THE MINNEAPOLIS JOURNAL.

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MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

INSPECT BEER AT BREWERIES

Clause in the Agricultural Bill Just Passed.

BREWERS FILE PROTESTS

It Is Not Clear Just How It Got Into the Measure.

PANAMA CANAL TALK IS REVIVED

Eastern Papers Say President Northrop Will Be Appointed —Babcock's Bill.

From The Journal Bureau, Room 45, Post Building, Washington.

Washington, March 18.—Brewers from all parts of the United States are sending inquiries to Washington about a clause in the agricultural department appropriation bill, providing for government inspection of beer at breweries. The clause has not appeared in previous appropriation bills of the department, and it is not quite clear how it came to be inserted this year. It was inserted without attracting notice while the bill was pending in the house. Now brewers, according to information coming to Washington, are loud in the assertion that there is no necessity for it, as brewers are all too honest to adulterate their goods.

Congress having given President McKinley free hand in Cuban and the Philippines, administration senators still in Washington now talk of giving him discretionary authority to acquire either the Nicaragua or Panama canal route. Several prominent members of the senate foreign relations committee favor the idea, notwithstanding that the bill which passed the house and was pending before the senate during the session just closed provided for the adoption of the Nicaraguan project.

Secretary Hay has requested the Colombian minister to submit a formal memorandum embodying the verbal proposals regarding American acquisition of the Panama canal route, which he submitted some days ago.

The Nicaraguan minister and the Costa Rican minister, both of whom have worked energetically to promote the Nicaraguan canal, will leave next week for their respective countries and will return charged with new instructions relative to concessions their governments are willing to make to the United States.

Eastern newspapers continue to state that President Northrop will be appointed a member of the Louisiana purchase exposition, although it is believed the situation has not changed since last week. President McKinley will return to-morrow morning, and he will probably take the matter up at once. Congressman Tawney is still here, and he will stay until the matter has been disposed of. Senator Nelson has also interested himself in the matter, and so has Congressman McCleary. There gentlemen with Mr. Tawney will bear down hard on the president to-morrow in Mr. Northrop's behalf.

It is no doubt the intention of Representative Babcock of Wisconsin, to introduce in the next congress his bill providing for taking the duty off iron and steel. Since the late congress adjourned he has been receiving letters from all parts of the country, written by leading men in all parties, complimenting him for the stand he has taken, and predicting that the time is rapidly coming when the republican party will be compelled to adopt the Babcock position. One of these letters is from "Boss" Sheperd, the man who is responsible for the fact that Washington is now the most beautiful city on the continent.

It is said that not a member of the ways and means committee of the house, as at present organized, save the democrats and Mr. Babcock himself, is in favor of the Babcock bill, and that the republican members of the senate committee on finance are also in strong oposition, but times may change, and if they do these men will change with them.

The latest semi-official uterance regarding the pension commissioner matter is that even if Commissioner Evans should resign, it will not be until after the fire of his enemies has ceased. It is given out definitely that he will not withdraw under fire. After the men who have been annoying him have quit, it is barely possible that the president may offer him something "equally as good," and that it will be accepted. But this is not certain. The president is a stanch defender of the pension policy of Mr. Evans.

—W. W. Jermane.

Washington Small Talk.

Senator McCumber will go to North Dakota this latter part of this week.

Governor Merriam and family are home from a month's trip in the south.

Representative Eddy is still here looking after departmental business. He will go to Minnesota next Sunday.

M. E. Sloan of Minnesota gave an illustrated lecture on "The Far Northwest" at the leading Universalist church in this city a few nights ago. The local press speaks in high terms of it.

The controller of the currency has authorized the First National bank of Jewell Junction, Iowa, to begin business with a capital of $25,000. H. J. Smith is president and A. Alexander cashier.

At the Carlisle Indian school commencement the other day, one of the visitors was Rev. John Wesley Hill, one time pastor of the Fowler Methodist church, Minneapolis. Mr. Hill is now stationed at Harrisburg and is chaplain of the Pennsylvania senate.

Senator Hansbrough returned from New York to-day. It is probable that during the coming week some decision will be reached relative to the location of the headquarters of the new North and South Dakota internal revenue district, and that a collector will be appointed. Senator Hansbrough will remain here for a month, making flying trips to New York. He will arrange for commencing work on the new military post at Bismarck, for which he secured an appropriation of $35,000. There is an unexpended balance of $40,000 for sewer and water system available, which will also be expended during the coming season. He will arrange for beginning the construction of the new Indian school at Mandan.

JAMES GAFFRY DEAD

Old Conductor on the Southern Minnesota Division of the Milwaukee.

Special to The Journal.

La Crosse, Wis., March 18.—James Gaffry, one of the oldest conductors on the Milwaukee road, dropped dead at his home in this city this afternoon of heart failure. He had been working around the house, but went in and while drinking a glass of water fell to the floor dead. He was about 50 years of age and had been a conductor on the Southern Minnesota division for the past twenty years.

BOTH WILL WITHDRAW

Tientsin Trouble Likely to Be Settled.

CALL OFF THE TROOPS

English Officials Say This Is the Probable Settlement.

THE BRITISH PRESS IS DIVIDED

Opinion Is Expressed That Russia Will Give In Rather Than Go to War.

London, March 18.—On the highest official authority the Associated Press is authorized to announce that the difficulty at Tientsin between the Russians and the British over the construction of a railroad siding in territory claimed by both, will probably be solved by the withdrawal of both the British and Russian troops from the ground in dispute.

On all sides, officially and otherwise, it is said that Great Britain has not the slightest contemplation of resorting to hostilities against Russia, whatever may be the outcome of the present negotiations.

ENGLAND IS ANXIOUS

Tientsin Trouble Has Worried the Officials—Press Views.

New York Sun Special Service.

London, March 18.—It is said in London that the Tientsin affair causes anxiety in Downing street. The Marquis of Lansdowne, the foreign minister, and Lord Salisbury have been in frequent communication. Communications from St. Petersburg are anxiously awaited.

The jingo and traditionally Russo-phobe newspapers treat the incident as one of great gravity. The former talk angrily of Russian audacity and British supeneness. The Daily Mail says:

A very grievous blow has been inflicted to our reputation in the far east. For years our influence in China has been declining and it has now reached the vanishing point. Yesterday it was Manchuria, to-day it is Tientsin, to-morrow it will be the Yangtse valley, the day after it will be Tibet or Persia and after that India.

Russia Must Retire.

The conservative Standard, which never acquised in Lord Salisbury's or Mr. Balfour's dicta that there is plenty of room for both Russia and Great Britain in Asia, takes comfort in the fact that what it calls the Russian seizure has not been confirmed. It adds that if it had been the situation would be of the gravest possible character. It says:

The rivalry between the two powers, which has been kept simmering owing to Russian intrigue ever since the beginning of the present phase of the Chinese situation, would have come at last to an issue. If this is intended as a trial of strength every consideration of policy and honor demands that we do not permit ourselves to be worsted. Unless we are shown to be technically and formally in the wrong, there is only one solution that we can accept. Russia, not to mince words, must be induced or compelled to retire, even if the whole resources of the British empire should be needed to bring about that result.

Trifle Exaggerated.

The radical Daily News thinks that there has been a great deal of mischievous exaggeration in the matter. It says:

That two of the greatest eastern powers should fight for a railway siding is inconsistent not only with civilization, but sanity.

Nevertheless it does not dread that war will occur, because, "there is no fear of Lord Salisbury going to war with Russia for a good cause or a bad one. Russia is a great empire and is therefore a fit object for graceful concessions. She is not a small republic to be bullied and provoked."

The tory Morning Post says there is no need to treat the matter in a sensational spirit. It is not likely, except by mismanagement, to cause serious trouble.

The independent conservative Telegraph deprecates the conduct of "certain excellent people gloating over what, with morbid precipitation, they describe as British humiliation." It ascribes the difficulty to local officials and expects a smooth settlement.

The Times says:

It is not yet proved that the Russian government, whatever too zealous officials may venture upon, is ready to commit itself to a policy of deliberate aggression. There is every desire in this country to avoid any serious dispute with Russia, unless vital interests are at stake, but if such come to the front England will have to stand up for her rights.

Situation Unchanged.

The latest telegrams from Tientsin state that there has been no serious development. The position, indeed, remains unchanged.

One correspondent says that the utmost friendliness prevails between the opposing parties, but as a measure of precaution, the guards watching the disputed territory have been reduced to twenty-seven on each side to prevent a possible collision during the negotiations.

Another correspondent declares that the situation is absolutely farcical, but he seem to regard it so because the British are parleying instead of taking prompt action, as the interference of the Russians is manifestly unjustified. This observer lays the whole blame upon Major General Alexieff, describing the incident as an attempt on his part to create trouble. He adds that unless he is removed there will be continual friction, which will ultimately lead to hostilities.

Other reports say that a Russian general arrived from Peking Saturday evening, and that Field Marshal Count von Waldersee is expected from Kiaochu Tuesday.

General Lord Campbell offered to withdraw the British troops from the disputed territory on condition that the Russians would also retire. General Wogack refused to withdraw on the ground that the territory was undoubtedly Russian, and that the British attempts to trespass was ample evidence of the necessity for maintaining a strong guard over it.

Check for Russia.

A dispatch to the Times from Peking dated Sunday says that Chinese officials state that they are informed from St. Petersburg that Russia abandons her claims to exclusive rights in Mongolia and Turkestan and consents to modify the stringency of her control over the civil administration in Manchuria. She agrees that the convention between herself and China shall be published as soon as it is signed at St. Petersburg, the signatures to be affixed within two weeks.

This is the first check inflicted on Russian diplomacy in China since Lord Salisbury was cajoled into ordering the withdrawal of the British ships from Port Arthur during the crisis in 1898. It cannot fail to modify the situation by convincing the Chinese that there still exist international obligations capable of maintaining equilibrium n the far east.

ONE OE 'EM DASSEN'T; T'OTHER'S AFRAID.

DOESN'T WANT WAR

Russia, It Is Thought, Would Rather Abandon the Agreement.

New York, March 18.—According to a dispatch to the Herald from Washington, officials there say that Manchuria and not Tientsin is the danger point in China. They say that Great Britain, Germany and Japan have given Russia to understand that they will regard with disfavor the signing of the Manchurian convention. If the convention is signed, a vigorous protest will be made by these powers, and if this is not effective, more aggressive action will be taken. Russia, it is believed, will abandon the convention with China rather than precipitate war.

It is said that the only danger at Tientsin lies in the antipathy between British and Russian troops. The London and St. Petersburg governments, it is thought, will not allow any clash that might involve the two countries in war.

BOTH IN TRENCHES

Russians Are Expected to Move On the British.

New York Sun Special Service.

Paris, March 18.—A dispatch from Tientsin says that the Russians and British are occupying long trenches only forty-five yards apart. These are filled with troops, but the English outnumber the Russians twenty to one. Unless the St. Petersburg government takes a conciliatory view of the dispute, the Russians will attempt to drive the British. Every possible influence has been brought to bear with the view to arriving at a friendly solution.

Earl Li Is Better.

London, March 18.—A dispatch from Shanghai announces the sailing to-day of United States Minister Conger. The condition of Li Hung Chang has improved.

CASE COMES BACK

Supreme Court Decision on the Oleomargarine Law.

THE LOWER COURT IS REVERSED

Brundage Did Not Exhaust Other Resources Before His Appeal.

Special to The Journal.

Washington, March 18.—The supreme court to-day reversed the decision of the United States circuit court for Minnesota in the case of the state against Brundage, involving the constitutionality of the oleomargerine law. The opinion was delivered by Justice Harlan, and avoided the merits of the case.

The reversal was based upon the fact that Brundage did not exhaust all of the resources at his command within the state, in that, instead of appealing his case from the municipal court at Minneapolis to the state supreme court, he applied for a writ of certiorari to the United States circuit court, which ordered his release from the custody of the state authorities.

The case will now go back to the United States circuit court, thence to the local court for further proceedings in accordance with to-day's decision.

Brundage carried his case to the federal courts on a petition for a writ of habeas corpus, attacking the constitutionality of the law. The circuit court of Minnesota sustained his contention, but that opinion was reversed in to-day's decision.

AN OFFICER ARRESTED

Night Watch Johnson of Grove City Charged With Larceny.

Special to The Journal.

Grove City, Minn., March 18.—John Johnson, for six years night watch here, was arrested Saturday evening on a charge of grand larceny. He pleaded not guilty upon preliminary examination this afternoon, and was committed to jail, in default of bonds, to await the action of the grand jury.

Johnson is a single man and has always had the confidence of the community until his present lapse. He is charged with stealing several guns from a hardware store and clothing and general merchandise from other places of business. His arrest caused great surprise.

NINE MILLIONS FOR MORGAN

His Reported Profit in the Pennsylvania Coal Company Deal.

New York, March 18.—Richard Pinecoffin to-day began suit in the United States circuit court against the Erie Railway company and J. Pierpont Morgan, citing them to explain why Mr. Morgan, as the controlling trustee of the Erie road, compelled the purchase of the Pennsylvania Coal company, in which transaction, the complainant alleges, Mr. Morgan made a profit of $9,400,000.

BIG BLAZE IN ST. LOUIS

The Fire Spreads Over Five Acres of Buildings and Is Still Burning

United States Arsenal and the Busch Brewery Are Threatened.

St. Louis, March 18.—Fire, supposed to have started in the icehouse of the Anheuser-Busch Brewing association at the foot of Cherokee street at 1 p. m., was fanned into a great conflagration, and has spread over five acres of buildings.

Among the buildings reported already are the Missouri Car and Foundry company, and a row of flats.

The United States arsenel, containing quartermaster stores, and the buildings of the Busch brewery are threatened.

A general alarm has been turned in. Every engine available has been sent to the scene.

At 2:30 p. m. the flames still seemed to be spreading, but, owing to the heavy pall of smoke and the intense heat, which kept the firemen at a distance, it was impossible to tell just how much damage the fire had done.

It is known, however, that the following buildings have been destroyed: Ice houses of the W. J. Lemp and Anheuser Busch breweries; lumber yard and repair shops of the Missouri Car and Foundry company; shops of the Standard aBrrell company; Stubt Pickle and Vinegar company's plant; three two-story dwellings, five scattered cottages; buildings of the United States engineering department used for building and repairing barges for Mississippi river work; old stone arsenal used for the storage of United States army quartermaster supplies;; south side hunting and boating clubhouse and several boathouses.

STRIKE AS LAST RESORT

MINE WORKERS' OFFICERS MEET

Outlook for a Conference With the Operators Is Not Bright.

Scranton, Pa., March 18.—President Mitchell of the United Mine Workers of America, and District Presidents Nichols, Duffy and Fahey, of the three anthracite districts of Pennsylvania, met here this afternoon to discuss the question of a conference with the operators on a wage schedule. The outlook is far from bright for a meeting of these interests, but another strike of the anthracite miners will not be declared unless the situation becomes such as to absolutely demand it.

DOES HE GO TO THE ERIE?

FRED UNDERWOOD MAY BE PREX

A Rumor to That Effect Is in Circulation To-day—Another, Too.

Railroad men in Minneapolis are interested in a report to-day that Fred Underwood, formerly general manager of the Soo and now general manager of the Baltimore & Ohio, has been elected president of the Erie system. Mr. Underwood's friends are inclined to accept the report as representing something that will soon come to pass if it is not already a fact. It is supposed that Mr. Underwood's connection with the Erie will come as a result of J. J. Hill's continental railroad combination, in which the Erie is a link.

In this connection, it may be noted that preceding the Erie rumor it was reported that Mr. Underwood would soon return to Minneapolis to become second vice president of the Northern Pacific.

RUMORS OF BRIBERY

Heard at the Capitol in Connection With Gross Earnings Bill.

SCHEME TO SIDETRACK THE BILL

Jacobson Says the Tax Commission Has Nothing to Do With Fixing Rates.

Ugly rumors are afloat to-day about the capitol at St. Paul. It is common gossip that money is already being used to block the path of the Jacobson gross earnings bill. It is reported that inducements have been offered to certain members of the house, in which body the contest over the bill will be waged this week.

The opposition does not ask members to vote against the bill, but to vote for its reference to the tax commission. As outlined in The Journal, Friday, this is a device to sidetrack the bill in the house. If it should go through, there will be no votes cast against the bill to be explained to constituents. Those who vote to refer the bill can say that they have done so in all sincerity, believing that all matters of taxation should be handled by the commission which this legislature has created.

An unfortunate feature of the matter is that some members of the legislature who favor the bill think it should be referred to the commission to be reported back by them to the extra session. It will be hard, therefore, to distinguish between friends and foes of the proposed increase in railway taxation.

Mr. Jacobson's Point.

The proposition to refer was made to the house committee on taxes, which met this afternoon to consider the Jacobson bill. Before the meeting Jacobson said he would oppose a proposition to refer with all his power. He said further:

It is not for the tax commission to fix rates. If the proposition were for the abandonment of the gross earnings system and the taxation of railroads for the actual value of their property, it would be a matter for the commission, but their duty is to make a system for levying and collecting taxes, and to revise and codify the tax laws. It is purely the province of the legislature and the people to fix the rate of taxation.

The railroads say the present rate is an unalterable contract, and that my bill proposes an impossibility. Yet they want it referred to the tax commission. In other words, they want an impossibility referred to that body. If it is impossible to raise the rate, the only way we can know will be to raise it and let the courts decide. If the courts should say we cannot raise the rate we shall be just where we are now. We will lose nothing. If they uphold the law, the state will be so much ahead.

Looks Like Reference.

The program to refer the bill to the tax commission and adjourn April 5 has been canvassed in the house, and the canvassers claim 64 votes for the proposition.

RICE BACK IN RED WING

DEPORTED SOLDIER AND EDITOR

Says He Will Not Only Be Vindicated but Will Have Full Redress.

Special to The Journal.

Red Wing, Minn., March 18.—George T. Rice, the young editor who was deported at Manila by General MacArthur, reached his old home here this morning and is visiting the training school to-day. He is not saying much about his troubles, but professes to be certoin of a vindication.

"In Manila," he said, "I asked for a civil and military trial, but was denied either. The military hung together, knowing I could prove my statements. There was not a man of them who was not afraid that if I was allowed to stay on the islands I could prove all and more than I had published; they feared also that I would expose others. Hence I was characterized as 'dangerous,' and hustled out of the way at the first opportunity. In a few days I shall go to St. Paul and see the governor. I am satisfied the evidence I have will not only clear me, but will afford me redress, for which I shall take steps in due time."

Mr. Rice will be here but a short time, while awaiting the arrival of a brother, whom he has not seen for ten years. He formerly worked in a printing office in Kasson, and friends there are preparing a reception to him, which will be of a semipublic nature. He is in good health and spirits.

SCHOOLS CLOSED BY SMALLPOX.

Special to The Journal.

Black River Falls, Wis., March 18.—The schools at Alma Center are closed on account of the smallpov. Paul Chapman of that place having brought the disease from Chicago. It is the first case in the county.

TRUST GETS THE SUPERIOR MINES

Lake Iron Mines, Railways and Lake Transportation Lines Owned by John D. Rockefeller.

Lake Superior Consolidated Iron Mines in the Mesaba Range Belong to the Morgan Trust.

New York, March 18.—J. P. Morgan & Co. have confirmed the statement that the lake iron mines railways and lake transportation lines owned by John D. Rockefeller, are to be taken in by the United States Steel corporation.

These interests include the Lake Superior Consolidated Iron Mines, which has a capital stock of $50,000,000, of which $29,988,448.97 is outstanding. It was incorporated under the laws of New Jersey in 1893 to acquire and operate iron mines in the Mesaba range, Minnesota. The company owns extensive properties in that region and leases some of its lands to the Carnegie Steel company and other large steel manufacturers. It owns the Duluth, Missabe & Northern railway, extending from Duluth to Iron Mountain, Minn, about 130 miles.

The Lake Superior Consolidated Iron Mines has no direct mortgage indebtedness of its own, but the Duluth, Missabe & Northern railway has a bonded debt consisting of $1,100,000 first mortgage 6 per cent bonds due in 1922, $2,251,000 consolidated mortgage 6 per cent bonds due in 1923 and $2,644,000 second mortgage 5 per cent bonds due in 1918.

PROPERTIES IN MINNESOTA

Trust Probably Pays Upwards of $35,000,000.

Special to The Journal.

Duluth, Minn., March 18.—The properties of the Rockefeller company in this state include mines and the Duluth, Missabe & Norther nroad. The mines are the Adams, Spruce, Lake Superior group at Hibbing, Sellers, Pillsbury and Minnewas, the latter a state property under lease to Rockefeller. There are also several mines operated by the company, these ebing the Mountain Iron, Oliver, Lone Jack and Ohio. Last year's shipments by the Rockefeller mines were about 1,500,000 tons, and the Carnegie shipments from Rockefeller's leased mines were 1,300,000 tons more. The Rockefeller interests also own the first lease on the Biwabik mine, which is subleased and produced nearly a millions tons in 1900.

The Rockefeller railroads shipped to this city 3,880,000 tons, and its steamships, which form an outside corporation, can ship down the lakes about 5,500,000 tons. The issued capital stock of the Rockefeller mines is $28,500,000, and has been selling of late at about par in anticipation of the purchase by the Morgan trust of the property.

It is understood here that the deal for the rockefeller properties was a direct purchase for about $35,000,000 and that it was made some days ago. Mr. Rockefeller then retired absolutely from all connection with the business. What price may be made by Mr. Margan and associates for the purchase from them by the United States Steel corporation of these properties is not known, but it is supposed to be much larger than the Rockefeller price to Morgan.

The company called the Lake Superior Consolidated Mines owns a very large tract of iron ore lands aside from those mentioned, and has ore enough to supply its road with traffic for a long period. The ownership of this concern was essential to the success of the steel trust.

FOR THE DULUTH SERVICE

AN OCEAN-GOING STEAMER LEASED

Miami, Now in Florida Waters, Will Carry Passengers to Connect With White Boats.

The Northern Steamship company to-day practically concluded negotiations for the lease of an ocean-going steamship to ply between Duluth and Mackinaw, connecting with the North-West and North Land, of the company on the Chicago run. The ship is the twin screw Miami, owned by the Florida East Coast Railway and Navigation company. The boat is at present in service between Miami, Fla., and ports in the West Indies. She is 254 feet in length and of 1,700 gross tons. Her speed is about twenty miles an hour. The Miami is said to be a boat of very sumptuous appointments, with a capacity for 150 stateroom passengers. She has a beam of forty feet and a depth of hold of twenty-three feet.

The Miami will leave New York in June for Duluth, passing through the new Canadian canals. The boat is just within the lock measurements, the lock being two feet longer than the ship. The Duluth-Mackinaw service will be instituted about the middle of June. The Miami will make two round trips weekly, connecting with the White Flyers from Chicago to Buffalo. The lease covers one season.

PATIENCE IN ORDER.

Town Topics.

Anxious Mother—My dear daughter, don't you know that it's scandalous to have so many men making love to you?

Daughter—But, mama, how am I to help it?

Mother—Why don't you wait until you are married?

VERY NEAT LITTLE WAD

GROSS EARNINGS OF MINN. R. R.'S

The Total for 1900 Was $49,782,268.84—An Increase Over 1899 Despite Light Crop.

The gross earnings of the Minnesota railroads for 1900 as reported to the state auditor amounted to $49,782,268.84. This is an increase over 1899 of $64,305.22. The large grain carrying roads showed a decrease owing to the light crop, and it was expected that the total would be less than 1899, but the iron range roads reported such a large increase, that the loss was more than made up. The state will reecive in taxes on gross earnings $1,442,860.13, an increase of $1,463.06 over 1899. Thirty-four companies are included in the report.

PRAIRIE WEATHER

Heavy Gale and Snow Succeed a Balmy Spell in N. Dakota.

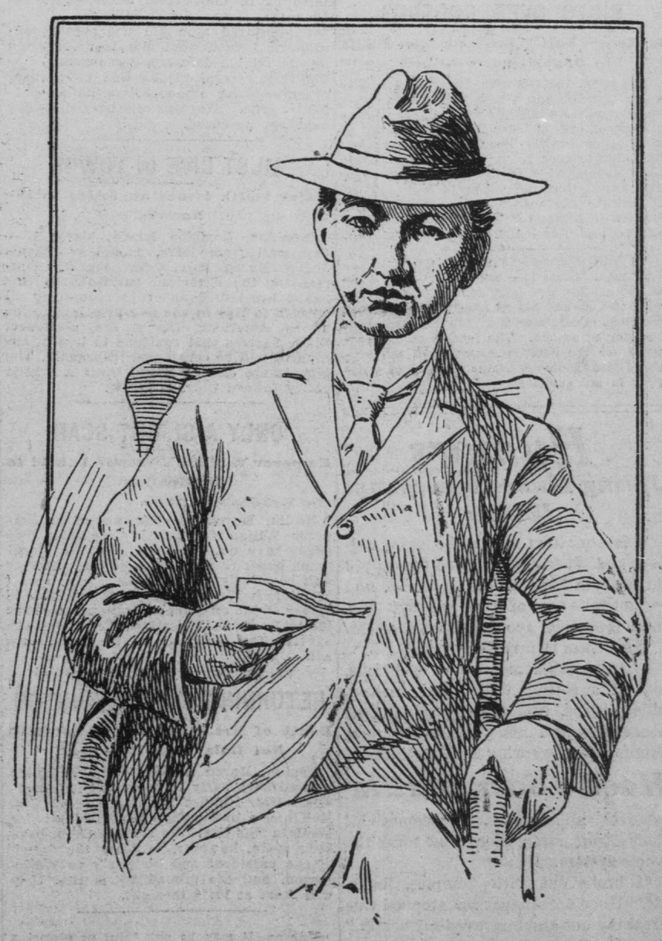
Special to The Journal.

Grand Forks, N. D., March 18.—Just before noon the mild weather that has been prevailing for some time changed very suddenly. The wind switched to the north and is blowing a gale. A heavy snow is falling and the worst storm of the winter is threatened.

NEW NATIONAL BANKS.

Special to The Journal.

Washington, March 18.—The controller of the currency has authorized the First National bank of Hibbing, Minn., to begin business with a capital of $25,000. Andrew A. Davidson is the president and Stephen R. Kirby the cashier. The controller has also approved the application of M. O. Movins, J. H. Movins and E. A. Movins for authority to organize the First National bank of Lidgerwood, N. D., with a capital of $50,000.



GEORGE H. RICE, DEPO RTED FROM MANILA.