THE JOURNAL

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THE MINNEAPOLIS JOURNAL'S

High Water Mark

The Journal's record for advertising for March, 1902, was larger than any other month in its history.

March, 1901, was surpassed by 254 columns of advertising.

Other Minneapolis papers distanced.

Some Figures From the Record:

	Columns.
JOURNAL	1367
Tribune—Daily and five big Sundays	1302

Sworn daily average circulation of The Journal for March, 53,005.

THE HIGH SCHOOL DEBATES

The high school debating contest for the honor of winning the silver cup, offered last fall by The Journal, has resolved itself now to a final struggle between the team of three representing the Glenwood high school and the three representing the LeSueur high school.

The contest has been waged all over the state for several months with increasing interest and spirit as the circle of contestants gradually narrowed down to the present final trial. First, high schools in the several congressional districts contested with each other the honor of representing their respective districts. Then came the contests between the representatives of the districts. An admirable spirit of friendly rivalry has been maintained, although the greatest interest has developed in every community represented. Large delegations have attended the debaters who have gone away from home to meet their opponents, while the home teams have not lacked in enthusiastic support nor fallen short in their duties as generous hosts.

The effect has been good in many ways apart from the development of interest and proficiency in the art of public discussion on the part of the young debaters. It has stimulated interest in the community in its own high school and has prompted the determination that it shall be as thoroughly equipped and well sustained as the resources of the community will permit.

The outcome is, perhaps, quite as fortunate as could have been expected from the fact that the final contestants come from two of the smaller schools of the state. It shows that the pupils of the smaller towns have an equal chance with those of the larger schools in the principal cities and may successfully compete in this highly honorable contest, where favoritism is effectually excluded and success is won on merit.

The closing debate is arranged by the High School Debating League to take place at the state university in this city early in May and will certainly enlist great interest throughout the state.

A WORD FOR THE COYOTE

A writer in the California Fruit Grower, after sarcastically urging the man with the gun to shoot the horned toad, the gopher-snake, the meadow lark, the road-runners, the ground owls, the sparrow hawks adds:

Shoot the best frieds of the rancher—the coyotes. It's true, they take a chicken now and then, but don't you know that it takes thirty hundred weight—a ton and a half of rabbits, rats, gophers and the worse pests that the ranchers have to contend with to feed one of these wild, self-supporting dogs until he is a year old, while your three or four lazy house dogs have eaten the price of a hundred hens and sucked all the eggs they can find? But these are necessary to bark at night and impress all of your visitors with the necessity of going armed. But—shoot the coyotes.

There's another class of birds that really ought to be shot. Take them far out on the desert, for they are not worth burying. They are the thoughtless, heedless shooters that are indiscriminately crippling and killing the best friends that the farmer and orchardist has in California.

This puts the coyote in a new light to people who read in their papers about the efforts being made by sheep and stockmen to exterminate them, or who has learned from Seton-Thompson's pages of their blood-thirsty cunning. But it seems that in California they are the farmers' friend, far more valuable to him than his devoted domestic dog. Seton-Thompson has made us love the little rascals so much for their sagacity and succesful struggle for existence that it gives us pleasure to know that in California at least they have earned the right to pose as man's friend instead of as his enemy.

Denied the privilege of testing in the supreme court of the United States the right of the promoters of the merger to consolidate the railroads of the northwest, the attorney general of Minnesota has turned to the courts of our own state for a remedy. Action was commenced against the Northern Securities company, the Great Northern and the Northern Pacific railroad companies and Mr. Hill in the Ramsey county district court yesterday. The matter presents no new phases of particular interest, but it indicates the determination of the executive department of the state to employ all the legal remedies available in the assertion of the majesty of the law and suggests that the Northern Securities, as a device for the evasion of the law, cannot yet be declared a demonstrated success.

THE COURSE OF BUSINESS

The northwest is just now receiving a great influx of new blood. It is no exaggeration to say that very close to 10,000 new settlers have streamed into this region during the past sixty days. The heavy colonization movement still continues.

This means a large increase in the consuming power of the territory tributary to the twin cities. Already the effect of it is being felt in a few special lines; ultimately it will make for increased activity in all lines of business. The demand for agricultural implements has been heavy. Distributing points have experienced more than the normal spring activity, and manufacturing centers are now feeling the strain of the increasing demand.

Weather conditions in the northwest have not been propitious, but are now turning more favorable for farm work and spring wheat seeding is getting under way. There is no complaint of any lack of moisture.

There was the usual downward tendency in the course of commodity prices during March, which still continues. Cotton holds against the general trend and is firm. The eastern centers of textile manufacture report conditions satisfactory, save for a slight tone of dissatisfaction which may mean labor troubles later on.

In general the business outlook is very favorable. Navigation is opening much earlier than usual, and the vessel interests find their carrying capacity for the season as a whole increased by the early start, with resultant probability of good earnings. It has been estimated that the freight movement through the Sault canal, will be 3,000,000 tons heavier than last year, which would mean the enormous total of 31,000,000 tons.

Danger of disagreemnts with employes have been clouding the horizon in the iron and steel trade. To date all serious trouble has been averted, but as this is the time when strikes are mist to be expected there is some nervousness felt as to the future. Trade conditions are much the same with demand in many branches exceeding supply and the mills far behind with their orders.

A burst of activity came into stocks, and for the first time in weeks the trading on one day ran to over a million shares. Gains were the rule in good stocks, the grangers and northwestern roads leading. It will not be surprising should moderate decreases in earnings show for several months in the middle west, where the roads largely dependent upon the corn and wheat crops should now feel the effect of the drought of last year more seriously. To a considerable extent, however, this will be offset in the far west and southwest, by new sources of revenue. Increased business resulting from new mining developments in Nevada, Colorado and Wyoming, and the activity in the Beaumont oil field of Texas will help to maintain the average.

The principal winter wheat states now promise to raise about as much wheat as last year. This is, of course, a promise and nothing more. All estimates must necessarily be very superficial as yet. Then there is a long critical period yet to be passed. But the favorable outlook remains as a great weight on the market. During the week an effort was made for an advance, on the cash wheat outlook in the northwest which is very strong and favors full price maintainance, but northwest conditions are not the paramount consideration at this time, and the prospects of a large winter wheat yield overshadow everything else. May wheat made a moderate advance but lost it again and sold back to the former low point. In the exports the showing was more favorable, 4,446,000 bushels going out, compared with 2,904,000 bushels in the previous week, and 4,699,000 bushels a year ago.

INDIAN ANCESTRY

Charles Hallock, of Washington, D. C., and formerly a resident of Minnesota, contributed a paper to The American Antiquarian for March on the question of the forebears of the races found on this hemisphere by the first European explorers in the fifteenth century. On that. he has been criticised in a vigorous way, in some quarters, because he holds not only to the Asiatic origin of these people, but believes that the first comers from Asia brought with them the superior civilization indicated by the half buried cities found by Squires and Le Plongeon, Desire Channay and others in Mexico and Central America, who, because of fearful cataclysms, the result of earthquakes, volcanic action and great submergences of the land, were dispersed far and wide over the continents, gradually relapsing into savagery through the struggle for existence and developing, in the course of years, inherited ideas which are found materialized in the extraordinary works of the mound builders which cover a wide extent of country, and in the peculiar tenements and irrigation work of the cliff dwellers.

Mr. Hallock names Korea as a principal point from which the Asiatics embarked for the east. It is, of course, not necessary to give Korea special prominence, although it is known that Korea has been, from time immemorial, a country of advanced civilization, as is the case with China, the first settlers there bringing with them the Accadian civilization whose remains of a high type are excavated to-day in the Euphrates valley. It is known that the Koreans used movable types in printing centuries before the Christian era.

Mr. Hallock is conspicuously right in rejecting the autochthonous theory of the origin of the Indian tribes stoutly held by some scientists. The theory falls before the testimony of a common origin of the human race in central Asia, found in archaeology and in tradition and language peculiarities, even if the testimony of the Christian scriptures is rejected.

In Mexico the ancient names still attached to localities show Asiatic origin, as the recurrence of the term "tepe" in compound words, and in use by the Indians to describe their dwellings. It means a hill or eminence of any kind like a mound and the same term is found in central Asia, as in the name Geoktepe where the Russians had such a hard fight with the khans. The word "Yucatan" is simply a slight variation from Joktan, the tribal leader mentioned in the book of Genesis, whose people were located in southwestern Asia. The tradition of the deluge is strongly fixed in the minds of the aboriginal nations on this hemisphere; very elaborately in Mexico and extending along the continent north and south, and found clearly indicated in Alaska.

Mr. Hallock's theory of decadence from a high degree of civilization is perfectly reasonable. The traditions of nearly all nations locate in the remote past a period of perfection and happiness, when men were in close touch with the gods and were governed by them. Portions of the human race, in migrating from the cradle in central Asia, lost, in their struggle for existence, the civilization of the nations of the Tigre-Euphrates basin, which, under the present system of excavations, is shown to have been of a very high quality. In Egypt it is shown that under the first dynasty jewels of exquisite quality were made as well as other accessories of a high civilization, and this, 4,700 years before the Christian era. It is not surprising that the peoples who wandered far from the cradle of the race into Africa and western Europe suffered decadence and retained only crude ideas of the social status of their forebears. There was no "stone age" common to the whole human race. It is becoming more and more evident that the original "stone age" was only peculiar to those portions of the race who had wandered out of sight and memory of their ancestral workers in iron, brass and copper, who also wove cloths, had imposing architectures and played on musical instruments and calculated eclipses. There are peoples on the earth to-day who are yet in the stone age. The three ages of stone certainly do not synchronize.

It is perfectly possible, as Mr. Hallock claims, that the descendants of the original Asiatic immigrants, pushing into the two continents of this hemisphere, lost all but some traces of the original civilization, and the type was changed by climatic effects and by environage, just as quite radical changes take place in many kinds of animals when transported to new climates.

Mayor Ames ought to acquaint himself with the facts when he talks about his opposition to unconstitutional bonds. The Duluth case decision he quoted as the bulwark of his position was on the other side. In the meantime it is to be hoped that some way may be found to make the city's suffering for the mayor's mistake as light as possible. Controller Rogers' proposition to forestall the water department revenue is a good one in itself, and should be acted on if it is possible to do so without creating a dangerous precedent.

THE ETHICS OF SPECULATION

Under this caption John A. Ryan discusses stock and produce exchange operations, in the International Journal of Ethics, and concludes that speculation as an institution is "economically of doubtful utility; socially it is productive of great and widespread evils, and morally it is vitiated by a very considerable amount of dishonest 'deals' and practices." "As an individual action," he says, "speculation at its best is morally questionable."

It would be difficult to deny the second and third of Mr. Ryan's conclusions. It is a truism to say that socially speculation is productive of great and widespread evils. It encourages the gambling spirit and as a presumably straight and broad road to riches it lures thousands from happy lives of legitimate, well-ordered effort to the feverish pursuit of wealth that, whether gained or lost, is a sort of false wealth, a sort of something for nothing, even though in the mad dalliance with chance the life of the votary is wrecked. When you read in the paper of some "solid" business man turning out to be a hollow failure or of some big financial house toppling over you run your eyes down the column looking for the cause, sure that two times out of three some speculation really foreign to the business has been the cause of distress. Most faithless employes, most recreant stewards are the victims of speculation.

It is equally notorious that speculation abounds with dishonest deals and practices. It is not considered so in the stock exchange where all are fighting with the same weapons, but many of the battles between bulls and bears which take up so much space in the accounts of market operations are essentially dishonest in their cause. What is an assault upon a stock, but an attempt to reduce its price below its value, and what is supporting a stock except an effort to inflate its value? Moreover, these frequently dishonest ends—viewed from the standpoint of the disinterested ethicist—are attained by dishonest methods, chief among which is the circulation of false reports or the studied creation of false impressions concerning the value of a stock.

The economic value of a stock exchange is held by its apologists to lie in its creation of a ready market for securities and in its assumed capacity to adjust prices correctly. The principal economic value of a produce exchange is the creation of a body of speculators who are professional risk takers for the actual producers and sellers. For instance, practically all of the legitimate and real wheat business of Minneapolis is paralleled by "hedging" with fictitious wheat. The legitimate dealer by means of the "hedging" process insures himself of a fair margin of profit and denies himself the possibility of great gains while escaping the posibility of great losses.

Mr. Ryan tries to show that there is no necessity for the creation of a special class of risk takers and argues that the producer or the manufacturer ought to take the risks of his own business. His argument is thin and weak on this point. It is hard to contemplate the great, strictly legitimate business operations of the present day which, over considerable periods of time and between far distant points, are conducted upon a safe basis, by the aid of the exchange without appreciating the latter's value. In fact, it is difficult to say how it would be possible to carry on a business involving large sales for future delivery if it were not for a market that is always willing to take the risk. The individual, if he undertook to carry the risks of a fall in prices between the time of production or manufacture and the selling time would lay himself open to ruin by a single slump of the market. When the individual contracts to deliver wheat, say at some future time, wheat that he actually has in elevator, he runs the risk that when that time comes wheat will be cheaper than it was when he bought. But if he sells fictitious wheat to a speculator at the same time that he buys the wheat intended for future delivery he is on the safe side. For if the price of the actual wheat falls he will make enough on the fictitious wheat to offset the loss. While he has to sell actual wheat below the buying price the speculator will have to pay him the difference between the price prevailing at the beginning of operations and at their conclusion.

Yet no man is wise enough to tell us how this valuable economic insurance service of speculation can be maintained without giving ample room for the harmful moral and social effects of speculation.

The Canadians are making a great reputation for themselves in South Africa. All in all they have got more glory out of that unpleasant business than either the British or the other colonials. They are showing a courage which is almost too magnificent to be war. Several times recently the dispatches have noted the refusal of Canadians to surrender even when their situation was hopeless and they have fought until all were killed or wounded. In view of the fact that the Boers invariably release their prisoners these splendid Canadian troops would be doing their cause a better service if by surrendering they lived to fight on another day. We have never considered it a disgrace, though it is a humiliation, that there should have been so many surrenders of whole forces in South Africa. The British soldier's reputation for courage is too well established, on the whole, for him uselessly to sacrifice himself when his judgment tells him that the point has been reached in the conflict where further resistance means destruction.

THE BUCKET-SHOP

The luminous discussion of bucket-shops by C. M. Harrington, published in another column to-day, should be read by every person who has the least interest in the grain trade or desires information in a nutshell as to the differences between Chamber of Commerce operations and the cruel and hollow, yet ludicrous, mockery of the bucket-shops.

Incidentally it may be remarked that Mr. Harrington has ably reinforced the conclusions in another editorial in this issue that the speculative side of the exchanges that actually are centers for real buyers and sellers of commodities is legitimate and necessary, though seemingly inevitably accompanied by frequent illegitimate and useless operations in the chief centers of speculative trade.

The simple truth, as Mr. Harrington shows, is that the bucket-shop is a gambling-house that uses market quotations instead of cards, dice and other ordinary gambling paraphernalia and then manipulates the "deal" so that the patron has against him not only all the natural chances of the market fluctuations, but is likely to be confronted by fictitious quotations, especially created for the purpose of freezing him out. The bucket-shop then not only has no connection whatever with the real "future" business of the Chamber of Commerce, but has no relation even to the purely speculative phase of the chamber's operations and can not even be relied upon to give the quotations with accuracy.

The Chamber of Commerce is performing a public service when it seeks to stamp out these pestiferous concerns through taking from them every shred of a respectable or legitimate appearance by depriving them of market quotations. It is to be regretted that the law and the interpretation of the law are not sufficiently comprehensive to make the chamber's task one easily and swiftly accomplished.

While on this subject it is pertinent to express emphatic approval of the efforts being made to prevent the repeal of the war tax on bucket-shops. As the Commercial West puts it this week, the tax is not heavy enough to be much of a burden to the shops, but as an incident to the tax they must keep their books open to inspection, which makes it possible for their customers to ascertain how they are "filched of their money." Thus the tax acts as a sort of inspiration to virtue, while at the same time reducing the profits of the shop proprietors. The revenue stamp on all his "deals" is a constant reminder to the bucket-shop patron that he is in a pure gambling venture, and thus serves as a warning to many innocent amateur "speculators" who have not yet gone far enough to understand the radical difference between a bucket-shop and a chamber of commerce.

It used to be remarked disparagingly a few years ago that while Minnesota could win at football it lost in debates. But this year the university talkers seem to have a better claim to superiority than the football men have. A little while ago Iowa was bowled over and last night at Chicago the strong talkers of the University of Michigan went down to defeat before the North Star boys.

THE RHODES WILL

The will of the late Cecil Rhodes, as detailed in a London cable, is one of the most extraordinary instruments of that kind ever made. His enormous wealth, with the exception of some estates in England, is left for beneficent public uses, to a large extent educational,—a disposal which will perpetuate his memory through all time.

He remembered the United States in making provision for two Oxford scholarships to each of the present states and territories.

Germany is the only other country remembered outside of England, and, in a codicil, he said: "For a good understanding between England, Germany and the United States will secure the peace of the world, and educational relations form the strongest tie."

In laying down the qualifications for candidates for the Oxford scholarships, Mr. Rhodes shows his English robustness by emphasizing manly courage and fondness for outdoor sports of a manly character. He would have them show leadership qualities and aim to prepare themselves for public duties as the highest aim.

Mr. Rhodes took our country into the scope of his large beneficence because of its power and prominence among the English-speaking nations. He knew, as every thoughtful person knows, that, however an element in this country may kick against all talk of friendship between Great Britain and the United States, and even seek to embroil the two nations, the ties of language, kinship and commercial intercourse bind and will continue to bind the two together. He recognized the fact that, as Great Britain and Germany in accord are the two conspicuous promoters of the world's peace in Europe, that pact will not be complete in itself as a preventive of war, but the influence of our great and powerful nation is essential to insure effective restraint. The terms of the will recognize the necessity for maintaining the peace of the world and the real, effective agencies for such maintenance.

Mr. Rhodes, it must be said, was a maker of war himself. He had large responsibility for the South African war with its cataracts of human blood and waste of property and treasure. In this will he seeks to make some compensation for his malign influence in this matter. It may not, however, be looked upon as penance simply. He had South Africa much at heart. He had done a great work in extending the empire in that region. He leaves much of his wealth to promote the well-being of that interesting and war-blighted country. May his beneficence sow the seed of a much more wholesome crop than his influence while living brought forth.

Lord Kitchener is certainly the prize military euphemist of the day. "Gross irregularities" is such a nice, gentle, refined, unoffending term for the murder of harmless men, women and children. But inasmuch as the aforesaid gross irregularities were punished with death, the term is likely to have a very extreme meaning in South Africa after this.

EXPORT WHEAT AND FLOUR RATES

Although the northwestern millers have been able to prove to the satisfaction of western traffic men that export wheat should be given an equal chance in the rate sheet with export flour, the eastern trunk lines have seen fit to reinstate the old rate on flour and again seriously handicap the millers in the foreign trade.

This means that the campaign of education, begun about a year ago by the millers, which, it was thought, had been brought to a successful issue at a meeting of the Central Freight association in Chicago, must now be carried east.

The millers have successfully met all of the old arguments which traffic men have employed in their refusal to give export flour the same rate as export wheat. They have gone farther and proven to the satisfaction of the western railroads that as a sound business proposition flour for export should be carried east at about the same rate as wheat for export. Therefore the conclusion is natural that the action of the eastern lines is based on ignorance of the facts and conditions surrounding the traffic and dictated by old prejudices and theories which traffic men of the west have cast aside.

Traffic men have long contended that flour for export is not entitled to the same rate as export wheat because flour cannot be as profitably handled by the roads as wheat; that flour cannot be loaded to the full capacity of the cars, as wheat can be. Some traffic men have argued that in case of a wreck the salvage on a car of wheat was much more than on a car of flour. The millers have recognized that if these arguments were true their demand for better treatment for flour could not be regarded as business-like.

In recent conferences between the millers and western traffic men, the millers clearly showed that flour for export could be handled from mill to steamer at seaboard at practically as low a cost as wheat. In recent experiments it has been found that the car has not been built which cannot be loaded to its full capacity and ten percent additional with flour for export.

The experience of railway men is also gradually reinforcing the argument made by the millers that more can be realized from a wrecked load of flour than from a wrecked load of grain. One of the leading traffic men of the northwest says that the grain is usually so scattered that it cannot be saved while there is generally a chance to gather up a large percentage of a wrecked car of flour and send it back to the mill for reconditioning. This has been done in many cases and the results are gradually educating the traffic men out of the old prejudice on this point.

All this goes to show that export flour will net the railroads as much revenue as export wheat, and, for that reason, is entitled to practically the same rate.

With the shipment of grain there are no other items of profit to be considered. The roads have secured all the revenue incident to the traffic when they collect the freight bills at seaboard. But to encourage the flour industry means that the roads will not only haul the wheat yield of the country east in its manufactured form, but will also secure a revenue from the traffic in commodities connected with the grinding of grain. More than that they are building up the country and developing business for the future.

The policy of the eastern lines on flour does not concern Minneapolis alone. It is of interest to every community in the country which manufactures flour. Western railroads have already decided that their best interests lie in encouraging the shipment of the manufactured product. They have wisely determined to co-operate with the millers. It is to be hoped that the same co-operation can be secured from the eastern lines.

This is a great question affecting a great industry. Co-operation of the transportation interests and the milling interests of the country will produce great results. All the flour America can make will be wanted in foreign countries if the rate to seaboard will allow American flour to successfully compete. There are enough mills in the United States to grind not only the maximum crop of 700,000,000 bushels, but 400,000,000 additional. In other words, the milling capacity of this country exceeds one billion bushels of wheat. The railroads, therefore, are not obliged to wait for the milling capacity of the country to equal the wheat crop before they get the traffic. Not only can they make as good a net revenue from export flour as from export wheat, but they are assured of all the export wheat traffic in the form of flour as soon as a favorable rate will give our millers the opportunity to put new vigor into their efforts for export trade.

There has been much ignorance of facts and conditions in judging the relations between export wheat and export flour. This is shown in the demolishing of old theories by the experiments made by the millers. Not long ago the interstate commerce commission advanced the opinion that the difference between the rate on export wheat and export flour should be in the neighborhood of 2 cents per hundred pounds. The western railroads, after obtaining new light, cut the difference down to an insignificant figure. The progress which the millers make in educating the traffic men of the east will be watched with much interest. They are in the right, their request is sound as a business proposition, and they ought to win.

The Nonpareil Man

Casually Observed.

The allied people's party has one advantage over the democratic party. Mention of its platform does not cause a free fight.

Mme. Emma Eames Story, the prima donna, tells Chicago people that they do not know how to relax. Relax! Good heavens! If a man relaxes in Chicago, some other fellow gets his money away!

The rise in the price of beef is attributed to the short corn crop. The real reason is the long trust crop.

The coal trust is advising its friends to lay in its next winter's coal. If you do not take this advice, the trust fines you ten cents or so on the ton per month.

Football athletes guarded some of the polling places in Chicago. Few illegal voters attempted to hit the line.

The odor of Rochefort cheese is said to be due to the wild thyme on which the sheep feed. The aroma would seem to indicate that the sheep had a bad thyme.

The Bryan democrats declare that Colonel Watterson plays the piano. Isn't it an organ?

Meat has gone up till you can barely hear the moo.

The wife of a New York professional beggar had her diamonds stolen and has ruined her husband's business by making a fuss.

Even Yell county, Arkansas, went back on Jones. It was like Bourbon county, Kentucky, going for prohibition.

A Bug Concealed in It.

A contemporary, often bright and usually accurate, had the following "bug" yesterday:

"Would you say John Smith looks bad or looks badly?" asked one of those hairsplitting entomologists of us the other day.

"Why, looks bad, of course," was our prompt reply, for we had been caught on this question once before.

"But suppose he is cross-eyed—doesn't he look badly?"

And as the hair-splitting entomologist went to the floor with the big dictionary on top of him it looked very bad for hm.

The sense of human brotherhood leads us to believe that it was a proofreader's error, for it was corrected in later editions to read "etymologist." Such things will happen, but they are funny—when they don't happen to us.

When the Engine "Squirts."

A boy who has not lived in a small town where the fire hand engines are accustomed to come out and "squirt" for practice has lost one of the simple pleasures that life cannot make up to him if he lives a thousand years. The engines known as "Tiger No. 2," and "Torrent No. 1" did not come out regularly and it was impossible to guess just when the great event of the week was due. The warning was usually given by a small boy running breathlessly down the middle of the street and like Paul Revere hollering to all his friends as he passed:

"She's going to squirt!"

Then every boy drops chores, ball, marbles or what not and makes a bee line for "down town." The engines are on the river bank and two lines of firemen in their shirt sleeves are manning the brakes waiting for the signal to "brake her down."

A big crowd of men stand around and discuss the merits of the two engines. Every boy in town knows all the fine points and records of each tub and is a loyal supporter of either the Torrent or the Tiger. Nearly all the supporters of the Torrent were old line whigs or their descendants. To champion the Tiger was to write oneself down as a Jacksonian democrat or a descendant of such a party. The Torrent was the more conservative tub, the Tigers had more of what has been called Americanism. You could almost always tell from a boy's natural characteristics which tub he would champion.

The captain of the engine stood on top of his machine, a figure of great power, and an object of envy to all the boys. As the brakes began slowly to move he swayed back and forth in the intensity of his emotion. As the men warmed up to their work he would yell, "Now, there, brake her down," "Take it out" and as the brakes shot down and up with the rapidity of machinery, a wild yell from the main street showed that the water had taken a sudden spurt and had wet down the group of small boys standing venturesomely in front of the stream. Wild yells of joy greeted each spurt of water in advance of the record. As the gang at the brakes "tired out," the stream fell back and finally ceased and two men with the tape measure ascertained what had been done.

The hand engine was a pretty good thing except at fires. On such occasions everybody wanted to see the fun and it was difficult to keep a force at the brakes. With a hot blaze up town, a man hated to be breaking his back at such a tiresome operation as pumping water. Finally the old town bought a steam fire engine and the glories of the old hand tubs faded before the stately march of modern improvement.

—A. J. Russell.

MY BROTHER

I will not ask my brother of his creed,
Nor what he holds of doctrine, old or new,
Nor what the rites by which his soul may need
To worship God, the only wise and true—
Nor what he thinks of Christ himself, the son,
Nor through what waters he hath put him on.

I ask not what temptations have beset
His doubting heart, now self-abased and sore,
Nor by what Jacob's well he met
Divine suggestion—"Drink and thirst no more";
Between his soul and God those matters lie;
Not mine to cavil, question or deny.

I ask not by what name, among the rest,
That Christians go by, he is known of men;
Whether his faith has ever been "professed"
Or whether proven by his deeds, for when
I see the Christhood in him, all is well;
He is my brother, and in peace we dwell.

I will not ask him through what dusty street
Of Bethany, of Nazareth or Nain,
The cobblestones have bruised his weary feet
While he bore healing balm for others' pain;
If he alone has hungered, or if he
Has fed ten thousand by the sounding sea.

If grace and pity in his actions speak,
Or fall in words of kindness from his tongue.
Which raise the fallen, fortify the weak,
And heal the heart by sorrow torn and wrung,
If he yield good for ill and love for hate,
Friend of the fatherless, poor and desolate.

I find in him discipleship so true,
So full that nothing further I demand;
He may be bondman, freeman, gentile, Jew,
Yet we are brethren, walk we hand in hand,
In his clear life, let me the Christhood see,
It is enough for him, enough for me.

—Eugene Whitney.

THE WASTE OF WAR

London Daily News.

We are not trying to make out a case for protection or the boycotting of American wares. But it is a matter of serious import that, while we are wasting our wealth, energies and manhood in the South African desert, the Americans are steadily securing control of our industries. It is time the nation aroused itself to a sense of the gravity of its position.

We Pause to Blush.

De Smet (S. D.) News.

Without doubt the best daily paper that reaches our town is the Minneapolis Journal. It has been a constant visitor at this office for the past eight or ten years and we have come to look upon it as a household necessity. It is what might be called a "crack-a-jack" paper—the more you read it the more you want to.

She Didn't Know Butter.

Chicago Tribune.

Senator Spooner, who said the other day that oleomargarin was frequently palmed off upon his wife for genuine butter, will not ask leave to print Mrs. Spooner's subsequent remarks to him on that subject.

May Not Alwnys Be Her Inferior.

Chicago News.

A movement is on foot to admit men to membership in women's clubs. Thus man is gradually rising to equality with the other sex.

CURRENT DISCUSSIONS

The Philippine Currency.

New York Times.

The plan for coinage and currency in the Philippines, which is included in the bill for the government of the islands reported to the senate, requires very thorough discussion. It is difficult to see in what this scheme of coinage differs in the least, except in the weight of the dollar, from the scheme of free coinage which was defeated in this country with so much trouble and at the expense of such confusion, discredit and loss. Nor is there any reason to suppose that the scheme will work any less badly in the Philippines than here.

The Value of Youthful Ideas.

New York Sun.

The London Spectator begins an essay on "The Unpopularity of Youth" by laying down as a foundation for its discussion the assertion that "young men, especially young men of promise, are, generally speaking, disliked."

Now, in England, that may be the "curious fact" which the Spectator calls it, but the "curious fact" here is rather the prominence won by young men in affairs, more especially, and the respectful consideration with which their judgment is received by older men who have been successful likewise in that sphere of activity.

In Wall street, for example, are many young men who have demonstrated so strikingly the sort of ability required for the successful pursuit of its business that even old heads in that mart will listen respectfully, even eagerly, to their counsel and pay humble heed to their criticism. The sight of gray-headed capitalists and financiers gravely considering relatively juvenile opinions and even inviting them as of very serious value, is not infrequent. Difference of years yields to actual achievement. The alert mind of youth is recognized as having an advantage over duller age, more especially, at this period of new business development.

The King of Octopi.

New York Commercial Advertiser.

The enormous sum of $110,000,000 earned as net profits during the year by the Steel corporation gives a fair idea of the magnitude of the business and of its ranking importance among the sources of the nation's wealth. The United States Steel corporation claims about 80 per cent of the entire iron and steel output of the country. If this be true, and we assume that the outside concerns have made the same average profit, the total net revenues for the iron trade as a whole have amounted to some $135,000,000 during the last twelve months. This is nearly twice the sum which the treasury took in during the fiscal year 1901. It is equal to a quarter of the entire year's receipts of the federal government from all sources, and more than half the $243,000,000 which was collected from customs during the twelve months ending last December. Multiply the same sum by four and we have an amount equal to last year's entire visible credit in the foreign trade. From these comparisons the true proportions of the iron trade income are brought more clearly into view. No other manufacturing industry, of course, comes anywhere near it in point of profits. The mining and transportation of coal holds second place, and cotton manufactures probably holds the third.

Disfranchising Negroes in Virginia.

Nebraska State Journal.

After struggling for nearly a year against the adoption by the constitutional convention of a "grandfather clause" devised for the purpose of disfranchising the blacks, the Virginia conservatives are about to surrender and accept something of the kind in order to get the question off their hands. The Richmond Times opposes the clause and says that a maority of the delegates to the convention are really opposed to it. Finally, however, the Times has become convinced that some measure to disfranchise the negroes is bound to be passed, and now agrees not to oppose a temporary expedient in order to tide the state over a critical period. The belief of the conservatives who accept the clause is that in the course of time education will grow in the state and a suitable educational test will not prove a serious handicap to either race.

A Governorship for Jacob Riis.

Philadelphia Inquirer.

The happy suggestion has been made that President Roosevelt appoint Jacob Riis governor of the Danish islands when they come under our flag. Mr. Riis is the warm personal friend of Mr. Roosevelt, who, while governor of New York, pronounced him the most useful citizen of the state. He tried to get him to take office then, but Mr. Riis refused, though it is likely that he would not decline the position now mentioned, because he combines the qualifications necessary for the place as perhaps does no other American.

Mr. Riis was born and educated in Denmark. He came to this country as a boy, lived for a while as a mechanic in this state and finally became a reporter in New York, where he gained an acquaintance with police methods that made him the valuable citizen as mentioned. He has made his mark in literature by writing of life in the slums of New York. "How the Other Half Lives" and "Out of Mulberry Street" marked the man as a philosopher and reformer of a practical kind. For years he has been foremost in every good work in the city, but has remained a working newspaper man, refusing all sorts of positions of honor and profit. His latest work, "The Making of an American," is not only a choice bit of literature, but a study in government that is valuable.

If he were called to the delicate task of governing the Danish islands he would not only have a broad sympathy for the many sorts and conditions of people there, but would have that knowledge of the two languages and the two principal races which is essential at this time. There are few occasions on which the office seeks the man, but this would seem to be one of them.

Rain of Feathers and Blood.

St. Louis Post Dispatch.

At the Blue River Park, Kansas City, where the 8,000 pigeons set apart for the grand American hadicap are being shot to pieces the ground around the traps and shooters looks, says a press correspondent, as though snow had fallen. It is covered with feathers, and with the falling feathers there is a rain of blood. All this in order to show the skill of a few men in shooting straight, and to exhibit the qualities of certain guns and brands of powder.

But what a disgusting spectacle, looked at from the standpoint of a manly man or a womanly woman. New York has decided, through its people and its legislators, that such spectacles shall not disgrace its fields any more. It has decreed against wholesale slaughter for sport. Such slaughter is not necessary; it is brutal and degrading.

How long shall Missouri sanction this barbarism?

Give Mary and Lotta a Chance.

Boston Herald.

There's no good reason why Miss Mary Burkhart shouldn't run for congress in the tenth district of Kentucky if she feels inclined to, any more than there is why Miss Lotta Greenup should not assist her father's candidature for congress in the first Kentucky district by her fiddle accompaniment to his speeches. Colonel Watterson isn't entitled to a monopoly of the mirth-provoking entertainment of the Kentucklans.

A Rare Bird, Inded.

Philadelphia Times.

A millionaire like Reginald Vanderbilt, of New York, who says he should pay $250,000 in taxes when the assessors only asked for $11,000, is a rare avis. There are not likely to be many of the species, more's the pity.

Then.

Philadelphia Press.

When the Philippines get the proposed silver currency that will be the place for Colonel Bryan to go and run for the presidency.

THEY ALL SAVED THE SEEDS

One of Secretary Shaw's stories was repeated in the capitol cloak rooms in Washington the other day. "A friend of mine," said Governor Shaw, "gave a dinner once to some rural gentlemen from Iowa. He furnished them the best of everything, terrapin and canvasback duck. The climax of the feast was a watermelon, into which had been emptied two quarts of champagne. When the farmers began to eat the watermelon they smiled and smacked their lips and ate again. Then, of one accord, they slipped into their pockets a handful of the seeds. They wanted to raise some of the same kind of melon on their own farms."

A President Off the Reservation.

Howard (S. D.) Spirit.

General Miles again has an obstreperous president on his hands.

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