

## WORKING HANDS OF ALMS

Detroit Plan of Potato Farms  
Will Be Tried Here.

## SUBURBAN LOTS TO BE USED

Chairman Gregory, of the Center Council, declares that wherever the scheme has been put in operation it has proved successful. Mr. Warner thinks employment should be found for prisoners.

It is on the cards to radically change the charity system of this city so far as the Citizens' Central Relief Committee is concerned.

The novel sight of a hobo with a hoe in his hand and all members of the immediate family at work on city industrial farms are the principal features of the proposed revolution in the methods of official benevolence.

The Central Relief Committee was to have held a final meeting yesterday afternoon, but it was called off, pending further instructions from Commissioner Tinsdale. The object of the call upon the Commission recently by a sub-committee of the Central Relief Committee was to advise the Commissioner of the completion of the work of the year, and to receive any further instructions.

The committee and the Commissioner discussed the past season and its incidents, and the future, and it is now believed that the change above noted will be consummated.

## POTATO FARMS FOR THE POOR.

Mr. L. S. Emery, secretary of the Associated Charities, was called on yesterday by Judge Cole and Mrs. Babson, both of whom were on the special committee. Mr. Emery informed from one of the committee that Commissioner Tinsdale has been considering methods of reform, and that it is expected that at the next meeting of the central relief committee a plan for industrial work for the classes usually aided by charity will be presented by Mr. Tinsdale. The matter was discussed at the joint meeting of the Commissioners and the special committee.

This plan contemplates the establishment of potato farms in the suburbs, the dispensers of charity to furnish each individual or family with about two acres of land, seed and the necessary implements of till. The first expenses for rent, tools and seed are to be deducted, and the balance of the crop to be the property of the cultivators.

The principle that only those who now ought to reap-or dig potatoes in this instance-are to be the idea to be applied to local charities.

The local market, it is thought, would give the preference to the products of the local market.

A similar plan is said to be working well under the direction of Gen. Booth in the suburbs of London, and it is being tried in the neighborhood of New York.

## WORK BETTER THAN ALMS.

Whether the plan will materialize or not, there is certainly an almost universal sentiment in Washington that money given for charity is best spent in giving people the opportunity for their moral effect. The Central Union Mission work is to a great extent that sentiment in this city. It commands it in its municipal holding house.

The views of two representative and thinking men who are concerned in the matter will be read with profit.

Mr. H. H. Warner, President of the Board of Trade, said:

"I think the proposition can be worked out successfully and I approve the idea. I am in favor of reverting work to return for charity bestowed upon men who are able to work. It is highly commendable, and will be this difficulty to overcome. I believe that lands to the extent of two or three acres on which a man can be made self-supporting is not an excessive demand for charity."

"Where lands are exceedingly fertile a man may support himself, and it would cost a great deal of money to make lands in the District highly fertile. Again, applicants for charity are nearly all indolent or acquire laziness by reason of their unfortunate circumstances. It will need careful supervision and supervision to make these farms or farm a success."

"But as you have started in on this question I suggest that the principle be applied to a certain class of those committed to jail."

## DEAD BEATS AT THE JAIL.

"The warden will tell you that more than 40 per cent. of the inmates of the jail are repeat offenders, who commit crimes to be sent to jail and who are sharp enough to avoid the workhouse."

"I think, however, that every improvement that will facilitate the employment of dead beats."

"You might try these inmates also on the industrial farms, and put them to work along the Eastern branch in an experimental garden. These workers would be at least partly 'proof.'"

Mr. M. Gregory, president of the Civic Center, said:

"Yes, I think something about these farms. In fact, the appropriate committee, the Citizens' Central Relief Committee, is already under discussion and in the line of their duty will communicate with the authorities. It was about time that something in this direction should be done after the facts given by the Times, quite recently, showing that last season, between 50,000 and 60,000 people were added by charity in this city."

"I think, however, that it would be as well to extend the usefulness not to the mendicant class alone, but to those who are out of work only in the summer."

## PLAN GENERALLY SUCCESSFUL.

"Our committee has already made many inquiries into this matter, and I know personally that where experimental farms have been tried they have succeeded, the failures in some cases being due to the incompetency of other fault of the management."

"The plan followed by the city of Detroit, where the idea was first developed successfully, will be followed in the suggestions we will have to make."

"As to the obtaining of lands, I think the soil in the vicinity of Anacostia and Bladensburg is adapted to the growing of potatoes, but there is no necessity of over-irrigating the industry to potato growing. If potato lands are not obtainable beans will grow in almost every soil, and they are one of the most profitable crops that can be grown."

## Starch Works Burned.

Columbus, Ind., April 6.—The American Starch works, with buildings covering ten acres, was burned to day. The loss \$200,000, insurance \$25,000.

## Dropsy Cured

Prof. Green's remedy will positively cure dropsy in thirty days or we will return one hundred dollars. All consultations free. Call at office, 1214 N. W.

## McAllister &amp; Co., Opticians.

2111 F Street N. W. (Next Sun Bldg.)

## WELCOMED TO MEMBERSHIP

Candidates Received Into the Itinerary of the Baltimore M. P. Conference.

Supplementary Report on the Temperance Question Brought In from the Committee and Adopted.

Only one session of the Methodist Conference was held yesterday at Alexandria. Tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock was agreed upon as the hour for hearing Daniel Baker and others in the interest of the Baltimore book house of the church.

A supplementary report was brought in by Dr. Treadway for the temperance committee. It recommends the appointment of a committee of seven members of the conference, to meet with committees from other religious bodies, to see if some general plan can not be agreed upon to wipe out the liquor traffic. The report was adopted.

The Sunday school committee next heard a report, which was read by Mr. Tinsdale, in which he made recommendations in regard to the preparation of lessons by the teachers and the use of "lesson" helps in the work. It included the Methodist Protestant Sunday school literature as the best in the country, and advised pastors to see that one of the Sunday school papers was placed in the hands of each of the pupils in the school.

Rev. Dr. Sunderland, chairman of the faculty, then made the additional recommendation of George L. Wolfe for ordination, and Rev. Mr. G. W. McNett and the candidates, had passed the examination with 100 per cent in all histories.

The hour for the reception of the candidates was held at 3 o'clock. Mr. Tinsdale, Messrs. Howard O. Keene, Pittsburgh L. Stevens, Howard L. Schuchle, Frank S. Cain, Charles E. Dryden, George L. Morris, G. Newman Ward, William E. McNett and T. H. Wright were called forward and Rev. Dr. J. D. Kinzer, president of the conference, welcomed them into its membership.

The hearing of the visiting brethren was set for the hour after the reception and Rev. Dr. Stevens, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal, and Rev. Mr. G. W. McNett, of the conference, then made strong appeals for the proposed Methodist Protestant University at Alexandria, Va.

Rev. H. R. Stout, corresponding secretary of the board of home missions, was next called to the stand. He was armed with a list of names of those who had been called to the stand. He was armed with a list of names of those who had been called to the stand.

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## WITH DRUSH AND CHISEL

Exhibition of Washington Artists at the Cosmos Club.

## IT WILL OPEN TO-MORROW

Oil Paintings, Water Colors, and Sculpture Will Form the Attraction—Finishing Touches Put Upon the Arrangements—It Is Believed That This Year's Salon Will Surpass All Predecessors in Excellence.

The artists of Washington were engaged yesterday morning in giving the last touches to the first thing that strikes the visitor is the absence of classical sketches, and the next that a great majority of the artists have treated subjects from this country—portraits, landscapes and domestic groups. There are some exceptions, of course.

Mr. Walter Farris exhibits a street scene from the first thing that strikes the visitor is the absence of classical sketches, and the next that a great majority of the artists have treated subjects from this country—portraits, landscapes and domestic groups. There are some exceptions, of course.

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## GEN. FARNSWORTH DEAD

He Expired From the Effects of a Paralytic Stroke.

Suffered for Some Time from a Complication of Ailments, and the End Was Brought On by a Cold.

Gen. J. D. Farnsworth, a veteran of the late war, and who had since earned fame in the peaceful pursuits of politics and business, died at the Arlington Hotel at 9:30 o'clock last night from the effects of a paralytic stroke sustained on the previous evening.

Gen. Farnsworth was a native of Towson, Md., and was sixty-three years old. His natal town was named after his stepfather, the family being of considerable local importance.

At the outbreak of the war Gen. Farnsworth entered the Union service in the quartermaster's department and continued his service until the close of the war in 1865. He removed to Albany, and, entering in the lumber business, acquired a fortune.

He was prominent in Grand Army circles in New York, and served on the staffs of Grover Cleveland, Roosevelt P. Flower and David B. Hill during their gubernatorial terms.

He was a factor in the politics of his State, but was not ambitious of preferment himself in doing so, rather to promote the aims of his friends. He was well thought of in life for his frankness and fair dealing, and his friends and foes join their regrets at his death.

He had been in Washington for several weeks, during all of which time he had been suffering from a complication of ailments. He contracted his cold yesterday for a trip on a cable car and contracted a cold, which, in the opinion of his physicians, induced the paralytic attack.

From the moment the stroke hit that of death Gen. Farnsworth was unconscious. His wife was with him at the end, and his daughter reached the city last night. He was taken to his home yesterday. A son is expected to arrive here from Albany this morning.

The funeral details have not yet been received. The body will be shipped to Albany on Monday for burial.

GRIST OF THE DIVORCE MILL.

Five Divorces Separated by Decrees of the District Supreme Court.

Five divorces were granted in the District Supreme Court yesterday. Four decrees were by Judge Cox and one by Judge Hagner.

The latter was in favor of Mrs. Margie E. Coomes against Albert L. Coomes. They were married here on December 27, 1886, and on August 28, 1892, he deserted her. She filed suit on December 18 last, and on February 18 the case was referred to R. J. Murray to take testimony. She gets permission to resume her maiden name, "Frances Miss Ben."

Mr. Augustus W. Smith, of No. 1012 Fourth street northwest, was granted a divorce from John A. Smith. They were married in this city on May 2, 1878, and on June 1, 1893, he deserted her. She filed suit on December 18 last, and on February 18 the case was referred to R. J. Murray to take testimony. She gets permission to resume her maiden name, "Frances Miss Ben."

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