THE JOURNAL

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THE COURSE OF BUSINESS

Bank clearings rolled up an increase of 51 per cent this week. That tells something of the story of business strength throughout the country. The reports for the week are full of encouragement. There is a large movement of merchandise, and this is taken to mean a heavy spring business in retail stores. People all over the country are prosperous and they are in the mood to buy what they want, and prosperity always makes wants.

Minneapolis is not doing well on clearings just at the moment, for she is, with one or two exceptions, the only city that shows a decrease in bank clearings for the week. There is a reason for this, however, in the fact that wheat receipts are considerably less than a year ago, and less flour is selling. Items like these affect clearances to a noticeable extent. On the other hand, Kansas City is favored with a larger wheat movement and a growing live stock business, and her clearings show it. The business condition in Minneapolis is very healthy, and the jobbing and retail lines are busy. There is renewed interest in real estate, and some heavy transactions have been made.

In the country at large there is a splendid feeling. There has been gossip that there would be a strike in the coal region, but as yet there is no great promise of it, and if there is it is doubtful if it would have noticeable effect on business. Progress is reported in the steel matters and it looks now as if all would work out satisfactorily. The securities are selling well up to par, and with a 7 per cent dividend promised at once for the preferred shares of the United States company, an early advance is predicted as soon as the organization is made complete.

The war cloud has blown over during the week. The American people have a habit of becoming alarmed on short notice. The fact is that the nations of the world are not anxious to engage in hostilities, and until the provocation becomes more marked than it has there will be no war.

The people of the world do not want war; they want to trade. The commercial spirit is pushing everything before it, hence it has been assumed by some that this was an unfavorable indication of the times. The assumption fails to consider that the advance in trade is natural. The time has come to move up, because the world is growing. As a nation we are just where the city is that has allowed the country to get ahead of it; the time comes when the city must build or foolishly lag behind its rivals. The United States is not foolish in this particular, hence it is moving out for its share of business. This is no time for pessimistic interpretations.

The disturbed conditions in Russia would seem to give the czar's government something else to think about than war with England, but it may be that the unrest at home may be cured best by a foreign war and that the Russian government may adopt that remedy for the existing disorders and revolutionary conditions.

The enlargement of the scope of the board of control plan so as to include the purely educational institutions along with the correctional and charity work of the state is, in our judgment, calculated to impair and possibly intended to defeat the success of the original board of control plan, which was simple and consistent with itself.

We do not think that the Times will find in The Journal's editorial about the attitude of the railroads toward the gross earnings tax any criticism of the employment of any legitimate means to resist an increase in taxation. In resisting such an increase the railroads are not doing anything, so long as they can confine themselves to legitimate measures, which would probably not be employed by any other large corporate or individual interest. The only point to which The Journal addressed itself was the question whether the railroads were really opposing the passage of this bill, and whether, as the Times intimated, their opposition was not a confession that the increase was just and could be imposed by the state. If the railroad companies did not believe the Jacobson bill would stand the test they would be less active in opposition to it.

TARIFF AND TRUSTS

Congressman Babcock of Wisconsin, who successfully endeavored at the late session of congress to secure the repeal of the duties on iron and steel as a check upon possible rapacity of the steel trust, says that, at the next session of congress, he will enlarge his operations by introducing a measure to repeal also the duties upon tin plate and plate glass. There could be no more effective way to prevent monopoly and monopolistic prices than this, and no industrial interest would be impaired which, through its economies of production, has reached the point where it may defy foreign competition. The "fathers" of protection in this country had no idea of making an unchangeable and unadjustable tariff, or of continuing to amplify the protective duties upon articles as the industries increased in number and grew out of the swaddling clothes of babyhood and became independent of foreign competition.

But the same element which opposed Mr. Babcock's bill opposed the reciprocity treaties effected by Mr. Kasson with France and Jamaica and several Spanish-American countries, under the tariff act of 1897. These gentlemen are largely republicans who may easily recall that their party platform declared in 1896: "Protection and reciprocity are twin measures of republican policy and go hand in hand and both must be established. Reciprocity builds up foreign trade and finds an outlet for the surplus." The president has frequently and earnestly indorsed this view and has taken the deepest interest in the negotiations looking to reciprocity with foreign lands, recognizing the fact that this nation is strongly fortified in leading lines against impairment of its industrial strength.

Rev. and Professor George D. Herron, the "Christian socialist" of Grinnell, Iowa, who has been "binding burdens grievous to be borne and laying them on other men's shoulders," has evidently not bothered himself much about his own responsibilities. His poor, neglected wife has just secured a divorce on the ground of desertion and nonsupport with custody of her children. We have always regarded Herron as a pious fraud, and see no reason in this incident to change that opinion.

Mr. Bryan is getting recklessly extravagant in the name of newspaper enterprise. The Commoner offers a reward of $5 for a statement signed by Mr. Cleveland applying democratic principles as he understands them, to at least five of the questions now before the country. An additional reward of one dollar is offered for a written statement from Mr. Cleveland explaining why he considered his opinion on public questions of no importance during the recent campaign, but regards such opinion as important now. This looks like a six dollar snap for Mr. Cleveland, who has always been regarded as thrifty.

MR. SNYDER'S BILL "CONCERNING LAND TITLES"

The adoption by the present legislature of the Snyder bill for the registration of land titles need not startle or even annoy any person. No land owner need fear that he is to be coerced into having his land registered. The bill begins by declaring that "the owner of any estate or interest in land, whether legal or equitable, may apply to have the title of said land registered." So the introduction of the new system is bound to be a gradual process. When twenty or a hundred different properties have been registered in any county, there will be an opportunity to compare the workings of the new system with those of the old one. If Mr. A. does not then see any advantage to be gained by registration, he may reject it then as he does now. But if registration is found to work well, it will doubtless be, in time, put into quite general use. The point we are making now is, that the effect of enacting this bill into a law will be merely to authorize the experiment of the Torrens system to be seriously tried by those who want to try it. This consideration ought to give Mr. Snyder's bill an easy road through the legislature.

Some one may object to authorizing a new experiment in registration because of the necessary expense. But under this law, the expense to the public will be but slight. Those land owners who choose to engage in registration will pay the expenses in the way of fees, just as proprietors do now in the matter of recording. In such counties as Hennepin, there will result an increased profit to the county, at the expense of those who secure registration of their titles, and who will be recompensed for such expense by the convenience of the new system.

Any land when once put into the category of "registered land" will afterward remain there. But no objection can be found to this. The choice is made by the present proprietor to have his land thus classified. There will result two classes of lands, the "registered" and the "unregistered," and as to each, the lands included in it are thereby the free choice of the owners. If the bill becomes a law, we predict that it will soon be fashionable to be the proprietor of "registered" land, and to hold a governmental "certificate of title." Mortgages and lesser estates than a fee simple may be registered when the principal estate is registered.

Both as to the practice now in vogue in the office of the register of deeds, and as to the procedure in court, Mr. Snyder's draft of the proposed law accommodates the course to be pursued to our present system. The application for registration of any parcel of land is to be made to the district court, which is to keep a special docket for such cases. A summons is to be issued, and all parties interested in the land are to be given notice of the proceedings. Abstracts of title are to be filed, and an examiner is to be appointed to examine the title, and all the evidence is to be taken, necessary to enable the court to determine the character of the title. The case is to be regularly heard and a decree entered. Thus there is to be virtually, in each case, an action to quiet title. It would not seem that this procedure will cost the applicant any more than to bring suit and secure such a decree under the present law, and perhaps not so much. But under this new system, the more advantageous result will be that, at the close, the applicant will have an authoritative certificate, which he can hold, and which will declare the extent and quality of his title as long as it shall be outstanding. This result will gradually tend to abolish the abstract offices and their fees, but it will materially facilitate land transactions and transfers.

Let it not be forgotten that the new system will not take away or interfere with the rights or privileges of the present land proprietors, or any other parties. Lands of both classes, registered and unregistered, may be bought, sold, mortgaged, leased as of old. Mortgages may be foreclosed, creditors may levy or attach, the probate courts may license the sale or mortgaging of estates, and all other transactions in respect to land may proceed no less freely than is possible now. The principal change to be effected will be to allow those proprietors who choose to do so to adopt the new system and thereby improve their own facilities for voluntary land transactions.

The state will be virtually the guarantor of the titles as registered under this law, the court having judicially passed upon the title, and the evidence thereof being entered upon the minutes of the court, and the result registered in the same county office to which all citizens now go for evidence as to land titles.

To protect the state in furnishing such a guaranty, a small tax levied upon the value of the land covered by each transfer goes into an assurance fund, out of which indemnity may be paid to any person who is injured by any mistake, omission or misdescription in any of the proceedings.

We see many admirable features in this bill, to commend it to the legislature and the people, and it seems to be, in all the substantial elements of the general scheme, very carefully guarded. The bill exhibits extensive and careful study, and a distinct intent to have a "Torrens law" which shall conform and fit into the existing Minnesota system; and in this we think Mr. Snyder has succeeded admirably.

Governor Van Sant is going to have another opportunity to meet the charge that he is not capable of selecting good men for responsible places. He and his associates rose to the occasion in the matter of the tax commission. Now let him do equally as well in selecting a board of control. It is probably not overstating the fact to say that the appointment of this board will have a more lasting effect upon his reputation as governor than almost any other act of his administration.

HOW THEY VOTED

Allen,	Lemke,
Armstrong, G. W.,	Mallory,
Armstrong, J. A.,	Mark,
Babcock,	Miller,
Barteau,	Morley,
Benolken,	Nelson, H. K.,
Benson,	Nelson, W.,
Berg,	Neubauer,
Burns,	Nolan,
Bury,	Norman,
Cooke,	Noyes,
Daggett,	O'Neil,
Dealy,	Ocobock,
Dobbin,	Ofsthun,
Dunn,	Peterson, S. D.,
Ferris,	Phillips,
Fust,	Pope,
Gainey,	Pugh,
Grass,	Rich,
Hemstead,	Ryan,
Herbert,	Sander,
Hickey,	Schert,
Hillary,	Schurman,
Hinton,	Schwarg,
Hogan,	Sikorski,
Holm,	Smith,
Hunt,	Stevenson,
Hurd,	Torson,
Hymes,	Umland,
Kelly,	Wells,
Lane,	Wilder—64.
Larson,	
Laybourn.	

The above is the list of the members of the house who voted last Thursday against the minority report on the railroad gross earnings tax bill. The minority report, it should be understood, was the report in favor of placing the bill on general orders for further discussion, and placing it in line for passage by the house, if, upon further discussion, it should prove to be in the public interest and a fair measure. Those who voted against this report voted in effect to refer the bill and the whole matter to the tax commission, thus killing the bill for this session, and, as has been shown, accomplishing nothing of practical value toward a settlement of the question, since the tax commission can neither fix the rate nor pass upon the constitutionality of the increase. Fixing of the rate belongs to the legislature, and the constitutionality of the increase is a matter which the courts alone decide, and which cannot be decided until the Jacobson law, or its equivalent, is passed by the legislature, submitted to the people, approved by them, put into effect by the tax collectors, and resisted by the railroad companies in the courts.

The people of this state have declared in their political platforms, both republican and democratic, with respect to this matter of railroad taxation, that the rate of taxation under the gross earnings system "shall be maintained at such figures as will make the tax annually collected on railroad property equal and uniform with the tax imposed upon other property throughout the state." This quotation is from the republican platform, to which the democratic platform added the specific demand of an increase to 4 per cent. Mr. Jacobson has shown 4 per cent to be a reasonable and moderate rate.

The list of those members of the house who voted against the passage of this bill at this session is printed that their constituents may know how their representatives have acted upon this important measure, and in order that the people may let these representatives know what their pleasure is in the matter, when it comes up for consideration again, as it undoubtedly will. If the people of Minnesota and the constituents of these representatives favor the Jacobson bill they should let their representatives know at once and plainly what they expect them to do on the final disposition of this measure.

The house agreed to-day to the senate amendment to the oil inspectorship bill providing that it should not go into effect until 1903, and passed it in that form. It had already been modified in other particulars to such an extent that it is not a very dangerous measure, and now that it is not to go into effect until after Schiffman's term expires, it will be seen that the "St. Paul gang" has won its fight with the legislature, protecting one of its members from any loss of his political spoils, and that the whole business reads like a bit of comic opera.

THE ETHICS OF SHOPPING

A writer in a current magazine on the various phases of shopping in a great city lifts up her voice for the shop-girl. She sees in the average shop-girl, not the so-called "saleslady," but often a person of intelligence, of tact, of much patience. "Of course," she says, "if you approach her with a bristling spirit or assume a dictatorial air, you will see a different side to her character."

The argument of the writer is that if you play fair with a shop-girl, she will give you full change, not only in money but in courtesy. No doubt any proprietor of a large establishment employing many women and girls would be glad to learn of discourtesy or impatience on the part of any of his clerks—molasses in trade, as in other departments of life, catches more flies than vinegar. But if he could always know of all the cases where patrons are unreasonable or impatient with the attendants, it is probable that he would find the public fully as human as the clerks. The position which the average shop-girl in a large establishment fills is one of no small importance. Let a given number of such employes in a retail store treat a given number of patrons with neglect, and the business of the establishment will decline.

On the other hand, it is incumbent upon every shopper to treat the clerk who waits upon her with full consideration. No doubt thoughtlessness is the cause of many a slight which the shop-girl receives, but thoughtlessness is inexcusable when it leads to distress or pain. The writer referred to above puts the matter in this wise:

You have only to throw yourself on her mercy, to tell her how tired you are, or how bothered, or how ill, or how little you know or how much you wish to avoid mistakes, and you will be apt to discover her to be all devotion and gentleness, actuated by that agreeable spirit which prompts her to take no end of trouble on your behalf. She will lead you away from unbecoming things, or she will go off and hunt up something better for you that has just come in. She never forgets what you had last spring nor what the baby had * * * Young, hard-working and poor as she may be, she yet lays aside all jealousies in your presence and lends herself to your service with a cheerfulness and sweetness for which no money could pay. Most of us forget to do her the honor that she deserves.

Such words, coming from a woman shopper, are as applicable in Minneapolis through the columns of The Journal as in New York city through the columns of The Century magazine. One of the best investments, one which yields the steadiest of incomes and which brings the keenest satisfaction to both parties to the transaction is the putting of the coin of kindness into circulation through the medium of courtesy.

Is your representative among the number who voted to kill the Jacobson gross earnings tax bill? If he is, do you want him to vote that way again? If you don't, what are you going to do about it?

Minneapolis is selling bonds at less than 3 per cent. Her credit is evidently good in New England.

Fooling Old Father Time Old Dr. Charles Smith's fountain of youth is being advertised again. The doctor is really 126 years old. He looks about 80, and acts about 30, if the Egg Harbor correspondent may be believed. The doctor attributes his sprightliness to a certain magic stream of water which is trying to get out of New Jersey as fast as it can run. He fell into this creek one day many years ago and noticed a certain sprightliness follow the ducking. Tacking cause to effect, he kept falling in and has continuously grown younger.

There are always a large number of people mentally footloose, so to speak, who are willing to take up any fad from antitoxin to carrying a horse-chestnut, and these have followed the doctor's liquid excursions with enthusiasm, and are also giving Old Time the razzle of his rather long existence. In fact, the old fellow stands on the bank of Egg Harbor, N. J., creek, runs his thumb meditatively along his scythe and shakes his head.

No matter how cold it is, there are always bathers in Dr. Smith's fountain of youth. People will do anything, even to taking cold baths, to escape growing old.

A gay little town on the coast of Maine, which is interested in shipbuilding, or rather in what can be made out of it, after carefully considering various methods of booming the place unanimously resolved that the best way to do it would be to erect a monument in honor of Noah, who was justly described in town meetin' as the pioneer shipbuilder and as such entitled to the grateful recognition of all persons engaged in marine architecture. Let us at once build a monument to Jonah, as the man who could tell the best story.

Deer River had a spring election the other day and the Deer River News tells how "'Bull Dog' Reagan, known as a tough character—as his name implies—dropped off the 'rods' and was allowed to remain until his vote was cast, then he was given a night's lodging in the coop, and ordered to depart on the next freight for Cass Lake." It is safe to say that Mr. Reagan's suffrage was cast for license and a whole lot of it.

Last night when "doc" was drawing
His ratty old doggoon,
He heard a cry that sounded
Like a nightingale in June.

At that rare heavenly music
The night was turned to day,
And "doc" was filled with prune juice
At the sight of Dorothy May.

An English doctor says the worst case of smallpox "can be cured in three days by the use of cream of tartar, dissolved in a pint of water (hot) drunk at intervals when cold. It has cured thousands, never leaves a mark, never causes blindness." Oh, go away! That is too easy. There is no money in the epidemic at that rate.

Madame de Tourney did "Room-ee-ou and Juliet" at Pipestone and the Star, after noting that "her supporting company was scarcely as strong as so eminent an actress would be expected to carry," admits that the play is "the greatest love story ever written."

Alexandria, Minn., had a rummage sale recently and Editor Mitchell, who saved his Van Dyke beard, says a good many men were not on the streets the next day, the wives not having left them enough clothes to comply with the law.

An Illinois man announces his intention to produce a newspaper by lunatics and for lunatics. Goodness! We have several steamed contemporaries—but why pursue this unpleasant thought.

The Mazeppa Tribune objects to the ritual of the Order of Buffaloes. Now you mention it, it does savor rather of the stock yards. And besides that there are moths in it.

The hen is tired of waiting for spring and the way she has thrown herself into her work makes the local produce market moan and tremble like the sea after a storm.

One of those optimists who "take things cheerfully" called on the editor of the Howard Lake Herald the other day and took the editor's rubbers.

The Rev. Morrill Twins are doing vigorous work at Albert Lea and Satan is feeling much discouraged. So is everybody else.

The murmur of the little streamlet, and also of the large lady who steps in over her rubber, is heard along the curb.

Memphis is growing in her own regard. The Commercial Appeal now claims to be the mule center of the solar system.

Austin voted 677 to 238 to sell booze. No wonder Carrie Nation feels discouraged.

AMUSEMENTS

The Boston Lyrics in "Mignon."

Ambrose Thomas' pretty opera, "Mignon," was charmingly given by the Boston Lyrics last night, in a manner which redeemed the company from some of the earlier impressions made. Collamarini, while not so happily cast vocally as in "Il Trovatore," displayed her wonderful range of voice to advantage and was altogether charming and naive as the petulant and childish Mignon. The inspiration of a large audience was lacking, but the prima donna carried through the part with a dash and spirit that was infectious.

Bertha A. Davis, soprano; Russo and Alessandroni, as tenor and barytone, sang well, especially the latter, who seemed particularly well suited to the part of minstrel. The remaining roles were well taken and the singing of the chorus was spirited and thoroughly enjoyable. The costuming and the stage pictures were well managed and the whole opera was decidedly a success.

—H. B. C.

A Change of Bill.

The Boston Lyric opera company will present "The Fencing Master" at the Metropolitan to-night. To-morrow evening, instead of "Said Pasha," as previously announced, they will produce Audran's tuneful opera, "La Mascotte," with Harry Brown in his original role of Prince Lorenzo and John Henderson as Rocco.

Right in the Limelight.

Kansas City Journal.

What with Senator Morgan defying Great Britain, Pierpont Morgan organizing gigantic trusts and Gunner Morgan the central figure in the Sampson trouble, the Morgan family seems to be monopolizing the center of the stage.

In the Realm of Sport.

Grand Rapids Herald.

A Chicago revivalist has put up $1,000 forfeit that he will bring fifteen souls into the fold within a stated time. Next we will be having seven-day revival matches for a division of the gate receipts.

CINDERELLA

BY EUGENIE UHLRICH.

Copyright, 1901, by Eugenie Uhlrich.

Young Hetherington filled his briarwood pipe.

"You don't mind, do you? You are always so jolly and chummy."

She smiled a little deprecatingly. There were times when, somehow, she wished Hetherington did not find her so jolly and chummy, though these times had nothing to do with the briarwood pipe. The comfortable house was hers in effect. And, she, the friendless and kinless kindergartner, must, of course, have felt it good fortune to be saved the lot of the boarding-house, and given the companionship of pleasant and well set up people. All the other young women she knew told her so over and over again, and reminded her that she ought to be grateful for her mercies.

It is true that if Mrs. Hetherington's oldest daughter had not married and gone to live in a distant city and her youngest had not died—she, perhaps, would not have felt the need of a girlish presence in the house enough to take in Winifred.

Winifred watched Hugh Hetherington lift his fine length and move across the room after a light for his pipe. As the match flare flickered on his clean features, she thought, as any woman must have, what a handsome fellow he was. But Winnie thought also that if her own mouth had not been so big, her tendency to freckle so hopeless, and the tint of her hair so uncompromisingly red, Mrs. Hetherington might not have liked her quite so well. Moreover, she looked a bit older than Hugh, too, though she had carefully figured out that she, in fact, was a year younger.

But, then Hugh's childhood had passed in the flush of pleasure and the sunshine of affection, and hers—? She was too humble to be sorry for herself and too wise not to see in the worst that had ever happened her the possibilities of still worse, and thus be thankful for the providence that had kept her in its hand.

But yet this evening she thought more sharply than usual of another girl's symmetry, her gowns, her accomplishments, her opportunities, all the things that are dear to the heart of woman. And why not? Venus herself was not irrisistible until she put on the right girdle. Hugh had asked her help in comparing some lists, and she knew very well that every minute of help she gave him this evening was an extra minute for the other girl.

She bent her head over the papers before her, for the things she was thinking must steal into her face in spite of herself.

"Are you very tired?" said Hetherington kindly, but yet altogether impersonally. She raised her head and smiled. What was the use? If it were not this misery it would be something else for a waif such as she. "Oh, not at all," she said.

"I do not believe that there is another girl who would be as patient as you are with all my tiresome stuff, and with me, too. Even mother's endurance gives out once in a while and she scolds about my den. If it weren't for you I don't know what would happen. If you're really not too tired I want to go over these lists with you now, and then I'm off for the Kendrick reception. Gertrude Stevenson will be there," he said, a happy little smile playing about his lips. "Seems to me she is getting more beautiful every day. Don't you think so?"

Hetherington did not even look at her for his answer. He was indeed insisting on being even clumsier than usual this evening, and Winifred bent her head close over the papers once more.

"Of course," Hetherington went on, "Gertrude is popular, very. Sillington has a mint of money, too, but I don't think she's the kind of girl who would stoop to anything like that."

Winifred had to listen to that and much more, in snatches and monologues, and she was glad when at last Hetherington left. There are times when it is singularly harder to be "chummy" than at others.

The next morning Hetherington had gone when she came to breakfast, something most unusual for him. In the evening he did not ask her help. He talked very little, and Mrs. Hetherington later said to her husband: "Can it be that Hugh is not well?"

Her husband looked up retrospectively over his glasses.

"Maybe he's in love. Maybe he has proposed to some girl and she's turned him down. Every young fellow has to have a lesson or two. It won't hurt him, I suppose."

"Oh, how can you talk so? I am sure Hugh would not propose to a girl without talking to me about it first."

Whereupon Mr. Hetherington, senior, smiled behind his paper, and went on reading. A long and comparatively serene matrimonial voyage had taught him that arguments only fill the sails with headwinds.

Winifred herself neither questioned nor seemed to take heed of Hugh's moods. After several evenings he came down and asked her once more to come and help him.

"What do you think, Winifred," he said abruptly after a while, "ought to be the test of love?"

"I should think if some one loves you all the time—whether you are fresh or tired, pleasant or not pleasant, successful or not?"

"Fresh or tired, pleasant or not pleasant, successful or not—" Then he laughed a little jarringly, she thought. "But what do you know about it, after all? You never loved like that, did you?"

She looked at him with startled, almost guilty, eyes, and Hetherington had a queer feeling of having entered unwittingly into a sanctified presence.

He rose and walked around the room aimlessly for a few minutes. Then he said he had some nasty experiments to make, and maybe she would not want to stay, though he rather looked as though he would have liked to have had her.

But she left and then sat at her window watching his shadow move to and fro as it fell against the trees of the garden. Suddenly she heard a spluttering explosion and a strange guttural cry. For a ghastly second she watched the fitful leap of lights on the trees, but his shadow did not come back. Then she grabbed her water pitcher, full happily, and the heavy rug on the floor and ran into his room. She flung the door open upon a thin blur of flame and flickering tongues reaching like dancing imps here and there in mid air, and through it all something like a huddled figure on the floor. Up went the water ahead of herself and over herself, and then the rug over the figure, and with a strength she hardly dared to think could be in her tense muscles, she dragged it out toward the hall. Then, wrapping her skirts around herself with a quick turn, she tore down the burning portieres that screened the laboratory from the den, and finding the hose attached to the hydrant, she set the spray over herself and over the room.

By this time the others had come. But it was really all over. She staggered out to look at Hugh. His eyes were closed, his face blackened.

"Is he dead; oh, is he dead," she said weakly.

Then covering her face with her burned hands, as if fearing the answer, she sank down in a white heap beside him.

The next day Hugh, who, though singed and stunned, had been little hurt, sat beside her and held her bandaged hands.

He watched the play of her features as he talked to her, and it seemed to him like watching an unfolding flower. He caught himself wondering again and again at some newly discovered charm. What deep, fine eyes, what a singularly sweet and unaffected smile! What an intimate gentleness in her voice!

Mrs. Hetherington said one morning: "How charming you are in that pale yellow wrapper! You are quite transformed," and she passed her hand tenderly over the girl who had saved her last child to her.

Hugh said: "She is Cinderella, and the fairy godmother has shaken the magic tree over her."

And he did not know just yet that the magic which was touching her, and him, too, was older even than fairy godmothers.

He spent his spare moments now trying to please her, even as she had once tried to please him. He told her over and over again that it was her wit and her speed and her dear burned hands that saved his life after his stupidity with the ether and the collodion.

"Ah, no," she would say. "It was an inspiration. I am not a bit brave of myself."

"Do you remember," he said one day, "your test of love?"

She blushed a little this time. "You never told me," he went on, "whether you ever loved any one that way or not."

She did not answer.

"Do you think that you could?"

He thought he saw a smile flit over the face, bent away from him though it was, and he took her hands that were now healed, though still scarred a little.

She raised her head and looked at him, and Hetherington suddenly knelt down before her and kissed her hands, and then he drew her head down to him and kissed her on the lips.

Never Caused a Ripple.

Sioux City Journal.

The promoters of the United States steel corporation have made a remarkable success of their plan of breaking the news gently. The big billion-dollar lump has been dropped into the financial sea without creating more than a ripple of disturbance.

Neglected to Pass the Pie.

Indianapolis News.

The republicans in the last congress gave a sufficient demonstration of the fact that they are better politicians than the democrats. They covered the minority with ignominy by gaining its consent to cut the pie and then got out of passing it. Ask Senator Tillman about it.

Their Latest Theory.

Washington Post.

The success of the administration in carrying out its legislative plans has caused the democratic editors to trot out a new edition of the explanation of Mr. Bryan's defeat. They declare it is another case of the democrats selling out to the enemy.

Past Picking Time.

Washington Post.

The country may be ripe for the democracy, as Mr. Cleveland and Mr. Hill declare, but the party as constituted at present is a trifle over-ripe for the country.

One Subject Tabooed.

The report that there was a coolness between Bryan and Mayor Van Wyck of New York is denied. Bryan never mentioned the ice trust during his recent visit to the mayor.

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PAPERS BY EXPERTS AND SPECIALISTS OF NATIONAL REPUTATION.

WHAT THE GOVERNMENT DOES FOR THE PEOPLE

VI—HOW TO GET A PATENT

By C. H. Duell, Commissioner of Patents.

The framers of the federal constitution incorporated into that document a clause giving to congress an authority which was then considered of minor importance, but which in the process of time has done more for the upbuilding of the United States than the most vivid imagination could then have conceived possible. The clause to which I refer is known as paragraph 8 of section 8 of article 1 of the federal constitution, under which congress is given the power "to promote the progress of science and the useful arts by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive rights to their respective writings and discoveries." It is the patent system—the outgrowth of that constitutional provision—which is the subject of this paper.

It has ever been a debatable question whether the hope of reward is a greater incentive to action than the fear of punishment, but it cannot be successfully questioned that the hope of reward has been that which has transformed the dreamer into the man of action, and which has, as has been well said, "stimulated men to transform their thinking into things."

Issuing the First Patents.

The authority conferred upon congress was soon exercised. President Washington in his annual message to congress in 1790, called attention to the subject, and on April 10, 1790, the first law upon the subject was enacted.

The importance of the exercise of care in the granting of patents would seem to have been impressed upon congress by the fact that it constituted the secretary of state, the secretary of war and the attorney general a board to consider all applications for patents. That this tribunal carefully considered the utility and importance of inventions presented for patent I infer from the fact that only fifty-seven patents were issued under this act prior to its supersedure by the statute of Feb. 21, 1793. The first patent issued was to Samuel Hopkins, July 31, 1790, for "making pot and pearl ashes." The act of 1793 remained in force, as amended from time to time, until the act of 1836 was passed. The acts of 1790 and 1793 differed in some respects, the most important of which was that under the act of 1793 a patent was issued to any one who made the necessary allegations and complied with the formal requirements, while the act of 1790 required an examination into the novelty and utility of the invention. In respect to the requirement of an examination, the act of 1836 followed that of 1790, and since 1836 patents have been issued only after an examination and a comparison between the invention claimed and the prior art, so far as known to the experts of the patent office. By "prior art" is meant prior domestic and foreign patents and publications and any known prior use in this country.

Important Work of the Patent Office.

The scope of this article does not permit reference to the various amendments made to the act of 1836. Suffice it to say that, with modifications, it remained in force until the revision of the patent laws in 1870. This revision was largely a consolidation of the statutes then in force. The act of 1870 was repealed and substantially re-enacted in the revised statutes of the United States in 1875.

The number of patents granted prior to July 28, 1836, was 9,957. Since that time 664,826 patents, not including designs, have been issued. Since 1836 the receipts of the office and the expense of conducting it have wonderfully increased. The receipts during the year 1887 were less than $30,000, while the expenses of carrying on the office exceeded the receipts by about 4,000. The receipts for the year 1900 were something about $1,350,000, with expenses of about $1,250,000. The receipts of the patent office up to the present time have exceeded its disbursements by over $5,000,000.

In 1790, when patents were first granted, the occasional service of one clerk sufficed to do the clerical work connected with the issuing of patents. At the present time the force of the patent office numbers 679. In 1836 it was comparatively easy to examine the "prior art" and determine the novelty of the claimed invention. At the present time the work of examination is of enormous magnitude, and it is not to be wondered at that patents are often issued which should have been rejected.

Great Benefit of the Patent Laws.

The patent laws of the United States are more beneficent than those of any other country, and more labor is performed under them, with the least pecuniary return to the government, for the benefit of inventors irrespective of their nationality than is generally understood. And yet the United States could have well afforded to bear all the expenses connected with the issue of patents without the payment of any fees by the inventors, for it is invention that has made possible the unparalleled growth of the country in population and wealth. Eliminate the cotton gin, the reaper, the electric telegraph, the sewing machine, the typewriter, the telephone, the drive well, the rotary web perfecting printing press, the perfected dynamo and a host of other meritorious inventions, and this country, instead of being a world power, would be a feeble nation, with much of its broad domain uncultivated, the home of wild animals and still more savage men. The debt of the United States to inventors and discoverers will be partially repaid some day by the erection at the beautiful capital of the nation of a building of magnificent proportions, in which shall be illustrated in appropriate manner the growth of the industrial arts.

What Inventions May Be Patented.

The patent law provides that to the one who, having invented or discovered any new and useful art, machine, manufacture or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, not known or used by others in this country before his invention or discovery thereof, and not patented or described in any printed publication in this or any foreign country before his invention or discovery thereof, or more than two years prior to his application, and not in public use or on sale in the United States for more than two years prior to his application, unless the same is proved to have been abandoned, a patent, upon due application being made therefor and upon payment of the nominal fee of $35, will issue under the seal of the patent office, for a term of seventeen years, granting to the patentee, his heirs or assigns, the exclusive right to make, use and vend the invention or discovery throughout the United States and the territories thereof, referring to the specification for the particulars thereof. Nay, more, the inventor is required to pay only $15 of the $35 in order to have the question determined whether or not a patent shall issue to him, and he is allowed a period of six months after the allowance of his application for patent in which to pay the final government fee of $20.

Making Application for a Patent.

Applications for patents must be made in writing, and an applicant must file in the patent office a written description of his invention and of the manner and process of making, constructing, compounding and using it. Such description must be sufficiently full, clear and exact to enable any person skilled in the art or science to which it appertains to make, construct, compound and use the same. The specifications and claims must be signed by the inventor and attested by two witnesses, and, when the nature of the case admits, the applicant must furnish a drawing made in compliance with the rules of the office and attested by two witnesses. He must also make oath that he verily believes himself to be the original and first inventor or discoverer of the art, machine, manufacture, composition or improvement for which he solicits a patent; that he does not know and does not believe that the same was ever known or used before his invention or discovery thereof, and must state of what country he is a citizen and where he resides. The oath must distinctly state that the invention has not been patented to the inventor or to others with his knowledge or consent in his or any foreign cuntry for more than two years prior to his application, or an application for a patent filed in any foreign country by himself or his legal representatives or assigns more than seven months prior to his application. If any application for a patent has been filed in any foreign country by the applicant in this country, or by his legal representatives or assigns, prior to his application in this country, he shall state the country or countries in which such application has been filed, giving the date of such application, and shall also state no application has been filed in any other country or countries than those mentioned. The oath must also state that to the best of the applicant's knowledge and belief the invention has not been in public use or on sale in the United States, nor described in any printed publication or patent in this or any foreign country for more than two years prior to his application in this country.

Information for Investors.

An applicant may prepare and prosecute his own application, and, for the purpose of giving him as much information as possible, the patent office furnishes, without charge, upon request, printed copies of the patent laws, rules of practice, and forms. It is, however, much better for the applicant to employ a patent attorney to prepare his application and prosecute the same, as the value of patents depends largely upon the skillful preparation of the specifications and claims. From time to time the patent office isues a roster of all registered attorneys who are entitled to represent applicants in the presentation and prosecution of applications for patents.

The statute provides for the grant of another class of patents, known as "design patents." These are issued to any person who, by his own industry, genius, efforts and expense, has invented and produced any new and original design for a manufacture, bust, statue, altro-relievo, or bas-relief; any new or original design for the printing of woolen, silk, cotton or other fabrics; any new or original impression, ornament, pattern, print or picture to be printed, painted, cast or otherwise placed on or worked into any article of manufacture; or any new, useful and original shape or configuration of any article of manufacture, the same not having been known or used by others before his invention or production thereof, nor patented or described in any printed publication. These patents are granted, at the election of the applicant, for three and one-half, seven or fourteen years. The government fees for them are respectively, $10, $15 and $30.

Method of Issuing a Patent.

It may be interesting to follow through the patent office an application until it eventuates in a patent. As most inventors employ attorneys, the majority of inventors know very little more about the methods of obtaining a patent than does the public at large.

Whenever an application for a patent is received it is examined for the purpose of determining whether all the formal requirements have been complied with. If complete in formal matters, it is forwarded to one of the thirty-six examining divisions where are examined inventions in the art to which the application under consideration belongs. Each examining division has at its head a principal examiner, under whom are several assistant examiners. Each of the assistant examiners has one or more of the classes or subclasses of inventions which are examinable in that division. The application is in due course—at the present time about one month after the filing date—taken up for examination by the assistant, who reports the result of his search to the principal examiner, and, when approved by the latter, a letter is written to the applicant in care of his attorney advising him of the result of such examination. The attorney, or the inventor, if he has no attorney, makes reply to the office action, whereupon a further examination is made, and these counter actions are continued until the application is allowed in whole or in part. If the applicant is dissatisfied with the action of the examiner, an appeal lies, upon payment of a fee of $10, to the board of examiners-in-chief, and from their action a further appeal lies, upon payment of a fee of $20, to the commissioner of patents in person, and from his adverse action another appeal may be taken to the court of appeals of the district of Columbia, the expense of which varies according to the length of the record. If the application is finally allowed, the applicant is notified that the patent will issue at any time within six months upon payment of the final government fee of $20. Upon receipt of that fee the specification is sent to the government printing office to be printed, and the drawing to the official contractor to be photo-lithographed, and when this work is completed the patent is sealed, signed by the assistant secretary of the interior and countersigned by the commissioner of patents.

Other Privileges for Investors.

Other privileges are conferred upon inventors by the patent statutes. If his original patent is inoperative or invalid by reason of a defective or insufficient specification or by reason of his claiming as his invention or discovery more than he has a right to claim as new, provided the error has arisen from inadvertence, accident or mistake and without any fraudulent or deceptive intention, a reissue is granted him, his legal representatives or the assignees of the entire interest. The government fee for a reissue application is $30.

If the inventor be a citizen of the United States and has made a new invention or discovery and desires further time to mature the same, on payment of a fee of $10 he may file in the patent office a caveat setting forth the object and the distinguishing characteristics of the invention, and praying protection of his right until he shall have