

THE JOURNAL

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MORE OF THE SAME

Yesterday The Journal printed an illustration of the discrimination against Minneapolis by the Chicago roads. The Milwaukee road has fixed it so that the cement dealers in Minneapolis in order to sell goods in Fargo, in competition with Chicago dealers, must pay an extortion of ten cents a hundred pounds in order to do business at a point which is in Minneapolis' territory, 410 miles farther from Chicago than it is from Minneapolis.

To-day another instance is cited where competition with the Chicago roads caused them to cut their rate, on a heavy shipment of goods from the east, nearly in two. In this case the Minneapolis-Chicago roads may not be altogether to blame since they have to reckon with eastern connections. But it shows that eastern connections can be reckoned with successfully when it is necessary to do so; and, also, that there is a way by which the same rates which are granted to St. Louis may be obtained for Minneapolis from far eastern points.

Both sides of the steel strike want to quit so badly they cannot completely conceal the fact. The strikers have a poor prospect of success, while the company is anxious to get at work filling the stacks of orders on hand. There ought to be some way to bring them together soon, but the great trouble is to find one that will allow each side to "save its face."

AN EXTRA SESSION

A letter from Mr. George R. Laybourn, representative from Duluth, explaining his attitude toward what is spoken of as an extra session of the legislature, may be found in another column of this paper. Mr. Laybourn is opposed to an extra session and offers three reasons: First, expense; second, the lack of time between the submission of the report of the tax commission and the meeting of the legislature for thorough examination of the report by the people before legislative action is taken, and, third, because it would not be good politics.

What is spoken of as an extra session is really only the continuation of the session of 1901. When the legislature adjourned April 12, there remained eleven days out of the regular period usually occupied by sessions of the legislature. That is to say out of ninety days, the limit of the legislative session, the legislature used but seventy-nine. This early adjournment was brought about with the clear understanding that this unused time was to be used later on to consider and pass upon the report of the special tax commission, whose report under the law creating the commission must be ready Feb. 1, 1902. This was thoroughly understood. Furthermore, Governor Van Sant has declared if the tax commission is ready to report by the time specified he will call the legislature in session again to complete its work by enacting into law the general tax bill to be submitted by the tax commission.

The report of the commission will be ready on time. Of this we have the positive assurance of the members of the commission. In that event the governor is committed to an extra session and will undoubtedly call it.

Mr. Laybourn thinks this would not be good politics. Whatever is for the public interest is good politics. The tax commission is made up of men of recognized ability, unquestioned integrity, and peculiar fitness, by reason of their experience and attainments, for the task which has been assigned to them. They will have given nearly a year of their undivided attention to the revision of the tax laws and the making over of our whole system of state taxation. This system as it stands to-day is an exceedingly faulty one, inadequate and unfair. It will be the aim of this commission to correct those defects and present to the state a system of taxation fair, adequate and reasonable, lightening the burden where it has been unreasonably heavy and increasing it where it ought to be increased.

With confidence in the ability of the commission we must take issue with Mr. Laybourn on the point of good politics. We believe it to be most excellent politics for the republican legislature to add to its record, of which Mr. Laybourn is so proud, the enactment of this report into the law of the state.

Mr. Laybourn is opposed to an extra session.

also on the score of expense, and places the expense at \$75,000 or \$100,000. That certainly is liberal enough. The legislature appropriated \$150,000 for the last session. When it adjourned there was \$8,070 left. It is estimated by those competent to figure on such matters that the expense need not exceed \$1,200 a day. Mileage for the session of last winter amounted to \$5,357. It would be the same again. Eleven days of undivided attention to the tax commission's report would be sufficient to dispose of it. From this it appears that the expense need not exceed \$19,000, for which \$8,000 is already appropriated. And this consideration of expense shrinks to still less importance in view of the fact that the tax commission is expected to increase the revenues of the state while decreasing the regular tax levy. This will be done probably by placing a larger share of the burden of taxation upon interests which have heretofore escaped their share of the burden. This would mean a reduced rate of taxation upon the people in general, and it could hardly be contended that this would be unpopular, or bad politics.

Another reason cited by Mr. Laybourn is that the people of the state should have ample time to thoroughly study and examine the report of the tax commission before it is enacted into legislation. That sounds well, but really does not amount to much. The state has assigned three experts to devise a system of taxation. The subject is involved and complicated. The public will not pay much attention to details and could not be induced to do so if the attempt were made to bring the report before the people in a state campaign. Even the members of the legislature themselves would be disposed to accept the report of the tax commission as the work of men who have given much time and study to the subject, and only experience can determine the wisdom or unwisdom of many of the provisions of this new code. On the other hand, if the tax commission should submit any propositions which appear likely to be unacceptable to the people the legislature will have an opportunity at an extra session to discover and eliminate those features before the report goes to the people in the campaign of 1902, as an expression of republican principles.

It is not apparent that any considerable element of the population is opposed to an extra session, or to the adoption of tax laws which will afford the general public the largest practicable relief from taxation. Some opposition is anticipated, and has already manifested itself, from corporations and other interests which are apprehensive, possibly, of having to bear a larger and fairer share of the burden of taxation than they do now. But there does not appear to be anything in that fact suggestive of bad politics. On the other hand, the plan outlined and pursued thus far points so directly to the conclusion of the work of the last session at a short extra session which shall enact into law the tax commission's report that the republican leaders in the next campaign to explain their failure to carry out that program.

Another consideration is that some of the new forms of taxation provided for by the tax commission may require, before they can be made effective, amendment of the constitution. If so, the commission will report amendments in that direction. If there is no extra session these amendments cannot be voted upon until three years from now, whereas if any extra session is held they may be brought before the people at the next election and go into effect without delay.

Further evidence of the bad management of the Amalgamated forces in the big steel strike is found in the revocation of the charters of the lodges in South Chicago. While there is said to be considerable strike sentiment at Milwaukee, it is expected that the same result will be reached there that was arrived at in South Chicago—that the men having chosen to respect their contracts will refuse to strike and their charters will be revoked. This is a serious break in the ranks of the steel workers' union and would seem to lessen materially their chances for success.

REJOICING IN DEFEAT

Senator Barksdale, of Virginia, dearly loves a funeral. He seems to enjoy a graveyard. Speaking at the state convention at Norfolk yesterday, he said: "Twice we have followed a great man to great defeats. Democracy is not the party of one man or one idea." Then, speaking of the great leaders of the democratic party, Jefferson, Tillman and others, who have their places in the democratic temple of fame, he says: "We will place the equally great Nebraska there, and in the memory of our past glorious record free silver at the ratio of 16 to 1 will have an abiding place as another cause, nobly fought and hopelessly lost."

The senator seems to take peculiar satisfaction in the memory of causes "nobly fought and hopelessly lost." And with the democratic party the list is a long one and memory is crowded with such recollections. It is fortunate for the democracy, at least for Senator Barksdale, that he can contemplate this record of "causes nobly fought and hopelessly lost" with so much satisfaction. But this is doubtless due to the fact that the losing of every one of them has been a source of great benefit to him and to all other democrats. The loss of the cause of slavery, the defeat of free trade, the overthrow of free silver at 16 to 1, and the rejection of imperialism—all have been fortunate for those who have championed these causes. They have occasioned to rejoice in defeat.

A \$300,000 coal trust is being considered by Mr. Morgan. All the little coal trusts are to be taken in. The great financier sees that we are paying too much for our coal and is anxious to cheapen it by economies of production!

An Edina Mills farmer found a tomato last week and is quite elated at his good fortune. He has had a number of bidders but refuses to part with it.

The coyote was suggested that the vice president of the nation was shelved in getting a good view of some very strenuous sheeling.

noticed that on that part of the arm that was unaffected by the disease the growth of hair was much stimulated, and this naturally suggested oxygen as a cure for baldness. The baldheaded men may soon be wearing hats with reservoirs of oxygen in the top. It would not be surprising should the "front row" at the ballet soon appear in long curly tresses.

The Redwood Gazette this week celebrates its thirty-second anniversary. Its Gazette succeeded the Redwood Falls Mail, which was founded in August, 1869, by Virgil C. Seward. The Gazette is a good paper and deserves the old Biblical blessing, "With long life will I satisfy him."

IS JOHN JOKING?

The Chinese are beginning to counterfeit American goods in a most remarkable and reckless way. One of the most laughable of these frauds, laughable providing you do not happen to buy it, is what looks like an ordinary American lead pencil, with the name of a well-known maker stamped in gilt at the end. They are perfect facsimiles and would, no doubt, answer just as well as the genuine if they contained any lead; but that feature is omitted. They are simply round sticks, stained black.

A number of these counterfeits have recently been received in this country. A gem of the collection is a box of toilet soap, made out of a sort of clay, mixed with a little grease and stained ink. The stuff looks like soap, and as long as one keeps it away from water it is all right. A dummy can of meat which is made of wood is also shown.

There used to be an old libel about the Connecticut Yankees who turned out wooden nutmegs. Possibly these samples of goods are merely Celestial jokes. They are funny to the party who does not invest in them for realities.

Some question has been raised as to the final action of the council upon the request of the Omaha road for the vacation of certain streets. It is intimated that the council may conclude to grant the request of the road and ignore the protests of the business men. This seems very improbable. A representative business organization, expressing the business sentiment of the community, has entered a protest against granting the petition of the railroad company until the company makes the concessions demanded by the business interests of the city. There is no question about the fairness and reasonableness of these demands, particularly those relating to rates on freight within Minneapolis territory and the running of southwestern passenger trains. Minneapolis has been made sport of a good deal on account of her failure to "stand together."

It would certainly be the height of folly for the business men of this city to be divided on this proposition.

Some time ago there was a story current in boy circles that a wealthy man living in the Lowry hill district, had offered the park board \$20,000 for bathhouses on Cedar Lake, but that the board had refused it on the ground that bathhouses had already been built and that they did not care to take the added responsibility.

When it is considered that there was considerable murmuring and some remarks were made not favorable to the guardians of the city's pleasure grounds. While the gang were swimming at the beach on the other side of Cedar Lake the other evening, one of these Natural Boy Leaders that arise in every community suggested a scheme that was at once carried out. A delegation of 100 kids, with this Natural Boy Leader as spokesman, called on the wealthy resident who had made the offer to the park board and made him a proposition. The leader said:

"We understand that you are interested in the bathhouse proposition and have offered to do something handsome in that line, but we are discouraged. We are here to suggest a plan. We are anxious for you to acquire an acre or more of land, to play a game of golf on the necessary lumber dumped there. You are then to appoint one or two boys carpenters to oversee our work and we boys propose to get a free drink."

When it is finished we agree to pay you nickel a bath until such part of the debt is paid as you desire. After that the house is to be free to the kids, but gentlemen and ladies who desire to use it must pay a nickel apiece. This sum will keep the place in good shape. It is unnecessary to state that the offer was accepted; that the boys pitched in with enthusiasm and by working hard under good management soon had the best bathhouse in the state erected. The wealthy gentleman refused to take the bathhouse but other people were assessed 5 cents each for bathing privileges and were glad to pay it. The whole scheme was a winner from the start and more than paid expenses. Next year the street car company is to extend the Kenwood line to the bathhouse.

This fable teaches that we can have free toilet facilities in our parks and bathhouses when we are all in earnest.

A Marriage Fund

Two sensible young folks in the east—Angeline Le Marie, 24 years old, living with her parents in Burlington, N. J., and her pal, a week, and Edward Reynolds, 26 years old, also a stenographer, but on a salary of \$10 a week, have agreed to contribute weekly for the next two years toward the establishment of a fund of \$100, which shall enable them to start life as man and wife. It is further agreed that they shall be married at the end of two years if the task they have proposed for themselves is accomplished, and every dollar and cent to be used in the purchase of a house and lot to be abandoned the idea of marriage. The girl agrees to deposit \$10 a week and the boy \$5 a week.

If the children can keep up this gall for two years, eschew ice cream and the theater, they deserve to get married and live happy ever after. Too many young people get married on sentiment alone and, after the wedding tour, haven't enough money left to rent a flat for a month or buy a baby carriage. The New Jersey experiment is rather an inspiring one.

In market cery at Padua Dr. Ceresote found fifty-two species of fauna, including the eggs of ankylostoma, ascariides, tenia and oxyuris, and large colonies of micrococci, streptococci and their friends. No wonder celery is so high this year.

"There are disadvantages, I find, in going to college. The one I feel most is lack of time. I used to have time to think, to read, to listen to the inner melodies of the spirit which one hears only in leisure moments, when the words of some loved poet come deep, sweet, from the soul that had been silent until then. But in college there is no time to commune with one's thoughts. One goes to college to learn, not to think, it seems."

The coyote was suggested that the vice president of the nation was shelved in getting a good view of some very strenuous sheeling.

While the peach crop is said to be exceedingly heavy, the bright up-to-date grocer has failed to discover it.

Corn King Phillips is the only man in the business who ever failed and had money due him by the lambs.

Scientists are working on the invention of a noiseless powder—not the kind that rubs off either.

Potatoes are about as valuable as golf balls this year.

Lord Roberts got \$300,000 for not ending the war.

MINNESOTA POLITICS

The Roosevelt boom for president will make the formal vote to Minnesota Sept. 2, when Vice President Roosevelt will be in Minneapolis to attend the state fair.

Mr. Roosevelt will be treated, of course, as an honored guest, and it being an off year, politics will be the order of the day. The fact that the Roosevelt candidacy in Minnesota, however, depends largely on the reception he gets this fall, and the impression he makes on the Republican party, is the chief reason.

Thomas H. Shevlin of Minneapolis, Minnesota's member of the national committee, is recognized as Roosevelt's representative in the state. He was an informal confederate in the governor's office one day last week, when Mr. Shevlin, Judge Jamison and Tim Byrnes of Minneapolis and Washington. The Roosevelt candidacy was discussed on this occasion. Mr. Shevlin is confident that Minnesota will send a delegation pledged to the rough rider.

The country press is beginning to take up the Roosevelt candidacy. The Alexandria Post-News was recently quoted in this column, endorsing Roosevelt, and now comes the Minneapolis Tribune, which has done so.

There is every prospect that Roosevelt will be the republican nominee for president in 1904. He is the unforeseen turns up to prove himself a man of great energy, of brains and of character. He is a man like whom we should like to see in the white man selected for the place, and that is the only thing, but it might be hard to find a better.

The old guard, which has manipulated Ramsey county politics for the last dozen years, "views with alarm" the new primary law, but has no intention of letting go its hold on the offices. One of the brotherhood of the old guard, that they expected to handle things about as usual. Said he:

We will beat that primary law to death. We have four precinct committeemen in every one of the 113 precincts of St. Paul. They represent the workers of the city. A primary law that would put the committeemen will be called together, just the same as a city or county convention, and they will vote for the primary law. The organization to support. Then the workers will turn out and work for the ticket they have selected. They will get out and fire in the air, as usual, and we will name the ticket.

There will probably be a big turn-out next spring, when the law is first tried. After that the attendance will fall off and the old fellows will have no trouble in running things. It is a cold blooded, business proposition. "The boys" think they know how it is done, and they purpose to do it. It is now up to the new element to get together and fight with fire—combine against the combination.

Chairman Masterman of the republican state committee, who has been in the city yesterday. He says there will not be a business session of the committee till next year, but the members may get together in a caucus this fall. Said he:

I am very sure that we cannot have the primary law at our fall election in Stillwater. I think it will be an excellent thing in the long run, as far as Minneapolis is concerned. The system is all right.

THE SPRING VALLEY SAYS

Governor Van Sant will be busy the next two months speaking at fairs, picnics and other public places in Minnesota. He has never had an opponent who enjoyed being governor as much Mr. Van Sant.

The appointment of J. K. Stone as a member of the board of grain agents is resented by the Granite Falls Journal, who says that Governor Stone was previously active in the vicinity of Granite Falls, in his attempts to beat Van Sant and the rest of the republican ticket. The governor had to appoint two democrats. Stone is objected to because he is a man who has been in the habit of lecturing to the people in the vicinity of Granite Falls, in his attempts to beat Van Sant and the rest of the republican ticket. The governor had to appoint two democrats. Stone is objected to because he is a man who has been in the habit of lecturing to the people in the vicinity of Granite Falls, in his attempts to beat Van Sant and the rest of the republican ticket.

AMUSEMENTS

Foyer Chat.

The management of the Metropolitan showed good judgment in the selection of a play that would suit the popular fancy is evidenced by the crowds of people flocking to the theater this week, to see the production of "The Two Orphans." It is a play that appeals to all classes. There will be only four more performances, including the matinee Saturday.

After seven weeks of a summer stock season, the Metropolitan will offer as its attraction for next week, commencing Sunday night, Wm. A. Brady's beautiful production "The Two Orphans." It is a play that appeals to all classes. There will be only four more performances, including the matinee Saturday.

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OTHER PEOPLE'S NOTIONS

Laybourn on an Extra Session.

To the Editor of The Journal. Permit me to correct your impression as to the cause of my opposition to an extra session of the legislature, near winter. Your comment in the column, "Minnesota Politics," is scarcely fair to many of those who believe it to be unnecessary and unwise to have the legislature called.

While it is true that I did introduce and champion H. F. No. 1, known as the "tax commission bill," the original bill did not contemplate an extra session, nor any action upon the report of the tax commission prior to the next regular session of the legislature in 1903. I admit supporting the bill as a means of having that legislation was of vital importance to the state, and that the changes in the bill were of minor importance.

I am strongly opposed to an extra session of the legislature for the following reasons: First—it would entail an expense to the state of Minnesota of \$75,000, without an equivalent return in benefits to the state. Second—the people of the state should have ample time to thoroughly examine and study the report of the tax commission and the proposed extra session in February, 1902, would be wholly inadequate for the consideration by the people of the state.

It is admitted by all fair-minded men, republicans, democrats and populists, that the last session of the Minnesota legislature enacted more important, desirable and necessary legislation and accomplished more good work in a shorter time than any previous session in the history of the state. That legislation was overwhelmingly republican and the party is entitled to the credit, and is prepared to go before the people of the state in the next campaign upon that record. Why then should the republicans be called upon to an extra session to be held, at an immense cost to the state, and thereby invite attack and criticism. An extra session of the legislature should only be held in an emergency, and only when a demand exists at this time.

An extra session held in February, 1902, would not do us any good. It would only be a waste of money and a waste of time. It would only be a waste of money and a waste of time. It would only be a waste of money and a waste of time.

No property interests, corporate or otherwise, fear honest, equitable and just legislation. They naturally abhor the demagogue who desires only to exploit the people, regardless of the immense benefits and taxes derived by the state from the railroad, lumber, mining and other large interests.

Duluth, Aug. 14. —George R. Laybourn.

WATCHING AND PRAYING

"It will be twenty-two years to-morrow since I left home for America, Mary. Did I see you in my old minister's study, making my farewell call upon my minister, the night before I left?"

"No, dear. Tell me now." "We had been married five years, but as my husband was past middle nature, it was not often that he became communicative and told me details of his early life in Scotland. I picked up my embroidery and settled myself in an easy chair, and he began to tell me of his early life in Scotland. I picked up my embroidery and settled myself in an easy chair, and he began to tell me of his early life in Scotland.

"You know I had been working in a mercantile establishment in Dundee for about ten years before this, and that I had been offered a position as a clerk in a branch house of the one where I had been employed. I decided to accept the offer, although the salary attached to the position was not large, but it was a step in the right direction.

"When I knocked at the manse door it was opened by my good friend Mr. White, himself. He led me into the parlor, where he seated me on one of the slipper horsehair chairs. His little Scotch terrier, Fritz, had followed us into the parlor, and now lay down at my feet.

"At this point a look of amusement crept over my husband's face and he leaned back in his chair and burst into a hearty laugh. He said: 'I am glad to see you in sympathy with my mood, for I could see nothing in the situation calling for mirth.'"

"Mr. White and I had a long conversation, in which he gave me good advice, and presented me with a letter of introduction to some acquaintances of his in Chicago, commending me to their good offices. He finally said, 'James, before you go, let us kneel and say a prayer for you. I will pray for you, and I will pray for you.'"

"I was a man who was drawn back to my giving entire attention to his prayer. As I turned to kneel, I saw that Fritz was showing some signs of hostility, but I could not stop to remonstrate with him, and Mr. White did not appear to notice his presence. Presently I felt something tugging at my left leg, and discovered Fritz chewing my cherished new trousers. I tried in a quiet way to induce him to desist, but he would not be so easily turned, and he was entirely unconscious of the tragedy being enacted behind him.

"He prayed on and on, covering every species of disaster by hand and foot, and when I was a young man in my station, except that of being devoured by beasts. Meanwhile I knelt there in anything but a devotional frame of mind. I did not fear the dog, but oh, my precious trousers! How could I save them?"

"At last Mr. White drew his petition to a close and we arose. As he turned towards me he saw that something disturbing had happened. I stood there with my left leg in a ragged and disreputable condition, trying not to look down so as to call his attention to it, and hoping I would be able to get out of the house without its being discovered.

"Just then Mrs. White came in. Immediately her sharp eyes took in the situation. 'James, have you cut your dog's spool? I have trousers, and he too polite to prevent it!'"

"The poor man was covered with confusion, and insisted on my going to the tailor and ordering a new suit at his expense, which, of course, I never did."

"As I was on my way to a little farewell gathering in my own honor, Mrs. White made repairs to my new garment, and I was obliged to explain to the company that I had met with a slight accident on my way there."

"When my mother heard my account of my call at the manse, she said: 'Have you never heard me tell how your grandfather acted in a like emergency? At home we always had family prayers; just before breakfast was put on the table, all kneeling at our respective chairs. One morning, as he was well under way in his devotions, he heard the cat up on the table. He stopped in the middle of his petition, and exclaimed, 'I have a mouse on the table, apologetically, 'You've got to watch as well as pray'—thereupon resuming his prayer.'"

—J. M. F.

FAITH IN THE GOOD

There is upon Life's hand a magic ring—The ring of Faith-in-Good, Life's gold of gold; Remove it not, lest all Life's charm take kneeling, at your feet, the ring of gold; Remove it not, lest straightaway you behold Life's check fall in, and every earthly thing Grow all at once unutterably old. —Eugene Lee-Hamilton.



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Frank Turner propped his feet on the desk and regarded attentively a photograph which he had just received. It showed two girls in the abbreviated skirts of the summer vacation, perched on a rustic fence. They were fine looking girls, yet wore a certain air of being somewhat more than a trifle to Frank's forehead. He laid aside the photograph and picked up the letter. It ran:

"Stony Point, July 20.—My Dear Frank—Miss Sempton has been very busy. Twins, you know, daughters of an old friend of mother, and their father's recently made a big strike in the Texas oil fields. They're almost too busy to write to me now, but I'll write you as soon as I can. I'll write you as soon as I can. I'll write you as soon as I can."

Turner glanced round the deserted office, then back at the photograph. A low whistle escaped his lips, and he bent over the bit of pasteboard.

"Dim! Humph!" He reached for a magnifying-glass, and for some minutes studied the photograph faithfully.

The picture remained on his desk—when it was not in his hands—until Saturday. Then he took it into the city, and for some days touched the call bell. To the red-haired youth who acted as office boy for three young lawyers in as many adjacent offices, he said: "Dick, I'm going out of town for about four weeks. I'll arrange with Mr. Henderson for the payment of your salary, in my absence, and in case any act of importance comes, wire me to this address, where you can also forward all mail, but you may arrange it while I'm away, kindly have your grandmother's funeral on Saturdays only. I know the baseball schedule for the next two weeks is great, so you should more economical with your relatives. You've used up five in the past two months. You'll exhaust 'em at this rate."

He of the red hair grinned good-naturedly at the instruction, and picked up his employer's dress suit case. Two hours later Turner reached Stony Point and was shaking hands with his old college mate, Gus Farraday. Frank Turner came of good, aristocratic stock, and a reverse in fortune had altered his intimacy with the heir of the Farraday millions.

When the cart drove up before the Farraday home Turner gazed eagerly at the direction of the vine-clad porch. Then he smiled. It was what he had hoped to see. In the foreground, he correctly ruffled and tucked summer goods, as told by the party who had come for "dear Gus' friend." And the background was a slender figure, willowy, simply gowned, with the lips, the chin and the heavily lashed eyes of a madonna.

At dinner time Gus Farraday, sitting at Turner's room. The photograph stood proudly erect on the bureau.

"I never thought to see the day you'd turn mail-maker," he said, by the way, who's the tall, slender girl?"

"That evening before dinner Mrs. Farraday had a slight talk with her son. "She was very honest, Gus, and said she was only right that I should know it first, as she was my guest. Personally I don't believe Frank Turner could have made a happier choice, and I'm glad to see you've made a 'Niece!' groaned the disappointed match-maker. 'What else can I do, when it was my infernal carelessness with that camera that made the mischief!'"

Daily New York Letter

BUREAU OF THE JOURNAL

Tenement House Life.

Aug. 15.—Tenement house life in the metropolis has again come in for rather severe criticism. This time the critic is Thomas M. Robertson, who is sent to this city by the United States bureau of labor to investigate the tenement houses and the conditions of life in New York. It comes out in his assertions Mr. Robertson has been making a house to house canvass of the homes of workingmen in all parts of the city, and the men and their families have been taken away from the kinds and cost of clothes and food used by them, and tabulated statements have been made of the cost of living, including rent charges, for the average workman's family. It is as a result of these investigations that New York's tenement houses come in for such drastic criticism.

At fifteen persons may safely scramble abreast down the ladder of the life raft with which N. B. Borgheldt of this city is going to compete in Havre, France, for the 100,000-franc prize, which was offered by the estate of Anthony Pollock, of Washington, D. C., who was lost in the wreck of the Bourgogne, July 4, 1898. Mr. Borgheldt, who is a manufacturer of cigar-making machinery, has spent thirty years in perfecting his life raft, and he will take part in the race for the 100,000-franc prize, which is to take place on Sept. 1. As far back as 1877 Mr. Borgheldt's raft was tested in a less perfect form by the United States navy on the coast of California, and he has recommended to the government by the commander of the vessel, but nothing very definite ever came of it. In principle the raft is a great improvement on anything now in use. It is built of floats made of air-tight tin boxes encased in wood and attached to a rope netting which can be rolled into the size of an ordinary boat and slung to support in the same way. It is cheap, the raft weighs about a ton, which is little, if any more, than a ship's boat. When needed, it is necessary only to cut the supporting ropes and the raft will float alongside the vessel. There is it held by a rope inside as wide as the raft itself, down which fifteen persons may scramble abreast, those who are on the raft and into the sea. Instead of tossing like a boat, the raft simply rises and falls with the motion of the waves.

Back from the strenuous he comes to the roof of the new house, beneath which live the captain and his family, is about fifteen feet above water. At one end of the roof is stretched an awning which covers an area about twice as large as the one which serves the purpose of a veranda on the outer edge is a row of flowering shrubs, which make a shelter and shade at the end of the awning. At the other end is a refrigerator and in the middle of the roof, around which are placed several comfortable chairs.