

35 SANE PLACED IN ASYLUM, IS CHARGE

Idaho Commissioners' Report Causes Sensation.

PROBATE JUDGES BLAMED

Unnatural Families Declared to Have "Railroaded" Relatives Into State Hospital.

BOISE, Idaho, Dec. 20.—(Special.)—The charge made by John Kirby White, commissioner of public welfare and a member of Governor Davis' cabinet, that a considerable number of the inmates of the state asylum at Blackfoot are not insane at all, but were placed in that institution largely by unnatural families and relatives, has created a mild sensation in many parts of the state. Mr. White asserts that fully 10 per cent of the inmates of the asylum ought to be home with relatives or at least in feeble-minded institutions.

This state institution has been under fire several times in the past two years. The last legislature sent a committee to Blackfoot to investigate it and returned with a report severely criticizing the medical superintendent.

Thirty-five Held Not Insane.

Authorities seem to agree that there is something radically wrong with the present system of handling the insane, and Commissioner White, who by virtue of his office, which gives him jurisdiction over the asylums, proposed to take vigorous steps to remedy it. After an investigation by the directing board of the Blackfoot asylum, by Medical Superintendent Hoover and by Commissioner White himself, the latter announces there are 35 of the 320 inmates who are not insane; counties have persisted in paying off as feeble-minded persons who properly belong in county institutions, instead of an asylum; unnatural families have railroaded undesirable relatives to the asylum; proper segregation of the inmates has been rendered impossible by the flood of patients, and there is not even a proper place to die at the asylum.

Commissioner White also has jurisdiction over the state sanitarium established at Nampa for the purpose of taking care of the feeble-minded. He finds on investigation that many feeble-minded are mixed among the insane at Blackfoot and he proposes to see they are transferred to the sanitarium. In discussing the matter he took occasion to score severely the probate judges of the state, who in some instances have been guilty of neglect of duty in failing to examine carefully into the financial condition of prospective inmates. The law provides that where persons committed by the probate judges to the sanitarium must be paid at the asylum. This relieves the state of that obligation.

Co-eds Attract Attention.

The action taken by the University of Idaho co-eds in adopting resolutions indorsing a special session of the legislature to ratify the suffrage amendment has attracted the interest of party leaders here. The college girls hold that Idaho's vote may be a critical one before the campaign is over to get the legislature of the various states to ratify. They are listing the support of women's clubs in various parts of the state.

It is not likely that the special session of the Idaho legislature will be called, however, unless the college girls and other women of the state are able to convince Governor Davis that it is necessary and win him to their side. The governor is not inclined at this time to summon the session. Of course, in the event it became imperative to have Idaho's vote to assure safety of the amendment, he would order the special session. The amendment does not seem to be in any particular danger. The necessary two-thirds vote will be secured without trouble, the governor and others believe.

NEW THEORY QUESTIONED

CHICAGO SCIENTIST DOUBTS EINSTEIN HYPOTHESIS.

Belief Regarding Relativity, However, Is Declared to Be One to Be Reckoned With.

CHICAGO, Dec. 20.—Dr. A. A. Michelson of the University of Chicago says that anyone holding the new Einstein theory of "relativity" must also accept the following conclusions: "A yardstick is shorter when it is pointing east and west than it is pointing north and south."

"A clock will run slower when it is being moved than when it is standing."

"A mass of matter is greater when it is in motion than when it is at rest."

Dr. Michelson was winner of the \$40,000 Nobel prize for physics in 1917. His investigations in the action of light brought on the discussion leading up to the Einstein tests and hypotheses which have aroused so much comment in the scientific world.

Dr. Michelson stated that the consequences of the Einstein theory are radical, and then he told the effect it would have on the yardstick, clock and solid body. But he added that we need not get excited about it, even if Einstein is right.

"The movement of the earth is small when compared to the velocity of light, and for all practical purposes might be disregarded," he said. "The subject of relativity belongs to the realm of higher physics, but nevertheless, is an important matter and the Einstein theory is to be seriously reckoned with."

Professor Michelson, however, does not as yet accept the theory as it is taught, by the great Swiss mathematician, because it does away with the idea of light traveling by means of the vibrations in ether, which is supposed to fill all space.

"Einstein thinks there is no such

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ing as other," declared the Chicago professor. "He does not attempt to account for the transmission of light, but he holds that ether should be thrown overboard. Either gives us some reference point for motion, but according to the Einstein theory, all motion is relative. However, I believe it is possible, with certain modifications of this hypothesis, to square it with the ether theory and the necessity of some medium for the transmission of light. Then my main objection would be removed."

Creamery Makes Good Record.

CHEHALIS, Wash., Dec. 20.—(Special.)—For November the co-operative creamery at Winlock made an approximate of 20,000 pounds of butter, which was an increase over the October output of 2000 pounds. Many local dairymen in northern Lewis county who formerly shipped cream to sound cities are now patronizing the plant nearer home.

BUYER OF LIPMAN, WOLFE & CO. GOES TO EASTERN CONCERN.



Isaac Upright.
After passing 16 years in Portland in the mercantile business, Isaac Upright, one of the head buyers of Lipman, Wolfe & Co., is to leave this city to accept an executive position with the Famous-Barr company of St. Louis, Mo. He will depart immediately after Christmas, going first to San Francisco to spend several days with his father, and then east.

The concern with which Mr. Upright will take up his new duties is owned by the May company, which operates four large stores located in St. Louis, Denver, Cleveland and Akron. It does an annual business of \$50,000,000.

GENTILES TO AID JEWS

PROMINENT MEN TO CAMPAIGN FOR \$10,000,000.

Big Fund Is Sought to Improve 34 Jewish Institutions Made Poor by War Work.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Announcement was made here tonight of the organization of a special committee of nationally prominent Gentiles to aid the united building funds campaign for a fund of \$10,000,000 with which to extend the activities and improve the buildings of 34 Jewish institutions.

The work of this special committee is to be directed from the Hotel Pennsylvania by Colonel Arthur Woods, formerly secretary of the secretary of war and ex-police commissioner of New York, and W. Ward Smith, who conducted the successful actors' fund drive.

The committee includes George Gordon Battle, President Nicholas Murray Butler of Columbia university, President Newton Carlom of the Western Union, R. Fulton Cutting, John Hays Hammond, Hamilton Holt, Charles Evans Hughes, Arthur Curtiss James, George Foster Peabody, Lieutenant-Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, Assistant Secretary of the Navy Franklin D. Roosevelt, Governor Smith of New York, and Major-General Wood.

In announcing the new organization, the special committee made this statement:

"Leading Jews of the country have made vigorous efforts to raise a \$10,000,000 fund with which to improve some 34 of their public institutions, including hospitals, orphanages, day nurseries, neighborhood centers and settlement houses.

"Because their funds were devoted in war to war purposes, these institutions are now in financial distress."

COUNTY AGENT MOVES
Oregon to Get H. G. Avery Who Is Leaving Idaho County.

OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, Corvallis, Dec. 20.—(Special.)—H. G. Avery, county agent for Jerome county, Idaho, has been appointed county agent for Deschutes county, Oregon.

Mr. Avery has had three years' successful experience in Idaho, being recognized as one of the most capable agents in the state. He formerly lived on a Kansas stock farm and attended the Kansas Agricultural college. Mr. Avery will report in Redmond December 26.

For toy electric railroads an inventor has patented a section that sounds a whistle as a train passes over it.

Multnomah Hotel ANNOUNCES Annual Watch Party and Supper Dance

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