

THE JOURNAL
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honor and indemnity to Japan, of course. But all the money indemnity she may obtain will never return the thousands of lives sacrificed, as Mr. Uchida says, and when the war is ended Japan will strive to flourish in the arts of peace and to avoid war whenever it is possible to do so.

Let the Examiner In.
The bill to give the public examiner power to examine the books and accounts of the city of Minneapolis is a bill in the interest of the taxpayer. It is a remarkable fact that, though the city has been in business for more than forty years, not until the current year has it had a system of bookkeeping worthy of the name, nor has it ever struck a balance. The city now has a system of accounts and has a ledger which shows how much the city has cost and what it is worth. Now would seem to be the opportune time to invite a periodical examination of the books by experts from the outside, who, having none but a professional interest in the result, would have no other incentive than to serve the people by rendering a true account of what they observed. It would complete the system which has been instituted and give a sense of security to all public officials who are manfully doing their part, and, what is more important, would induce a sense of responsibility in those who might otherwise let politics interfere with the proper discharge of their duties.

Tax Reform in Sight.
The state senate has agreed to the "wide-open" plan for a taxation amendment to the state constitution, and has passed the bill practically as it came from the house.
The senators are to be congratulated on having seen the light. Now that they have accepted the modern idea of tax methods and restrictions, it may be in order to remind them that, by rejecting that idea at their first session in 1903, they deferred the adjustment of the tax problem in this state by two years. The amendment they have agreed to this year is substantially the same as the house amendment of 1903, which the senate rejected and on which it stubbornly refused to yield after repeated conferences. The amendment, as now agreed on, is so much better than the one submitted in 1903 that it is really a good thing the proposition failed to pass at that time. The wide-open amendment was worth waiting four years to secure.

Without doubt the amendment will be accepted by the people next year, as with the separate ballot a full expression can be secured. The constitution will then permit an income tax on credits, an inheritance tax to a reasonable amount, and will permit different rates of taxation on different classes of property. It will allow of a registry law on mortgages, which would avoid the present plan of double taxation, as the McGowan bill, now pending, endeavors to do.

In a word, the adoption of the amendment as agreed on by the legislature, will give succeeding legislatures a free hand in revising the tax system of the state. The legislature, however, needs the benefit of expert knowledge and advice, and the action now taken will not be complete unless provision is made for a permanent tax commission.

War Costs Money.
European financiers who are watching the war between Russia and Japan with an interest intensified from day to day, have recently been figuring over again the cost of it all, and the rate of accumulation of debt by the two countries. They have found it necessary to raise their figures, for as the war proceeds the cost increases, and where a while ago it was estimated at \$10,000,000 a week to Russia, it is probable these figures would now have to be raised to \$12,000,000 or about \$2,000,000 for every ordinary business day. That war is expensive business is the oldest of truisms, but, when the present conflict began, no one thought the totals would roll up to the big figures now represented. In this connection the official figures of Russia are not to be too closely followed. The last budget stated the war expense for 1904 as \$373,000,000 partly disbursed, but best private reports agree that the expense now is at the rate of at least \$500,000,000 a year, if indeed it has not been that high all along.

This cannot continue much longer without rolling up an enormous debt on both sides. Four years of civil war in our country put upon us a debt of \$2,500,000,000, and the present conflict is piling up debt at a rate almost, if not quite equal to that of our period of strife from 1861 to 1865.

The bond issues made so far by Russia and Japan do not represent the cost of the war by even a fair part, for much of the expense, especially in Japan, has been provided for by internal means. So far about \$500,000,000 of Russian and Japanese bonds have been sold to European and American investors.

The Russian minister of finance recently offered the London Times the privilege of sending a representative to the Russian treasury to prove beyond doubt that the great Russian gold hoard, so long existent, is still intact, and that Russia is still in good financial shape. In Russian finance all thought is of maintenance of credit, and to date there has been no general lack of confidence in the ability of that country to make good finally, despite her terrible defeats and enormous losses in men and money.

want opportunities in great variety. Cheap lands, improved lands, town and city property, business openings, opportunities for investment—a great variety of considerations enter into the case, and no section, locality, or interest can afford to be indifferent to a strong, well-conceived and vigorous effort to promote immigration into the state of Minnesota.

The way the English and American investors gobbled up the Japanese loan shows increasing confidence in the heathen.

Women and the Stage.
Henrietta Crossman, in advising young women to go on the stage, has the satisfaction of knowing that she is giving advice that will be heeded, rather than the continuous chorus of "no" that greets every young woman who says she wants to be an actress.

And is not Miss Crossman's advice the more sincere? If a woman has talent and wants to act, why should she not? The usual answer is that the stage is fatal to the moral character of women. This is a personal problem and not one of acting. No one will deny that it is possible for a young woman to act and still remain a member of society. She should understand, however, that it is infinitely harder there than it is teaching school or keeping house. If any young woman with a talent for the stage is willing to pay the price in self-denial and labor, she can probably succeed on the stage. If she does succeed, the money rewards are large, and for the woman who has a legitimate ambition to use money for the assistance of those dependent upon her or for her own education or for the good of mankind generally, the stage is an attractive career.

The problem of the elevation of the stage rests very largely with the actors and managers. One of the first steps toward solving any problem is to recognize the problem, and this can only be when people are willing to speak the truth about it. The truth about the stage is that it is hard drudgery for ninety-nine out of the hundred actors and actresses. It means evanescent fame for the one hundredth. It is today a dangerous profession for women, but a great deal of the extra hazard can be removed by the establishment of standards by those who are already in the business.

The legislature has come to the rescue of Minneapolis in the effort for a home rule charter in an effective way. The final passage of Senator Gjersten's bill means that the next charter submitted will be given to the voters on a separate ballot, and so will be brought directly to the attention of each voter. It will not be killed by neglect again. The experience of the state with a separate ballot for constitutional amendments is a guarantee that a very large proportion of the vote will be cast either for or against the proposition submitted in this way.

Somehow the legislatures which were prevented by deadlocks and things from passing laws, are receiving the greatest hand as the adjournment season approaches. Perhaps Minnesota has not given the code commission sufficient credit for so muddling its report that it took nearly the entire session to straighten it out.

The appellate division of the New York supreme court on Thursday handed down a decision that street railway companies could be held responsible for any injury to passengers who were not provided with seats. A ruling was also made that it was obligatory upon the railway to furnish seats. These interferences with the rights of capital are becoming more pronounced.

German experts are stating now that disease germs live longer in pure water than in bad water. The typhus bacillus is said to be able to live only seven days in common waterworks water and the cholera bacillus only three days. This is contrary to the accepted ideas on the subject, but it can hardly be twisted into an argument in favor of a dirty water supply.

The spectacle of the republican party "getting together" on the issue whether the governor or the republican machine shall appoint the janitor of the capital indicates that peanut politics have not yet gone as large as potatoes.

Senator Horton says the governor saw his bill before he introduced it in the senate and approved of it. So did Senator Horton see it and approve of it, but could either one of them recognize it as it came from the house?

W. S. Dwinell says Minnesota would be overrun with tourists if the railroads would give low rates. Bless his heart, the railroads do give low rates—the other way.

That exhibit of \$325,000 gold coin in the czar's strong box does not appear to have affected the Japanese except to draw them on toward St. Petersburg.

Mrs. Chadwick, who is at present prevented from lecturing, is promising a waiting world an autobiography. It will hardly get into the Carnegie libraries.

BOOK NEWS AND GOSSIP

THE UNBORN CHAIR
ARTHUR UPSON'S DRAMATIC POEM "THE CITY."—In these days of a literature made largely by artisans rather than artists, it is good to come upon a piece of work done in the spirit of the true artist. Such a piece of work is Arthur Upson's "The City," a dramatic poem dealing with the incident of the embassy sent by Abgar, king of Edessa, to ask Jesus to come and heal him of a mortal illness. The narrative is found in the "Ecclesiastical History of Eusebius Pamphili." It is one of those slight bits of history full of meaning to those who would know the concurrent influence of Christ's life as felt beyond the confines of Palestine, and full of poetic and dramatic possibilities.

Not distance, nor yet death, shall separate the souls of those who strive to be clear. Lo, he abideth with us evermore. Who would not come to us the way of flesh, And in the spirit make us whole. That mind hath turned my course of longing utter, I longed for healing only of the flesh. That I might serve my state—asked not for more. Yet how his refusal he transcends. My widest prayer.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR OF "THE MASQUERADER."—Mrs. Katherine Cecil Thurston's literary career is a remarkable example of sudden success, says Current Literature for April. Her first novel, "The Circle," struck an original note and arrested attention. Her second story, "The Masquerader," recently published by Harcourt & Brothers, is the most talked-of novel of the season. Besides these two books, she has written nothing except several short stories in the English magazines.

The marvelous strength with which the great tragedian, endowed with his volunteer assistant in his comedy play, notices act at the Orpheum this week is a whole acrobatic show in itself, the assistant doing all sorts of contortion stunts while supporting the weight of Therese.

"More to Be Pitted than Scorned," at the Bijou this week, contains several original and startling situations, which combined with quick action and an abundance of clever comedy, dancing and singing specialties, makes the play popular.

The comedy drama of Swedish life, "Yon Yonson," now in its fourteenth year, will be seen at the Bijou next week.

A feature of the amateur program at the Unique theater Friday night is to be a cakewalk, for which cash prizes are offered. Entries can be made up to 6 p.m. tomorrow.

HOW A TRUST CAN DODGE
"Until Jan. 1 of this year the best trust owned the icing plant at Jersey City, and passed was the refrigerator car that Charles E. Russell in Everybody's April installment of 'The Greatest Trust in the World.'" "Knowing exactly what cars were shipped by any competitor, it was able to ruin their contents. I know of one instance where it played this pleasing game on a competitor and was subsequently forced to pay the entire value of the shipment. But that was where the omission was detected and proved.

"Nobody knows how often the practice has fallen of detection and practically every refrigerator car that goes through Jersey City bound east or north must be rechecked. These interesting facts were revealed at the Saturday afternoon hearing in Chicago. They seemed likely to make people mad. A representative of the trust hastened from the hearing and immediately after the sale, real or nominal, of the icing plant to the Pennsylvania railroad. Now there is a mystery as to just who does the icing at Jersey City, but the trust representatives are able to swear that the trust at least does not own the plant."

SHOULD BE PAID BY THE PEOPLE
Rochester Bulletin.
The theory that public officials should not be held to the same standard of moral conduct as private citizens is a singular proposition, is unanswerable. On the other hand, however, a member of the legislature finds a railroad pass a very convenient thing, as it enables him to reach his constituents from time to time and to spend Sunday at home with his family and perhaps another day or two of the week with his mother-in-law. This he could not do were he compelled to pay railroad fare. The object of the railroad is giving free passes is, of course, to create a friendly feeling toward them among the legislators, and this is a very laudable object. While the Bulletin believes that upon questions of importance it would be more than a free pass to corrupt the vote of the majority, it is not sure that the legislature, a free pass is nevertheless in the nature of a bribe and should be forbidden by law. The people had better pay their representatives for their services and pay no more than to pay indirectly thru the railroads.

A GOOD DOCTOR TO SEND FOR
Dumb Animals.
"Your better ask the doctor for his bill next time it comes," said a poor sick minister to his wife. "I don't know when we can pay it, I'm sure. He's made a good many visits, but I hope he won't have to come back." "The doctor," said the wife, "is a grumpy-looking person, who said as little as possible, and spoke in the gruffest of tones; but he had kept his eyes open and was not half as unfeeling as he appeared. At his next visit the minister's wife followed him out of the sickroom and timidly preferred her request. 'Your bill?' said the doctor, glancing around the kitchen. She said down at his boots. 'Yes, sir,' said the woman. 'Mr. Anise wanted me to ask you for it, though we can't pay it just now. We'll pay it as soon as we can.' 'Well, here it is,' said the doctor. And he took out his pocketbook and handed the astonished woman a \$10 green back, and was out of doors before she could say, 'Thank you.'

THE READERS' QUESTION BOX
(Readers sending serious questions about books or a technical or purely literary sort or about matters pertaining to the book world, to The Unborn Chair in care of The Minneapolis Journal.

CITY NEWS

PETER MCCOY, HUMORIST
BROUGHT PAVING COMMITTEE TO TIME BY A THREAT OF SECESSION.
Alderman Peter McCoy's facetious threat to have the ninth ward secede and join St. Paul, brought the paving committee of the council to time yesterday and Central avenue will be paved this summer from Eighteenth to Twenty-fourth avenues. When the paving fund was being divided the committee was inclined to pass over the Ninth and let Central avenue go for a year until McCoy made his blood-curdling threat.

Judges Look Forward to the "Divorce Grind" with Distaste—Of Present List Awaiting a Hearing Are Eighty-seven in Which Answers Have Not Been Filed.
Divorces are increasing more rapidly than marriages in Minneapolis. In the three first months of 1905 457 marriage licenses have been issued—a low record. On the first term calendar of the district court, now in the printers' hands, are 107 divorce cases. Of this number, eighty-seven are default cases, answers not having been filed, the parties having evidently agreed to disagree.

The divorce industry in Minnesota is increasing to an extent that will, in time, put the state in a class with New Jersey, where one-sixth of the entire adult population is divorced. In the April term in Hennepin county, divorce suits will make up one-fourth of the court business. There are but thirty-one criminal and fifteen tax cases on the calendar. The total number of actions is 295. To handle the divorce calendar alone requires the major portion of the working time of one judge, one deputy clerk and one deputy sheriff. The services of only one man is needed to issue the marriage licenses, in addition to which he issues naturalization papers, witness and jury vouchers and does a variety of other work.

For the judge to whose lot falls this calendar, it furnishes anything but pleasant work. The "divorce grind," as it is called, is always looked forward to with distaste. The judge in charge must sit hour after hour and listen carefully to stories of desertion, cruelty, drunkenness or infidelity. The unhappy side of life is ever uppermost. That this work is increasing at a rapid rate is regretted by the district court judges, but under the statutes as they now stand, and under the conditions as it is, there seems to be no chance for a betterment.

MISS CROSMAN ON EXERCISE FOR WOMEN
Henrietta Crossman, who is soon coming to this city in "Miss Nell," is a devoted devotee of physical exercise for women. She maintains that physical exercise in considerable quantities is absolutely essential for women of the stage, not alone for health, but for grace of poise and movement. First on the list in the number of advantages it yields, Miss Crossman places fencing. She holds that this exercise imparts more bodily grace than any other, and to develop her own grace she is endeavoring to have it practiced out of doors. Next to fencing, Miss Crossman places walking. She is a persistent pedestrian, and every day last summer at her country home in Sunapee she took daily walks that averaged fourteen miles. One day she covered fourteen miles. Miss Crossman's indulgence in walking is not limited to seasons in the country. It is a frequent habit of hers to walk hours from the theater after the play. She bundles her maid and flowers into the carriage and has her coachman start the horses toward home, while she paces briskly alongside. Sometimes two or three blocks will satisfy her, when she trails the coachman and enters the carriage; again she walks the entire way home. This bit of exercise, she declares, is the best tonic after the fatigue and excitement of her wearing work in the theater, and insures a sound and refreshing night's rest.

FOR STATE AID
Alumni of School of Agriculture Appeal to Legislators.
The alumni association of the Minnesota school of agriculture, in the session of this week, adopted resolutions urging the legislature to levy a general tax of one-fifth of one mill for the benefit of the department of agriculture at the state university, and that appropriations of \$1,000 each be voted to the Minnesota Field Crop Breeders' association and the Minnesota State Farmers' club.

CHICAGO SINGERS COMING
Will Assist Philharmonic Club at Concert of April 4.
The public sale for the next concert of the Philharmonic club, Tuesday, April 4, at the Auditorium, will be open to music morning at the Metropolitan Music store.

RAILROADS NOTIFIED
Hearing on Complaint of Independent Oil Interests to Be Heard Soon.
The railroad and warehouse commission has sent out notices to the railroad companies of the state, informing them of the petition of the independent oil dealers for lower rates. Answers to the petitions will probably be filed by the railroad companies, and an early date a hearing will be provided by the commission. The independent oil dealers have such a hearing in progress in South Dakota, and have filed a petition in Iowa. One is also to be filed in North Dakota.

TO SOUTHERN TEXAS, \$27.75 Round Trip. Galveston, Fort Worth, Houston and Beaumont. To Mexico City and return, \$62.25. Tickets on sale April 4 and 18. Limit, twenty-one days. Stopovers permitted on Colorado, Double North to other points in the southwest. Call on J. G. Rickett, City Ticket Agent, 424 Nicollet avenue.

PETER MCCOY, HUMORIST

DOG LED THE DETECTIVES
Bawmann's Friendship for a St. Bernard Made Work Easy for the Sleuths.
Members of the police department are in favor of petitioning the police committee of the city council to purchase a certain dog, St. Bernard dog, owned by Mrs. Holtman, 113 Jackson street NE. The dog led Detectives Morrissey and Stavlo to the home of Axel Bawmann, night watchman at the Hardwood Parquet Floor Manufacturing company, who was arrested yesterday afternoon for forgery. After a little special training, the officers think the dog would work on highway and embelzers and thugs as well as on forgers.

FOR BUILDING FUND
Boys' Department of Y. M. C. A. Plan a Lecture Course.
An opportunity of helping a good cause and at the same time to have personal enjoyment is offered Minneapolis who are in sympathy with the work of the boys' department of the Young Men's Christian Association. Five lectures on certain works of fiction, to be given at the association hall at reasonable prices. The dates and lectures are as follows: April 7, "The Alhambra," W. H. Eustis; April 14, "The Apostle of Alaska," J. W. Alden; April 21, "Oz and Cambridge," Professor C. P. McClumpha; April 28, "Yellowstone Park," G. F. McNeill of the Northern Pacific railroad; May 5, Rev. Dr. Mary B. Shutter on a subject to be announced.

ATTRACTING ATTENTION
Dr. Fayette M. Thompson Delivers Series of Forceful Addresses.
The addresses on "Some Key Words in the Life of the Spirit," by Dr. Fayette M. Thompson, at Hennepin Avenue Methodist church, will be continued tomorrow evening at 8 o'clock. The topic for this evening is "Administration of the Spirit," and for tomorrow night "The Sanity of the Spirit." Saturday afternoon he will deliver a mother's and children's meeting on "Like a Dove." These addresses have attracted considerable attention and have been favorably commented upon. The services begin at 8 o'clock.

CITY SCHOOL MEN
Annual Meeting Will Be Held at State University.
City superintendents of the state will meet at the state university Friday and Saturday for their annual session, at the call of State Superintendent Oleson. About 100 superintendents are expected to attend, and A. C. Tibbetts of Blue Earth City will preside. Among the topics for discussion will be the merit system, child labor and truancy, and terms of office.

Tickets on sale for California, \$32.90 to California. Minneapolis & St. Paul railroad. New Minneapolis tourist cars twice a week—Wednesdays via Kansas City and the popular Santa Fe route; Thursdays via Omaha and the famous "Scenic Route" through Colorado. Double berth for two, only \$6.75. Call on J. G. Rickett, City Ticket Agent, 424 Nicollet avenue.