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Fifty Dollars for a State Song

The following communication came to The Journal last Saturday:
To the Editor of The Journal:
The enclosed are the words of "Illinois," as sung last evening at Illinois headquarters at the West Hotel by N. E. A. representatives from that state. This was given me to-day by a young lady from Chicago, while on the train to Excelsior this morning. It at once suggested the thought that every person is proud of his home, his hamlet, town, city, and particularly his state. Every child has a right to be proud of Minnesota and to sing its praises in the schoolroom. Minnesota has no more song. I would suggest offering a prize for the best production. A fit production would be speedily adopted by the state, as was the gopher, the moose, the flower and the state flag.
—M. G. P.
Minneapolis, July 11.

An effort to discover the writer was unavailing as the suggestion therein offered was taken up yesterday and presented to the public. The writer of this communication was Morris G. Pfaffm. He modestly concealed his identity as the originator of this excellent idea, but is entitled to the credit of having suggested the offer of a prize for a state song.
The Journal was glad to make the offer, and its proposition to pay \$50 to the writer of a song which shall be accepted by a committee of competent judges of its literary merit and musical quality. It is hoped, will call out something meritorious. As soon as the committee of judges can be made up they will be announced, and the requirements which they may impose will be stated. This, however, need not deter any one who contemplates competing for this \$50 prize and the honor of writing a state song from going to work at once on the development of his idea.
We repeat the suggestions of yesterday that the song should be in English, and that it should be in a form which would be suitable for use in the schoolroom. It should be in a form which would be suitable for use in the schoolroom. It should be in a form which would be suitable for use in the schoolroom.

work here without attempting to punish them for their offences. It will be time enough for our supercilious critics to boast of their superior virtues when they have displayed as much diligence in the business of municipal housecleaning as Minneapolis has done.
SHALL IT BE NATIONAL?
The national convention of miners will assemble in Indianapolis to-morrow to decide whether a sympathy strike of the bituminous coal miners shall be called "national" or whether the convention shall vote large financial relief to the 150,000 striking anthracite miners of Pennsylvania. President Mitchell has intimated that he does not desire national suspension of coal mining, anthracite and bituminous, yet the convention to-morrow, composed of delegates from all the mining regions of the United States, may order just such suspension which will surely work disastrously for the business of the country and for the miners themselves. Some of the delegations to the convention have been instructed definitely by their districts to vote for a general strike of the bituminous miners, while there is uncertainty as to how they may be divided.
It is admitted by labor officials that if the bituminous miners are not called out, the anthracite strike will be of short continuance.
It becomes, in case the convention does not vote for a strike, a question of coal mining, a nice financial question as to the promptness with which the authorities strike may be aided by assessment of all the local unions in the bituminous districts. Mr. Mitchell said the other day, at Wilkesbarre, that he thought ample provision would be made for contributions of funds to carry the strike to certain victory. It was stated by Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, recently, that his organization will assist the miners to the extent of \$1,500,000, but there is intimation from labor leaders that it would take the federation so long to collect the assessment that the anthracite strikers would not be able to hold out, as they require the funds at once. Last year the federation made an assessment of 5 per cent on its members to assist the "miners' strike," but only \$45,000 was collected out of the \$450,000 assessed. Mr. Mitchell, however, has been, during the past few weeks, diligently working with labor unions here and there, to get from them promises of financial aid for his strikers and he evidently believes that the convention to-morrow will not take the extreme step of ordering the suspension of coal mining throughout the United States, but confine itself to a declaration committing itself to assessment in aid of the anthracite miners.
The anthracite strike has lasted now nearly up to the limit of the resources of the union, and if the resistance is to be prolonged, a heavy strike tax levy upon the resources of the bituminous unions will be necessary, aside from the pledge of the Federation of Labor. If the convention decides upon a general suspension of coal mining, it will assume a tremendous responsibility, the ignoring of which will entail great distress upon the miners as well as upon the business of the country. Several hundred thousand men will be thrown out of employment and disorders will inevitably break out on a large scale.
The Indianapolis convention, to-morrow, should keep a cool head and remember that, if a suspension of coal mining is ordered, one result will be the strengthening of the combinations in coal in their power to squeeze the public with still higher prices.
The prosecution in the police cases may not succeed in convicting either the mayor or his brother of direct complicity in the graft business, but it seems likely to rid the community permanently of both of them, which is, after all, perhaps the most desirable result.
The pardoning board has turned down all applications for pardon, even that of the sensitive soul who rested his application for release on the bare statement that he did not enjoy the society at the Minneapolis workhouse. His finer feelings were in a state of constant laceration. Let him wait. "Coffee John" is coming and will raise the social standards and sweeten the social atmosphere of the place by the mere addition of his distinguished presence. John is so pleased with the means adopted to put him there that he is bound to be the most appreciative member of the shut-in so-

MINNESOTA POLITICS

SITUATION AS TO Former Governor Lind is the recipient of much attention for a man who has declined AND CONGRESS. to run for office.

From three distinct sources pressure is being brought to bear on him to run as the Democratic candidate for congress in the fifth district.
His old associates in state politics, who are interested in the success of the state ticket, and particularly his successor, Mr. Roseng, are anxious he should run, for the help he would give the ticket in Hennepin county. The demand will be a strenuous effort to carry both Hennepin and Ramsey counties, and in this county will rely largely on John Lind. Local Democrats who hope to capture the offices, such as sheriff and mayor, are begging him to run, for the strength they believe he would lead the county and city tickets.

A PROTECTED INFANT

The answer of the United States Steel corporation made by President Schwab to a suit for injunction to prevent the company from carrying out its bond deal, shows what a healthy infant this protected industry is.
Mr. Schwab, for the first time since the organization of the corporation, presents a detailed statement of the assets or properties. These assets are found to include 400 producing mills of the value of \$900,000,000; seventy-five blast furnaces of the value of \$48,000,000; iron and bessemer ore properties of the value of \$700,000,000; coke and coke properties of the value of \$100,000,000; natural gas fields of the value of \$20,000,000; cash in bank to the amount of \$60,000,000, and over \$80,000,000 worth of material in process of manufacture, a total of \$1,314,000,000. The trust, moreover, owns railroads and other properties sufficient to bring its total of assets up to \$1,400,000,000, to which Mr. Schwab makes an affidavit. On this enormous capitalization, the company is said to be earning 10 per cent, or \$140,000,000 a year.

How much of this enormous capitalization is wind and water cannot be told now, but possibly when Mr. Knox gets around to it in his trust investigations, the facts may be developed. Whether any considerable amount of it is fictitious or not, the figures stagger comprehension. No one can grasp the thought of a capitalization of nearly a billion and a half of dollars. He can, however, grasp the utter absurdity of regarding this enormous institution, the greatest iron and steel producing corporation in the world, favored by location in the possession of the greatest home market in the world, enjoying the advantages of combination of all the necessary elements of cheap steel, iron production—coal, ore, furnaces, mills and transportation—a man can easily grasp the absurdity of such an institution clamoring for protection and the enjoyment of peculiar advantages in the form of a high protective tariff. Mr. Schwab's declaration of the mammoth proportions of the steel trust, more colossal even than they were supposed to be, will at least serve the purpose of strengthening the popular demand that the steel industry, so thoroughly dominated by this great trust, shall not command higher prices for its products than it is entitled to and collect them through the assistance of a protective tariff.

THE COUNTY Eljah Barton was once more chosen to head the democratic committee.
Eighteen of the committee were present, and there was no opposition to Mr. Barton's selection. He was not present, but was appointed by D. W. Ahern, John J. Hagman, a committee to secure a headquarters location. The selection of a secretary was deferred until another meeting.
The first gun in the democratic campaign will be sounded next Tuesday night at Normanna hall, when a ratification meeting will be held in the interests of the state ticket. E. B. Cronin, democratic candidate to wait on Governor Lind and request him to address this meeting, and Candidate Roseng will also be invited to speak.

The Nonpareil Man

Casually Observed.
Captain Filchette promises to tell the grand jury about his pounded thumb.
Mr. Schwab puts a valuation of \$1,400,231,000 on the steel trust, and says it is earning \$140,000,000 per annum net.
The corn farmer started to pick its shorts before they were ripe.

ARMY AND NAVY MANEUVERS

The war board at Washington has devised a most interesting series of maneuvers for army and navy during August and September, the leading feature being an elaborate attack by the navy upon New York with all available modern naval appliances and the defense of the city by the forts and the land forces.
The North Atlantic squadron and most of the coast artillery of the army will be mobilized for the purpose and there will be seen some of the most difficult operations in the way of moving and concentrating troops and handling them for offensive and defensive purposes. Wireless telegraphy will be utilized on the occasion. The army will not be advised of the time of the attack and will hold itself in readiness for attack at any time.
A feature of the maneuvers is that the governor of each state has been invited to send a portion of his state's national guard that it may take part in the evolutions with the regular troops, which will be carried on during ten days. The occasion will certainly be a most interesting one and for the national guard a most instructive one, as it will give them personal experience in maneuvers which take place on the actual field of battle, with all the accessories of modern warfare.
Our government has not heretofore undertaken joint participation of militia and regular forces in maneuvers of this kind, nor has it undertaken such a large scale by army and navy. It is worth, however, to our regular troops and militia all the trouble and expense entailed by it. Our state practice camps have been of great service to the national guard and it is proposed that, hereafter, there shall be held annually on three great parade grounds in the central west, in the east and in the south, joint maneuvers of state troops and regulars.
There will, no doubt, be an outcry against these maneuvers by some people, who behold in President Roosevelt a deadly Caesar, thinly disguised in citizen's clothes. Waterston, who swears he sees the man on horseback "peeping out of the stable door of the White House," will, he declares that the last days of the republic have finally arrived and no mistake about it. Bryan will join Waterston and shriek "To your tents, O Israel!" and feel for his trusty pen to write a grotesquely lurid leader for the Commoner against—Grover Cleveland.
Nevertheless the country generally and the national guardsmen especially, who did their best to put through the militia bill during the last session of congress, will take pleasure in the stimulus which will be given to militia organization and practice and continue with great zest to promote the proper organization of our whole militia force.
The bill which failed in congress was admirably adapted to strengthen our militia arm, and provision was made in it for the payment of state troops by the government, when taking part in any event like the coming maneuvers. The constitution provides that congress shall "provide for organizing, arming and disciplining the militia. This duty congress has not half fulfilled. It is time that its whole duty in this respect were properly performed.

AMUSEMENTS

Foyer Chat.
The Percy Haswell company seems to have become firm established in popular favor in Minneapolis by the fine performances of "Catherine" given at the Metropolitan this week, as the audience increase in size with each performance. The first matinee given this afternoon, was one of the largest of the summer. There will be four more performances of "Catherine," including matinee Saturday.

Henry Arthur Jones' brilliant and successful comedy, "The Man in the Moon," is being offered at the Percy Haswell company at the Metropolitan, commencing next Sunday evening. Miss Haswell will appear as Lady Jessica, the society woman, who smashes herself in a bit of falsehood by the telling of one little fib that she finds some difficulty in extricating herself, but finally succeeds by telling the truth.

In Mile End, Old Town, London, 211 per 1,000 husbands and 292 per 1,000 wives signed marriage registers with a cross during 1900. Most of them were foreigners.

PRESIDENT WINTERGREEN'S MISTAKE

By VICTOR H. SMALLEY

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The president of the International Insurance company was enjoying the most peaceful period of a busy man's everyday life, the half hour after lunch, when the remembrance of a good meal is enhanced by the fumes of a fragrant Havana. There was an unwritten law in the office of the company that under no circumstances should the president be disturbed for thirty minutes after returning from lunch, and on this particular day the president and a still friendlier colleague, "Mr. Wintergreen," said he, "my name is Butter Adam Button, sir. I am an old partner of your company and now carry \$75,000 insurance with you." Mr. Wintergreen unobtrusively coughed and a polite response was returned, "I am in the office of the company that under no circumstances should the president be disturbed for thirty minutes after returning from lunch. More and more the president and a still friendlier colleague, "Mr. Wintergreen," said he, "my name is Butter Adam Button, sir. 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