THE JOURNAL

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Is This Business?

Who paid for the junket?

The state board of equalization went on a "little trip" to St. Louis a few days ago. A recess was taken Oct. 5, and fifteen of the eighteen members hied themselves away in a private car to see the exposition, returning Oct. 11.

The usual question asked about such a junket is—Who paid for it?

The state helped. The members of the board drew their $5 a day for the four days the junket lasted, so that the state paid $360 toward the expenses of the little excursion.

The equalizers had a jolly good time at St. Louis, free from official cares. There was nothing to equalize at St. Louis. They went purely for their own amusement, but the state paid each man $20 extra on account of that trip—almost enough to take each man down the full length of the Pike.

No wonder the board felt that it had to raise values and increase the revenues of the state, after setting the example of using public funds for private amusement.

Still the question is not answered—who paid for the junket?

The transportation was furnished by a railway company probably as a "courtesy" to the members of the board. The charitable assumption is that the other expenses of the trip were paid by the members out of their own pockets, but the private history of junkets usually reads otherwise. No one will accuse the merchants or the lumbermen of Minneapolis of footing the bills, after the treatment they received at the hands of the state board. The members of the board either could not see the equalities of the case, or were in too big a hurry to get to St. Louis and to get home again, for they did an indefensible wrong to local interests. The assessment of the merchants, already $1,500,000 higher than last year, was raised another 15 per cent. Lumber values were raised 20 per cent in the face of lower stocks and lower prices. The other taxpayers of Minneapolis are not wronged by this action, but all want to see justice done, and it certainly has not been done in the present case.

But to return to the junket. If the members of the board had been sticking closely to their work until that recess, there would not be so much ground to complain. The trouble is that the board was only in session seventeen days, and yet drew pay for thirty-six days' work. There were five other days that work was done by certain committees, so that some of the members could lay claim to twenty-two days' work. There was another four-day recess taken at the time of the primary election, from Sept. 16 to Sept. 21. Five Sundays and nine week days, for which they received pay, they were idle or engaged in private business. Each member received $5 a day for fourteen days on which no service was performed for the state—$70 bonus for each member, and $1,260 for the board. The board met Sept. 6, and finally adjourned Oct. 11—elapsed time, thirty-six days. At noon yesterday each member received a state voucher for $180.

If the members of the board wanted to go to St. Louis, why did they not wait until their work was finished? They had less than two days' work to do when they returned. One possible explanation for that four-day recess and the two-day session that followed is that the members of the board wanted that extra $20 from the state. At any rate, they staved off the final adjournment four days by the excursion and added just that much to their vouchers.

It may be said in extenuation that the members of the board were only following a precedent. In previous years the board has been called to meet Tuesday of the fair week, and has not begun actual work till a week later, giving the members seven days' extra pay. This year the board did not meet until after the fair, but the members refused to give up the traditional bonus. They took a four days' layoff for the primary election, and then evolved the idea of a junket.

Great is the junket, and great is the perennial per diem. The salary allowance of the members of the board of equalization for the session just closed comes to $3,240. Add to this the mileage, and the session cost the state nearly $4,000.

For $4,000 the state could employ the services of a tax commissioner who knew something about values and could do a plain "sum" in arithmetic, like 10 times 200,000. Why not do state business on business principles?

And there's the rub; it isn't the junket, or who paid for it, or the overtime charged for, or the $4,000 that is the most important thing. It is this farce of a tax system that we are working under, which, under the pretense of equalizing, lays the burden of taxation heavier upon those who cannot escape or who, if they could, have been honest enough to return their property at fair values, while it is unable to do anything to bring to book millions of property which never pays any taxes. Equitable taxation is the most difficult problem of statesmanship, but that is no reason why it should be shirked any longer in this state, where injustices are being perpetrated which would fully justify resistance of collection by resort to legal process, and from which, no doubt, the courts would afford complete protection.

Dr. Harper thinks that the theological schools are not "making good." He states that "not a single religious problem of any importance has been solved by the theological seminaries of the United States in fifty years. The solution of these problems must come from our great universities, which are realizing that they must furnish the religious training in the future." The trouble is that a man may graduate at a theological school after three years' study and then find an entirely new set of problems facing him in his first pastorate. These old doctrinal and historical matters are interesting, but we are also alive today, and furnish a bunch of our own problems for solution.

A New Voice for Independent Voting.

The Pioneer Press is an ardent advocate of independent voting when the circumstances seem to justify it. It recently (Oct. 5) condemned the republicans of Missouri severely for not falling into line behind Folk, the democratic candidate for governor in that state and the prosecutor of the St. Louis municipal grafters. Our contemporary thinks it would have been good politics to identify Folk with Roosevelt, and that with "Roosevelt and Folk" as a rallying cry, "Old Missouri" would have been swept from its democratic moorings and from its association with the "solid south" and brought into the republican column.

But, of course, this could not be done except at the sacrifice of the regular republican candidate for governor, Mr. Cyrus P. Wallbridge. Now, Mr. Wallbridge has an excellent reputation. He was chosen by the republicans on that account. They realized that they would have to nominate a particularly good man this time to make any kind of a decent showing in November. So the suggestion to abandon the state ticket and hitch the republican and Roosevelt element on behind the Folk wagon is a matter of policy purely and pays no regard to the party organization of the state, which apparently is a matter of no importance to our contemporary when it comes to the advancement of national issues, especially when the state cause is hopeless anyway.

Now, there is lots of political wisdom in these suggestions of the Pioneer, and we shall not be surprised if we see them adopted in this state. They involve, as stated at the outset, a deal of independent voting. The voter is supposed to take a practical view of things and make the best of the situation. In accordance with that theory, it would be altogether legitimate for the democrats in this state, for instance, having no hope whatever of being able to carry the electoral vote for Parker, and being largely inclined to vote for Roosevelt anyway, to hitch their state cart to the Roosevelt chariot and prepare the way for a big vote for their candidate for governor by exhibiting the first inclination to nonpartizan voting. Our contemporary says: "Evidence comes from every quarter that the honest republicans of the state will stand by Folk at the polls." This is admirable and we hope and believe it is true. Independent, or, as our contemporary calls it, non-partizan voting is the salvation of the state, and sometimes of the party, too. It makes for good candidates with good records, and practically serves notice that "no others need apply."

We are gratified to find our able contemporary so earnestly commending that kind of political action. It is another voice in favor of elevated politics. Under its injunctions the discarding of an unworthy candidate, even for the office of governor, becomes almost a duty; it is at least something to be thought about, on the principle advocated by our contemporary of working out the best results.

If they can fool the voters of the state the managers of the Dunn campaign may persuade a few republicans that the reelection of Senators Nelson and Clapp is dependent upon the election of Mr. Dunn, but it presumes a pretty dense state of ignorance on the part of the voters to think that they can be deceived so easily. There is no more connection between the senators and the governorship in this campaign than there is a necessary connection between the presidency and the governorship, and nobody is foolish enough to suggest that. Bear in mind that we have the Australian ballot system in this state and so long as the republican party stands for what the people want in national politics our republican senatorial representation is secure.

Durum Wheat.

Fresh from the bureau of plant industry of the department of agriculture comes bulletin No. 70, entitled "The Commercial Status of Durum Wheat," a publication that cannot fail to be of interest to the grain trade of the northwest. The bulletin is the result of the collaboration of Mark A. Carleton, cerealist in charge of cereal investigations, and Joseph S. Chamberlain, physiological chemist. Realizing that durum or macaroni wheat is of increasing importance to the west and northwest, the bulletin has aimed at such general summing up of information and data covering the plant as will give the reader a clear idea of the status of the work of fostering its growth, and of its commercial possibilities as well.

It is impossible here to go into lengthy detail, but there is one point that is worthy of note, and will, we think, surprise many in the Minneapolis trade who have watched the increased production of durum wheat, and who followed the sharp controversy as to its merits and demerits that was on here about two years ago, that is, the fact that flour mills are using it more freely for blending, and that, by autumn of this year, twenty-five important American mills will in all likelihood be grinding it. Here appears to be substantial opposition to the many arguments built up upon the contention that millers could not use it.

The grain trade could scarcely be blamed for looking upon the advent of the new wheat with indifference if not with disfavor, for, indeed, little was known of it and there was no good commercial demand. Millers were disposed to fight shy of it. It was referred to as old "goose" wheat, which, indeed, it is very like. Later it became known to the local trade, commercially, as macaroni wheat. A few weeks' ago the Minnesota state grain inspection department rearranged the gradings and designated it officially as durum wheat. It is here to stay.

Any one who puts the development of the northwest above other considerations must welcome the increasing tendency to plant durum wheat. That it encroaches or will ever encroach seriously upon old spring wheat territory may be doubted, while it has been demonstrated that it will grow in localities where spring wheat is very uncertain.

This leaves out of consideration entirely the enormous areas of semi-arid and even arid districts in our western country, not yet touched by agriculture, and where, indeed, it has been doubted if the husbandman could ever gain a foothold, where this hardy durum will grow and yield well.

The Mikado's Message.

The mikado, in a message of congratulation to his people on the success of Japanese arms, has taken occasion to inject the prudent admonition: "Nevertheless our prospects of final success are still distant, and I earnestly hope that the sincerity of the national spirit will enable us to realize our final object."

In the same precautionary spirit Count Okuma, the leader of the progressive party in Japan, in an address before a commercial body in Tokio, the other day, declared that the Japanese must be prepared for a long war and many sacrifices, for if the war lasted two years it would cost the country a billion dollars, and it would be necessary to borrow a quarter of a billion next year. The statesmen of Japan are not inclined to fool the people by belittling the financial burdens of the war or being oversanguine as to Japan's fighting ability. Japan paid the whole expense of the war with China in 1894-95 out of her local revenues, but in the present conflict she has already had to test the strength of her credit abroad, and two years of this war will be a hard pull on the resources of the insular empire.

Nevertheless, Japan will have to face the necessary sacrifices. She had the wisdom to see when Russia bullied China into handing over to Russia, in 1898, Port Arthur and Talienwan and adjacent territory on the Liao-tung peninsula under the name Kwang-tung, that Russia with this possession and Vladivostok, and occupying Manchuria, would next make a strike for Korea and ultimately reach out for Japan. The latter thinks it is worth any sacrifice to preserve her nationality and escape the fate of Poland and Finland, Russified and organized after the Russian model and pattern, and the western world generally thinks Japan is right.

The students of the University of Nebraska showed a sportsmanlike spirit when they gave their defeated team a rousing reception on its return from Colorado. The time to stand by a team is when it is temporarily down on its luck. Don't knock!

The "nationality racket" is a bad thing in politics, and it is difficult to see how Mr. Dunn is to profit by the exploitation of the issue on the first pages of the papers supporting him.

President Angell of Michigan says that a youth old enough to go to college is old enough to know right and wrong. He is, but he is not always old enough to know which one to choose.

Rev. A. D. Simpson took up a contribution in his church in New York Sunday for mission work and was gladdened by the sight of $70,000 on the plate. Not a bad Sunday's work.

Speaking of railroad wrecks, no passenger elevators have fallen six or eight stories for a long time. Now is the time to inspect your elevator—not afterwards.

THE NONPAREIL MAN

How the Memories of the Past Were Stirred in the Heart of an Old Political Campaigner by a Simple Incident at Le Sueur—Bugler William Jones Blows Strains that Echo Along the Walls of Memory.

Old General ——— is out on the trail again. The general is like an old warhorse. When there is a political campaign on he smells powder, gets restless at night, attends a few meetings where the other party is lying about his favorite candidates, gets thoroly mad at the newspapers and then, before he knows it, the general is on the stump again. Despite a rheumatic leg, due to exposure in the Wilderness campaign, despite increasing age and a throat like a nutmeg grater and a taste in his mouth like an overshoe, for during campaign work the general smokes to excess, despite all these the old general is out night and day saving the country.

Tired out and disgusted, the general reached the hotel at Le Sueur the other night and signed the register. He was looking forward to a hot dinner and a smoke and a night's rest. As dinner had not been called, the general dropped wearily into a chair in the lobby of the hotel, where a few of the prominent citizens stood around to talk to him, shake hands, introduce their friends and keep him annoyed. Suddenly outside was heard:

"Toot! Tootle-te-toot toot, toot, tootle-te-toot-toot toot, tootle-te-toot toot tootle-te-tum tum!! Tootle-lootle lootle-lootle lootle-lootle toot! toot!! TOOT!!! Tum-tum! Tootle lootle! Tum!"

"Now what is that dam racket?" asked the general in a disgusted tone.

"Why, general," said a prominent citizen, in a surprised tone. "That is William Jones, your old company bugler! He is here to serenade you. He says he hasn't met you since the war."

The general stepped out on the veranda. A great crowd was gathered in the street and Mr. Jones had just drawn a fresh supply of toots from his horn. The general held up his hand, turned aside a moment to overcome his emotion, and then said:

"My friends, my dear friends!! Pardon this emotion! It is but momentary. The instant I heard those glorious old strains, recalling the days of old so vividly, I exclaimed to those at my elbow, 'As I live, those notes can be blown by nobody but my old bugler, Bill Jones, heaven bless him!' (Cheers.) I knew them the moment they vibrated along the walls of memory. I hear them in my dreams! There are some recollections that will not die. They are ever fadeless and green. Later, when I have washed off the stains of travel, I hope to grasp the hand of your townsman, William Jones, once more, and your hands also! God bless you! Good evening!!" (Frantic cheers.)

It is said that the old general has been promised the inspectorship of dead and down timber in the arid district.

Doc Bixby noted with a tear that the score at Boulder, Col., last week was:

Colorado	6
Nebraska	0

Then the doctor seized his pen and wrote:

"The result at Boulder will give the muskrat-eaters of Minnesota the impression that they can win the game on Oct. 29 without working for it. Overconfidence may prove their undoing as it did two years ago."

While we are not overconfident, we should be pleased to have the doctor come up here with his band of organized ruffians and see them get it thrown into them about a mile.

Speaking of football, the Grand Forks (N. D.) Press says that the University of North Dakota is after a big fellow named Otto Friend. Some of the dimensions of Mr. Friend will be interesting.

He is 6 feet 9 inches tall in his stocking feet.

He wears a No. 9½ shoe.

He is not overburdened with fat, but has a fine physique.

He has exceptionally large bones, and is strong as an ox.

He weighs over 300 pounds.

In games of football in his home town he gets the ball between his massive arms and deliberately walks down the entire field for a touchdown, with five or six good-sized fellows hanging to him in a vain effort to down him.

But he does not have to walk to get there. He can run.

He has often negotiated 100 yards in fourteen seconds and can do better with training.

He is like a stone wall, and laughs at the efforts of the other players to push him off his feet.

His nickname is "Speevey," and when he has a suit of clothes made—he can't buy them ready made—he has to pay the tailor $10 extra.

Mr. Friend is a mild-mannered gentleman, but when he gets up his opponents all lie down. Heaven save us all!

Paris is a city of splendid surprises. New ideas are born daily in the city of new ideas. In the matter of advertising, for example, new devices are sought in the strangest directions. One of the latest is the utilization of the baldheaded man who always has room at the top.

Who is this personage we see approaching? asks a Paris correspondent. The boulevard throng turns and looks with curiosity.

He is dressed in a brand-new frock suit of black, the trousers of a discreet stripe and the black silk hat brand new and shining. Why, he seems to know so many people. He bows to right and left.

"Who can he be? Look how he bows! Look how he lifts his high hat with a graceful sweep of the arm! How can he know half the folks who pass?"

"What ease!" "What grace!" "Is he an ambassador?" "He must be a great actor!" "Or a politician!"

The personage approaches. He is five steps in front of you. Again he lifts his hat—he is bowing to you. Stupefaction! He is bald! Marvelously bald! And painted in big letters on the shining baldness you read:

"Moulin Rouge! The Toreador!"

All around him there are cries of surprise and laughter. People rush to see. But the elegant personage seems not to notice anything unusual. He gravely seats himself at one of the little tables of a cafe terrace and orders a mild drink. He takes a newspaper from his pocket and begins reading. But before he begins reading he takes off his hat! And the astounded crowd reads on his bald head:

"Moulin Rouge! The Toreador!"

A month ago there were only five of these bald-headed living advertisements. Today there must be 500 of them. They earn a dollar a day and their expenses—for drinks in cafe terraces. Also they are well dressed—really well dressed—this being an essential point in the idea of this novel advertising. Therefore there are 500 contented baldheaded men in Paris. They have leisure. They have a living. And they have the spectacle of Paris—ever beautiful—before their eyes.

The baldheaded man has always "made good" ever since the time when the surprised Indian found nothing to scalp.

—A. J. R.

IF LA FOLLETTE WINS

Boston Globe.

If La Follette wins in the present contest his future political career will warrant watching. He has been introduced to the country, and his friends, who predict great things, assert he will bear acquaintance. Some political leaders excel in the realm of idea; others in closet planning; still others on the firing line of popular discussion. It is La Follette's unique distinction that within the field of his activities he has shown himself all three kinds of a leader.

NEWS OF THE BOOK WORLD

Guide to the Recovery of the Lost Art of Reading, by Dr. W. R. Nicoll—A Case in Point from a Friend of The Uneasy Chair—Alfred Russel Wallace Gives More Reasons for Believing a Good Man Is God's Masterpiece—The Author of "The Memoirs of a Baby" Now Has a Daughter of Her Own.

Know all men by these presents, that the art of reading (not of reading aloud) has been lost. "What," say you, "the art of reading lost in this day of printing presses that never rest and books pouring in millions from clanging book mills?" Yea, verily. Too much to read has pulled reading from its place as an art to that of a business, thence to that of a trade, and often to that of an evil habit. A debt is due, therefore, to Dr. W. R. Nicoll for again turning the light upon reading as an art, in **The Lost Art of Reading**, one of four new additions to Thomas Y. Crowell & Co.'s "What Is Worth While Series." What Dr. Nicoll means by the art of reading will be seen in the following extract, and it will be seen equally why the art is called "lost":

It is of little use to preach the gospel of relaxation against the gospel of work. Relaxation has become a business quite as much as work. As practiced in the present day, it tends to strain almost as much as any amount of daily labor. What is needed to tranquilize anxious spirits and smooth careworn brows is the secure possession of some treasure the value of which does not fluctuate with the price of stocks. The eager, and the nervous and the hurried need, above all things, not strenuous play, but repose. I preach to you the value of reading on this account.

Were it only for this, the art of reading would be worth acquiring. But I put it on still higher ground. Whatever your profession may be, you will discharge your duties more wisely, more efficiently, if you know books. The vision of wider horizons, the contact with greater minds, will bring you stronger and calmer to every duty.

Soothed and fortified by beholding the bright countenance of truth in the quiet and still air of delightful studies, at the end we may look up in peace, content with the work of the day.

As a means of learning and practicing the art, Dr. Nicoll believes in owning one's own books—such books as "will save us from fever, from fretfulness, from fear, from envy, from the baser and maligner passions," such books as will change a lonely hour into one of genial companionship, such books as will illuminate dark days, such books as will add joy to bright days, books to purge one of base and make stronger good moods. One will soon learn not to make a "business" of reading such books, but an art.

Acting upon this principle a friend of The Uneasy Chair yesterday purchased a full set of Robert Louis Stevenson, in accordance with a long-cherished plan. Today the books have been delivered at his home. Tonight he will have the pleasure of placing them upon his bookshelves. It will be a pleasant duty which he will go about as one would offer sacrifices to beneficent household gods. He will foresee, as he performs it, hours spent in reading this or that volume, essays, letters, poems, fiction, as fits his need at the time, and he will know that he is making easier the hard way of life and at the same time providing caches of spiritual and mental nourishment and refreshment upon which to draw as he traverses the long journey, if long it prove. He cannot be other than a better man for his work in life for such provision, and if his day "ringeth to evensong" before he has gone far upon his journey, he will have had the fairer prospect in this life as an earnest of and a preparation for a still fairer one in the next.

That is what the art of reading means to one man. To possess the art is to add tenfold to the worth of the books one buys and by comparison to render insignificant the sum invested.

Announcement is made in New York of the birth of a daughter to Mrs. Selden Bacon (Josephine Daskam), whose recent book, "The Memoirs of a Baby," aroused such a lively controversy over the naturalness of its small hero, "Binks." Mrs. Bacon has always been one of the most sympathetic writers about children and their quaint characteristics, and one wonders what effect her experience with the real thing will have upon her future literary offspring.

Alfred Russel Wallace's book, "Man's Place in the Universe," has stood a steady fire of scientific criticism for over a year, and the author, far from abandoning his theory expressed in it, that the earth is the center of the universe, which was created for earthly man alone, sees new arguments in support of his theory. McClure-Phillips will shortly bring out a new edition of the book, in which will be included a new chapter containing an additional argument dependent upon the theory of evolution.

RONDEAU TO A HELPFUL FRIEND.

Your bright idea I tried to use—
Too proud a boon lightly to lose!
The sparkling treasure of your thought
I bore away and patient wrought,
The gem in words of fire to fuse.

Alas! my dullard brain accuse!
Gone was the sheen of rainbow hues
That flashed when first my fancy caught
Your bright idea!

Slow moved my wit in leaden shoes;
To curse my quill I could but choose,
And pace the floor like one distraught!
Ah! here's the secret, vainly sought—
I needed, to inspire my muse,
Your bright eye, dear.

—Margaret Johnson in October Smart Set.

Robert Grant's powerful novel, "The Undercurrent," will be published toward the end of this month. It will be illustrated by F. C. Yohn.

—The Uneasy Chair.

With bold strokes and little attempt to smooth the rough corners, Opie Read has given us **Turk**, a novel of Kentucky before the war, written with a directness of expression which suggests the bitter struggles and feuds which the book pictures.

Turk, named so for his brilliant red hair and freckled face, was diminutive in size but never in courage. He had caught the spirit of his warring ancestors and strove to live up to the primitive morals instilled in his childhood in the school at "Old Blood." His courage conquered not only his external enemies but was strong enough to overcome his fierce physical appetites. The story of the struggle to overcome his horrible thirst after he had had a taste of moonshine whisky is one of the most powerful pictures of the book. His love for Nan, the girl with the devilish dancing eyes, was fully as strong, and the last page, which tells of his triumph, adds a beautiful touch to a story of force rather than sentiment.

—L. S. K.

THE MAGAZINE SAMPLER

Will Women Decide the Election?—Of the forty-five states of the union there are four—Colorado, Idaho, Utah and Wyoming—in which women have the ballot on a precise equality with men, says **Leslie's Weekly**. Those states cast 397,000 votes in the aggregate in 1900. They will probably cast 425,000 in 1904. It must not be inferred, however, that half of the aggregate vote is that of women. In those four states, as in all other young communities, the males are largely in the preponderance. Probably at least 125,000, tho, of those 425,000 votes of 1904 will be cast by women. Those four states will have fourteen electoral votes this year. What will be the attitude of those 125,000 women voters in 1904?

BOOKS RECEIVED

WHAT IS WORTH WHILE SERIES. "The Lost Art of Reading." By Dr. W. R. Nicoll; "How to Bring Up Our Boys," by S. A. Nicoll; "Bethink Yourselves," by Leo Tolstoy, and "The Inner Life," by J. R. Miller. New York: Thomas Y. Crowell & Co. Price of each, 30 cents net.

TURK. A Novel. By Opie Read. Illustrated. Chicago: Laird & Lee, publishers.

NIVER'S SCHOOL HISTORY OF ENGLAND. By Harmon B. Niver, A.B., teacher in New York city public schools. Price, 90 cents. New York: American Book company.

MINNESOTA POLITICS

Joel P. Heatwole Confers with Political Friends in St. Paul—Mr. Lohren Tells of That Legislative Investigation—Another Attack on Senator Clapp.

Joel P. Heatwole met several of his political friends in St. Paul yesterday. The conference included Senator C. M. Buck of Faribault, A. B. Kelly of Northfield, Representative J. B. Kelly of Eureka, J. C. Hoffman of Hastings, John Sheehy of Montgomery, R. C. Rasmussen of Red Wing and Congressman C. R. Davis of St. Peter.

Mr. Heatwole says that no decision was arrived at in this conference. There was no occasion to make a decision, he says, as they are all "supporting the ticket." His friends wanted to meet him, and felt that some statement was due from him after his throw-down at the hands of Dunn, for in Joel's fall, as Marc Antony said, "you and I and all of us fell down."

There is no doubt that the Heatwole men have indicated to the state committee their resentment, and that they do not intend to make any strenuous efforts for the ticket, unless the trouble is patched up in some way. Just how a peace-pipe can be smoked at his late day, no one seems able to explain, but mutual friends are doing what they can. Any resumption of the relations between Dunn and Heatwole means an apology from Dunn and some liberal concessions to the Northfield statesman.

James A. Martin was much disturbed when he learned that Heatwole had called on Governor Van Sant, and yesterday afternoon the Dunn manager paid the governor a call himself. The conference was private, and what passed no one knows.

A. J. Lohren of Waseca, who was a member of the last house, and one of the committee on public accounts and expenditures, writes The Journal his version of the now celebrated "investigation" of the auditor's office by that committee. The Waseca Journal-Radical recently published an article by J. W. Wolf, giving an account purporting to come from Christian von Wald, another member of that committee, and saying that the committee had made a thoro examination, and could not find one instance where Mr. Dunn had failed to do his duty to the state. Mr. Lohren asked the same paper to publish his statement, but was refused, and as he has repeatedly told the story of that investigation to his neighbors, he asks The Journal to give space to his reply. Mr. Lohren says:

"The committee on public accounts and expenditures made a report three days before adjournment of the legislature, which is published in full on pages 1419 to 1424 of the House Journal, and on page 1420 is found the following, which clearly bears me out in what I have stated, towit:

"Your committee finds as facts—

"First—That there are outstanding railroad express, telephone and telegraph taxes, also stumpage and individual stumpage and mineral land accounts due to the state, some of which have been long past due (See Exhibit D of report), viz.:

Railroad companies	$698,369.11
Telegraph and telephone companies	55,574.84
Express companies	11,506.73
Stumpage account	3,561.14
Individual stumpage	27,182.45
Mineral lands	2,475.00
Total	$798,829.27

"We would recommend that the public examiner investigate thoroly this account, and if same are actually due the state of Minnesota that he be requested to take such steps as are necessary to enforce their collection.

"This report was prepared by Mr. Gunders of the public examiner's office, with assistance of John Barry, the expert accountant, who assisted the legislative committee, and it will be seen that many discrepancies were covered up by being bunched, making it necessary to continue the investigation so that collections could be enforced.

"The public examiner says he acted on the recommendation of the legislative committee, and if he went any further, he certainly had full authority, and I think it was his duty to do so, if he found it necessary, as it seems to me that if the public examiner was to shield any wrongdoing he would be a very useless official."

Referring to the complaint that John A. Johnson has descended to "personal abuse" of Dunn, Chairman Day of the democratic committee says, in the Fairmont Sentinel:

Is John A. Johnson or Robert C. Dunn responsible for the fact that enforcement of the anti-merger law, the timber trespass laws, the mineral lease laws, the gross earnings law and the laws protecting the public school funds are issues in this campaign?

If in any respect a reference to the enforcement of these laws is, in Mr. Dunn's opinion, personal and abusive, who and whose acts have caused such reference to be personal and abusive?

John A. Johnson is discussing principles and not personalities. He is discussing principles that are germane to the office of chief executive of Minnesota. If such discussion reflects in a personal way upon his opponent, it is not the fault of John A. Johnson, who stands upon the platform that the law should be enforced without fear or favor for the protection of the public interests.

The Virginia Virginian says:

Since Collins and Van Sant have taken a seat on the Dunn bandwagon the chances of republican victory look brighter.

As Horace Greeley would say—important if true. What makes the Virginian think so?

—Charles B. Cheney.

AT THE THEATERS

Foyer Chat.

Wilton Lackaye in "The Pit" continues to crowd the Metropolitan. The last performance will be given tonight.

The quaint characters of John T. McCutcheon's "Bird Center Cartoons" will be presented on the stage of the Metropolitan for the half week beginning tomorrow evening.

An important event is the revival of "Wang," Sam S. Shubert's elaborate Lyric Theater production, in which De Wolf Hopper is to appear at the Metropolitan for four nights and matinee, opening next Sunday evening.

"The Runaways," in which Arthur Dunn is to appear at the Metropolitan the last half of next week, is one of the spectacles of the American stage. Over $75,000 was expended on the mounting and costuming, and the company numbers over 100.

Fred Irwin has a show at the Dewey this week replete with novelties both American and European. The acts that make the biggest hits are the eight dashing Austrians and the Zeb Zarrow Trio in a twenty-minute riot of fun with the bicycles and unicycles.

Nat M. Wills, the funny tramp comedian, well remembered from his appearance here two years ago with the Orpheum Vaudeville show, at the Bijou, will be seen at the Bijou next week in his new musical farce, "The Son of Rest." The star has proved that in his line he stands without a peer, and as an impersonator of the tramp he has made a hit everywhere.

A unique character is that of the female bandit in "Queen of the Highway" at the Bijou this week.

"Carmen," as presented by the Ferris company at the Lyceum this week, is attracting large audences. Great preparations are being made for the presentation of "The Danites" next week.

BEHIND THE GAME

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

In his letter of acceptance Judge Parker boldly asserts that the Panama canal must be built. If he will turn to the letter of President Roosevelt he will learn that 1,500 men are already working on the job.

CANADA TO VOTE IN NOVEMBER, TOO

GOVERNMENT OF LAURIER LIKELY TO BE SUSTAINED.

Prevailing Prosperity Makes the Premier Strong With the Rank and File—Scotch Vote Not Detached by the Dundonald Incident—Speculation As to the American Vote.

Special to The Journal.

Winnipeg, Man., Oct. 11.—Just five days before the presidential election takes place in the United States, the people of Canada will also be called to decide whether they want a change of government or not. This year there is much similarity in the political situation of the two countries. There are no revolutionary leaders in the field of Canadian politics; no issue upon which might hang the credit and safety of the country. The most revolutionary proposition strange to say, comes from the conservative leader. It is a proposition for the state ownership of railways. If this were a step towards state socialism in the mind of its author, it would indeed be a remarkable thing, as the Canadian people have so far shown no inclination to imitate their fellow-colonists of New Zealand in this respect.

But when one considers the many qualifications with which Mr. Borden, the opposition leader, has surrounded his proposal for state ownership, and the late hour at which he took up this policy, it is very clear that we are face to face with one of those measures of political expediency to which opposition parties are forced in all countries.

The New Transcontinental.

At the most, if the Borden policy became law, it would only apply to the new transcontinental line which the Grand Trunk railway is to build in the far north, along the height of lands in Quebec and Ontario, and from Winnipeg to the regions of the Peace river, and on to Port Simpson, on the Pacific, with later a possible branch line to Dawson City.

The liberal government, in the proposition for the construction of this new and stupendous line of steel, does not fight entirely shy of government ownership, since it will itself build the eastern section, which will be a rival rather than a feeder to the old Grand Trunk lines.

Both parties agree that Canada wants a new transcontinental to develop her great northern plains, and accommodate the American and British invasion; because there can be no doubt of the wonderful results which will follow. On this point therefor there is no radical difference between liberals and conservatives. Each is only trying to convince the voter that its way of doing the thing desired is the best.

Tariff in the Game of Politics.

And so it is with the tariff, which is always with us. The conservatives shout for higher protection and exclusion of American goods; the liberal government replies that its kind of protection has been sufficient to give prosperity to the country; but still that it is willing to meet the manufacturers who really need help, and forthwith enacts a law against the dumping of American goods.

It is the game of politics carried to a fine point. When that game is on, one must expect to see little side issues creep in, and petty attempts to appeal to prejudice.

A short while ago the conservatives thought they had found a trump card in the pre-emptory dismissal by the Laurier government of the general officer commanding the militia, who was no less a man than Lord Dundonald, of Ladysmith relief fame. The noble lord himself was quite willing to be used for the political purposes of the opposition as he seemed to have purposes of his own. Now, Lord Dundonald is a Scotchman, and he thought that by appealing to his countrymen to avenge the persecutions he had suffered at the hands of a French premier, it might be possible to detach the Scotch from the liberals.

The Scots feted their distinguished countryman and sympathized with him; but they also intimated that they could not vote the conservative ticket.

For a while the matter resolved itself as to which party had tried to exploit race feeling, both proclaiming that to do so would be a great crime.

Dundonald's Inspiration.

But, altho recalled in disgrace, it is certain that, in trying to force the Canadian government into great armaments, Lord Dundonald had not acted without inspiration from the British government. Professedly the army and the guns which Canada was urged to buy were needed to defend the country against an American invasion. But at the same time a militia bill was prepared which would have made those armaments available for the wars of the empire.

The Laurier government having refused to acquiesce in any such scheme, it could not be allowed to remain in office if the covert influence of Downing street could achieve its downfall. The recent trips of the departing governor general, Lord Minto, accompanied by Lady Minto, from east to west, his speeches and all his acts, were an appeal to the loyalist sentiment in favor of the Chamberlain ideas of imperial federation.

To this the liberals are replying by printing the report of Lord Dundonald, demanding the creation of compulsory service in an army. They apparently think that this is just as good an argument as any that the loyalists can produce.

The American Influence.

Such a situation in itself is indicative of the influence which the American immigration has had in broadening public sentiment in the Dominion. The Britisher has always thought that it was his duty to watch over the loyalty of the colonials. Since Chamberlain has undertaken to make the colonies contribute to the wars of the empire, he has been very much in evidence. Still it is not likely that he would have been so openly turned down, were it not that public men feel that another element has come into the political life of the Diminion, upon which they can rely to assert their independence.

It is already a question in the northwest how the Americans will vote. It is asserted that because the United States is a country of protection, all Americans must be for the high protection party. The American settler finds, however, when he has to pay duty on the American goods to which he has been accustomed, that protection is a very different thing in Canada from what he used to consider it at home.

As a matter of fact, the new settlers from across the lines show no particular disposition to seek party affiliation here on the old lines at home. They find themselves amid new surroundings, fall into new associations, and of the past there remains only the characteristic instinct to admire and support men who do things.

And Canada has been doing things as never before in recent years. Because of prosperity more than anything else, the present government is likely to be sustained.

THE WORLD GROWING

The world's population has more than doubled itself from 1880 to 1900. To this increase the Latin nations of the west and southwest contributed the least, and the greatest growth was in the east.

Defective Page