

The Minnesota Bulletin

...OF...

Corrections and Charities

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The State Board of Corrections and Charities

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THE CONVENTION OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND COUNTY AUDITORS.

The Commercial Club of St. Paul and the Board of County Commissioners of Ramsey County united in a call for a convention of county commissioners, county surveyors, and county auditors, to be held in St. Paul, Feb. 19 and 20, 1896. The weather was very unfavorable throughout the state, which doubtless accounted in part for the small attendance. Only twelve counties were represented, and about thirty delegates were present. Auditor C. R. Cooley of Minneapolis was elected president of the conference. There was no set program. A paper was read on "Good Roads" by Secretary McGinnis of the St. Paul Commercial Club, and the subject of good roads was freely discussed. An address on taxation was presented by Frank M. Nye, county attorney of Hennepin counts'.

Secretary H. H. Hart of the State Board of Corrections and Charities was invited to address the conference on the subject of "County Buildings and the Care of the County Poor." Mr. Hart urged the importance of great care in planning county buildings. He recommended the employment of competent architects in all cases, and advised "junketing tours" for the purpose of profiting by the experience of other counties. He maintained that a fine effect could be secured by the general plan and the artistic proportions of a public building much more effectively than by galvanized iron cornices, cheap ornamentation, and "gingerbread" work.

Mr. Hart delivered an address on the care of the poor which we reserve for our next issue.

AN INSTITUTION FOR DEFORMED AND CRIPPLED CHILDREN.

To the Editor MINNESOTA STATE BULLETIN,

Sir: It seems as though something should be done to provide schools for deformed and crippled children. Though we have institutions for the blind and deaf, this other class of children are left to attend the public schools at which they study the same hours, and in every way contend with strong, well children as best they may. In the past years great progress has been made in Europe in treating cases of spinal disease, hip disease, and similar diseases, but for only the last seven or eight years have such cases been treated successfully in this country, and this only in two or three of our large cities. Poor parents, or even people of moderate means, in our Western States, are not able to have such children treated properly; in fact, it is almost impossible for them to learn that anything can be done for such children. And so children that could have been easily cured at first, grow up uncared for, and gradually grow worse and worse until they are incurable. Many cases of spinal curvature, for instance, develop slowly, and are almost unnoticed until the child reaches the age of twelve or fourteen. A great many such children are in our public schools, uncared for and constantly sitting in posi-

tions and doing tasks at which they grow worse. Surely these children have a right to have proper schools provided for them. We should have state institutions where these children could have the latest scientific treatment and their education could progress under more favorable circumstances than in the public schools. The expense of such an institution to the state would not be as great accordingly as the institutions for the education of other defective children, for the best authorities on such cases agree that hundreds of cases, if taken in time and given systematic treatment such as it is impossible to give in homes, would be cured speedily. J. A. H.

Northfield, Minn., Jan. 27, 1896.

INSTITUTION JOURNALISM.

Our request for expressions of opinion with reference to the scope and methods of institution journalism have called forth, a large amount of valuable material, whose discussion would call for more space than we can command in this issue. We are compelled, therefore, to postpone our intended article until the June number.

REPORTS AND DOCUMENTS, RECEIVED.

• The following reports and documents are gratefully acknowledged. We are anxious to receive everything that is printed relating to the subject of charities and corrections:

CALIFORNIA.—Fresno—Free Kindergarten Association for 1893 and 1894.

CONNECTICUT.—New Haven—National Conference of Charities and Correction. Proceedings for 1895.

DELAWARE.—Wilmington—Associated Charities for 1895.

• DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.—Washington—Board of Children's Guardians for 1895.

Census Bureau: Crime, Pauperism, and Benevolence. Part II. Census of 1890.

Census Bureau: Social Statistics of Cities. Census of 1890.

Census Bureau: Report on Education in the United States. Census of 1890.

GEORGIA.—Augusta—Orphan Asylum for 1894-95.

INDIANA.—Indianapolis—Proceedings of the Fourth State Conference of Charities and Correction.

MAINE.—Hallowell—Industrial School for Girls for 1895.

MASSACHUSETTS.—Boston—State Board of Lunacy and Charity for 1895.

Prison Commissioners for 1895.

Newtonville—The Newton Associated Charities for 1895.

MINNESOTA.—St. Paul—Protestant Orphan Asylum for 1894 and 1895.

Proceedings of the Fourth State Conference of Charities and Correction, October, 1895.

MISSISSIPPI.—Meridian—East Mississippi Insane Asylum. Biennial Report for 1894 and 1895.

NEW JERSEY.—Trenton—State Industrial School for Girls for 1895.

Elizabeth—State Charities Aid Association for 1895.

NEW YORK.—Albany—State Board of Charities. Report of the Standing Committee on the Craig Colony and Epileptics.

Canaan Four Corners—Burnham Industrial Farm for 1894-95.

Fredonia—Proceedings of the Board of Supervisors of Chautauqua County for 1895.