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AMUSEMENTS.

People who want to be amused without mental taxation will find "Girl Wanted," at the Park to-day and for the next three days, the comedy hit of the season there. It is just the show for busy people. There is no cessation of merriment, save when the curtain is down. Of the plot there is just enough to carry the thread of humor. Good specialities are interspersed here and there. The entire action of the play, however, hinges upon the versatility of Frank Bush, a comedian and mimic of acknowledged ability. His versatility is illustrated by the fact that he plays a number of distinct roles, each of which, male and female, is wholly different from the others. In all of these Bush always holds the house by his inimitable powers of mimicry and his humor.

There is a superstition among many people of the stage that a yellow clarionet in a theater orchestra or when used on the stage is one of the most positive omens of ill luck and failure that is to be found in the whole category of "voudoos" pertaining to the theatrical profession. Canary birds, a raised umbrella on the stage, the use of peacock feathers, the whistling of "Macbeth" music, are some of the other ill omens usually avoided by those who hold an abiding respect for the book of fate and the influence of the evil eye. In the first act of his new opera, "Half a King," Francis Wilson, with Peter Lang, sings a duet, the latter accompanying the song on a mandolin and the former playing interludes on a clarionet. Wilson gave the property man instructions to supply him with an instrument with bright yellow decorations. When it was brought forth at rehearsal a chorus of exclamations came from the company, but Wilson explained that "The Merry Monarch" attained great success in spite of the peacock feathers he ordered placed over his throne in the second act, and also used in the decorations of the prima donna's dress, and he intended to brave the power of the yellow clarionet with equal composure. "Half a King" is said to be his most successful opera.

A dramatic event that will be worth attention here will be the appearance of Wilton Lackaye, with one of the strongest playing companies ever gathered in one support, including Marie Wainwright, Alice Evans, Grace Mae Lamkin, C. W. Couldock, Forrest Robinson, Byron Douglas, Joseph Allan, J. W. Rennie and Edwin Wallace. Such an ensemble would make an excellent evening's entertainment with even a meritorious play, but Mr. Lackaye said to be unconventional and dramatic. Mr. Lackaye has for some years been conceded a fine character actor, and his performances have always been marked with artistic methods. His creation of the role of Svengali in "Trilby" was as much the cause for success of this play as was the dramatic adaptation by Paul Potter of Du Maurier's popular book. Lackaye will be here Friday evening, at the Grand.

That organization known as the Jay Circus Extravaganza Company will be the attraction at the Empire this afternoon. During the past season this show has been among the leaders of its class. Sherman and Morrisey will appear in their familiar act, that of burlesque trapeze, of which they are the originators.

The seats for the Corbett-Fitzsimmons matinee at English's March 17 will be put on sale Wednesday at the Pembroke.

Notes of the Stage.

Fay Templeton will probably return to New York in April to play an engagement of six or eight weeks' duration.

Paul Cazeneuve, a young French actor, makes his New York debut March 1, at the Murray Hill Theater, as D'Artagnan in "The Three Guardsmen."

Albert Chevalier, who sailed for England Saturday, has written a two-act play, with a leading part for himself, which he expects to produce this summer in London. He may bring it to America next season.

Charles Klein and John Philip Sousa are well advanced on their new operetta, "The Bride-elect." Klein is the author of "Dr. Belgraff," in which Wilton Lackaye will be seen here Friday night of this week.

"The Cherry Pickers," Augustus Thomas's new play, is duplicating its New York success on the road and its tour will be continued until May. Manager Pitou sends the play out again next fall with nearly the same cast appearing in it as this season.

Ella Russell, the American singer, who has been abroad for a number of years, has been engaded by Mr. Grau. She is expected to arrive March 13 and will at once join his forces in Chicago. There was some talk about her singing the leading soprano role in Xavier Scharwenka's new opera, "Mataswintha," with the Damrosch company, but the production of Mr. Scharwenka's work this season is very problematic.

Music lovers will learn with regret that the Bohemian String Quartet, which is regarded as having few, if any, equals in Europe as ensemble players, will not visit America this season. They expected to sail from Germany next week, but, owing to the fact that Herr Nedbal, who plays the viola, cannot escape military duty in the Austrian army this year, as he had hoped to do, the American tour of the quartet must be postponed.

It was in Bridgeport. Down at the station, in the early morning, and just as the "Too Much Johnson" company was about to leave the city, a farmer-like individual, with long, convincing whiskers and a set of matted hair that would have done credit to the eldest of the Sutherland sisters, walked up to George Backus and said: "He you the man that trouped out last night?" Mr. Backus pleaded guilty. "Well, I'll be gulldarned! I want you to do something for me. My boy Zeke ain't no good at nothin'. He's a loafer and we have never been able to do any good with him. But I want you to take him and make an actor of him. He's the funniest cuss you ever see about the house, and when he gits cuttin' up down to the grocery store he makes just as big a darn fool of himself as you do when on the stage."

SOME OF THE SOLONS

SKETCHES OF A FEW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY.

Characteristics of the Men Who Have Been in Evidence in Legislative Work.

In any body of men as large as the Senate it is but natural to find some that remain in the background, either through disinclination to attempt leadership or through lack of the requisite qualifications. In legislative halls, however, it is generally not modesty that makes a man remain silent. Your average statesman is uneasy and dissatisfied unless he has an opportunity to play to the galleries. There are a number of members of the present Senate that are nursing a burning desire to become famous by making bombastic speeches at every opportunity and the galleries have heard wonderful flows of oratory directed against the monstrous "octopus" and in behalf of the man who carries a "tin dinner pail" and lives in a "vine-covered cottage," as Senator Drummond eloquently put it early in the session. Those are now regarded as his expressions and they are bandied about like footballs, sometimes by his colleagues of the minority and sometimes by the Republicans on the other side of the house. The mention of "tin dinner pails" and "vine-covered cottages" is regarded as the signal for an abuse of the trusts and octopi, and an earnest plea for the poor, downtrodden workingman and as being "highfalutin" spasms to obtain political popularity. Their transparency is amusing to the galleries.

Those same galleries have been silent and unobtrusive as a general thing and have not made their presence felt except on one occasion—the day the election bill was under discussion and the solons reviewed American history from Jefferson and the civil war down to the boy orator of the last campaign. Some days the galleries are full from the row of old men resting their chins on the rail in front to the last seat behind. Those galleries have witnessed some strange sights and have formed their opinions of the actors strutting out their brief scenes on the floor of the Senate chamber below.

There are but few picturesque characters among the senators. Senator Duncan—they call him "Judge" Duncan down in Bloomington—is one of them. He is a man of tall and massive figure, of unswerving principles and with a vein of obstinacy in his makeup. He sits right in front of the Lieutenant Governor's stand and when speaking turns around and faces the Senate, a most aggravating thing to the representatives of the press, who have to get up and move closer in order to hear what he has to say. Senator Duncan, as a general thing, does not talk much, but what he does say is said with the force and vigor of a man who has been trying to convince juries all his life. He convinces those who hear him of sincerity, if he does not convert them to his way of thinking. The most effective work Senator Duncan does is in committee meetings, especially open meeting, where men with axes to grind parry and squirm under his skilful cross-questioning. Once in a building and loan association meeting and again in a meeting of the committee on education before which representatives of the warring schools appeared, men who were questioned by Senator Duncan became angry and seemed inclined to "take their doll rags and go home" if they were not permitted to play with the committee at their will. The senator has an insatiable desire to know the why and wherefore of things. He would be missed if he were away from the Republican side.

Sitting very near to Senator Duncan is Senator O'Brien, another hold-over Republican senator who is a picturesque character. He seldom speaks and when he does he does not bother himself to a summing up of the facts of his measures.

Near them sits Senator Johnson, of Dearborn county, one of the older men of the minority. He is a cousin of ex-Justice of the Peace Johnson, of this city, and is near enough like him in facial expression, gesture and speech to be his twin. Senator Johnson has a long, flowing beard, tinged with gray, and wears glasses. He is not one of those farmers who "farm by telephone," as Senator Shively intimates his friend Leonidas P. Newby, senator from Henry and Fayette, does, but has had practical experience in that line. Senator Johnson seems to be a very busy man in the Senate. He is always poring over correspondence with his constituents or wading through bills. He almost invariably votes with the minority, and seldom addresses the chair unless it is to explain his vote or call up bills in which he is interested.

Senators Rinear and Humphreys end up the trio of farmers who sit in the front row to the Lieutenant Governor's left. Senator Humphreys is a cheery old gentleman, who has the love and respect of every person in the Senate. Those who know him most intimately familiarly call him "Andy," and there is not a senator who would not go out of his way to accommodate him. He is smooth-faced and wears a clerical-looking black coat. Although probably the oldest member of the Senate, he is keenly alive to everything that occurs, and his eyes twinkle merrily all the time. He enjoys a joke with all the vim of a schoolboy, and often sets the Senate in a roar with some quaint remark.

Senator Rinear is not one of those senators who have introduced a long list of bills, every one of which might with propriety be used by "Tim" Griffin to feed the furnaces down in the basement. Although he has introduced but one bill, he keeps a pretty close tab on what is going on and generally has some sensible advice to give the Senate when any measure affecting the rural populations is under discussion. No one would ever accuse him of "farming by telephone."

Senator Holler sits on the other side of the Senate chamber. He is a man who owns large tracts of land in the northern part of the State, and is a thoroughly posted business man and farmer. He is a man of philanthropic views, and most of the bills in which he has interested himself have been of a humanitarian sort. While not appearing to care to be regarded as a leader, he speaks often, from the standpoint of a man who is interested in making better the conditions of those around him. He has been outspoken against anything that he thought was not in the interest of the people; he says nothing about "tin dinner-pails" and "vine-covered cottages," and once declared that he was in the Senate not in the interest of any one class, but in the interest of all. When it comes to a line of demarkation, however, he is generally found on the side of the under dog in the fight.

"Who are the leaders in the Senate?" is a question that if often heard, but which is hard to answer. One or two of the Republicans that might have aspired to that position have come to be regarded as somewhat talkative. Then there are others whose pretensions in that direction would be amusing if they were not pathetic. As a rule the new senators on the Republican side have been content to keep in the background and allow the hold-overs to do the talking. Senator Shively and Senator La Follette seem to divide the honors. Senator Shively, in particular, is a good parliamentarian. He is clear and succinct in debate, ready in retort and prepared for any emergency. There is a fund of sarcasm at his command, but he seldom uses it unless to crush some one who tries to "call him down" while he is talking. Between him and Senator Drummond, of the minority, there is an open although good-natured warfare always apparent. He speaks to Senator Drummond in a half-patronizing, half-paternal tone of voice as "my young friend from Marshall," and the latter speaks of Senator Shively as "my venerable friend from Wayne." Few senators are freer from demagogy than Senator Shively. He denies that there is any reason to believe that every man who has a word to say in defense of business interests is a paid corporation attorney. He speaks his mind frankly on any proposition, no matter if somebody else takes the other side of the question in an alleged defense of the rights of the common people.

There is a remarkable resemblance between him and Senator La Follette in this respect "The senator from Jay," as Senator La Follette is known, is one of that class of men who took the stump last fall to denounce attacks on living institutions and to oppose men who strove to set capital and labor by the ears. He is unalterably opposed to any sort of class legislation, and often expresses the old idea that all men are equal before the law. As chairman of the building and loan and insurance committees he has had to deal with some of the most important questions that have been before the Senate. He has the appearance of a man of sterling character, and so far as is known not one breath of suspicion has been raised against him, in spite of the fact that there has been so much talk of undue influence of the lobby. Senator La Follette is a good deal of an optimist and says in his speeches that he is loath to believe that men are corrupt in the main.

The Marion county delegation—Senators Hawkins, Hugg and New—are all new men in the Senate, and have been content to allow the burdens of leadership rest on the hold-over senators. Occasionally Senator Hawkins has shown his power as a skillful speechmaker in behalf of or against some measure, and his arguments are generally convincing. It is predicted that he will stand in the front row two years from now. As chairman of the legislative apportionment and as member of the fees and salaries and other important committees, his influence has been felt. Senator Hugg has done some effective work in what was regarded as legislation purely in the interest of the people. He was the author of the bill changing the practice of contributory negligence, throwing the burden of proof on the defendant in personal damage suits. This is regarded as a measure that would make it easier for the widows and children of railroad men injured or killed in the pursuit of their duties to recover damages. He also fought earnestly for the repeal of the special verdict law, another measure which, it is said, is in the interest of corporations. In his capacity of chairman of the committee on affairs of the city of Indianapolis, Senator New has had considerable important legislation to look after, among other things the bill to amend the street-car law and several amendments to the city charter. About the only bill before the temperance committee, of which he was also chairman, was Professor Goodwin's lamented bill defining a new and proper way to square the circle, not the circle around the soldiers' monument, but any circle.

Speaking again of the Democratic minority, there are two or three senators who have made themselves felt. No one disputes with Senator Ellison, of Fort Wayne, the leadership of that side. A careful and conservative thinker, a lawyer of long and successful experience, a man of undoubted probity of character, clean and moral in appearance, he appeals to every one who hears him talk as sincere and honest. While his Democracy is undoubted, he is not a bitter partisan. In personal appearance he is a reminder of Denman Thompson as Uncle Josiah Whitcomb, in "The Old Homestead." He has a way of looking over the top of his glasses when addressing the chair suddenly that recalls Thompson, albeit he does not wear cowhide boots and homespun clothing, but dresses about like the average citizen. His white hair is brushed back from his forehead and as he addresses the chair, eyeglasses held lightly between the fingers of his right hand, a pleasant ripple about his lips, he is as interesting as a picture of the benevolent old gentleman out of an old story book. Senator Ellison was especially interested in the bill for an intermediate prison or reformatory, and he and Senators Duncan and Holler fought long and earnestly for that measure, finally accepting the compromise measure which changes the Prison South into a reformatory instead of appropriating $80,000 for a new institution.

Then there is Senator Drummond—a new man on the minority side. Pessimistic in appearance, morose and sad in voice, he strikes a person at first sight like one of the Ishmaelites of old—those who looked upon the entire world as their enemy and themselves as the enemy of the entire world. But after people know him better he strikes them differently. He proves to be a companionable man, and few men in the Senate have warmer friends than he. He don't mind having the Republicans call him an iconoclast and Anarchist, and uses his most scathing sarcasm in denouncing the "octopus"—he has three or four ways of pronouncing that word, in imitation of its usage by other members—and one day last week added another word to his vocabulary, "octopi." It refers, of course, to corporations, trusts and other pleasant things of that sort. The "tin dinner pail" and "vine-covered cottage" will go down to posterity as peculiar literary souvenirs of the Sixtieth General Assembly.

Bobilya, of Allen, and Shea, of Scott, are also new men on the minority side who have made a good impression. Shea described himself as "one o' them hyar country lawyers" the other day. He is genial and hearty, and has made many friends.

Senator Sweeney (Michael Angelo), while he is a pretty strong partisan in debate on the floor, does not let that fact interfere with his personal friendships. He is one of the most vigorous speakers on the minority side. When the Sunday baseball bill was up he argued that if the good people went to church in the morning it would be all right to go to a game afterward. Sometimes his arguments are unique, and they are always humorous. He has a sledge-hammer way of pounding the air that gives force to what he says. When he gets started somebody calls "Louder, louder," and the senator from Dubois is always equal to any demands on his lung power. He is popular with the press, and is not slow to take a hint to move an adjournment when the newspaper men think they have done enough for one day's work.

Senator Alexander has a lot of rasping sarcasm at his command for the benefit of the Republicans when some bill to give their party a political advantage is about to be passed. He is not slow in using it. He is in temperament somewhat like Senator Drummond. They make a good pair.

There are among the Republicans several men who have taken front rank by the ability they have displayed, among them Senatos Early, of Terre Haute, possibly the best-looking man in the Senate, and Hubbell, of Elkhart. Neither has been obtrusive, but both have taken considerable part in debate. They make good speeches. Both are attorneys.

Senator Gilbert, author of one of the anti-trust bills, has been one of the most consistent speakers. While he is a strong partisan, he seems inclined to be conservative in other particulars. It is not that his argument on any bill has not conflicted with that on any other, speaking from the point of the people against the corporations, an issue a good many senators on both sides have sought to make.

There are among the hold-over Republican senators that necessarily wield considerable influence men like Senators McCord, Watson, Collett, Houghton, Phares and Self, men who are acquainted with the intricacies of legislation, but who do not take frequent part in the debates. It is difficult to describe the legislative undercurrent, the force that directs legislation in spite of wordy debates, but it receives its impetus from this class of men, who determine amongst themselves, in committee meetings and in private conversations what ought to be done with a given subject. Much of the speechmaking is mere vocal froth that influences nobody, and is only indulged in for the sake of being heard. Of course, there are many questions where an eloquent speech will make votes for or kill a bill, but in most cases the legislators reach their own conclusions regardless of the speeches. Some of the speeches might more properly be called apologies, as, stripped of all trimmings and rhetorical nonsense they are simply excuses for the course the speaker is about to pursue.

As chairman of the judiciary committee, chairman of the Republican caucus and with the experience of two sessions of the Legislature behind him, Senator Newby might be expected to have a good deal of prestige. Bills affecting questions of vital importance to the corporations and business interests go through the judiciary committee. Corporation measures receive tender consideration. Senator Newby is ingenuous. "I wonder where Newby is?" is a common question. He generally turns up while the words are in the questioner's mouth. Senator Shively once said that "The senator from Henry has stood on every end of his body on this bill of mine." The senator from Henry is a fluent speaker and has plenty of invective at his command when replying to thrusts from the minority, as was displayed when his election bill was under consideration.

Senator Ball, who calls himself the "Abe Lincoln of Delaware county," has an aggravating way of making reports for the committee on enrolled bills. His reports take precedence over other business. As surely as anything of great importance comes up, just that surely may he be expected to arrive and say: "Mr. Chairman, I desire to make a report for the committee on enrolled bills." Everything stops until it is heard.

Lieutenant Governor Haggard, who presides over the Senate, is entitled to a chapter by himself. If any criticism might be offered as to his work it would probably be that he is a little too lenient and indulgent with the senators at the expense of good order and dispatch of business.

Senator Mull, chairman of the finance committee, has not been much in evidence during the present session of the Legislature so far as entering into debate and making any noise on different measures was concerned, but he is one of those men who carefully weigh everything that is placed before them, and he has generally been on the right side of any proposition on which he voted. As chairman of the finance committee he has been intimately associated with the ways and means committee of the House and has kept in touch with the general appropriation bill. It is likely that he will be heard from when that measure reaches the Senate this week.

IN THE HOUSE.

Personal Remarks About Some of the Members.

The House has developed some notable men and some picturesque characters. It is a bit unfortunate, as was its predecessor, in containing too many intelligent men with their own ideas about how things ought to be done. Under the present system of legislation the best results are obtained by a few bright and well-meaning leaders with the rest of the seats filled with wooden men, ready to vote as they are told, without wasting words or taking time to inform themselves as to what various measures contain. That facilitates business, but if the leaders happen to have axes to grind it proves disastrous.

Just now B. Wilson Smith is much in evidence while the appropriation bill is under consideration. He has been an ideal chairman of this committee in preparing the bill. Thoroughly honest and conscientious, he took the most minute pains to thoroughly inform himself of the needs of every institution and the resources of the State. With a commendable anxiety to save money for the State and its taxpayers, he and the committee prepared a bill with few faults. Better results would probably have been attained had Mr. Smith assigned the management of the bill upon the floor to somebody else. Conscientiously believing that he is right himself he cannot see why others do not see things in the same light, and occasionally loses his temper. Then he has during the fight over the bill undertaken too much work in explaining the bill and making rulings for the chair at the same time. He is an ordained preacher in the Methodist Church, and has frequently opened the session with prayer. He was a member of the House once before, and has been in politics for years. He has a vast fund of information and reminiscences, and is as fond of telling them as Colonel Holloway.

Mr. Nicholson, author of the famous temperance law, has proven one of the strongest members on the floor this year. Nicholson has the complexion of a boy and the robust figure of an athlete. His voice is clear and strong, but he speaks with a monotonous cadence and preciseness of pronunciation that show his Quaker training. He is always perfectly cool in debate, and is probably the best parliamentarian on the floor. As chairman of the Republican "steering committee" he has shown fine ability in holding the slender majority together on all caucus measures, and he had no easy job on the apportionment bill. His strength lies largely in the fact that he is always fair in debate and is careful to make no assertions that he cannot fully substantiate.

Mr. Linck, as chairman of the judiciary committee, has had a vast amount of work to do, and has proven strong on the floor. Like most lawyers, he does not take much stock in talking against corporations, and is not particularly anxious to see business interests hurt. He made a rather sharp answer to one of the "farmer" members the other day when he remarked that he was tired of hearing talk about "corporation lawyers" from "men who put stones in their hay, lard in their butter and filed the teeth of horses."

Quincy A. Blankenship, of Morgan, has an innate desire to beat everybody who is making a grab at the treasury, and talks vehemently against the oppressors of the suffering people. He means every word of it, too. Down in Martinsville he is a large shipper of stock, and he doesn't care a continental whether he ever has any further political preferment or not. He is here to watch the treasury and help keep the Republicans in line for lower appropriations.

Mr. Canada has proven a conscientious and valuable member. He speaks very seldom, but when he does talk he is very much in earnest and impresses the House with the belief that he is right. His seatmate, Mr. Babcock, is a farmer, with much clearer ideas of what is right and what is legal than most of the lawyers in the House. He is a nervous little man, looks like a typical Yankee and is a good speaker.

Of the Marion county delegation Mr. Spooner and Mr. Littleton are most frequently heard. Mr. Spooner is vigorous in debate, and a bit too sarcastic to have a great deal of influence. Members who have clashed with him sometimes take occasion to get even. Mr. Littleton says what he has to say briefly, and votes so he can be heard in the Senate chamber. Gabriel Jones talks frequently, and always for the poor man. Mr. Hubbard says very little, but when he talks the House understands perfectly well that he knows the facts in the case and that he is giving his honest convictions. He is the most influential representative that labor has had in the House for years. Mr. Hicks talks little on the floor, but is active in getting votes for measures he is interested in. Mr. Elliott is influential in the House for the same reason that he is in local politics, because he is a tireless worker and always stands for what he believes is right.

Herr Kratz, chairman of the temperance committee, has never opened his head on the floor except to vote. His colleague from Evansville, "June" Peckinpaugh, is one of the brightest lawyers in the House. He has not talked any on the floor to speak of, but as chairman of the building and loan committee he has devoted his energies to getting through the right kind of a bill on the subject, and the House showed its confidence in him by passing the bill with very few changes, and those of a minor nature.

The bright particular star on the Democratic side of the House is Mr. Eichhorn, who knows more in an hour than does the average Democrat in a week. Though he is on the minority side, in everything but political legislation Eichhorn has as much influence as any member of the House. He led the fight against the insurance bills, and it only took him five minutes to kick them full of holes. Mr. East is on the floor more than any other Democrat. Big, bluff and noisy, he is thoroughly liked by every member of the House, not excepting Mr. Blankenship, with whom he is engaged in continual warfare.

New Mexico's Turquoise Mines.

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal:

In the Journal of Feb. 14 was an article on gems which does injustice to our own country, in that it fails to mention New Mexico in connection with the production of turquoise. There have been mined in Santa Fe county, New Mexico, since 1890 between $700,000 and $800,000 worth of these stones. The only other country in the world which has ever produced merchantable turquoise is Persia, which was for hundreds of years the only known source of supply. The mines there are now practically exhausted. The most of the mining for this gem in New Mexico has been done by the American Turquoise Company, of New York. As the demand for the stone is rapidly increasing the company is now actively and profitably at work on several of its claims. I quote from the Santa Fe New Mexican:

"For centuries the finest colored turquois have come from Persia, but these mines are now almost exhausted. New Mexico, according to Mr. King, who is a recognized authority, is now the principal source of supply, and the search for these stones has proven the most profitable gem mining in the United States. The majority of the stones are of the famous robbin's-egg blue, being fully equal to the finest Persian stones. A single piece is reported to have been sold for $4,000."

Some turquoise have been found in Arizona, Colorado and southern New Mexico, but none of a merchantable quality equals of Santa Fe county. As to the permanancy of color, the writer has several stones, mined and cut in 1892, in which the color is as bright and beautiful as when they were first cut. All stones from these mines are sold under a guarantee to keep their color for two years. Now that it appears that fashion has decreed turquoise to be the fashionable gem, we may expect great activity in the New Mexico mines. H.

Indianapolis, Feb. 25.

THE HOME OF SHYLOCKS

REV. JOSEPH LITTEL'S SERMON ON USURERS OF INDIANAPOLIS.

Rev. R. V. Hunter Comes to the Defense of the Good Citizens' Work Against Saloon Keepers.

"Shylock in Indianapolis" was the subject of a sermon preached yesterday morning by Rev. Joseph Littell, of the First United Presbyterian Church. The text was taken from Exodus, xx, 15: "Thou shalt not steal." The sermon was as follows:

"The first legislature sat on Mount Sinai. The government instituted by its law and polity stood from Moses until Judas Iscariot. Jesus Christ established a new method of government by writing the spirit of the old law in the hearts of men and making them its legislators and executive. The spirit of the old law was the truth. The truth makes men free, but gives freemen a duty to God and men. Christ is the author of government of, for and by the people. Bancroft said that the fundamental principles of the American Republic were enunciated by Jesus Christ. Lincoln wished to join a church with the sermon on the mount for its creed. His life was his confession of faith in that creed.

"Law holds men under it only when they do wrong. The righteous man is above law. Under law men must obey the legislator whose will it is. Above law men are legislators. Under law slaves, above law sons of the sovereign. The toil of the people is the sovereign of a republic. The true citizen is he who puts the spirit of truth into the expression of his will. Only truth applied to life is righteousness. Only true law demands what is right of those who are under law. The sovereign will of a republic of democrats, such as is a government of, for and by the people, should be expressed in laws written according to the truth which was formulated by God and written in the hearts of men by Christ. The civil and political economy of the Mosaic law is embodied in the sermon on the mount. That sermon will be the text-book of the principles of economy for democratic republics of the twentieth century.

"The law of Christ is love to God and men. That is the spirit of the Mosaic law which said, 'Thou shalt not covet,' and 'Thou shalt not steal.' Love is unselfish. It is one of the graces. Greed is its devil. The old law said, 'Thou shalt not oppress one another;' 'Thou shalt not lend money upon usury;' 'If thou lend money to the poor thou shalt not be to him a receiver.' Love knows what that means, but greed interprets it, puts its own meaning into it. The financial war of Christendom is between love and greed. Greed covets and steals, but always does it under law. Greedy men are careful to know what the law is in a monarchy, careful to make it what they want it in a republic. They have no guide, no master but law. They need its protection. They are in the lobby of every legislature. But Christian men are indifferent to legislation. They live by the law in their hearts, not that in the statute books.

WRONGS THAT ADVERTISE.

"Righteousness exalteth a nation. Righteousness is the result of truth rightly applied to affairs. Its power for national elevation is equal to the righteousness of citizens who willingly do right plus that of citizens who are compelled by the law to do right. Human legislation must ever be a revision of law, a rewriting of it according to the increasing light of truth. Love of men must repeal statutes written by love of money. But good citizens must be aroused to see the false before they apply the truth.

"Roby race track and other gambling schemes, Sunday open saloons and baseball were conspicuous wrongs. They challenged the public sense of right. They advertised their purpose and character. That was good work. It awakened the good citizen. He knew what to do and did it; made better laws and enforced them. The advertisers of evil suffered in their souls—their pockets. 'Thou shalt not steal,' from men or God, was a privation to a few men under law. It deprived them of liberty to do wrong, restricted their opportunity to gain by stealing.

"Advertising is a means of grace. It was the policy of Jesus Christ in his Father's business. It brings to light the false for correction, the true for approval. Public wrongs always advertise, but private wrongs almost never. The wronged sigh and conceal their tears. They would be called grumblers and kickers if they complained against adulterated groceries and diluted milk. They change grocers and milkmen. Good citizens, the democratic sovereigns of this Republic, State and city are slow to see their duty to their neighbors in such matter. The pure-food association must show them illustrations of duty to diet. Until they see it they must swallow adulterated food and fee the doctor.

"There is another evil to be looked after by the Good Citizens' League. It does its work quietly, don't advertise. The league must do that. This city, justly famous as a city of homes, justly entitled to be known as the fourth most beautiful city on earth, and can now claim the title 'city of churches,' so long held by Brooklyn—this city has in it about fifty men engaged in the same business to which Mr. Shylock devoted his time and talents. They are in it for the same reason—it is very profitable. Shylock was Shakspeare's personification of greed, not an historic person. Hence we are justified in transposing him in time and place if we have the character greed. Here is an example of his work—not in Venice, but in Indianapolis:

DEALT WITH LOCAL SHYLOCKS.

"A good citizen of this city lost the accumulation of years of labor by another's breach of trust; was even involved in debt a few hundred dollars. His sense of honor determined him to pay all. A debt of $100 pressed for payment. He went to a money lender and was obliged to comply with his terms. He gave his note for $110, secured by mortgage on his household furniture, and received $100 with which he paid his first creditor. The note called for 10 per cent. interest per month in advance, default of payment making the face of the note due, and if not paid the foreclosure of the mortgage and sale of his furniture and books. Ten per cent. a month on $110 is $11. He paid interest for six months, amounting to $66. The mortgage is a legal obligation and the lender can enforce payment by law. Now the legal rate of interest in this State it 8 per cent per annum by agreement and 6 if settled by legal process. If a Daniel came to judgment and gave the above described borrower advice and the borrower could obtain some money the law would justify him in making a legal tender of $47.30 and demanding his note and release of mortgage. One hundred and ten dollars for six months at 6 per cent. is $113.30. He has paid $66. The balance due is $47.30. As he has not the $47.30 he must pay $11 a month until the can pay the note or until sold out by the sheriff.

"In short, the law is favorable to him if he has money, but if he lacks money it is against him and protects the lender in his business of usury. Shylock has better opportunity by law in Indianapolis than he had in Venice. Fifty Shylocks in the business of extorting 120 per cent. per annum from those who have no protection of law because they have not enough money to make the legal tender, and this in the beautiful city of homes and churches! The law of this State empowers Shylocks to oppress and crush those who have not ready cash. Virtually and in effect the law makes it a crime not to have cash. The law oppresses the poor. The law is the will of the sovereign citizen of this Republic, hence those citizens oppress the poor.

"It is not a question as to the right of a free citizen when under pressure of debt and want to agree to pay higher than legal rates of interest for a loan; nor the right of a lender to secure himself by a mortgage and have protection of law against loss. But shall the Christian citizen of this State continue to permit Shylock to gratify his greed and use the law to enforce from the poor whatever usury he can compel them to agree to by signing his note? As things are now I affirm that Shakspeare's Shylock is a defective shadow of the present reality. The laws of Venice were more just to Shylock and the poor than those of Indiana. Then, too, here is a picture worth looking at: Christian citizens preventing baseball on Sunday by fear that they may worship God in quiet, and permitting fifty Shylocks to destroy the peace of heart in a multitude of homes for the whole week. Are Christians content for the law to stand guard over their worship for one day and then protect Shylocks on the other six? Shylock is satisfied. Greed never had the courage to ask more than six-sevenths. Are we our brother's keeper for one day in the week only? Shylock will look after them on the other six. Will God turn away from the cries of the poor oppressed to hear anthems of praise? Will He accept Shylock or citizens who made the poor his legal victims?

"The answer to all this is found in the law given by the legislature which sat on Sinai curtained with clouds and surrounded with lights of lightning: 'Thou shalt not oppress the poor. I will hear their cries.' Then let the Christian churches sing the song of Zion which God gave them.

"By all means bring Irving back to Indianapolis. Give him Monument circle in which to play 'The Merchant of Venice.' The meaning of that monument will make a good setting for the tragedy. It means that there were citizens not many years ago who were willing to sacrifice life for the salvation of men wronged by greed under the law. That setting may point the citizens of Indiana to the meaning of Irving's tragedy. Show them the more real one enacted upon the stage of our civic life and enable them to realize that the lash of law in the hands of greed is as severe upon white slaves as the lash of halter was upon black ones. They may learn, too, that what is needed is not mere temporal relief of the poor, nor appeals to Shylock for money, nor having Portias to interpret the law, but the enactment by good citizens of laws in which mercy seasons justice. The righteousness which exalteth a nation includes the homes on our back streets where oppressed hearts have little desire to attend church and praise God. Indifference to the rights of the poor by Christian citizens is a sin which is a reproach to any people."

SOME BIBLICAL INFORMERS.

Rev. Mr. Hunter Vindicates Whitehead and Newlin.

Rev. R. V. Hunter indorsed the words of Whitehead and Newlin, of the Christian Endeavor good citizenship committee and the Young Men's Christian Association at the Seventh Presbyterian Church, yesterday morning. Mr. Hunter said:

"Under oath two of our fellow-citizens, Messrs. Newlin and Whitehead, testified to finding certain saloons on Washington and Illinois streets open on Sunday, Jan. 24. Mr. Newlin found them open during the morning hours, then notified the mayor of the city. That evening the same saloons were found open and filled with customers. Again, on Feb. 15, between 11 and 12 o'clock at night, certain saloons were found violating the law. The attention of two policemen was called to specific violations, and they were requested to arrest these violators of the law, but they walked away and refused to do their duty. These facts have been communicated to the mayor and superintendent of police, but nothing has been done. Messrs. Newlin and Whitehead have prosecuted a number of the saloons which were violating the law shamelessly and have secured a number of convictions. I have been informed that not a word of rebuttal evidence was introduced by the lawbreakers.

"These gentlemen failed to secure a verdict against the proprietor of the Spencer House bar. The jury stood six to six. A member of that jury has been reported to have said, 'No evidence was introduced exonerating the saloon; but some of us were opposed to the spy system.'

"I do not recite these facts to prove that the saloons are violating the laws in Indianapolis—we had already an abundance of evidence on that point. In discovering and prosecuting these criminals some have held that Messrs. Newlin and Whitehead have not been in the line of Christian citizenship; that the methods are reprehensible; that 'spying' is undignified and mean.

"The attorney for the prosecuted saloons quoted from a sermon recently preached in our city, in support of his position that these gentlemen who have undertaken to see the laws enforced were more to be despised than the men who were breaking laws, both moral and statutory, by selling intoxicants on Sunday. Now, friends, note the following facts:

"Messrs. Newlin and Whitehead entered these saloons during illegal hours through open doors for the lawbreaking customers who desired to come. They came and went as the saloon proprietors intended the public should. Messrs. Newlin and Whitehead had reason to believe that the laws were being violated, and that the officials were not making proper efforts to apprehend the culprits. Their suspicions seem to have been well founded, if they have told the truth, as the courts believe they have. When the proper officers of the law fail and refuse to do their duty, then it becomes the duty of a faithful citizenship to adopt such legal methods as will secure the safety of the community against the violators of the law.

"Our laws are so construed, fortunately, that good citizens can do something towards the protection of society when certain classes of officials fail to do their duty. Now, in view of all the facts, are not Messrs. Newlin and Whitehead to be commended for their bravery and faithfulness? The vast majority of good citizens will say, 'Well done.' Personally I say, 'God bless them.' I wish we had ten thousand more as practical and brave.

"It has been said that the method is not Christian. Why not? Jehovah himself directed Joshua to ferret out the thief who stole the golden wedge and Babylonish garment. It was a clever piece of detective work. The Holy Ghost became informer against Ananias and Sapphira. The judgment day will be a revelation of the deeds of darkness and will reveal the lawbreakers. Besides there is no practical way for discovering crime and bringing the criminal to justice suggested by those people who object to the methods of Messrs. Newlin and Whitehead. The law, the gospel and practicability commend them. An enlightened public sentiment must and does do the same. It pains me to be compelled to make this statement, but I do it because some may become confused. The condemnation of these gentlemen has been given wide publicity, and no printed protest, so far as I have seen, has been offered, although hundreds and thousands have expressed themselves in approval of the course pursued by these gentlemen. I do not utter these words in any controversial spirit. But it seems to me that a brave deed, a righteous act and a loyal citizenship ought to be commended always.

"It is to be expected that the lawbreaker will gnash his teeth and cry 'persecution' when caught in his crime and whipped in his lair. It has ever been so. The paid attorney of the criminal will rail against the conscientious citizen who insists upon prosecutions under the most righteous law. The Christian ministry and citizenship ought to be found upon the side of good government and righteousness. We submit that this is the highest form of law, for it honors God and lifts humanity. And what is more beautiful than godliness and a redeemed humanity?

"I cannot forbear referring to some strictures recently made upon the Y. M. C. A. methods of our city. I am sure the motives of the critic cannot be criticised. He is too broad, too generous and too intelligent to be purposely captious. I love him as a brother, and admire his splendid ability and bravery. But since the Y. M. C. A. secretary has explained, the method of advertising does not seem so sensational. But is a thing to be condemned simply because it can be called 'sensational'? The theme, the purpose and the results are to be considered before we condemn. Doubtless Noah was held to be sensational as he preached the deluge and righteousness. Elijah startled Ahab and those who did not think as he did. Never was there a more sensational preacher than John the Baptist, and for this Herod beheaded him. The life and teachings of the Nazarene, beautiful and divine as we see Him, were sensational to Pharisee and Sadducee. Martin Luther, John Knox, Rowland Hill and Ballington Booth have all been denominated sensationalists, but they have been blessed of God. A sensationalism that brings sinners to repentance, that results in a spiritual interest and a new life is devoutly to be wished. Better have that than organization with formalism and spiritual death. Just so the Y. M. C. A. saves men who are not so particular as to their rhetoric."

A SERMON ON HOPE.

Outline of Rev. Dr. Lasby's Discourse Yesterday Morning.

Rev. Dr. Lasby, of Central-avenue M. E. Church, preached yesterday morning from Psalms, cxix, 116: "Let me not be ashamed of my hope." The general outline of the sermon was