

THE JOURNAL

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Are We Indifferent?

Six people in Minneapolis met with a violent death in Minneapolis Monday night. They were buried beneath the falling walls of the Peck building.

We are supposed to take precautions against just such calamities as occurred Monday night. We provide what is supposed to be the necessary machinery for protection against disasters of that kind.

forever put an end to war and leave the nations free to exert all their energies for the improvement of the environment of the human race and the consequent elevation of mankind.

Since Mr. Rockefeller, Jr., has gone to Europe his pastor has taken charge of his Bible class, and the attendance has fallen off one-half.

A Chicago Idea.

Chicago, the home of culture, is as ceaseless in her efforts to gloss modern life with the halo of poetry as is the president to keep us all up to our strenuous limit.

But Chicago does not stop at prosody for the plain people; she aims now to make life in jail an immigration argument of monumental potency.

The Senate Hears Firing.

Washington reports that the president and Secretary Morton have made an obvious dent upon the senate in the railroad-rate matter.

The latest from the sacred precincts is that the senators are thinking, are talking and are studying. Some of them have plans and many of them have statements to offer for home consumption.

Canada's Future.

The future relations of the United States and Canada are the concern of many statesmen on both sides of the line. As the number of Americans resident in Canada increases and the amount of American capital invested there grows, the matter will probably grow into the chief concern of the leaders of both countries.

Mr. E. W. Thomson, the Ottawa correspondent of the Boston Transcript, has come forward with a most interesting suggestion as to the most desirable political status of Canada in the future.

This is a practical rebate of \$8.50 a car to the McCormick Harvester company, a branch of the trust.

The commission adds that these practices are extending in all directions. They are facilitated and encouraged by the common ownership of stock in railroads and companies which do the shipping.

Of course, the rate question is not so simple as a b, c, and no academic solution of the perplexities can be made into law, but certainly congress can at least vigorously attack the question.

It has been explained to the public repeatedly that a considerable percentage of the receipts at the Metropolitan theater this week are to be appropriated for the benefit of the firemen's relief fund.

AT THE THEATERS.

Foyer Chat. A dramatic novelty will be served at the Metropolitan all of next week when William Coker, an Egyptian star, appears in "The Dictator."

Eleanor Falke, with her brilliant voice and her twinkling feet, is meeting with daily success at the Orpheum, where her singing and dancing and her contagious smile elicit the enthusiasm of orchestra and gallery alike.

Charles E. Blaney in his latest melodrama, "The Curse of Drink," the offering at the Bijou this week, has eclipsed all his previous efforts.

At the Bijou next week the new comedy, "Pals," will be presented with James J. Corbett, Hal Davis and Miss Inez Macaulay as the bright particular stars.

The romantic story told in "Graumark" seems to have lost none of its interest for the theater-going public.

LAWSON IN A NUTSHELL.

Thomas W. Lawson was born in the city of Charlestown, Mass., forty-five years ago, being the son of a carpenter from Nova Scotia.

Made a small fortune when 16 in a "pool" with other State street office boys.

Made his debut in State street about seventeen years ago in a fight against a store-service company he being interested in a rival patent.

In 1893 he engineered a stock campaign for the Westinghouse Electric company against the General Electric company.

Plunged in Sugar and "dropped his pins" in 1896.

Promoted a "boom" town in Kentucky and lost.

Began a campaign of publicity looking to a rehabilitation of his fortunes and to "getting square" with Standard Oil.

Acquired a copper mine of his own in California. Began promoting a combination of Lake Superior mines as rivals to the Amalgamated.

In 1891 he built a racing yacht at a cost of \$250,000 and offered her as a defender of the America's cup, but without being admitted to the trial races.

Bought a triangle of land in the Back Bay for nearly \$300,000 and made it into a "getty square" with Standard Oil.

Does not belong to any city club. Spends all his evenings at home. Loses large sums in charity. Is superstitious.

THE HARRISON WAR.

Russell B. Harrison was again defeated yesterday in his suit against the widow of the ex-president; and the public, without knowing or caring much about the merits of the controversy, is glad of it.

GENTLE JANE!

Gentle Jane walked up a road. Where an empty coalhose showed. All unheeding—in a minute Gentle Jane was strictly in it.

to physician for treating the great toe of Miss Angelina Welch, ex-sweetheart. Lucky, in a moment of poetic frenzy, stepped on Angelina's toe; she shrieked; he rushed for a doctor. Expecting soon to make her Mrs. Lucky, he put the doctor's bill. But Angelina changed her mind and Lucky sued her mama. Perhaps Miss Angelina is lucky after all.

Now they are charging Mrs. Chadwick with smuggling diamonds. When this woman's whole story is told we may have some light at last on the Charlie Ross mystery.

Mr. Heatwole has given out an interview indicating his determined opposition to Senator Clapp, who does not announce himself as a candidate.

Several old Roman conquerors once sat down together to divide up the world. Now we are told in a dispatch from London of a steel "agreement" which "promises to be the most effective combine ever brought into existence in connection with the steel or any other trade, and the first time British, German, French, Belgian and American interests have been arranged on a common platform."

During four days of this week the Burlington railroad's "seed corn special" will enable the professors of the University of Nebraska to speak to nearly 6,000 farmers of that state of the value of pure seed in raising big crops.

Don't wait until the first of the year to leave off smoking. You may get a box of Christmas cigars.

NEWS OF THE BOOK WORLD.

THE UNEASY CHAIR.

The Cowboy and the Spiritual Life; a juxtaposition of ideas that is difficult to Realize in Life; the Combination as Pictured by Ralph Connor.—The last book by the author of "The Sky Pilot" is another story of the winning of the west for the higher life.

The story's real setting, however, is in the university life at Toronto. The prospector of the story there is introduced to the reader as a footnote.

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HEROIC STATUE OF MINNESOTA FOR THE STATE'S NEW CAPITOL

Tendered by the St. Louis Exposition Company Through President Francis to Governor Van Sant.



STATUE SYMBOLIZING MINNESOTA.

A similar offer has been made by the exposition management to the governors of each of the states and territories comprising the Louisiana purchase.

The suit brought by Cass Gilbert, architect of the new Minnesota capitol and formerly a resident of St. Paul against the exposition company, has been continued by agreement of counsel until the next term of the United States circuit court.

The statue is the work of Gustav Gierlich, and is of heroic mold; the half-draped figure of a woman, well proportioned, of fine poise and excellent expression. The lumber industry of the state is represented by the logs on which the figure is seated, while an overturned Indian vase from which wheat abundantly flows and a cluster of corn ears typify the agricultural interests of Minnesota.

St. Louis, Dec. 21.—A letter has been written by President Francis of the world's fair to Governor Van Sant offering on behalf of the exposition company to present to the state of Minnesota the statue symbolizing it, which stood in the colonnade of states. The gift is to be made on condition that the piece be removed from the exposition grounds and preserved in its present form as long as possible, and the hope is expressed that it may later be reproduced in bronze or marble.

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Darwin's Doubt Confirmed.—Darwin's own doubt concerning evolution—whether it takes place more by slow than by sudden changes—again justified in Hugo de Vries, professor of botany in the University of Amsterdam, who contributes to the January Harper's the results of his experiments concerning the origin of species. Professor de Vries confined his study to the great evening primrose, or Lamarkiana, and his narrative of the experiments is as interesting as a story. He proves that the Lamarkiana produces new forms by sudden leaps, without preparation or intermediate specimens.

To Prevent Railroad Accidents.—Leslie's Monthly for January says: "We must have more than arguments to correct the present awful conditions and annual loss of life in railroad accidents. There is work to be done. We need legislation. We need it at once, and we need it along certain lines. Let us be specific. We demand: First—An extension of the block system according to the gradual method which we discussed last month. Second—The prevention of the employment of inexperienced men or boys in responsible places by the railroads and the absolute prohibition of excessive hours in continuous labor. Third—There are today over two hundred thousand miles of railroad track in the United States and but fifteen inspectors. This force must be greatly increased and armed with power to forbid impermissibly the use of cars and engines defective in the equipment required by law.

Chicago Journal. Decent citizens are getting a bit tired of the Nan Patterson case. Whether she murdered him in a cab, or whether she made his death necessary and even desirable by a prolonged intrigue in which the chief sufferer was the wife of the slain man, Nan Patterson is entitled to little sympathy and no condonement.

Indianapolis News. It looks as if it would be \$3,000,000 for Chicago university's Christmas stocking. John D. is lacking in the hirsute efforts of Santa Claus, but otherwise he is right there with the goods.

HA! BEWARE! New York World. The result of election do not guarantee the republican party an indefinite lease of power regardless of behavior.

HERE'S MYSTERY Memphis Commercial Appeal. There are several states in the north in which there is no such thing as a republican form of government.

EXCELSIOR! The shades of night were falling fast. And down the toy rattle rained. A man who bore above the press A banner of familar dress— For baby!

In happy homes he saw the light Stopped over him and softly swore: For him no comfort and no bed. What, the spectral list still said, For Johnny?

"Try not the books," the old man said, "For 'pop' quotations are not read. And 'loud' presents' homes divide. And 'out that magic voice replied, 'You know it."

At ten the warning bell was rung. And down the toy rattle rained. But still they staggered thru the aisle— The man, the list, the idiot smile. All hid in one.

The gentleman who went the store Stopped over him and softly swore: Such heavy stuff to pour by hand Was used to only paper and— Excelsior!

WHAT OTHER PEOPLE THINK The Culture of Hemp. In reply to a number of inquiries from Minnesota regarding the practicality of growing hemp for seed and fiber, I desire to answer thru your columns, as the subject is of public interest, and will save the writer much time and much postage. (China-American hemp (cannabis sativa) is the variety most valuable for cultivation in the United States, and of this a subvariety is found growing wild in several parts of the Mississippi valley, and especially along the rivers in Iowa and by the lake borders in Minnesota. This shows that the growth is practicable, so far as the climate is concerned, while the variety thus produced, by natural selection is the most hardy, as it is some weeks earlier than the original China variety.

The variety now in cultivation in various parts of the country is of a mixed character, and there is need that someone undertake the growing of a pure seed that the growers may have a variety exactly adapted to the production of a fiber of even, uniform character for the most perfect fiber.

Now that all patent processes, and patented mechanical appliances are free to the use of the public, from the expiration of the patents, there is nothing in the way of the growth of hemp for seed and fiber through the northwest, and the soil and climate of Minnesota, especially about the lakes, is especially favorable for this crop. Sow at the rate of one and a half to two bushels of seed per acre, hemp grows very fine, and the straw much resembles that of flax, excepting that the hemp grows twice as tall, while the yield of fiber is more than double.

When so grown, the hemp is cut close to the ground by a mowing machine, with rake attachment, laid off in bundles of convenient size, dried and stacked, or put under cover, and afterwards broken by passing the unretted hemp stalks or straw thru a series of fluted rollers, and the fibrous material thus obtained, cleaned by a process of "bolting off," similar to the practice of scouring wool, or of bolting off raw silk.

All fibers are of a light creamy color, and all, with the exception of cotton, have a gummy or resinous matter holding the fibers together, and must be cleaned, as is wool and silk, by a bolting-off process, to render them fine and spinable. All the machinery which years have proved the best adapted to handling hemp fiber, is now free to the use of the public, and inexpensive. The process of bolting off are also free to the public, and very simple in character and harmless to the fibers.

When carefully prepared the best judges of fibers can distinguish the hemp fibers from flax, while nine-tenths of the fine linsens made in France are so made from hemp. —S. S. Boyce, Custodian Corners, Staten Island, N. Y.

GOMPERS TO THE SOCIALISTS Samuel Gompers. I have kept close watch upon your doings for thirty years; have been closely associated with many of you, and know how you think and what you propose. I know, too, to what you have up your sleeve, and I want to say that I am entirely at variance with your philosophy. I declare to you, I am not only in entire variance with your doctrines, but with your philosophy. Economically, you are unsound; socially you are wrong; industrially you are impossible.

THE KICKER A kicker went forth to kick. Stubborn was he and mean; Quickly he learned the trick. Daily his kicks were seen; He kicked in the heat and the cool. Until he was hatched with a mule. And that is a very good rule For a kicker. —Chicago Chronicle.