The Whole System to Fe in Charge of a Commissioner.

INDIGENT CHILDREN PROVIDED FOR

The commission appointed by the Goverpor under resolution from the Legislature to revise the poor laws of the State has nearly finished it work. After several months spent in gathering and digesting data, an elaborate system for the maintenance and government of the State poor has been evolved. A bill covering all the points was prepared, and yesterday at a meeting of the Poor Directors' Association of Pennsylvania in Erie it was finally adopted. The report, with a recommenda-tion to pass the bill, will be presented to the next Legislature.

It is noticed in the proposed act that the good features in the great mass of legisla-tion on the subject that has accumulated on the statute books since the organization of the State have been retained, and a lot of regulations that conflict with the exigencies of the times have been omitted. The bill recites a long list of poor acts to be repealed. This is done to avoid any complications in the future. Much credit for the construction of the new system belongs to John D. Carr, Steward of the Fayette County Almshouse and a member of the

One Evil Corrected.

The present plan of farming out the poor is abolished and provision is made for the training of children under 16 years of age in some respectable family, or in industrial schools. Mr. Carr personally is opposed to binding out the little ones. In his experience he says he never found a family willing to take poor children that he thought were quite "respectable" enough. Under no consideration would be have permitted his children to be raised by them. It is the intention now to change the soldiers' orphans' homes into industrial and training schools, and this is contemplated by the

proposed poor law.

On the passage of the act it is provided that a State poor law department be established at once, and the Governor, with the consent of two-thirds of the Senate, shall appoint a commissioner for a term of four years at a salary of \$4,000 per annum to be years at a salary of \$4,000 per annum to be the head of such department. A room will be provided in the Capitol. His title shall be the "Poor Law Commissioner of Penn-sylvania." He shall have the direction and general supervision of the administra-tion of the relief of the poor throughout the State according to the act or such laws as shall be in force at the time; and for executing the powers given to him, the commissioner is authorized and required from time to time as he snall see occasion to make and issue all such general rules and regulations for the government of poor law institutions, for the custody, maintenance and training of poor children, and for carrying the act into execution in all other respects as he shall think proper. The commissioner may at his discretion suspend or rescind such rules and regulations or any of them, but he shall not have power to order relief in any individual case. He shall have power by summons to require the attendance of witnesses and to compel them to produce any books or writings upon any question or matter connected with or relating to the administration of the laws for the relief and employment of the poor

Power to the Governor.

go into effect until 20 days after it has been approved by the Governor and Attorney appointment and removal by the commissioner of general inspectors and a clerk at a salary of \$1,800 yearly. They shall have a salary of expooryearly. They shall have etc. to inspect the poor houses and in-mates, and to see that the rules and regula-tions are generally observed.

Each county shall constitute a separate poor district, and at the next general elec-tion efter the passage of the act the quali-fied voters shall elect three directors of the poor for the district composed of each county, one to serve one year, one to serve two years and one to serve three years, and annually thereafter, one to serve three years from the first Monday of January next after their election and until their successors shall be duly qualified. The directors forever shall be in fact and name with reference to the relief and employment of the poor bodies corporate and politic in law. Perpetual succession is provided, and they can sue and be sued, receive, take and hold lands, goods, etc., given or devised by any person, and can dispose of them for the benefit of the poor. Bonds are required of each director for the proper discharge of all duties connected with the office.

The directors of each county shall meet and organize on the first Monday in Janu-ary of each year and proceed to choose a clerk and to fix his salary, and make an es-timate of the probable cost and expense of providing necessary accommodations for the poor of the county for the ensuing year, and for the first year the probable cost of the relief of the poor shall be based upon the average cost throughout the county for the relief of the poor during the three preceding years. The probable cost for ac-commodation, including the expense of purchasing land, erection of buildings, improvements, machinery, furniture and stock, or either of them, shall be certified, and a copy delivered to the County Commission-

Providing the Expenses.

All other expenses shall be certified to the commissioner in the same way. In counties where the tax levy is made before the first Monday in January, the estimate for the year must be made ten days shead. The commissioners are directed to raise the amount of money required by taxation in addition to the regular county tax, the funds to be paid out by the County Treasurer on warrants from the poor directors. The books of the latter will be audited like any other officer.

In addition the Commissioners are di-

rected to borrow money, if needed, to carry out the purposes of the act by issuing bonds of not less than \$100. They can't be sold below par and can't be taxed except for State purposes. The directors are empowered to erect suitable poor houses within a rectification. within or without the county and to fix the compensation of employes. The matron and superintendent cannot be discharged without the consent of the State commis-

When the directors by resolution deremine to buy land to carry out the act, the President Judge of the court with them shall constitute a board to make the necessary purchase, the convevance to be taken in the names of the directors, and the money shall be paid by the County Commissioners.

Improvements Provided For.

Improvements Provided For.

If improvements to or enlargements of the buildings are needed the directors will prepare plans and submit them to the State commissioner for his approval. After the completion of the buildings under the direction of the act the overseers in charge of the poor in the district or county must remove them to the poor house, or forteit their maintenance until it is done. If removal is impossible on account of sickness the poor will be provided for until the removal is possible. As soon as the overseers are succeeded in office by the directors all money balances in their possession shall be turned over to the road supervisors or the treasurer in cites and boroughs.

the courts shall have jurisdiction, and are authorized to decree the public or private sale of any real estate now held for JAS, S. KIRK & CO., • Chicago.

poor law purposes in any county, city, borough, township or poor district at such time and upon such terms as in the opinion of the Court may be considered just and proper. The Court shall make such order respecting the proceeds of the sale as justice and equity may require. The application for sale may be made by the Councils of any city, the Council of any borough, the commissioners of any county or the supervisors of any township wherein or whereby the same may have been purchased and owned, provided the city, borough, county or township constitutes a poor district which by this act is superseded or abolished, or by any 25 taxpayers of the district and shall be verified by affidavit. The court may appoint auditors to ascertain the facts and such commissioners to make the sale as may by them be deemed expedient. In case any present district extends into more than one county, the court of the county which now has jurisdiction thereof respecting the poor laws shall have the powers conferred.

An Economic Move.

The directors, two of whom make a quorum, shall meet once a month. Any director can admit a poor person to the almshouse on a shall meet once a month. Any director can admit a poor person to the almshouse on a written order, or the superintendent can in an emergency provide for poor people until the board meets again. The pay of directors is fixed at \$3 per day. In case of a vacancy the remaining director or directors can fill it by appointment until the next general election. No child between the ages of 2 and 16 years shall be maintained in the poorhouse for more than 60 days. They will be provided for in families, industrial schools, or other suitable institutions until 16 years old. A husband, wife, father, mother or children, being of sufficient ability, must maintain their poor as the Court may direct under a penalty of forfeiting \$20 per month for the trailure. If a husband deserts his wife or children, or both, the Court will compel him to pay a reasonable sum for their keep. Where persons refuse to enter a poor house or will not abide by the rules, no relief will be given them. No director is allowed to be concerned or interested in any contract for supplies.

In the main the above are the important features of the new poor system proposed by the commission. It remains for the Legislature to reject or modify the bill as it sees fit. If the act is passed it will wipe out a host of poor laws. The titles of the poor acts to be abolished are mentioned in the bill

Not a Campaign Issue.

Not a Campaign Issue.

A good many people seem to have an idea that the Presidental campaign is not attracting as much attention as usual. Maybe it isn't, but one thing is certain, those new "Grandfather's Hat" cakes recently put on the market are proving immensely popular. We are told that Marvin's, with all their facilities for baking great quantities in a short time, can searcely supply the demand. And it isn't political sentiment that is making the demand, either, for Democrats as well as Republicans buy them. "Grandfather's Hat" cakes are really delightful dainties and it is no wonder that the people like them. Ask your grocer for them.

Vacheron and Constantin Watch is the finest and most accurate timepiece made. Warranted. Open or hunting-case. Ladies' and gents' sizes. Imported and sold only by Sheafer & Lloyd, 37 Fifth avenue.

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Improvement, the Promise of Cure.

No array of words can give a dyspeptic one-half the hope that comes from the relief which always follows the use of Burdock Blood Bitters, and the promise of cure is never broken.

"Having suffered from dyspepsia for two or three years, I decided to try B. B. and after taking one bottle I found myself so much better I got another bottle and after taking that I had no more need of medicine.

"MRS. G. C. WHITE.

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The party to whom I presented the other bottle, obtained, states that he is entirely cured and that he feels like a new man since taking your medicine. Respectfully, CHARLES WHITE, 297 9th street, Washington, D. C. Supr. 17, 1892.

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