THE JOURNAL

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THEY OUGHT TO HAVE THE MONEY

The Commercial Club has undertaken, through its finance committee, to raise a fund of $10,000 for the purpose of employing a capable secretary and carrying on such plans for the general benefit as may meet with the approval of the club. This club is well organized for what is known as public work. It has a general public affairs committee, with subcommittees on different branches of the general undertaking, and has already met with very creditable success in its efforts.

It is, however, only at the beginning of its usefulness, which will be dependent in large measure, if not entirely, upon the financial support which the business men of the city afford.

It ought to be well understood by this time that Minneapolis cannot afford to be without an efficient central organization to look after things. There are so many matters affecting the general interest, and through the general interst the individual, requiring just such attention as the Commercial Club is preparing to give, that if Minneapolis is to keep up with the procession, accomplish the best results and derive the most benefit from these prosperous times it is absolutely necessary that there be some regularly organized agency, with a well-paid and capable executive officer ready to seize the opportunity, or, if need be, make it, and guard and promote the interests of the city in the various ways in which they may be advanced.

One strong argument in favor of a movement of this kind is that other cities of similar importance are actively engaged in the same effort. These other cities will derive benefit from such effort, and if we are not prepared to defend our interests we will suffer from their encroachment. They will derive benefit from profitable advertising, from guarding and promoting their transportation facilities, developing the industries adapted to them, guarding the administration of public affairs, and in many other ways that need not be suggested.

Minneapolis is prosperous. As to that there can be no doubt. But our present fortunate condition furnishes the best opportunity for still further stimulating growth and development, and making permanent the prosperity we now enjoy. It is in these prosperous times that efforts for the growth and upbuilding of the city may be most successfully undertaken.

Another advantage in having such an organization as the Commercial Club to do this work is to be found in the relief this plan affords the business men who are continually besieged for financial help to do all sorts of things. Let them make their contributions to the Commercial Club and refer all applicants for financial aid for their various enterprises to that central agency. This relieves the business man of a great deal of annoyance and insures careful investigation of every undertaking and of every scheme for the public betterment.

Alex McKenzie has complied fully with the order of the court, the court by which he was sentenced for contempt has acknowledged this fact and the president has pardoned the prisoner. Meanwhile neither side of that famous controversy has succeeded in impressing the general public with its fairness or straight-forwardness.

The Goodhue County News reproves the republicans for objecting to the course pursued by the present railroad commission on the ground that they knew what this commission probably would do when they elect them. That's a fact, but it is a rather cruel one.

THE COURSE OF BUSINESS

There is a feeling, whether justified or not, that settlement has not been made in the Northern Pacific-Union Pacific contest, and that until that disturbing factor is cleared up, the investment market will be apt to drift on a professional basis with here and there a special feature of activity to break the monotony. The season of vacations is approaching and there is likely to be a period of summer dullness with a revival of speculative sentiment to follow in the fall when large rail earnings emphasize again the business prosperity of the country.

Mr. Hill's position is not understood by the public. Opinion is divided as to whether he has lost ground or gained it in the recent struggle. He has a large personal following and he has an equally large number opposed to him—those who do not believe that he is strong enough to cope with the shrewd managers of Wall street. The old election habit of claiming everything the night before the ballots are cast is made to apply by this following to some of Mr. Hill's statements. It is not their intention to charge Mr. Hill with willful misstatement, but rather to interpret the situation as such that no matter what he may claim, he is not certain that the result of the struggle will leave him in his old position, and until that is known beyond dispute, he will not admit that he has lost any advantage that he had.

The public is not directly interested in this contest and there is not much worrying about it, for the reason that it is believed to be on favorable lines for the public anyway. Rates are evidently to be on more stable footing, a thing most to be desired by city and country shippers alike. Under the policy of not knowing what rates are or may be, a country shipper is at disadvantage all the time because his competitor may be able by a cut-rate shipment a few days later, to undersell him on a line of goods and make money doing it because of a saving in freight charges.

Whether intentionally or not, the railroad managers are working on lines that will automatically bring about a rate stability that has never been known and this is perhaps the most important fact to grow out of the present struggle for supremacy.

Business conditions in general continue satisfactory. There is good demand for merchandise and no one is complaining of noticeable dullness. There is some strike agitation, but as yet without important disturbing results. The iron trade is flourishing, and it is difficult to place new business with assurance that delivery will be prompt.

Crop conditions the country over are favorable on the whole. While there is possibility that high prospects of two weeks ago may not be realized fully, there is now no reason for anticipating an unfavorable crop result.

Professor Willard Patten suggests, in a communication to The Journal to-day, the erection of a statue to the late Colonel John H. Stevens, under the auspices of the graduating class of 1903 of the Central high school. He thinks this class could take up subscriptions of a dollar apiece and obtain enough money to erect a creditable monument to the founder of Minneapolis on the grounds of the Central high school. It remains to be seen whether the young people may not succeed better in this undertaking than some others who were interested in a like proposition soon after the death of Colonel Stevens. The Journal will be glad to do what it can to promote the effort which Professor Patten suggests, if the class mentioned see fit to adopt the idea.

WHAT THE PEOPLE MAKE IT

President McKinley, in the course of his speech at San Francisco yesterday to the Loyal Legion and Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution, said:

> This government is precisely what the people make it, and one historic fact that I love to recall is that the only speech George Washington made as president of the constitutional convention, presiding over its deliberations, was in favor of a proposition to increase the power of the people. And the statesmanship that will continue to recognize the people in the affairs of government, the administration that will keep close to the people, the lawmaker that will consult the wisdom and judgment of the people, will constitute the statesmanship of the future which will give security for all time to this free government of ours.

This is sound doctrine. The government under which we are now living and prospering, is a government constructed in accord with the desire of the people. The government of this country under the confederation from 1776 to 1789 was one made by the people. They found, after testing it, that it would not work. It was a loose-jointed affair, without power to enforce its own laws, and the people changed it into a federal government, for they found that it was folly for a government to try to live on unsecured I. O. U.'s and occasional gifts of money from its friends. The federal form came as the result of experience, which demanded a central administration, a central legislative assembly for the whole group of states, with power of taxation to meet the expenses of the government. From 1789 to the present time this federal union has been maintained by the people, who so upheld its integrity, that the attempt to disrupt it through the secession of certain states, was immediately resented by the people who backed the whole power conferred on the central government to make war, and the seceding states were compelled to come back. And when it was found necessary to strengthen the powers of the central federal government, as the nation grew in numbers and territory and importance among the nations of the world, in wealth, industrial development, trade, etc., it was the people who made and sanctioned the necessary changes.

The president is right when he says that "this government is precisely what the people make it." If the federal government has been more centralized during the past third of a century, it has been centralized by the will of the people. If they so determine they can, to-day, put us back under the old articles of confederation. But they do not want them. Whatever may be the talk of disgruntled people about "usurpation," "treason," as the governing power is conformed to the necessities growing out of unparalleled progress and development, the solid fact remains that this government is "precisely what the people make it." It is useless for those who are not in acord with the up-to-date administration to resist the inevitable. It is puerile to heap abuse upon the president. It is silly for them to chant nursery rhymes like:

> Tall he is as a Rouen steeple,
> And his teeth like iron saws;
> He breakfasts, dines on naughty people,
> Crunches babies in his jaws.

As the German Chancellor Von Buelow would remark, these bogey-makers are sure to "get their fingers pinched in the door hinge."

THE HIGH SCHOOL DEBATES

In the news columns to-day may be found another statement with regard to the high school debates organized throughout the state under the debating board of the university. It appears that twenty-three high schools of the state have already signified their intention to compete for The Journal's prize of a silver cup with the individual medals to the successful contestants. It was assumed at the outset that if a dozen schools became interested in this enterprise the first year it would be a success. Practically double that number have indicated their desire to participate in the competition. Some of the superintendents and principals, however, have indicated a disposition to wait and enter into the contest later on when their schools become better equipped in this particular. Perhaps that is not a sound conclusion. There is certainly no better way to prepare for engaging in such a contest than to get into it as soon as possible and get the benefit of such training as it affords, and none certainly need this training more than those which now confess themselves unprepared for altogether successful work. Indeed, the superintendents and principals, in excusing their hesitancy to enter the lists because their schools are not prepared to compete, offer the very best reason why they should enter now. It is confidently expected that others who have not already indicated their desire to join in these debates will organize for that purpose later on.

The members of the Grand Army are making some progress each year toward a better general observance of Memorial day. They have secured legislation protecting the participants in the accustomed exercises of the day from disturbance or annoyance from outside sources, such as games or sports of any kind. They have developed considerable sentiment, too, in favor of a general observance of the day by business men. They urge this upon patriotic grounds. They insist that every element of the public has more to gain from a reverent and respectful observance of this day than from the regular pursuit of business activities or the employment of the day in outdoor sports and recreations. Certainly all must recognize the propriety of a reverent and respectful attitude toward this occasion. It signifies much. It stands for an expression of national feeling which should deepen with the years; it will be a calamity when the sentiment of the country no longer regards Memorial day with sufficient veneration to maintain it as a day of grateful tribute-bearing to the heroes of the war for the Union.

New Ideas in Church Work Some of the new ideas that animate both the pulpit and the pew to-day would have struck gloom to the hearts of the fathers. Yet they may be good for all of that. There is the case of the People's church at Santa Rosa, Cal., of which the Rev. J. W. Hudson is pastor. Mr. Hudson preaches on Sunday and there are theatrical representations in the church during the week. On Sunday the pulpit stands on a real stage with footlights, wings, shifts of scenery and drop curtain just like the real thing. Mr. Hudson believes that instead of antagonizing the theater as an institution the church should co-operate with it in its better forms and utilize its possibilities of teaching the higher lessons of life. Mr. Hudson says:

> "I would transform the stage into a pulpit with a strong humanitarian message—the only mission of drama. The ministry of the twentieth century theater and the ministry of the twentieth century pulpit should be one—the helping of the masses to nobler ideals of living."

In other words, Mr. Hudson believes not only in talking the good but in showing it in mimic representation. Not only should the evil be pointed out but its effects shown in the living lessons of drama.

Another new movement, this time in Toledo, Ohio, is an evangelical church trust. The object is to concentrate force, economize effort and afford a solid front against municipal, public and private evil. There are in the city 102 religious gathering places for a population of 135,000. The erection of unnecessary churches will be opposed. A prime idea of the federation will be to stand as a unit for Sunday observance and for the abolition of gambling by which the city administration is now supposed to be profiting. Just as the children of this world who are wise in their generation combine for purposes of money making, so the children of light are to erase, to some extent, sect lines and to combine for the purposes of doing good.

Both these experiments, of a church theater and of a church trust, strike one at first as anomalous, but they may contain seeds of ideas that may spread and be valuable adjuncts to the church of the future.

The American tuberculosis congress at New York listened with much disapproval to a paper by a Brooklyn doctor who not only denied that there were any infectious disease, but said that infection was a superstition kept up by the regular physicians, who were "on the lookout for power, place and pelf." We trust he is right, but—well, have you been vaccinated yet?

Some Chicago children threw stones through Marie Blatchford's window when she attempted to practice elocution before the glass. She let go of "The Village Blacksmith" and "Curfew Shall Not" so hard that they could not enjoy their play. The police judge fined their fathers. Funny judge.

A man with a ligneous limb cut loose in Omaha yesterday because the clerk back of the hotel diamond charged him $1.50 for a 75 cent room. He floored the whole hotel force before the police got busy. Beware of the wooden-legged man when he gets cross. He always carries a club.

The Denver Natural History Society calls for the muzzling of cats during the young bird season. There are a great many kitties with the bird habit that ought to be muzzled back of the ears with an ax.

King Edward's next birthday is his 60th. No wonder some of his old favorites despair of getting the royal favor. A man at 60 begins to get thoughtful.

The Bloomington avenue people's eyes "bugged out" the other day when they saw the nice large cars chasing up the avenue without anybody having kicked for them.

It was chilly but glorious baseball at the park yesterday. Our friends from the wheat louse belt lobstered with delightful regularity and both pitchers earned their money.

"There isn't such a thing as a good man," says Speculator James R. Keene. "Men are all bad." Has Mr. Keene been dropping a little of his hard earned money?

Chile is taking Peruvian bark. The war cry is heard at Lima where the Boston inspiration comes from.

The Congress of Mothers sailed under a spanking breeze yesterday.

Winter came back for one more linger.

A Monument to Col. Stevens.

To the Editor of The Journal.

In your educational articles you have exploited the lives and careers of many distinguished men with the apparent object of stimulating an ambition in young men to strive for high achievements.

The brief history of this city is fortunate in possessing among its treasures a character that is strong, high and admirable, in a person at once noble and picturesque in appearance, whose life and work have made him historically conspicuous in the northwest.

To deeply and permanently impress this upon the minds of the coming generations, let a monument of marble and bronze, to the memory of Colonel John H. Stevens, be erected upon the green in front of the Central high school in this city. The designs for same to be chosen by the graduating class of 1903; the dedication ceremonies and the orations prepared and conducted by them and the finished monument then formally presented by them to the city.

The money for this purpose should be a popular subscription. Every adult wage earner, merchant, capitalist, professional, etc., who is out of debt and has something laid by can contribute one dollar, so that the greatest number may feel an interest in this undertaking.

And on this well chosen spot let the heroic figure stand, a silent but eloquent educator; to remind the thousands of young men and women who shall come after us, as they think of his useful and contented life, that there are other things more worthy the living for than the blighting struggle after wealth, which seldom succeeds, or the doubtful quest of political preferment.

And thus to honor this modern Romulus I will hereby subscribe the first dollar. Respectfully. —Willard Patten.

Vaccination of Hens.

Fairmont News.

This is the season when hens run at large and busy themselves in scratching up the neighbors' garden. The only effective remedy we know is a 22-caliber rifle and the skill to use it. There is no use quarreling with a neighbor about a few radishes; it is so much easier to shoot the hen. Then, again, in the opinion of most people, hens are good eating. If one of them is old and tough, so that you do not care to eat it yourself, you can give it to the minister and have it applied on your unpaid church subscription. In this way you have rid yourself of a nuisance, avoided a quarrel with a neighbor and paid part of your church subscription. The minister will be pleased, for he will think that even an old hen is better than nothing.

Strenuous Life in the Back Yard.

Madelia Times.

When the men folks notice the women folks begin to clean house, let them get on a spasm of the same virtue and clean up back yards. Don't wait for the annual board of health notice, but begin right away. Lead a strenuous life for a few days and let your surplus energies be wreaked on the accumulated garbage in the hidden places.

Pet, as a Plute.

Iroquois, S. D., Chief.

Pettigrew, the pride of the pestiferous populist, a plutocrat! Please pull the portiere.

Minneapolis Journal's Current Topic Series.

Papers by Experts and Specialists of National Reputation.

WHAT THE GOVERNMENT DOES FOR THE PEOPLE

XV.—THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

By Herbert Putnam, Librarian of Congress.

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When it was founded, 100 years ago, the library of congress was created merely as a convenience to the members of congress, and it still retains the title which was then given to it, although its functions have broadened. It is now a library of general scope; it is in a building distinct from the capitol; it is performing a service to the executive departments and to the public at large, and it maintains the copyright office, which is as distinctly administrative in its functions as is the patent office. But, constitutionally, the library is not classed with the executive departments of the government. The librarian is, to be sure, designated by the president of the United States; but the librarian administers the library under the direct supervision of congress; he appoints his subordinates under rules prescribed by congress; he applies directly to congress for the appropriations for the maintenance of the library, and he renders his annual report direct to congress. There is not in the case of the library, as there is in the case of the various scientific bureaus of Washington, a higher executive intervening between it and the legislative authority.

Founding of the Great Library.

The library of congress was created by act of congress in the year 1800. The centennial of Washington as the capital city is also, therefore, the centennial of the library. But in 1814 the existing collection (some 3,000 volumes) was entirely destroyed by the fire which the British troops started in the capitol. The private library of ex-President Jefferson (6,700 volumes) was soon after purchased by congress and formed the basis for a new growth. This continued until 1851, when a second fire, this time accidental, destroyed all but 20,000 of the 55,000 then existing volumes. Since that catastrophe, however, the growth has been uninterrupted and has had special impetus from several sources. Seventy-five thousand dollars was appropriated to repair immediate losses, and later two great special purchases were made, one of the collection of Peter Force and the other of the manuscripts of the Marquis de Rochambeau. In 1866 the books in possession of the Smithsonian Institution, amounting to 40,000 volumes, were transferred to the library, with an agreement that future accessions through exchange should follow. In 1870 the copyright work was transferred to the library and with it the two copies of publications required to be filed to perfect the entry for copyright.

These events, however, tended chiefly to the enlargement of the collection. It had been founded as a library for the use of congress. Its scope was now broadened from one limited to the requirements of a legislative body to one whose limits were but the limits of recorded knowledge. Otherwise, however, the ninety-seven years from the creation to the opening of the new building in 1897 had produced no organic change. There was a great accumulation of material, but it was as yet undifferentiated. The staff increased from one person to forty-two persons, but it also was undifferentiated.

Reorganizing the Vast Collections.

The new building implied a purpose for the library far wider than that of its founding. The building was not a mere wing of the capitol, it was set apart distinct. It was designated and completed as the largest, most commodious library building in the world; also the most decorative and the most costly. It was capable of a broad and a highly differentiated service which had not been possible in the crowded room and with the overburdened administraation at the capitol.

Since 1897 the library has been undergoing a reorganization with reference to this broader and more highly specialized service. The material itself, which had been accumulating in mass, has been set apart, sifted and summarily classified; the printed books and pamphlets now form one division, the documents another, the manuscripts another, the maps and charts another, the music another, the Smithsonian deposit another, the prints still another. There is now a distinct group of employes with a responsible chief for each one of these divisions. There is also a distinct group devoting itself exclusively to the business involved in the acquisition of material, whether by purchase, gift or exchange; another group is attending exclusively to its receipt; another group is occupied exclusively with the classification of this material and its preparation for use in the way of catalogues and other aids. The direct service to the reader, besides having attention in each one of these several divisions handling the special matter (documents, manuscripts, maps, music and prints) has its general and liberal provision in the main reading room, in the reading room for the current periodicals and in the reading room for the blind, and a specialized service from a distinctive group of workers who are prepared to aid in inquiries involving elaborate research.

Large Force Now Employed.

Auxiliary to all the above is a fully equipped bindery for the repair and binding of the library books and a printing office for the printing of the catalogue cards and forms, and of the bibliographic publications. The copyright work is now set off in a distinct division, employing the exclusive services of forty-five persons, a number greater than the entire staff of the library in the old building.

Distinct again from all of these divisions having the custody of special material or special functions with reference to the material as a whole, is a small group at the head of which is the librarian-in-chief, having the general administrative supervision of the work as a whole.

The building and grounds are cared for by a separate organization—engineers, janitors, etc.—under a superintendent, himself appointed by the president. This official acts also as disbursing agent for all payments made out of the library appropriations.

The present employes in the library proper number 185 and in the copyright office forty-five, while the care of the building and grounds requires now a force (including charwomen) of 111 persons. Only statistics can make evident such requirements. The buildings with its courts covers three and one-half acres of ground; it includes over 10,000,000 cubic feet and eight acres of floor space; it has 2,150 windows to be kept clean; it is finished in costly marble and mosaics and decorated with costly paintings, which must receive assiduous care, and it employs elaborate machinery—heating and ventilating apparatus, elevators, book railways and pneumatic tubes—which must be smoothly operated and kept in order.

Present Size of the Collections.

An average of 2,200 persons visit this building every day in the year. It is wired for 6,000 electric lamps and its heating requires 3,000 tons of coal per annum. Its care and the responsibility for its proper maintenance and physical equipment rest with its superintendent, not with the librarian. Special appropriations are placed at his disposal, which now average about $92,000 a year. This is exclusive of appropriations for furniture and shelvings, which are granted as the gradual equipment of the rooms for particular uses progresses.

The contents of the library proper have now reached the following figures: Printed books and pamphlets (not including duplicates in the copyright office), 995,000; manuscripts, 27,000; maps and charts, 55,000; music, 294,000; prints, 84,000.

Here is a huge mass of material which of itself indicates the needs of a large force and one competent for specialized service. That force is gradually being provided.

Now this institution is a library. Its work is not merely to administer, like an executive bureau, nor to investigate and compile, like a scientific bureau. The function of a library is, first, to accumulate material; second, to make it useful. The material which it accumulates is of a defined species. A library is not a museum nor is it an art gallery. It does not acquire specimens in science nor ordinary pictorial or other art. Its domain is literature, written, printed, stamped, engraved, or by whatsoever process reproduced, on whatsoever material. A clay tablet of Nineveh or the Moabite stone would find appropriate place within it; but only as literature, not as sculpture, nor as evidence in geology. All literature, however, and maps, music, photographs, etchings, engravings, as well as the written and the printed book, are in its province.

The Uses of the Library.

As to use also: A library does not write books, nor does it make them. It does not engage in scientific research. It helps to disseminate knowledge, but only by accumulating, preserving and making available the sources of knowledge, not by multiplying them. It informs us as to what knowledge exists, and what opinion. But it is not a university. It does not instruct, and it has no opinions of its own to promulgate or promote.

Libraries differ. The free town library, the free city library on its popular side, and the subscription library, collect material which is required for immediate use by the present constituency of readers. They circulate this as widely and as rapidly as possible. Their usefulness may in a sense be estimated by the number of books they circulate. Their usefulness may in a sense be claimed to be at a maximum when they can show not a single book resting on the sheives and the books as a whole wearing out by use faster than they can be replaced. They are trying to reach all ages and every class in the community. They are supplying not merely the books which are instructive but those which are purely recreative. Particularly, however, they are seeking to acquire the books which are useful, and their purpose is immediate practical use rather than mere preservation.

Duties of a National Library.

Now the library of congress also seeks to acquire and supply books to be immediately useful, but it does much more than this. It is the national library of the United States. It has a duty, therefore, to accumulate and to preserve every bit of material which issues or has been issued from the press of the United States, irrespective of its literary value or interest to the immediate constituency of the library, or to the present generation of readers. Local libraries cannot acquire everything; they have not the space; they have not the funds. There should, however, be one library in the country which should acuire everything obtainable and appropriate in a library, relating to that country, whether written or printed. For years the library of congress has been accumulating on this principle. Its funds for purchase were small, but it was aided by the copyright act. For since 1870 it has been made the depositary, without cost, of two copies of every book and periodical, and of most of the other articles entered under the copyright law of the United States, and for fourteen years prior to 1870 it was the beneficiary of one copy. The national libraries of other countries do not, however, limit themselves to the literature which is merely domestic with them. The British museum, for instance, recognizes the whole world as its field. The national library of the United States, which is necessarily to be the foremost library in the western hemisphere, can do no less.

Aids to the Nation's Scholarship.

Its funds, however, are not and cannot be limitless. It must apportion them. In order of relative importance it places first material which will be practically useful to congress and to other branches of the federal government, and to the inquirers who form its immediate constituency of readers; second, material relating to the United States and its component parts; third, material relating to the western hemisphere; fourth, material relating to the history and the political and economic conditions of other countries; and, lastly, the literature of general knowledge.

It is a library not so much for popular education as for serious research. It has a duty to accumulate and preserve irrespective of the mere present use. It must be content to see the major portion of its books stand at any one time idle upon the shelves. Its ambition is not so much to secure a great number of readers or to issue a great number of volumes, as to aid in investigations which may have important consequences to the nation or to scholarship.

As the library of congress, it is to aid congress and the various commissions established by congress to make investigations. Its next duty is to the executive federal departments of Washington and to the various scientific bureaus maintained by the federal government. It is seeking an intimate relation of service with these bureaus. Most of them have collections of books of their own, but their funds are small, and, as time goes on, the collections cannot represent more than the working tools which the officials or scientists must have near their desks. In course of time the federal libraries of Washington will form one organic system with the library of congress as the center.

As a Storehouse of Knowledge.

Washington is, moreover, itself becoming the center of research for scholars in general, particularly in the departments of history, law, political and social science, political economy, and, of course, ethnology, and those natural and physical sciences which may be studied to advantage in connection with the scientific collections in Washington or with the scientific work being carried on in the Smithsonian Institution, the coast and geodetic survey, the geological survey, the naval observatory, etc. It is already the seat of various colleges, and it is within one hour of the American university most famed for advanced graduate research. In all such research the national library is ready to aid.

But, being a national library, its duties extend still further. It should render whatever service is within its power to scholarly research all over the United States, and, as a fact, it endeavors to do so. Inquiries come to it by mail from every state in the union. It answers them directly so far as it is able, and where the answer cannot be given out of the material in its possession, it seeks to indicate where it may be had.

Giving Out Information to All.

Now these inquiries, as well as those addressed to it officially, involve almost every branch of human knowledge which has any literature; many also that have no literature. To answer, it must, so far as possible, have books; it must have the bibliographies showing what books exist on any given subject in addition to those which it has; it must have catalogues showing what of these books are in its own collection; and, so far as possible, catalogues of other collections showing where are to be found those books which it does not possess. Lastly, it must have the men competent not merely to produce a given book specifically named—this is the easiest and simplest service—but competent to advise as to what literature exists upon a given subject and the relative bearing of each book upon a given subject of inquiry so far as it involves the use of books. Now this is a highly expert service. It means a corps of specialists. Such specialists the library already possesses within certain departments of knowledge. It is endeavoring to secure still more, and, in addition, its relations with the scientific bureaus at Washington enable it often to supply from those bureaus the scientific opinion as to this or that matter of inquiry which it cannot supply from its own staff. In time, therefore, its endeavor to become a bureau of information for the entire country is likely to be realized in a very broad sense. At present it is in itself equipped particularly to answer with expert opinion inquiries involving history and topography, particularly of America, genealogy, political and social science, statistics, including the legislation of various countries and general literature.

The processes of the library do not essentially differ from those in any other large and active reference library. The effort is, first, to select the book which is to be got; second, to get it; third, to prepare it for use; fourth, to make it useful.

Note—This paper will be completed next Saturday.

Herbert Putnam

Topson of "The Daily Rush." By Charles Welsted.

Copyright, 1901, by A. S. Richardson.

In the office of the Dunedin Daily Rush the reportorial staff was busily engaged, save perhaps Topson. He had just strolled in, planked himself down in his chair, and after scribbling off a short "two-header," passed it into the city editor's room and resumed his usual lazy attitude, feet cocked over the top of his desk, hat on the back of his head, while he stared into space and slowly puffed away at his pipe.

Topson was naturally lazy. The boys claim he was born thus. He was not altogether a "good fellow," though no one seemed to have aught to say against him. He was reserved and had little to say, and always did his work well; though he did take much longer to accomplish it than any of his colleagues.

The telephone in the city editor's room rang. In a few minutes that individual walked into the reporters' room, looked around quickly and caught sight of the figure of Topson—the only idle man in the room.

"Topson!" he called, then hesitated a moment. The city editor wanted some good work accomplished; he wanted it quick, and Topson was anything but quick. However, he continued:

"Go over to No. 1 and report to Fox. He will be in the detective department. Got a murder story. See what it is worth. Ring me up and let me know what it needs in the way of illustration and so forth. Make a good spread of it, but none of your long theories. Want this thing short and breezy. First murder in a month. Now hustle!"

Topson donned his coat, and, after slowly filling his pipe, left the room with apparently no further thought than if he had been sent across to get a paragraph about the annual meeting of the Society of Know Nothings. Such things as murder stories, social gatherings or pink teas occur as mere incidents in a reporter's daily life. It is all work to him and that is the way he figures it up.

An hour had passed since Topson left the office and no word came from him. The city editor was getting restless. Fox had returned from police headquarters with another story, but beyond the fact that Topson had reported to him and had been given the detail he knew nothing of his whereabouts.

Two hours passed and no Topson. It was now 1:30 a. m. and the city editor was furious. He was wading through late copy when some one entered the room by the outer hall door, and then the city editor was aware that a bunch of something came down with a thud upon the desk at his elbow. He looked up.

"Where the devil have you been, Topson?" he called angrily, as that individual made to leave the room.

"Writing the story," replied Topson. "No good for illustrations so I did not 'phone. It's all there—the whole yarn, and it isn't a bad one either."

This was a new role for Topson. The city editor was taken back. Topson had actually wakened up, and here after a short two hours or so had returned with the story fully prepared. Well, if it needed illustrating, it could yet be done.

"Very well," said the city editor, "that will do, but in future I want you to 'phone me when I say so."

"Yes, sir," and Topson left the room. Throwing off his overcoat he resumed his lounging attitude at the desk, and sat in silence until he heard the city editor yell:

"What the deuce! I say, Topson, come here!"

Topson went.

"This makes me tired," went on his chief. "You will run in your own infernal theories. Now take that whole yarn out and cut it down to good, bright common sense, and be quick about it. Gee, whiz! Listen to this," he went on, raving at Topson and reading from the reporter's copy. "'The murderer, after talking to the victim for about fifteen minutes, seized her by the arm, dragged her into the front parlor, and in a fit of temporary insanity, shot her through the brain, killing her instantly. He then repented of his rash act.'" The city editor laughed outright.

"Oh, what's the use of writing rot like that? The woman was killed instantly, and no one has seen her murderer since. Have you interviewed him or her, whichever it is? If you have, you had better say so, and I will feature it. Topson, you make me tired. You have got to quit this nonsense or you go. Now, take this copy and cut out all that sort of stuff. Were you up to the house?"

"Yes, sir."

"Then give the artist an idea of the place for a three-column cut. Wait a minute, and I'll bring him down here." He rang the bell; the office boy responded.

"Tell Mack I want him down here at once."

"Yes, sir," said the youth, and added: "Two gents outside want to see you, sir."

"Oh, show them in," replied the city editor looking at the cards. The men entered.

"Hello, Ross! Shake, Fritz. What's up?"

"Oh, only this murder affair. I want to ask you something, Duncan. You know all the city newspaper men pretty well and—"

"But," interrupted the city editor, looking at Topson, and then continuing sarcastically: "If you want to know anything about this murder, ask Topson. He is on the case for us. I was just roasting him because he seems to have had an interview with the murderer, and he—"

"Topson!" muttered Detective Ross; "Topson! Let me see. You weren't one of the boys at the house viewing the scene with me. How the deuce did you get in? I just left the place and it is all locked up."

"By heavens!" exclaimed Fritz, and he scratched his head. "A literary man. Topson. No, not Topson, but Thompson. Ain't that what the woman's husband was—Thompson—a literary man? Whew!" And he whistled.

"Great God!" cried Duncan. "No, surely not. Topson, speak up man! Don't you see what Fritz means? You the—the—" The city editor could not bring himself to say it.

Topson never flinched. He was very pale, but that was all. He simply smiled.

"I am not good at making guesses," he replied firmly, "and I theorize too much; but you are on to a scoop, Mr. Duncan, so make good use of it. The woman was my wife—once, and left me when I needed her most. I met her to-night for the first time in five years, and I am even." He gritted his teeth. "Want me to finish up the story properly?" He tried to smile again as Duncan gazed at him in horror.

No one spoke. Detective Ross, looking at Topson, shifted his eyes towards the outer door and left the room. Topson understood, turned into the reporter's room, got his overcoat, walked towards the door and out, followed by Fritz.

"Well, he's a thoroughbred," remarked Duncan to the artist later, "make a two-column cut of him."

Daily New York Letter.

BUREAU OF THE JOURNAL, No. 21 Park Row, New York.

A Great Real Estate Deal.

May 25.—A group of wise real estate men have got together and taken possession of the Hackensack meadows, and big developments in that direction may be looked for. The sum of $3,000,000 was paid to the Pike estate by the syndicate, which is also interested in tunnel projects and other developments of that section of the country. These Hackensack meadows, situated just across the North river in the state of Jersey, have long been an eyesore, and yet filled with great development possibilities. Half covered with water, except for the places where various railroads have made land to enable their trains to cross the section, the meadows have been chiefly noted as the home of mosquitoes and malaria. Nothing human has been able to live within hailing distance of the broad stretch of land which abuts the Passaic and Hackensack rivers and Newark bay. The gigantic deal means millions to the tunnel capitalists if they are successful. The meadows can be reached in four minutes from the center of Manhattan if the big tunnel is completed, and this will open up to builders a new city of 4,000 acres, containing 50,000 building lots and 40,000 feet of water front. In the engineering to be accomplished and the wealth which will reward the success of the venture, the transaction promises to rank as one of the greatest real estate deals on record.

Passing of the Cable.

This Saturday night the cable cars in New York city will pass out of service. Electricity will then take the place of the bumping, jerking cable, and motormen instead of gripmen will engage in the various antics of the class to throw strap holders off their feet at every turn and stop. Already the underground trolley has superseded the cable on all the branch lines of the Broadway system, and only the main line remains to be changed. To-night the last cable car will be run, and then for two days Broadway will be entirely without a street car service. All of the conduits are, of course, built, and the wires installed, but it will take many hours to wind the big cables over huge windlasses provided for the purpose, and also to move all the wires for the trolley system over into the exact position necessary for the running of the line. Twelve hundred men will be put to work to make the changes as soon as the cable is stopped.

A Remarkable Set of Books.

Up in the private office of the Fifth Avenue Hotel is one of the most interesting collections of scrap books in the country. They are seven in number and are choking full of newspaper clippings referring to the hotel during the last thirty years. Every newspaper item referring to the hotel in any way, to the distinguished men stopping there, in interviews in which the hotel is mentioned, and everything of that sort has been carefully preserved and placed in the books. They therefore form a pretty complete history of the events of the day during that period. Every president since the civil war has been a guest of the hotel, and interviews with them all appear in the books, while other prominent men almost without number have also been guests of the house, and interviews with them form a goodly part of the big collection. The visit of King Edward, then the Prince of Wales, to this country, is voluminously recorded in the newspaper clippings of the day, and this part of the collection would undoubtedly make interesting reading for the king at this time.

Test Bucket Shop Cases.

Bucket shop keepers of the financial district and regular brokers who deal in puts and calls are contemplating bringing test cases to get court rulings on the new law in relation to bucket shops. The regular brokers on the exchanges are interested also, for they fear too radical rulings on the part of the revenue officials. Commissioner Yerkes has ruled that all persons who enter into contracts with the intention of closing transactions according to the market quotations of prices on exchanges come under the bucket shop law and shall pay taxes accordingly. And as soon as these men pay the taxes to the federal government they become criminally liable under state laws which prohibit bucketing brokerage orders. Members of the stock exchange fear many legitimate transactions may come under the commissioner's rulings. Puts and calls certainly would, and some of the exchange members assert the banking houses which cornered Northern Pacific and then settled with the shorts would be liable under the revenue law if exercised to its fullest extent under these rulings. There are several othr points in dispute also, and about a half dozen suits will be brought as tests.

Automobilists Troubles.

Members of the Automobile Club have found that the police of the city have been so busy looking after the haunts of vice they have not had time to keep up with the law. At the last session of the legislature a statute was enacted and afterwards signed by the governor, which permits all automobiles of less than twenty-five horse-power to be run without license on the filing of the name of the owner with the secretary of state and paying the sum of $1. When the owner has complied with this rule and placed his initials, in letters at least three inches high, on the back of his vehicle, he may go ahead and pay no attention to any license regulation of any city in the state. Two days ago President Shattuck of the Automobile Club was held up by a policeman and his license demanded. When he said he had none he was arrested, and it took him four hours to persuade the minions of the law he was in the right when he asserted he needed no license. Now the officials of the police department have taken the precaution of sending copies of the new law to the various station-houses. False arrests are expensive and not conducive to good humor on the part of the arrested. —N. N. A.

Sad, but Glorious.

Nebraska State Journal.

The German army in China, notwithstanding that "peace" is signed and the emperor is invited to come back to his capital, pitched into an encampment of the Chinese army the other day that was apparently attending strictly to its own business, and killed a hundred men and captured four guns. And they were probably guns that the poor devils of Chinese had paid a German manufacturer a big price for not more than a year or two ago.

Saying and Doing.

Portland Oregonian.

The difference between Kruger and De Wet is that one is saying things to the British and the other is doing them.

The House's "Pinch."

Baltimore News.

Under the recent decision of the supreme court, "calls" on the stock exchange are subject to a tax for the benefit of Uncle Sam just as "calls" on a jackpot are subject to a "pinch" for the benefit of the "house." There always was a striking similarity between the two games, but it has never heretofore been judicially recognized.

McLean Sees Light.

Cincinnati Enquirer.

There has been a great natural increase in the quantity of gold. This ought to teach the free silver men that free coinage is not necessarily the unceasing, everlasting dominant issue in all irs.

Keep Them Guessing.

Buffalo Express.

One of the noticeable results of the new position which the United States has assumed among the nations since the Spanish war is the attention which Europeans have come to give to the comments of the American press. The Germans are not alone in being apparently somewhat puzzled.

A Pretty Bad Record.

Iroquois, S. D., Chief.

The professor at Evanston who stated that he had never kissed a woman has established a reputation as well as a record. There are very few people willing to admit that they have been eighteen-karat chumps for thirty-five years.

A Voice From Kansas.

Wichita Daily Eagle.

We hope that the millionaires will capture England and run it. They are after lineage, and they can get it there, not here. And, besides, it would add zest to the inevitable day when the United States will run up the stars and stripes over the little island as an assimilated possession.

Put Them Off at B.

Iroquois, S. D., Chief.

The Minneapolis Journal's excursion to Buffalo starts on the same