes of complaint be promptly reported. The carriers are required to deliver the paper neatly and as far as possible in conformity with the wishes of the subscribers. They are also provided with whistles and enjoined to blow them when at each house where a paper is left, and failure of any of these requisites should be immediately reported. The carrier will then be provided with a receipt, which the subscriber will confer a favor by signing, showing that the complaint has been remedied. Carriers will be compelled to comply with these regulations and the places of those who fail to will be filled by others.

Masonic Notice.

There will be work on third degree in Rock Island Lodge No. 658, A. F. & A. M. tomorrow (Friday) evening at 7:30. E. Beck, W. M.

CROCKERY AT THE CROCKERY STORE.

Tumblers of all grades, the cheapest as well as the best—all good, for that matter. Goblets, also; they are also breaking; don't you need a few just now? Chamber sets, from the useful six-piece sets up, decorated, for less than plain white. As you begin to think of spring cleaning, stop and see how little a neat toilet set costs now. Plain white tableware—a full dinner set, 100 pieces, for \$6. I don't believe some people know how cheap I am selling the very best white ironstone china; cups and saucers, for instance, 43 cents a set. The place to buy crockery is at the crockery store.

G. M. LOOSLEY, Crockery Store, 1600 Second Avenue.

One-Quarter, One-Third, One-Half, OFF.

We offer at these reductions the balance of our winter stock. In ten days our new Spring stock will arrive (some new goods are already in) and short work will be made of what Winter goods we have on hand. This includes

- Men's Suits and Overcoats. Men's and Boys' Pants. Boys' Suits and Overcoats. Underwear, Caps, Gloves. Knee Pants, Shirt Waists.

Last call for Winter Goods-- Be quick. 50c will buy One Dollar's worth.

Simon & Mosenfelder, Rock Island House Corner.

BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS.

FREE, FREE, FREE.

A book with every purchase. We are giving away, free, 23 different kinds of books, at the late Carse & Co. store, 1622 Second avenue.

Prices of Shoes guaranteed to be as low as the lowest. The stock must go.

GEO. SCHNEIDER,

The Columbia :

Closing Out A Line of DRESS GOODS.

From One Cent a Yard Up.

THE COLUMBIA,

F. J. YOUNG, Proprietor. 1728 Second Av.

Fifth Avenue Pharmacy.

HORST VON KOECKRITZ, Analytic and Dispensing Pharmacist

Is now located in his new building at the corner of Fifth avenue and Twenty-third street.

Opera House Saloon

GEORGE SCHAFFER, Proprietor. 1601 Second Avenue, Corner of Sixteenth Street, Opposite Harper's Theatre.

The choicest Wine, Liquors, Beer and Cigars always on Hand

Free Lunch Every Day Sandwiches Furnished on Short Notice.