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An Opportunity.

The Grand Army encampment to be held in this city next summer has already advertised Minneapolis very widely and centered the attention of many thousands upon this city as the objective point of their summer travel.

It is impossible to form an estimate at this time with any degree of certainty as to how many people are likely to be brought this way on account of the low rates and other inducements afforded in connection with the encampment, but we may reasonably expect that Minneapolis will be visited by more tourists this coming year—very many more—than ever before in the history of the city.

To carry on this encampment, however, to furnish the accommodations which are customary and get up the attractions which ought to be provided, will cost some money. The committees of arrangements are asking for contributions.

A copy of the letter sent out by a committee of business men soliciting funds is published today. The committee have a right to expect a prompt and generous response. These are prosperous times, our people have money and can afford now better than ever before to lend a hand in this way.

There is one thing we might as well keep in mind here in Minneapolis—that if we are going to maintain our lead, or increase it as we ought to, as the metropolis of the northwest, there are some things to be done which will involve an occasional resort to the check book.

We have recently seen some remarkable exhibitions of public spirit on the part of our neighbors down the river. They finally realized the necessity of raising money for necessary public enterprises and institutions, and they have done it in a way which shows that they propose to be in the game.

A Pregnant Suggestion.

A suggestion from a business man, that is worth more than passing attention from politicians, is contained in the communication of Mr. H. C. Ervin of St. Cloud, printed in another column. Mr. Ervin wants to see the republican party take up the question of state development and make it one of the issues in an educational campaign.

Booming Minnesota is not a question for controversy and bickering, but one of arousing public sentiment and enlisting the co-operation of all forces. Minnesota's great resources need advertising. The state has been prosperous so long that people have become indifferent to the possibilities that lie beyond.

The state needs an awakening. It needs to waken people of other states to realize the opportunities awaiting them here. Before making any impression on outsiders we must become thoroughly alive on the question ourselves, and no better topic could be injected into the coming state campaign.

The republican party of the state could do no greater material service than by taking up this movement and stirring the people of every precinct in the state to its importance.

There are many points to be considered of a practical sort that will carry the discussion out of the realm of sentiment. It will appeal to business men

Looking Into Divorce Affidavits.

Judge Brooks' memorandum in the W. J. Dobbin divorce suit takes admirably sensible ground upon the question of undisputed divorces where the plaintiff makes affidavit that the defendant's whereabouts are unknown.

In this case the judge happened to have knowledge that the defendant was a well-known nurse in a public hospital in Brooklyn, and, of course, could have been found. In but three of twenty-two cases upon the present term calendar was the plaintiff willing to admit any knowledge of the whereabouts of the defendant.

In the nineteen cases it was apparently the wish of the plaintiff that the court should believe that the defendant had vanished from the face of the earth and that neither by inquiry among relatives nor otherwise could his or her location be ascertained.

The inference, says Judge Brooks, is unavoidable that in many of these cases a fraud was attempted to be perpetrated upon the defendant and upon the court.

In a few of these cases there may be a fraud upon the defendant, but in the large majority the plaintiff and the defendant conspire to perpetrate a fraud upon the court.

The courts have a right to inquire into the truth of the affidavits filed in divorce cases, and it is an encouraging sign that in the Minneapolis courts one judge at least has shown a disposition not to accept them without some independent inquiry as to their credibility and morality.

King Edward's indorsement of home rule brings him in line with the best municipal thinkers in America.

The Office of Lieutenant Governor.

There is evidence that more care will be taken in selecting a lieutenant governor of Minnesota this year than usual. In the past the place has been given by convention to the man who seemed to want it the most, or whose locality needed a "sop."

Now that a great liberal majority has been returned, Campbell-Bannerman is going to try to get the Irish question out of politics by freeing Ireland from London rule.

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The retiring state senate incurred much popular disfavor by such methods, and all over the state there are mutterings which herald a renovation. It is just as essential to have the lieutenant governor right as it is to have the senate right.

The lieutenant governor's power does not end with naming the standing committees. That is a most important function, but there are many times when the wielder of the gavel has it in his hand to make or mar a measure.

Especially in a crisis when the two houses disagree, he is given special power. He names the conference committee which represents the senate, and these conference committees practically determine the form of the bill finally adopted.

Another fact, not to be forgotten, is the possibility always present of a vacancy in the governor's chair, which will place the administration of the state in the hands of the heir apparent, the lieutenant governor. It should be plain to Minnesota republicans that their choice for this position must not be made in any off-hand way, and must not be made at the dictation of any special interest desiring to shape legislation.

The Ohio legislature, which is about to prohibit treating by law, should hold an extra session on the Christmas present evil.

Secretary Root's Attitude.

Secretary Root's attitude toward the movement for reform of conditions in the Congo Free State is scarcely credited by the men and women who have taken an active part in this movement.

The leaders of it claim to be acting under advice from men as eminent in the legal profession as Secretary Root, and they say very frankly that they consider Mr. Root's position such a one as he will be glad to change when he has looked more closely into the subject.

The fact that the United States has no territorial rights or duties in Africa, which is apparently made the controlling factor in Mr. Root's attitude of complaisance toward Leopold's government, has not much force when one notes the number of times this country

WHAT OTHER PEOPLE THINK.

State Development an Issue. To the Editor of The Journal. From various indications it would seem that the people, as well as the politicians, will have something to say as to who shall be the next republican nominee for governor.

Why did the United States take such an interest in China? Because we had trade interests in the empire which were threatened with extinction if the Germans, the English, the French and the Russians should succeed in dismembering the ancient empire.

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THE OFFER.

By W. P. Kirkwood. JOURNEYS AMONG THE MAGAZINES. JOURNEY NO. 4.—New York, Feb. 24.—Down on Fifteenth street and Seventh avenue, in a large, massive-looking building which suggests a military storeroom or an armory, are published three magazines.

Archibald L. Sessions, the editor of Ainslie's, shows some effects of the strenuous life of a busy separator boss, but he still maintains an even and quiet temper and greets a visitor pleasantly as he expects to find the author of some great story which would increase the sales of his magazine and make him famous as a literary conqueror.

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AMUSEMENTS.

By W. P. Kirkwood. Biju-Shea in "Othello." Thomas E. Shea was seen at his best as Othello at the Bijou last night. He gave a remarkable portrayal of the noble Moor, the generous, open nature, which bore of its unexplored trustfulness, falls so easily a victim to the subtle deviousness of Iago.

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KING OF WORLD'S STAMP COLLECTORS.

AGED AUSTRIAN WHO SPURNS THIS TITLE BUT HOLDS IT. He Has Paid Over \$1,000,000 for His Collection and It Has Steadily Increased in Value in His Hands—A New Haven Stamp of 1846, Now Worth \$1,200, Cost Him \$40.

Philadelphia North American. The king of stamp collectors, Phillip la Renotiere of Paris, France, has added another stamp rarity to his vast collection, which takes in almost every bit of engraved or stamped paper ever issued by any country through the world for postal purposes since the use of stamps first began in England, in 1840, and which is now estimated to be worth at the very least \$3,000,000.

The unique variety which has just come to light is a Lombardy stamp, which was discovered by a dealer at Cologne, Germany. It seems that the stamp dealer had bought a large quantity of Lombardy 5-cent stamps, all printed in yellow ink.

The common specimens were printed on plain paper, while the rarer ones were printed on paper with perpendicular ribs. The great find differed from these two issues by reason of the ribs being horizontal, and was the only one of the kind in a mass of fully 100,000 stamps.

The dealer at once telegraphed to M. Renotiere that he had happened upon a variety previously unknown. The collector telegraphed in return that he would come in person and have a look at the oddity and at once took a train for Cologne, where he examined the stamp. M. Renotiere paid several hundred dollars for it.

Renowned a Title. This leader of a hobby which is worldwide, embracing millions of followers in every walk of life and including many of the world's great financiers, is known to the stamp world as Herr von Ferrari, and it is said that his personality is as remarkable as the great collection that has made his name famous. He is a man of great fact followed. He has devoted most of his life to the collection of postage stamps, upon which he is credited with having expended more than \$1,000,000.

He is thought to be over 60, and also generally supposed to be a Frenchman, because of his long residence in Paris, but he is really an Austrian. His father was an Austrian nobleman, bearing the title of the Duke of Gallaria.

Upon his father's death M. Renotiere refused to accept his title, and, furthermore, declined to touch a cent of the fortune bequeathed to him by the duke, giving as his reason the fact that the wealth had been so gained by means of which he did not approve.

For many years after he arrived in Paris he was in a state of idleness, as a private tutor. In the early sixties by his mother's death he fell heir to a fortune, and it was at this time that he is supposed to have begun his collection of stamps, which he pursued with such energy that even in 1868 he was credited with being the owner of the most valuable collection of that time, a reputation that he has constantly maintained to the present day.

The nucleus of his collection he formed by purchasing outright several large collections, for two of which he paid sums around \$15,000, but these proportions to his enormous accumulation of stamps.

Many of the world's greatest stamp rarities are in his collection. In many cases in which the United States knows the specimen, he has a better one among his holdings. The unique British Guiana 1-cent stamp, which is printed on ordinary wrapping paper, is owned by him.

Vault for His Stamp. No one, not even M. Renotiere himself, accurately knows the number of specimens contained in his collection. A whole vault in a safe deposit company in Paris is taken up with it. Many of the extreme rarities are exhibited in showcases placed around the vault, and the privilege of looking at them is sometimes given by the owner to his friends. It is said that he has had his other Parisian philatelists, and has never publicly exhibited any part of his collection.