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THE APPEAL

THE APPEAL STEADILY GAINS BECAUSE: 4-It is the organ of ALL Afro-Americans. 5-It is not controlled by any ring or clique. 6-It asks no support but the people's.

VOL. 26. NO. 33.

ST. PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 1910.

\$2.40 PER YEAR.

The Lure of the National Capital

BY EDWARD B. CLARK

THEY cannot keep away, for the Washington lure is strong upon them. The attraction of the capital draws former senators and former representatives here just as surely as the call of duty summons the present office-holders. They drift down in November and scores of them stay until the adjournment, and other scores stay all through the summer.

eye state most of the time now that he has retired from congress, but the Washington lure draws him here occasionally and he is now always in his old haunts. General Grosvenor was such a fixture that it seems impossible to realize when he comes back and appears in the old places that he has been away at all.

Some men who before they were sent to congress rarely left the environments of their home villages have found after a term or two in the capital city, that the district had few attractions to offer them, provided there was money enough in their bank accounts to keep them in comfort in the city by the Potomac.

No one misses Charles Grosvenor more than Champ Clark, the Democratic leader. Grosvenor is a standpatter of such strength that Mr. Cannon it was said, used to sit abashed in his presence.

There are former senators and representatives whose influence has been sufficient to secure them government positions in the capital which will not only allow them to remain here, but which will pay them for their stay. The lot of these men seems to be particularly fortunate, and they are the objects of more or less envy on the part of those who would like to stay here, but who owing to pecuniary rea-

sons and to inability to get office are compelled to return home. There are plenty of evidences that former representatives who have chosen, after having once been defeated in the home district, to stay away from the native hearth, are not altogether free from the criticisms of the home people, and perhaps there is no reason why they should be. When a man who has spent his entire life among certain people is weaned away from them by a short residence elsewhere, it seems that resentment springs, and few denials probably will come to the statement that a good many of the former officials who stay in Washington in preference to going home are not without frequent intimations that the people back in the district regard them in some degree as deserters.

Of course there are exceptions to every rule and in the case of senators and representatives of long service, who are poor and perhaps too old to renew the practice of the law, or to take up again their mercantile business where they dropped it to serve their constituents, there is excuse for the acceptance of office in Washington in order that the way of old age may be smoothed.

It was said by some of the high tariff Republicans when General Grosvenor retired, that they were not entirely hopeless as long as John Dalzell of Pennsylvania remained with them. Dalzell recently had a narrow escape from losing the nomination for congress. If he by any chance should be defeated at the election it is believed that the lure will be as strong upon him as it has upon the others.

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Dalzell is as picturesque in his way as Grosvenor is in his way. It always was said of him that he never slept. He is nervous energy in the essence, and more watchful of Republican interests generally on the floor than is the titular Republican leader. Mr. Dalzell is always looking out for the interests of his constituents.

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One drowsy June day when the house was heavy and business was simply droning its way through, Dalzell yielding to environment, nodded and then napped. Instantly the wily, wide awake Democrats put through something to which no one saw any objection. It touched Pittsburg.

Then again there are the cases of men who have been in Washington so long representing their states, or their districts, that Washington has become their real home, and here they stay after a change of party administration has removed them from representative office.

Dalzell awoke too late. He had been asleep at the switch. Had his eyes never known night since that hour, he could not have lived down the memory of that one unconscious moment. One day just before the close of the last session, as he was leaving the White House, three voices in unison called to him so that all within a block could hear: "Any sleep this session, John?"

Of the men who stayed in Washington because the place was like home, there should be mentioned former Senator Stewart, "Silver" Stewart of Nevada, who died recently. He was a noted figure on the Washington streets all through his congressional career, and through the few years of his retirement prior to his death. Stewart's hair and beard were as white as the snow on the top of the Nevada mountains, but until within a few hours of his death he was apparently as strong as any tree that grows below the mountain timber line.

During the closing days of the last session of congress something of a "filibuster" was attempted by the Democrats in the senate in order to make sure that action should be taken on the statehood bill. A filibuster is known to the parties as an attempt to delay legislation. The senate has no set rules like those of the house, and so if one man chooses to talk on any particular subject, he can delay the consideration of any measure that he chooses, and the limit of his endurance is the limit of the delay that he can force, although if he has other senators of his own mind they can "spell" him in the speaking, and thus in relays continue the filibuster almost indefinitely.

Frequently the former senators and representatives who live in Washington appear upon the floor of congress. They have the right there to appear because of their former services. There is one marked and shining exception, however, to this rule of occasional return to the chamber where the legislative service was rendered. When Senator Spooner of Wisconsin left congress in 1891, to be gone six years, he declared that he would never appear upon the floor of the senate while he was out of office, nor would he go to the capitol unless his professional business called him to practise before the Supreme Court. Spooner kept his word. He always had objected to the rule which admitted former senators to the floor of the senate. He did not say so, but he thought that in some few cases the lobbying opportunity might be too strong to be resisted by some of the senators who were not above using their personal influence with their former colleagues on behalf of some specific legislation.

These three senators made up their minds that they did not wish to have a vote taken on the currency bill which had been introduced by Senator Aldrich of Rhode Island, a bill which some of the senators said was a mere makeshift and would accomplish no good purposes.

In the spring of 1907, John C. Spooner resigned, from the United States senate. After the six years of his absence from congress was ended he had been returned again to the upper house, but in the spring three years ago he resigned to enter the practice of law. Since the day that Senator Spooner left for this supposedly the last time, he has not been seen in the senate of the United States, nor has he been seen in the corridors of the capitol. He is in law practise in New York, and occasionally he comes to Washington, but unlike many other former representatives he shuns the actual scene of his legislative activities.

Gen. Charles Grosvenor of Ohio, who was in the house of representatives for years, and who was considered one of its most picturesque characters, a man lively and energetic in debate and appealing personal qualities, stays in the Buck-



SEN. JOHN W. STEWART

sin senator's voice seemed to be actually in better condition during the closing hour of his address than it was during the opening hour.

The Wisconsin senator naturally has rather a ringing voice which like the voice of Gore of Oklahoma, is open to the Yankee characterization, but twang, accent, idiosyncrasy or whatever you may choose to call it, passes with the first few minutes of utterance. The roughness is smoothed away and the words fall smooth and rounded and with a certain appealing force, even though the subject have nothing of appeal.

When a senator has the floor in his own right, he can talk upon any subject under the sun. He does not of necessity have to confine himself to the subject in hand. So it was that La Follette did not speak entirely of the currency question, but about other matters as well. Occasionally in order that he might spare his brain the trouble of thought and so keep it unweary, he read from a book of fiction.

During many of the hours La Follette spoke there were comparatively few senators in the chamber. Hour after hour he spoke, and then taking up his book of fiction, he read with a perfect regard for the rules of enunciation. His auditors were all sleepy and most of them were out of humor because there were only two who were in sympathy with the speaker, and yet perforce every person in the chamber gave heed to what La Follette was reading. For his subject matter perhaps they cared not a whit, and yet by the force of his reading eloquence he drove it home to their attention.

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OLD MEN AT PLAY

Missouri Village Has a Marble Craze That Occupies Attention.

Men Now Past Sixty Who Find Delight in the Playthings of Their Early Years.

Blue Springs, Mo.—Horseshoes! Aw, shucks! Horseshoes do well enough to furnish a light diversion now and then, but for a serious game of head-work and skill, Blue Springs believes no game is half as good as old-fashioned marbles.

For two years the boys and men of Blue Springs—representatives from all of Shakespeare's seven ages—have been playing marbles the year round, each month with increasing skill.

There is a legend that Uncle Dan Stanley, who is seventy-four, and Uncle Tom Holloway, who is seventy-five, were so evenly matched in a contest arranged last winter that they lagged from law for two days without either man winning an advantage of a sixteenth of an inch in the struggle to gain the privilege of having the first shot, and the contest had to be declared a draw before it began.

Knickerbocker teams, ten-year-olds, fifteen, twenty-five, fifty, or seventy-five-year-old teams, or any other age that a challenger may prefer, can be furnished by Blue Springs on five minutes' notice. Blue Springs challenges the world.

Just how marbles got started here no one appears to remember. Possibly some gray-bearded citizen of the town sat on a nail keg in front of Pryor's blacksmith shop on a spring day two years ago and got to thinking, while he watched the "kids" playing marbles in the street, that he used to be a pretty fair hand at that game himself in days before the war.

Then he went out and knocked a "middler" from "taw"—or almost did—and went back and bragged about it to somebody else. And that other person

used to be pretty fair, too, in other days, and went out to see what he could do. Then every one got started.

But whatever the beginning may have been, there can be no doubt that the game has taken complete possession of Blue Springs and that Pryor's shop is its headquarters. Rain or shine, winter or summer, there is a game every day in the shop or in the street just in front of it. Last winter, when the thermometer stood near zero, a game was played in which all of the contestants wore overcoats.

When those men began blowing on their knuckles to keep them warm there was a sound like a shoal of porpoises.

Seven "games" are necessary to win. Knock the middle marble out of the first shot and the game is yours. Such a shot is called a "middler."

Knock any marble out and you must "clear the ring"—knock all the others too, to win the game.

If your marble stays in the square after the first shot, you are "fat" or "dead" for the rest of the game.

If some one else hits your taw you are dead for the rest of the game.

Lynn Pryor, the blacksmith, stood at law, took careful aim, and from 12 feet away spotted the middle of the square. One game for Pryor and Binger! But nobody got excited. Middlers from law are ordinary occurrences in Blue Springs. John Henry Moore holds a record of having knocked out 11 of such middlers in 14 shots.

A minute later Uncle Dan Stanley knocked a middler. Capt. George Webb, the furniture dealer and undertaker, did the same thing, too, as soon as he had the chance. So did Farmer George Binger. They didn't do so all the time, of course, but middlers came with an astonishing regularity. And when there was a game in which all four men had a chance to shoot, other plays just as remarkable for distance and accuracy were taken by the gallery at the blacksmith shop door as matter of course.

"You must understand," the blacksmith said, "that if a man comes with a horse to be shod, the game stops instantly. But when there's nothing going on, somebody is sure to start a game. Farmers come in on rainy days, sometimes from several miles around, and some of them are good hands at marbles.

An East Boston doctor told of the experience of a druggist the other day who sold some alcohol to a new customer. After the man had signed the book as required he said: "Now, don't get that name twisted. It is Michael Sullivan, not Sullivan Michael, same as they turned it around in the directory." Boston Journal.

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UNIQUE THATCHED WINDMILL

Old World Form of Supplying Water for Household Convenience Still Seen in Pennsylvania.

Arlington, Pa.—"Something unique" is more to be desired than anything that represents mere cost or formality, in the decoration of the grounds of large estates, judging from the un-



The Thatched Windmill.

usual types represented in many forms of garden utility. In suburban Philadelphia this thought is frequently made distinctive in the building of garden retreats, tearooms, pergolas and various sorts of garden architecture. But there seems to be a special fad at present for displaying unique features in the construction of windmills.

The old world form of supplying water for household convenience still forms a picturesque feature in many suburban sections. But it was only recently that the thatched windmills were introduced, one of the finest types having been constructed on the Hering estate in Abington. Other millionaire country seats of this section and also those of Jenkintown and Wyncoote, have of late shown some rather startling and decidedly pleasing ideas in windmill construction; but it has remained for the Hering country seat to set forth the unique in picturesque windmill construction.

Not only is the roof of the famous Hering windmill thatched in regulation type, but, fashioned after the most quaint of old world types, the entire mill, which is divided into several spacious rooms in its three-story structure, is neatly and compactly thatched on all sides.

When Walter Hering conceived the idea of introducing this unusual type of windmill on his beautiful Abington estate he little thought of the difficulties in his way. It is not surprising that it stands alone in its picturesque beauty, for few would have the patience to oversee its tedious construction. Finally, at great expense after other plans had failed, a genuine old Scotchman was imported especially for this work. The expense of getting him to the Abington country seat, and of boarding him, and humoring him throughout all the tedious process of the work, is now amply repaid in the possession of the only particularly beautiful thatching of this type to be found in this country.

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