

THE JOURNAL

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THE BOARD OF CONTROL

The board of control has become the object of some criticism at the hands of the state press on different features of its policy.

The Anoka Union, the Owatonna Journal, the St. Peter Free Press and other papers complain because supplies are bought outside the state. They claim that the board should make its purchases of Minnesota jobs and manufacturers and producers, and that if it persists in letting contracts to people outside the state the legislature should provide by law against the pursuance of that policy.

The general principle of home trade is sound, especially with reference to these institutions. The people of Minnesota pay the taxes which support them and Minnesota dealers ought to get back again the money which is expended for supplies.

However, it would hardly be safe to require by law that all purchases should be made within the state as that might lead to combinations between home dealers which would be very expensive for the state. The correct statement of the principle would be that contracts should be awarded to home dealers and home manufacturers and producers when their prices are reasonable or not higher than those of outside dealers.

The Fairbairn Pilot, in discussing the action of the board of control in maintaining secrecy with regard to the prices of supplies and contracts awarded, criticizes The Journal for not giving to the public this information. It calls attention to the fact that The Journal, in the exercise of legitimate newspaper enterprise, gave the public full information about the contracts awarded and prices paid by the old boards, and says that "the people of Fairbairn have been intently scanning the columns of The Journal to learn the prices paid by the board of control for articles of the same description, and have not been able to find any information on that subject."

The Journal is glad to know that it is relied upon so completely by the people of Fairbairn for information upon these matters, but it is not to blame for not being able to satisfy their legitimate curiosity. The trouble is that the legislature provided by law that the books of the board of control should be open to inspection only by the legislature, or by a committee appointed by that body.

This looks like a peculiar way of doing things, and objections may be raised to it. But it is justified by the framers of the law, by the board themselves upon the ground that if bids received, prices quoted and contracts awarded are not made public the state will obtain better prices than if publicity were given. It is claimed that in adopting this policy the state is pursuing the course adopted by the Iowa state board of control. The Iowa board when it began business made all these matters public, as is customary, when they found that they were not getting any better prices than other people. They adopted the other plan, suppressed information with regard to bids and prices, and claim to have saved money for the state. We are willing that the Minnesota board of control make a trial of this plan, but we shall expect the legislature to inquire carefully into its success. It is not altogether a safe principle, at least the practice of it pursued by men who are less capable or less trustworthy than our own board might lead to very bad results. The merits of this plan will be more clearly established when the legislature appoints a special committee to examine the books and make comparisons of expenses with those incurred under the old system of management, or under the results achieved by the Iowa board while running on the open book plan.

In the meantime the board has no choice in the matter, as we understand it. The law closes its books to the public and opens them only to the legislature.

Much as we should be glad to give the Fairbairn people and the people of other cities and towns where these institutions are located, details of prices on supplies furnished, we shall be unable to do so long as the law prescribes and the

board pursues its present plan, a plan which seems to be one of very doubtful wisdom.

The Journal's Buffalo letter to-day gives the names of 256 people who registered at the Minnesota building on the grounds of the Pan-American exposition August 10 to 13 inclusive. It is not claimed that his list is complete, or that it contains the names of all the Minnesota people who went to the exposition. Probably not more than three-fourths of the Minnesota people who go to the exposition register at the state building, but the list is certainly a very respectable one as to size, as well as in other particulars, and shows that Minnesota is patronizing the exposition liberally. In fact, the generous attendance from Minnesota and the northwest, but particularly from this state, has been the subject of appreciative remark more than once by the management of the exposition. The Buffalo people feel that the Minnesota people have treated their fair very handsomely and the fact that so many have been there has lodged an impression in Buffalo that Minnesota must be a pretty prosperous state.

THE MAYOR'S VETOS

The mayor has vetoed the resolutions of the council providing for the issuance of bonds for the bridge at Thirty-second avenue north, and the widening of Washington avenue bridge. The mayor makes the point that these improvements are not a positive necessity at this time, and that there are other lines of municipal improvements which are more important. The ease with which these propositions went through the council—the bridge bonds having been passed by a veto of twenty-one to three and the permanent improvement bonds, amounting to \$150,000, having passed by a vote of twenty to three—was a source of surprise to us, and while these votes, if repeated, are sufficient to pass the bond propositions over the mayor's veto, we should like to have the council have another opportunity for careful consideration of the propriety of issuing these large amounts of bonds at this time when, as the mayor says, the city is so much in need of a better and more ample water supply, better sewer and water mains, better arrangements for disposal of garbage, larger hospital accommodations, and other things which might be mentioned which seem to be much more urgent than the increase of bridge facilities. We are in favor of increased bridge facilities as fast as we can afford them, and as rapidly as the requirements of business in the different sections of the city may demand, but compliance with this demand should take into account the large demands upon the financial resources of the city in other directions and should not be granted at the expense of more important or at least more urgent improvements.

Occasionally there is heard a note of discord, a voice of disagreement, among the business men with regard to the proper policy to be pursued toward the railroads, and particularly just now toward the Omaha. Occasionally some one ventures to support the proposition that the demands made by the business men of that company are not reasonable, that the complaints against it are not well-founded, that the Omaha is doing all for Minneapolis that should be expected, and that the council should grant its request for street vacations without further question. We have taken occasion to look up some of these dissidents from the general business policy and we found in every instance where investigation has been made that the party who protests against the action of the Commercial club and sides with the railroad has a private reason for doing so; that he is in receipt of some favor which disqualifies him from expressing a fair judgment in the matter, and makes it impossible for him to take a broad view of the case from the standpoint of public interest.

THE TALK OF TARIFF REVISION

The Journal's Washington correspondence to-day carries some expressions of opinion by western congressmen which will appear in a symposium of the forthcoming issue of the American Economist on tariff revision. There is also published in the same connection some remarks by Mr. Tawney on the same subject, in the course of which Mr. Tawney makes the point that every time we have revised the tariff in the direction of lower schedules financial depression or panic has followed, while every time it has been amended in the direction of higher schedules we have had good times.

No doubt tariff tinkering is a source of danger to business. The trouble is that the regulation of the tariff has been made a political issue and revisions have threatened the extremes of political sentiment in one direction or the other, and naturally business men have been apprehensive of radical changes and of their effect upon prices. While there is undoubtedly a great deal of sentiment in favor of tariff revision among republicans, and particularly western republicans, we do not believe there is any sentiment among them favorable to radical changes. They do recognize, however, that upon the principle that a protective tariff is intended to create conditions favorable to the development of American industry without permitting American industry to abuse the privileges thus created, schedules are not necessarily inflexible or unchangeable, but may be and should be modified moderately and carefully so as to correspond with changed conditions, and preserve the equilibrium which should be striven for, and maintained at all times.

The fact that the tariff schedules are being scrutinized with a view to possible changes is said to have caused some business men to advise caution with regard to purchases, which suggests again the desirability of having this whole tariff question placed in the hands of a commission whose business it should be to make recommendations to congress at every session proposing such changes, if any are desirable, as will maintain this equilibrium, and while protecting the public from abuses made possible under excessive protection will also secure the protected against radical and injurious action from the other side.

The American Economist, which has solicited the opinions of members of congress, is the organ of high protection. It represents the extreme of high protection sentiment in this country and is entitled to the credit of having done its share of damage by helping to swing the pendulum too far on the side of protection just as New England Free Trade League on the other side, has aided in carrying congressional action too far in the other direction.

The best American papers are few, but they are so excellent as to give one hope for the future of journalism in the great republic.

Between these two extremes, on a middle ground, lies the interest of the public and the prevailing sentiment of the country. While that sentiment is for protection, and while it would be difficult to develop the existence of any considerable amount of free trade sentiment in this country at this time, there is no doubt a feeling that tariff schedules are made for the benefit of the public; that they are supposed to be adjusted to fit certain conditions, and that to the extent that the conditions change they may require readjustment.

If the tariff subject be approached by the republicans in this spirit we do not believe that any considerable degree of apprehension will be created, or that it would last any considerable length of time after such a moderate program was decided upon and adopted. It is the long drawn out discussion, the uncertainty and threat of radical action which naturally makes trade apprehensive and checks the stream of commerce.

It didn't take a hard-headed, sensible North Dakota jury long to dispose of the mass of theory and sophistry and speculation based on expert testimony which the attorneys for Barry had built up around him in order to save him, and came straight to the reasonable conclusion that he was responsible for his act. Regardless of the fate Mellem may have desired, Barry was not authorized to inflict the penalty and there is no reason to believe that he was incapable of recognizing that fact.

The decision of the Joliet steelworkers to join the strikers is an unexpected development and will certainly strengthen the hopes of the Amalgamated leaders materially. But the violation of contract by the Joliet men who had the same agreement with their employers that the South Chicago men decided to stand by is not calculated to beget confidence in union agreements and contracts in the future. For organized labor in general this is a very unfortunate feature of this strike—that the men have not seen fit to stand by their contracts.

Samuel Hill, who has recently returned from Russia, states that George Kennan's thrilling and interesting narrative about the treatment of Russian exiles were gross exaggerations. Mr. Hill visited Siberian prisons and found the sleeping quarters good and the food wholesome. The Russians seem to be kindly and humane people and while they do not erect a series of West hotels and Palmer houses for their convicts, it is quite certain that they treat them fully as well as they are treated anywhere. For this reason, when Mr. Kennan returned to Russia he was requested by the government of that country to leave the short notice. He knew enough to do this. The St. Petersburg Newsletters say:

George Kennan, a picturesque end-of-the-century magazine editor, called at our office yesterday and left his card with me. We telephoned the police and Georgia is now over the line. Call again, Georgia, when the government is not in so great a hurry.

Virginia is trying to label what the Memphis Appeal calls "that air cocaine." A Society for the Suppression of Spurious Titles has been formed. A great many men do not have to do any fighting to become officers. There are several hundred men in the community, just as some boys are invariably known as "Stubby," "Fatty," or "Speck." While Minnesota is not a southern state, any attempt to destroy articles of title would be a blow to politicians and curbstone statesmen. Isn't that so, general?

A church economist says that \$45,000,000 are invested in church steeples. The steeple is high art and can't be spared. It punctuates the landscape. Even were the steeples all sawed off and the money sent abroad, the heaven would continue to rage and the people to imagine vain things. Let the spire alone.

J. Pierpont Morgan is going to San Francisco to attend the convention of the Episcopal church as a lay delegate. All the other denominations better watch out or there will be but one true church in this country.

An Evanston, Ill. youth was forcibly seized by six girls and has sued them for assault. They did it to tease him and he got real mad. Whether are our young men drifting?

The government weather bureau asserts that but one out of five weather forecasts is incorrect. The one that falls up is usually on the day when the umbrella is borrowed.

Some of the health department hint that Alderman Russ's Lake Amelia farm produces milk mainly for the health of the health department when Mr. Rand hears this.

A candidate for some place in Chicago asserted in her examination that Joan of Arc was the daughter of Noah. She got the place—and filled it acceptably, too.

Senator Mason won a prize in a beauty contest in rural Illinois by the council of the Thea of education. "The kid who plays is a good deal like teaching your grandmother how to fry potatoes.

A lot of nightwatches, filled full of stout whiskey and wickedness, are making the lives of the cottagers at Calhoun full of misery.

AMUSEMENTS

Foyer Chat.

Three more performances—to-night and tomorrow afternoon and evening—will bring the engagement of "The Two Orphans" to a close. The little play has had large patronage throughout the week.

"Lover's Lane," which William A. Brady will present at the Metropolitan for the week starting Sunday night, is a distinct departure from other Clyde Fitch dramas seen here. It contains no historical characters, does not concern itself with the follies of city life, and does not meddle with problems. The author has tried to make a study of life in a small town, and his play deals with the eccentric characters and the humorous incidents of village existence.

An Example of Inequality.

Portland Oregonian. No one who has ever made a sanitary inspection of Tilman can doubt the profundity of his dictum that all men are not created equal. The mere ordinary man has been denied the malice and brutality which are so egregiously resplendent in the South Carolina senator. The selfish and unreasoning brutality which nature has stamped alike upon his face and his intellectual output could not be enjoyed by many men without overtaxing the malevolent capacity of her well-balanced workshop.

Watterson on Expansion.

Louisville Courier-Journal. As Jefferson did not destroy Tyler in annexing New France, nor Jackson, Tyler and Polk in annexing Texas and New Mexico, nor Lincoln in abolishing African slavery, so shall the free of liberty burn long after the young set of us has gone to his account, nor less brightly on the other side of the world than on this, for we are a militant as well as a Christian people, and God leads the way.

Friendly Wish From Mexico.

The Mexican Herald. The best American papers are few, but they are so excellent as to give one hope for the future of journalism in the great republic.

Daily New York Letter

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

A Trust in "Toppers."

Aug. 16.—Herbert Knight, the corporation lawyer, who, with his brothers, has been instrumental in the formation of several of the largest trusts in the country, has recently been elected to the position of trustee of the trust. About twenty of the leading manufacturers of America will be in the trust at the start, according to the plans for the consolidation of the trust. The trust will eliminate competition from the hat trade so as to save money to manufacturers, but that this lack of competition will not cause higher prices. The price will be maintained at the same figure and the hat trust will get hats for the price that they are now giving. One of the chief objects of the combination, according to Mr. Knight, is to increase the output of the trust. The present plan every factory that is a part of the combination will manufacture a distinctive style of hat," he added, "and not intrude upon the territory of any other manufacturer. This is one of the important objects of the consolidation. The effect of the consolidation will be that each manufacturer will make a distinctive hat and put the best material in it, instead of putting a cheap material down in the imitation of another manufacturer's popular style. The corporation will be financed on the basis of the capital of the companies that are comprised in the organization. We expect to save money to the manufacturers in many ways. An important result expected of consolidation is the abolition of the evil of deflating prices, which has grown out of competition to such an extent that some manufacturers will date a year ahead."

City Hall Marriages.

Weddings at the city hall marriage bureau are not unusual functions at this season of the year. And all kinds and classes of people go there to be married for reasons various. Some of the reasons are perfectly legitimate and others are not. It is not necessary to be married to get a divorce. Occasionally it happens that a couple desire to be married to get a divorce. Other considerations than that of mutual esteem, and to whom a religious ceremony is accordingly repugnant. They may be married by the business-like manner in which they go through the ceremony. The worst feature of city hall marriages, however, is that there is no adequate investigation of the facts in each case, in consequence of which many unhappy matches are made. In fact, the grand jury's attention has been directed to the huge number of divorces which are granted in the city hall marriage bureau. In the past, the police have found young foreign girls in disorderly houses, it has developed that they have been married at the city hall bureau to men who have subsequently sold them for a large sum of money to secure their earnings. Of course when anything of this sort is suspected by the officer called on to perform the ceremony, the matter is referred to the police before they tie the knot, but since it is nearly always impossible to discover anything about the applicants, the ceremonies are usually performed without question. Occasionally the mayor is the officiating clergyman, but Mayor Van Wyck has thus far left that function to his subordinates.

Banko Man Made a Mistake.

John C. Fisher, the theatrical manager, came from London recently and brought with him a Panama hat for which he paid \$150. Fisher is short and stout, and the sun had made his face red. With his big, broad nose, he looked as though he might have just come out of the world about his clothes. The green goods man saw him from afar. "Well, if it isn't my old friend Josh," he said, "I'm glad to see you. You're just like the real stuff, and gave Fisher a \$5 bill to go into a saloon and get a drink. Fisher took the bill and went to the saloon, but he never returned. The man who had given him the bill, it is still waiting for him to come out. —N. N. A.

MINNESOTA POLITICS

It is a good thing occasionally to be able to "see ourselves as others see us." Minneapolis politicians who wish to enjoy that experience should look to the following from the St. Peter Free Press:

From all appearances Minneapolis is in earnest in its efforts to prevent a reelection of Van Wyck to the governor's office. It will take some fine maneuvering on the part of the latter's friends to neutralize the schemes concocted for the governor's downfall. And all on account of a faulty memory, on the part of Van Sant, when it comes to the election of 1898. Van Sant's real danger and who made his election possible to the governor's friends, in the shape of the most beautiful woman in the state, is now the coterie of politicians that were not at all in sympathy with his candidacy, and that they will not again support him. He is a party organizer, the best election in the party history of the state. He is a man of high first frigate for a successful leader. Possibly matters may yet be straightened out, but at the present writing it looks as if the governor would have to get the nomination without any assistance from Hennepin.

Congressman Heatwole's paper, the Northfield News, is still vying with Granville S. Pease in saying things about the state administration. The latest roast is here given: "The state administration is more temperate in its criticisms of the governor, for he will head the ticket next year. The battle will be a hot one, and it will be heard of why not? It has been so ordered by Barry and the other Van."

Considering the "knocking" done by some republican papers, the silence of fusion organs seems peculiar. The Jordan Independent is a notable exception. There is a merry time in the ranks of the republican party in this state on the gubernatorial question. Several of the most stalwart republican leaders are now being nominated and they are knocking for all they are worth. The democrats are calling attention to the mistakes of the present executive.

Senator Lord receives the following graceful tribute from the Redwood Gazette: "The day when the legislature announces positively that he is not a candidate for governor before the next republican state convention is a day of great rejoicing to the people of Minnesota. Captain Van Sant, Senator Lord is one of Minnesota's coming men. He is an excellent lawyer, of sterling honesty, and a friend wherever he makes his appearance. He will never be heard of in republican councils."

St. Cloud Journal-Free Press. Editor Dave of the Elk River Star-News, who has been receiving several strong editorial notices as a good man to send to the front, says: "The man whose name is mentioned as a candidate for some office is a very likely not to be heard of next year when the election takes place."

St. Peter Tribune—James Gray, ex-mayor of Minneapolis, is spoken of for the next democratic nomination for governor. "That if the democracy is unable to get Lind into the field again. The program, as understood in Minneapolis, is Lind for governor and Gray for congress. —C. B. C.

The Burden of Debt.

Boston Herald. With a nation, as with an individual, extravagance is much more easily encouraged than economy. Too often the people look on the expenditures of their country as a matter of course, and do not realize that the people of a country, and if a large amount is to be spent each year in interest charges and for redemption provisions, there will be that much less to spend for other things.

An Aristocracy of Brains.

Milwaukee Sentinel. There is no denying the fact that education leads to class distinction, but surely no one who has seen the schools of this country is not dangerous to any country. Since education in its highest meaning includes the development of all the faculties, it has a great moral influence. In the United States, where the schools are open to rich and poor alike, it is a good thing to have this latter-day aristocracy spread so rapidly as possible.

Good Words for the Flea.

Philadelphia Dispatch. The flea has not yet been convicted of carrying a satchelful of bacteria or bacilli for insertion in the place from which he has taken all he can get. He is not even under suspicion. In the United States, the flea is not dangerous to any country. Since education in its highest meaning includes the development of all the faculties, it has a great moral influence. In the United States, where the schools are open to rich and poor alike, it is a good thing to have this latter-day aristocracy spread so rapidly as possible.

A "JOLLY" ON THE POET

In moss-rack dells which the sunbeams flatter (And heaven it knoweth what that may mean), My little heart is a-tremble, with riffs atween; Where woods are a-tremble, with riffs atween; I and my Willie (O love my love); I need hardly remark it was gorgeous weather, And flitterbats wa'er'd aloft, above; Boats were curysing, rising, bowing (Boats in that climate are so polite), And sands were a ribbon, and green sandalwood, And O, the sandalwood on bark and bight, Tho' the rare red heather we danced to; (O love my Willie) and smelt for flowers; I must mention again it was gorgeous weather, Rhymes are so scarce in this world of ours. —C. S. Calverley.

One Hundred POUNDS

by James Simpson Scott

Copyright, 1901, by A. S. Richardson. It wasn't Tom Dale's fault that the Vulcan Iron Works had failed and thrown 1,500 men out within three months after his marriage. The young wife went home to her parents in the country and Tom packed up his tools and started for London. A man with a trade and such a character as he had in his pocket must have had a long time to find his way. "No Admittance," "No Hands Wanted," were the signs which met his eye day after day. At the end of a month he was taking his monthly wages of a vagabond and was positively penniless. He had pawned everything he could spare except his tools. He realized that if he parted with them his last hope was gone. After a month of bitter trial he found some thoughts creeping into his mind. The world was against him. He had the skill and muscle to earn his way, but he could not exchange them for life-sustaining food. Sitting on a park bench one long night, staring, Tom Dale reached a decision.

The next day was not spent in looking for work, but in inspecting houses and stores with a view to burglary. Tom Dale, by mid-afternoon he had located his house. He had seen a little old woman emerge with an air of proprietorship. The house was old-fashioned and solid, and a mistress was doubtless in comfortable circumstances. From 5 o'clock in the afternoon till 11 at the machine sat in a park, doing, waiting.

Tom Dale was not a burglar, but he was a man who had the skill and muscle to earn his way, but he could not exchange them for life-sustaining food. Sitting on a park bench one long night, staring, Tom Dale reached a decision. The next day was not spent in looking for work, but in inspecting houses and stores with a view to burglary. Tom Dale, by mid-afternoon he had located his house. He had seen a little old woman emerge with an air of proprietorship. The house was old-fashioned and solid, and a mistress was doubtless in comfortable circumstances. From 5 o'clock in the afternoon till 11 at the machine sat in a park, doing, waiting.

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JOHN FISKE'S LIBRARY

Cambridge, Mass., Tribune. Twelve thousand books, or thereabouts, constitute the library of the late John Fiske, which has been removed from the former home of his family in Berkeley Street to a new house at the corner of Brattle and Ash streets. This splendid collection of books is exceptional in its character for the extent, but also in the character of the volume that compose it. All of them are standard works in their field of literature, and many of them are old editions that are exceedingly rare. During the last thirty years of his life, Fiske's library had become a problem with him; and when the house on Brattle street was being considered, he had a spacious room for a library included in the plans. And when the new house was built, Fiske took a keen delight in the thought of moving his treasured volumes into the library, and he had had this work begun shortly before his death and was superintending the removal of the books from their old resting-places to the new shelves.

Dr. Fiske, aside from loving to work in his chosen departments of human knowledge and discussion, loved to read the books themselves which he used, and each one of them was treated with the devotion and regard shown to a dear friend. He had many very old bindings in his possession, and he made his new bindings—in fact, his new bindings were old covers and the old stamping never would allow him to do so. Another indication of Dr. Fiske's love of his books is to be found in the attention he gave to the binding of those effects in a binding that should suit his artistic sense. He frequently went to his binder, Mr. McNamee, with a general scheme of binding in paper, for the printing of the covers of the books, and the selection and matching of papers, cloths and leathers he had a perception that was uniquely accurate.

Sections of shelves are occupied by series of books upon kindred subjects. Here, for instance, are sets of tall, thick volumes, of the histories of different countries and of great historical movements—works upon the history of England, Egypt, Phoenicia, India, Sicily, the Norman Conquest, the French Revolution and the Renaissance in Italy. Upon other shelves are the thirty-one volumes of the "Histoire des Français," strikingly bound in half red morocco, with marbled edges and gilt backs. Next by are the commanding German volumes, "Hegel's Werke," bound in an old German binding of full paper.

One of the many unusual works which Dr. Fiske possessed, and on which his mind was constantly delighting itself, was a book entitled "Translations from Chinese and Arabic," and its binding is as unique as its contents. It is a book of translations from a back beautifully tooled in gold from a special design. Upon quite another historical subject and still more lavishly bound, is a book entitled "The History of the World," by Cotton Mather's "Magnalia Christi Americana," an ecclesiastical history of New England from 1620 to 1698. This is a superb specimen of the skill of a Pratt, a London bookbinder, who did the book in full red morocco, with gold edges and gilt backs. In red morocco, is one of the strong points of the collection. Dr. Fiske, who was a graduate of Harvard in the class of 1863, always interested in collecting the best sources of information as to the history and progress of his alma mater, and on his shelves he has no small number of substantially bound volumes bearing upon that subject. Among them are the Harvard College reports, volumes of Harvard Graduates' Magazine, etc. His own works, which have commanded attention on both sides of the Atlantic, are modestly placed on inconspicuous shelves.

Estimate on Wheat.

Faribault Republican. The extravagant estimates of the wheat yield of the northwest that were prominent in the daily press a month ago are gradually giving place to opinions more nearly corresponding to the facts. The expert of the Minneapolis Journal, R. V. Jones, whose estimate in former years has been fairly sustained in the outcome, sums up the crop as follows:

Table with 4 columns: State, Acres, Av. Yield, Total. Minnesota 8,250,000 12 100,000,000; North Dakota 3,000,000 14 42,000,000; Total 11,250,000 12 142,000,000.

Lords of the North

A Great Historical Novel

By A. C. LAUT,

—Will Commence in—

The Journal Saturday, Aug. 17

This is what the Brooklyn Eagle says of this romance of the great northwest:

"When Gilbert Parker created 'Pierre and His People' and followed this with other delightful sketches, the scenes of which were laid in that mysteriously fascinating region vaguely located as the Great Northwest, many of his admirers anticipated that at some future time he would write a great novel dealing with life in a region which fairly bristled with romance. These glorious environments were forsaken for the more superficial and splendid trappings of life in the viceregal courts of old Quebec, and later for the more artificial and complex conditions of life in modern England."

"Within the past week there has been published in New York a novel by another Canadian writer which may fairly be regarded as the embodiment of all that his admirers would have been glad to welcome as his crowning effort. 'Lords of the North,' by A. C. Laut, is not only a strong novel, worthy to take high place among the best of the year, and to claim one of the highest places among those recent works of fiction which have become a part of our literary events, but its strength is thrown into relief by the charming delicacy of sentiment and of expression which shows upon every page. The philosophy of the book is clothed in imagery which is as convincing as it is austere. The dialogue is vividly natural; the principal characters introduced by the author are distinctly and satisfyingly real."

"There is a touch of nature which polishes and perfects the technique of the writer's art in the main conception of the romance. Adventures are sought by a true but errant, not that he may gain fame or fortune, but that he may restore happiness to a friend. 'Life in the open is depicted with a master hand. The invigorating atmosphere becomes the atmosphere in which the reader lives, giving zest to his enjoyment of descriptions which are painted with a delicacy of detail which is only equaled by the breadth of general treatment.'"

"The ability of a doctor who arbitrarily refuses to respond to the call of a patient, with the result the patient dies, is discussed in the case of Hurley v. Eddenfeld, 59 N. E. 1058. The defendant in this case had been the decedent's family physician, and was held liable for his death because he became dangerously ill. The messenger informed the doctor of the decedent's violent sickness, tendered him his fee for his services, and told him that the other doctor was unable to procure in time. No other patients were requiring the doctor's immediate service, and he could have gone to the relief of decedent had he been willing to do so, but he refused without giving any reason therefor. Death ensued. Counsel contended that under the act regulating the practice of medicine, etc., physicians are bound to respond to calls for services. The court held, however, that this is not the case, and that a physician does not hold himself out to enter a contract with every one requiring his services in the same manner as innkeepers, common carriers, and the like."

AN ELEVATED CYCLE-WAY

The South California towns, Los Angeles and Pasadena, are now connected by the strangest and most interesting of links—a magnificent elevated cycle-way, with a smooth surface of wood, running for nine miles through the mountains, flanked by green hills and affording views at every point of the snow-capped Sierras. On this splendid track cyclists may now enjoy the very poetry of wheeling. At Pasadena the long track that winds its way through the foot-rests and sail down to Los Angeles without so much as touching the pedals, even though the gradient is extremely slight. The long track that winds its way through the east bank of the Arroyo Seco, giving a fine view of this wooded stream, and skirting the foot of the neighboring oak-covered hills. The surface is perfectly free from all dust and mud, and the most part of the road is safer than the widest roads, for there are no horses to avoid, no trains or trolley cars, no stray dogs or wandering children. The best Oregon plan were used in this construction. Throughout the entire distance from the center of the one city to the center of the other, it has an uninterrupted right of way, passing above roads, streets, railway tracks, gullies and ravines. At its highest point, the elevation of the track is about fifty feet. The maximum grade in the nine-mile run is 3 per cent, and that only for two thousand feet. Elsewhere the grade averages 1 1/2 per cent.

A DOCTOR'S RIGHTS

The ability of a doctor who arbitrarily refuses to respond to the call of a patient, with the result the patient dies, is discussed in the case of Hurley v. Eddenfeld, 59 N. E. 1058. The defendant in this case had been the decedent's family physician, and was held liable for his death because he became dangerously ill. The messenger informed the doctor of the decedent's violent sickness, tendered him his fee for his services, and told him that the other doctor was unable to procure in time. No other patients were requiring the doctor's immediate service, and he could have gone to the relief of decedent had he been willing to do so, but he refused without giving any reason therefor. Death ensued. Counsel contended that under the act regulating the practice of medicine, etc., physicians are bound to respond to calls for services. The court held, however, that this is not the case, and that a physician does not hold himself out to enter a contract with every one requiring his services in the same manner as innkeepers, common carriers, and the like."

Estimate on Wheat.

Faribault Republican. The extravagant estimates of the wheat yield of the northwest that were prominent in the daily press a month ago are gradually giving place to opinions more nearly corresponding to the facts. The expert of the Minneapolis Journal, R. V. Jones, whose estimate in former years has been fairly sustained in the outcome, sums up the crop as follows:

Table with 4 columns: State, Acres, Av. Yield, Total. Minnesota 8,25