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State's Contest with a Trust.

Minnesota's plan of campaign against the cordage trust is of equal significance with the war between the state of Kansas and Standard Oil, tho there is nothing like so much capital involved, and in the Minnesota case the state is not coming to the rescue of oppressed private owners, but is fighting to maintain an established industry under state ownership.

The state prison twine plant has been marvelously successful, and has saved the farmers of the state millions of dollars on their binding twine. It has habitually undersold the market from 2 to 3 cents a pound, and so has had no trouble in selling every pound of its product within the confines of the state. It has thus deprived the cordage trust of sales measured by the capacity of the prison plant, and running for this year up to 13,000,000 pounds. The trust interests have suffered this competition for years, but now have started out to crush it. A new plant which will make twine by a new process from flax fiber will buy its raw material in Minnesota, will meet the lowest price of the prison plant, and will sell its product entirely in Minnesota, so as not to injure the market outside this state.

If Minnesota could be assured that these low prices would continue, the prison plant could well be abandoned and prison labor turned in some other direction, such as roadmaking. It is a certainty, however, that with the prison plant out of business prices would at once be advanced by the twine monopoly, and the farmers of Minnesota would be once more paying big profits to alien stockholders. So the Minnesota plant must be kept going, in the face of astute efforts to crush it. The issue must be met.

The cordage interests have planned to confine the fight to Minnesota. As the state law now stands, prison twine may not be sold in other states. If next year the flax twine should break into prison sales as intended, the prison would be left with millions of pounds unsold. The plan conceived by the board of control and the warden, and now indorsed by the governor, is to amend our law so that if necessary prison twine may be sold in other states. The prison output is practically sold for this season, so there is time for this change to be made by the legislature next winter. It will mean that if a Minnesota market is cut off, prison twine will go into the Dakotas, Iowa and Wisconsin, where regular trust prices are maintained.

The trust must then meet prison prices in all this territory and cut its own profits to almost nothing, or Minnesota will dispose of its entire surplus and the plant will go on flourishing.

The state is undertaking a hard fight, with a powerful antagonist, and it may need the moral support from the farmers of the state to help win out. The state has certain advantages in the contest, however. The prison labor is less expensive than any the trust can find, and the prison does not have to pay any dividends to stockholders. The only profit exacted by the prison plant is one that will provide a sinking fund to buy new machinery and meet emergencies. Under these conditions the state ought to meet any industrial competition, and prices being equal, the state's interests should be supported by Minnesota people.

When visiting the Chicago university last week Prince Tsai put the embarrassing question thus:

But this Mr. Rockefeller, where did he receive in so short a time the emoluments which enable him to be the father of this, so great an institution? And why is the wealth not to the learned and those who teach the valuable lessons?

This is just the question that Mr. Rockefeller is trying to keep well in the background.

Governor Pennypacker of Pennsylvania has just vetoed the resolution providing for the investigation of the affairs of certain prosperous railroads, and has declined to call the legislature together for the enactment of a 2-cent fare passenger rate. In a few short month a heroic marble image of the late Matthew Stanley Quay will look down upon visitors to the rotunda of the state capitol at Harrisburg. Carl Bitter, a New York sculptor, has been commissioned to do the work, and he has chosen for his model a photograph taken shortly before Senator Quay's death. The photograph shows Quay in his favorite sitting position. "O, mighty Matthew, thou art living yet; thy spirit walks abroad."

This Will "Hold" Them.

Speaking about "scoops," you noticed, of course, what The Journal handed its local Sunday contemporary yesterday. While it has never failed to at least hold its own in the news field, it scored a "scoop" yesterday which will "hold the envious opposition" for a little while, at least. The most sensational, and in some respects the most important, piece of news in the west for many a long day was the confession of one of the tools of the Western Federation of Miners in their anarchistic campaign against non-union men and against officers of the law in Idaho and Colorado. This confession was given exclusively in The Journal yesterday, no other paper in Minnesota having any part of it. We shall probably hear nothing more for the present about the comparative merits of news service enjoyed by The Journal and its contemporaries.

Miss Busch and Lieutenant Scharrer decided on a quiet wedding. No keg of papa's peculiar brand of nails will be tapped for the guests.

A Slender Hope.

The Memphis Commercial Appeal wonders whether the great rate debate is not likely to split the republican party just as the financial issue split the democracy. It calls attention to the situation where "the leading champions of the cause of gold as well as the most forceful advocates of the free coinage of silver were democrats. While Reed, McKinley, Harrison and others were trying to effect some sort of a compromise, Cleveland, Carlisle, Cockran and others were openly advocating the gold standard, and Bryan, Bland, Turpie and others were spreading the gospel of free silver." Everyone knows the result.

The Commercial Appeal thinks it has found a parallel in the division of the republican majority in the senate on the rate bill and anticipates—or it might be better to say hopes—for the disintegration of the republican party on this issue.

The hope has very slender foundation. The republican party is not divided on the rate bill. Mr. Aldrich, Mr. Elkins, Mr. Foraker and those who follow them are not the republican party. Mr. Aldrich may be supported by his own people in the little state of Rhode Island, but Mr. Foraker has already been called down by the legislature of Ohio. There is a revolt of a very dangerous kind against Elkins in West Virginia, and nowhere is there any evidence that the senators who are fighting the rate bill represent the sentiment of their own people at home. The rate bill may cost some of the republicans in the senate their seats, but there is no division in the republican party worth talking about on this measure.

With this weather the iceman's last excuse seems to have gone glimmering.

Leopold Getting Scared.

Our cable dispatches report that King Leopold of Belgium is complaining of "unjust accusations" concerning his administration of affairs in the Congo country and that he would like to be relieved of his responsibilities there. The attention of the world has been directed very pointedly during the last few months to conditions in the Congo Free State, and the indignation of the Christian world is being aroused in such a way as to bode no good for Leopold's control of that country.

It is quite natural that he should be anxious to be relieved of his responsibility in that connection, as public sentiment is becoming thoroly aroused by reports of the unparalleled atrocities committed there. Two reasons may be fairly assigned for his anxiety to let go. It may be that he is anxious to sell because afraid of intervention by the powers which placed him in control, or it may be that he has so robbed the country and destroyed its productive power as to have approached a point beyond which the holding will not be profitable. Anything which would get Leopold out of Africa would be a good thing.

If the Osler theory is right that a man's powers are "to the bad" after the age of 60, why do we send them to the senate? Either the senate or Dr. Osler's idea "lag superfluous." Perhaps both. Some old men may be better than other old men.

The Two Americas.

We are accustomed to think of the "Anglo-Saxon" dominance of this hemisphere as complete. But it is not well to ignore the Spanish-speaking peoples growing up to the south of us. Hubert M. Skinner in the National Magazine, says:

The Spanish-speaking world is much larger than the French-speaking, and nearly as large as the German-speaking. There are perhaps fifty millions of people in all who make use of the French language, and seventy millions, all told, who speak German in some of its forms. There are probably sixty-five millions or more who speak Spanish: and if we include with them those who use the closely related Portuguese, the number will be about eighty-five millions.

In this neo-Spanish world the birth-rate is larger than that of the United States.

Buenos Aires, in the Argentine Republic, is a city of a million people, twice the size of Madrid. Its warehouses, elevators and wharves are the scene of remarkable activity. It exports yearly about 100,000,000 bushels of wheat.

It will be impossible "to absorb" this race, for the racial element is persistent in it. Mexico has "made good" as a nation, and Chile and Argentine are not far, if any, behind her.

The future will find on this continent two powerful race individualities face to face. There is no reason why they should not be friends and work together for the good of all, each in its own sphere.

Interest in the Excelsior election deepens as the day of voting draws near. Not only are the people of Excelsior much concerned about the outcome, but it interests everybody in Minneapolis. It is a matter of some consequence whether Excelsior is going to be a suitable place to visit, especially on Sunday, during the lake season, or whether it will become a spot to be shunned by reputable and respectable citizens. The matter is entirely in the hands of the people of Excelsior. They can make that village one of the most attractive and prosperous in the county or they can condemn it to the condition of a rumhole and utterly destroy its future. As has been intimated in some of the reports of the campaign, the result tomorrow will settle for some time to come the fate of that village.

President Eliot of Harvard opposes dividends of stock because it is a secret device to increase the profits of the stockholders. A substantial objection to the payment of dividends in stock is that in the case of public service corporations it increases the capital upon which returns may be claimed without at the same time increasing the efficiency of the service. It ought to be impossible for public service corporations to increase capital stock without selling it outright and putting the proceeds into the equipment of the plant.

These are the days when people should be careful to breathe pure air and to ventilate their houses at night, even if the coal man is getting their money. Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, speaking of pure air, once wrote: "Have we forgotten what is told in one of the books published under our own sanction, that a simple measure of ventilation had saved more than sixteen thousand children's lives in a single hospital? How long would it have taken small doses of calomel and rhubarb to have saved so many children?"

Professor K. V. Millard of Washington, back from a study of hieroglyphics in Egypt, states that the ancient Egyptians taught "that men are the descendants of angels cast out of heaven some years ago. That these angels are prisoners in mortal bodies, to be all redeemed after a few cycles of earth existence in which they get a chance to learn to behave properly in heaven. That this world is really hell." Many people, when things were not going their way, have surmised the latter.

"Tuttle" is now looking out for things in the senate. If you wish to know about "Tuttle," write to ex-Senator Chandler of New Hampshire. Chandler lost his seat in the senate because he would not do the bidding of the Boston & Maine railroad. For years he had been a consistent advocate of fair play in transportation. His position was not helpful to the special privileges enjoyed by the Boston & Maine, and "Tuttle" discharged him from the senate.

In the Great Western wreck Saturday night the negro porter of the sleeping-car Normanna was the coolest man in the car. He not only prevented a panic but his work in assisting in the rescue of his passengers deserves a Carnegie medal. We sometimes laugh at the porter's anxiety to assist us, but here is a man of whom every white man will feel honored to grasp the hand.

United States senators may easily be elected by the people now and without a constitutional amendment. State legislatures might carry out the will of the people, as expressed in primaries, just as presidential electors do now. Primary elections are in vogue in several states and it is easy to indicate the popular thought in the matter of a senator.

James Hazen Hyde is having an awfully good time, don't you know, in little old Paris. The feeling in the "American colony" is entirely favorable to him, for James has that which counts and lets go of it like a gentleman. In this case we do not have to ask where he got it. We know. Especially those of us who contributed.

Can you remember how, just thirty years ago, ex-Secretary Belknap was arrested for frauds committed while he was in office, and the big headlines in the papers? Thirty years is not so long.

Just after the Success magazines have got the Pittsburg millionaires comfortably written up as public examples "to our youth," the rich men begin having trouble with their wives.

Seattle has elected a municipal ownership mayor. It is easier to elect a mayor with those ideas than it is to persuade the public utilities trusts to let go of a good thing.

Dr. Dowie's successor finds that faith without manufacturing works is dead. Steps have been taken to preserve the works.

The fiancee of the king of Spain looks as tho she might step on her wardrobe if she didn't look sharp.

THIS DATE IN HISTORY

MARCH 12.

1612—The third charter to Virginia granted.

1768—Six students at Oxford expelled for Methodism.

1825—Pasturing cows on Boston common forbidden.

1861 — Confederate commissioners arrived at Washington.

1875—Moody and Sankey began series of notable revival meetings in London.

1877—William M. Evarts of New York appointed secretary of state.

1887—Burial of Henry Ward Beecher.

1895—Queen Liliuokalani of Hawaii sentenced to five years' imprisonment.

THE OPEN BOOK

By W. P. Kirkwood.

JOURNEYINGS AMONG THE MAGAZINES. JOURNEY NO. 12.—Boston, March 9.—Of all the magazines of general interest in America none seems more remote from the hurry and worry of life than The Atlantic, and yet, perhaps none notes more closely the changing spirit and temper of life. With the material activity of the age it has little to do, but with the spirit of the age everything—that is everything within the limitations of one magazine to have. This has been the aim of the magazine from the outset, "to give literary interpretation of American life"—and, tho that life has changed wonderfully, astonishingly, the Atlantic has gone on calmly, dispassionately for the most part, with the business of interpretation, the task of getting at the soul of things, and of revealing them in literary form.

In the summer of 1857 in Boston—at Parker's — Emerson, Lowell, Motley, Holmes, Longfellow, Cabot, Underwood and the publisher, Phillips, dined together and discussed the project of a new magazine which Phillips wished to establish. It was to be a magazine, according to the plan, which should recognize the fact "that literature is one of the most serious concerns of men, and that the highest service to our national life is the encouragement and the production of literature." The plan was approved and Lowell was made editor. That fall the first number appeared with the following among the fourteen contributors: Motley, Longfellow, Emerson, Charles Eliot Norton, Holmes, Whittier, Mrs. Stowe, J. T. Trowbridge, Lowell and Parke Godwin, a group which in this day excites comment readily enough, tho in that day it may not have seemed so impressive. However, the group was made up of writers of earnest purpose and serious ideals in a literary way. It was just such a company as would give a magazine of the Atlantic's aim a favorable and successful launching. No owner or editor of the magazine since that day, despite the changing fashion in magazines, has sought to change the original course charted, and so auspiciously entered upon.

BLISS PERRY,
Editor of the Atlantic Monthly.

The present home of the Atlantic seems well-nigh ideal for such a magazine. The firm of Hurd & Houghton, predecessors of the well-known firm of Houghton, Mifflin & Co., acquired the Atlantic in 1873. In 1880, after the style of the firm was changed, the offices were transferred to the old Quincy mansion at 4 Park street, near the statehouse, and facing Boston common. The old "mansion" shows its age, but it is still a place of life, warmth and sunny cheerfulness, standing at once for the unchanged purpose of the magazine, and yet for that virile optimism which has adapted itself to the changing order as an interpreter of life. The offices of the Atlantic are on the second floor of the building, of course being shared in occupancy by the Houghton, Mifflin company. One on entering, or at least after getting beyond the outer office and the clicking of the typewriters, could easily convince himself that he was in someone's living room. Facing him is an open grate with a glowing coal fire, giving out cheer as well as warmth. He is reminded of Hawthorne's "Fire Worship," and at once feels a kinship for the prosperous-looking fire worshipers at the various desks. The whole atmosphere of the place is homelike, and when an old gentleman comes out of an easy chair in one corner, pokes down the fire and lays on fresh coal the illusion is complete. Everything goes on quietly, but goes on, as in a well-regulated home. Conversation is carried on in subdued tones. Thru another door and yet another one he comes to the private office of George H. Mifflin, the present head of the firm, a man of kind heart, quick to act on generous impulses. Surrounding him are books, pictures, prints, all that a literary man is likely to gather about him, for convenience in his work and the utmost of comfort and enjoyment at his work. All these offices look out on Boston common. Over to the left may be seen Tremont street, and down below and a little to the right St. Gaudens' "imperishable monument to Shaw." Farther to the right, so far it would perhaps be necessary to raise a window to see it, is the capitol, with its great golden dome.

On the same floor, but in the rear of the building, is the real seat of the mighty in so far as the Atlantic is concerned—the office of Bliss Perry, the editor. The same comfortable surroundings are to be found there as in the front offices. The outlook from the windows, however, is somewhat more lugubrious. Instead of looking out upon a playground, the editor sees a burying ground, the historic "Old Granary Burying Ground." Its honored dead have been dead so long, however, that nothing but the luster of their names is suggested by the nearness of their dust and gravestones, so that there may be inspiration after all in Mr. Perry's outlook, at least, he shows no whit of depression by his daily associations with the dead past.

None of the manufacturing of the Atlantic or of the publishing house is done at the Park street office. That is all done by the Riverside Press, controlled by the same interests—on the banks of the river Charles, in Cambridge, and just a short walk from Harvard university, to see which institution is to cease to wonder—if one ever did—why Harvard "grads" are enthusiastic in their veneration for their alma mater. The plant of the Riverside Press has been a growth. From small beginnings it has come to be a great and busy establishment, whence come books of most valuable contents, thoro and conscientious construction and artistic design, as well as a magazine, which, once having made a friend, seldom loses him, for the very good reason that is found in that motive of the founders, which still persists—the interpretation of life in literature.

THE HISTORY OF A GREAT INDUSTRY.—People are more and more realizing that there is intensely interesting material for reading to be found in the histories of great commercial enterprises and of great industries. It was the recognition of this, as well as his interest in the lumbering industry that led James Elliott Defebaugh, editor of the American Lumberman, to write the History of the Lumber Industry in America in four volumes, one of which has just been issued. Something of the scope of the work may be seen from the following outline of the first volume:

Following an introductory chapter which treats briefly of the discovery, exploration and settlement of the Americas and a resume of the forestal conditions at the beginning of white civilization on the western continent, is a chapter devoted to the forest geography of North America. Then follows a series of chapters devoted to Canada. The forest resources of the country are set forth and the lumber history of Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland, is gone into at some length. Following the Canadian department are chapters relating to the forest resources of the United States, the land laws that have had an influence upon timber ownership and the lumber business, the history of lumber tariff legislation, a description of the forest reserves of the country, and exhaustive chapters on production of lumber and its associated products and the foreign trade of the United States in goods of this class.

American Lumberman, Chicago. $3.50 a volume.

MARCH.

A half-wild creature cast from winter's lap;
A vagrant reveler in nature's courts;
With wind-disheveled hair she wildly sports
With twig and bough, surcharged with rising sap.
In scant and freely flowing raiment drest,
Her slim brown arms upflung to greet the rain,
She screams her challenge to the silent plain
And makes of every day a crazy jest!
She rushes fiercely down the hillside steep,
And dashes thru forsaken forest aisles
Where last year's leaves lie deep in somber piles,
And gaunt-limbed trees their endless vigils keep.
And so for days her reckless reign extends;
Teased and tormented Nature groans outright;
Until at last, the madcap thing takes flight,
And gentle April comes to make amends.
—Edwin Carlile Litsey in Everybody's Magazine for March.

BOOKS RECEIVED

THE JUNGLE. By Upton Sinclair, author of "Manassas," "King Midas," etc. New York: Doubleday, Page & Co. $1.50.

THE CHAMPAGNE STANDARD. By Mrs. John Lane, author of "Kitwyk," "Brown's Retreat," etc. New York: John Lane company.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE AMERICAN FOREST CONGRESS. Held in Washington, D. C., Jan. 2 to 6, 1905, under the auspices of the American Forestry association. Published for the association by the H. M. Suter Publishing company, Washington, D. C.

THE LARKY FURNACE, and other adventures of Sue Betty. By Hildegard Brooks, author of "Daughters of Desperation." With cover and decorations by Peter Newell. New York: Henry Holt & Co. $1.25.

THE NONCHALANTE. Casual data touching the career of Dixie Bilton, opperettensangerin at Bellmar. By Stanley Olmsted. New York: Henry Holt & Co. $1.25.

NATURE AND HEALTH. A popular treatise on the hygiene of the person and the home. By Edward Curtis, A.M., M.D., emeritus professor of materia medica and therapeutics, Columbia university. New York: Henry Holt & Co. $1.25 net.

THE SEA MAID. By Ronald Macdonald. New York: Henry Holt & Co. $1.50.

THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC FROM 1861 TO 1863. An inside view of the history of the army of the Potomac and its leaders as told in the official dispatches, reports and secret correspondence. By Samuel Livingston French. Publishing Society of New York.

CONCERT WAS RANK

Novelty Program Nets St. Paul Church Tidy Sum.

The young people of a St. Paul Methodist church gave a novel entertainment last week and raised over $35 for their treasury. A concert had been planned, but no one seemed to want to take part in the program, so a clever young woman proposed a plan which was unanimously adopted and notices for a concert were sent out.

The church was well filled on the appointed evening, and after a social half hour, the young woman who was responsible for the new idea, rose and stated that she wanted to sing, and was willing to pay 5 cents for the privilege.

When she began to sing an old-time popular ditty, another member of the society offered to pay 2 cents if the singer was told to stop. The singer offered 3 cents for the right to continue, but her opponent increased his offer to 4 cents and the song ceased.

The audience was quick to grasp the meaning of the byplay, and when a young man paid 5 cents for the right to recite "The Charge of the Light Brigade," an elderly man offered a quarter to have him stop. The bidding was lively, and finally it cost the young man a dollar to continue his recitation. Piano solos, songs, recitations and a dialog were given with more or less opposition, and then refreshments were served.

LECTURES ON NORWAY

Son of Great Norwegian Poet Bjornson Coming to Minneapolis.

Erling Bjornson, son of the famous Norwegian poet and patriot, Bjornstjerne Bjornson, will visit Minneapolis this week on his American tour. He has attracted wide attention by his lectures and by interviews in which he reveals much information concerning the late crises in Norway which was not carried by the press dispatches, as the government officials did all they could to suppress it. Mr. Bjornson was in close touch with the developments and speaks with authority.

His lecture contains a brief historical review of Norway from the union with Denmark up to the present time, with particular attention to the events of 1814 and 1905. Some interesting reminiscences from the experiences of the soldiers forming the forntier guard, and the arrival of King Haakon will be given. The lecture will be illustrated by 100 stereopticon views, the subjects being the chief events of the last year.

Mr. Bjornson will give his lecture in Minneapolis at Dania hall, on Friday evening, March 16.

BYRON WINS SUCCESS

Minneapolis Boy's Readings and Impersonations Popular in East.

Brayton Byron, a Minneapolis boy, has been meeting with much success in the east with his readings and impersonations. Mr. Byron had a great deal of talent before he went to Boston to attend the Emerson College of Oratory. While there it is said that his work has greatly improved. He gave readings in and around Boston last winter, always meeting with success. Last summer he gave recitals thru the east with Master Leonard Scrogie, the wonderful boy soprano soloist of the Church of the Advent, Boston.

Mr. Byron is now spending the remainder of the winter in the south. He probably will spend the summer at the Byron cottage on Byron's bluff, Orono, Lake Minnetonka, in which case his friends may again her him in some of his readings and character impersonations.

Kodol digests what you eat. Relieves indigestion, Dyspepsia, sour stomach, belching.

Low Rates to the West and Southwest via Chicago Great Western Railway. Tickets on sale Feb. 15 to April 7, inclusive; $34.90 to San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego; $22.50 to Salt Lake City; $34 to Mexico City. Equally low rates to other points. For full information, apply to R. H. Heard, G. A., Nicollet avenue and Fifth street.

Hoodwinks the Oculist. Madden Eye Medicin cures eyes. (Don't smart.) 25c.

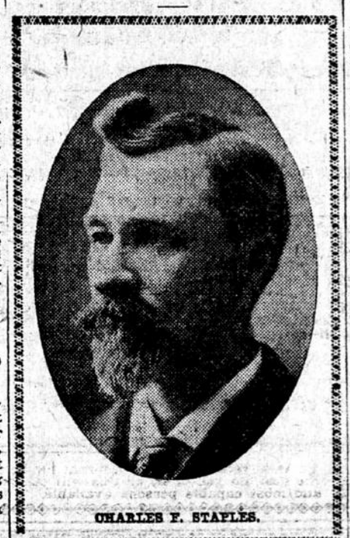
Minnesota Politics

Loren Fletcher Gives Up Notion to Try for the Governorship, and may Not Even Run for Congress—Judge John Day Smith a Possible Dark Horse—Eddy's Stand for Jacobson Unpopular with Some of His Stanch Friends.

One thing is very evident in the somewhat muddled situation—Hennepin county is not going to have any home candidate for governor. Uncle Loren Fletcher thought seriously of running, but since he returned to Washington after the holidays he has given up the idea of entering the state game. His plan was to ask for the Hennepin delegation, and if it was delivered to him without a fight, then he would go into the convention. Many conflicting interests have developed in Hennepin. There are three or four candidates for secretary of state, the Block campaign has made much headway, and Lord has many friends among former legislative associates. Fletcher's advisers have counseled against his trying for governor, and he has come to the same conclusion. Nothing more will be heard of the Fletcher boom. If our congressman runs for anything it will be for re-election, but it is extremely doubtful whether he will do that.

Judge John Day Smith has been spoken of as a good vote-getting candidate for governor. Mention of him has been made both at home and outside, and he is not an impossible dark horse in the convention. His position on the bench, however, prevents him from making an active bid, and sentiment among most Hennepin county republicans is against presenting anyone from this county. They realize that the war of 1904 would make a local candidate endless trouble, no matter how good a man he might be. He would be cut right and left by Dunn men sore over the last campaign, just to get even with Hennepin.

Some of Dr. Cole's Fergus Falls friends have been imposing on him. When in town last week the Otter Tail senator declared that he was not a candidate for lieutenant governor, and had not been at any time. Announcements that he was a receptive candidate, or other statements of the kind, have been without authority. This removes all possibility of a tangle in the family, as Dr. Cole is a brother of A. L. Cole, one of the governorship possibilities.



CHARLES F. STAPLES.

Now closing his second term on the railroad and warehouse commission, C. F. Staples has announced that he would be pleased with a renomination for four years more. So far no one has entered the race against him, and he seems likely to go into the convention with a clear field, as he did in 1902. The man from Dakota county has many friends who have been talking him for governor, and if he chose to enter for the blue ribbon he would make some of the others hustle. His announcement has disposed of that possibility, however.

Mr. Staples has been criticised by a good many people for the inactivity of the railroad commission, but it must be remembered that he is only one of three members, and if he undertook to run the commission would find himself outnumbered. He has often favored more radical action than the other members have stood for, and it is understood that he only agreed to the recent schedule for reduced merchandise rates after he had stood out vainly for a reduction to the Iowa basis.

Charles F. Staples was born in Dakota county in 1856, and now lives in the village of West St. Paul, just over the county line from the capital city. He was educated in the home schools and the St. Paul public school, and taught school for several years. He is a practical farmer and dairyman, and at one time operated the largest dairy in the state. He was elected to the house in 1892, and served continuously in the sessions of 1893, 1895, 1897 and 1899. He was a leader in the house, and generally stood for reform measures. In 1900 he was nominated as one of the first members of the elective railroad commission, but was knocked out of the full term and served only two years. In 1902 he was renominated without opposition and re-elected. He is a thoro student of rate questions, and gave valuable testimony last summer at the senate committee hearing on the railroad rate bills in Washington.

The Wheaton Gazette-Reporter is opposed to holding the state convention at Duluth, because it would be more expensive to four-fifths of the delegates, and would result in many staying at home who ought to attend. "A convention at Duluth," says the Wheaton paper, "would be largely a convention of politicians, while if held at either St. Paul or Minneapolis the short time required to go and return makes it certain that the rank and file of the party from every county will be largely represented. The members of the committee will make a serious blunder if they call the convention at Duluth."

Democratic hunger for positions as salaried game wardens remains unappeased. The state game and fish commission is still in republican hands. When a successor to Uri L. Lamprey has been named there will be three Johnson appointees out of five, but one of them, O. J. Johnson of Glenwood, is a republican, and Governor Johnson will not be in any position to dictate appointments. The commission is holding to the wardens who have experience and are making good records. They will probably concede some places to the administration when changes are made, but will not clean house for the sake of placing democratic workers.

Frank Eddy's declaration for Jacobson will be bitter as gall to some of his friends, who have been condemning Jacobson as an enemy of drainage, at the same time they were insisting on Eddy's nomination. To lose their candidate and at the same time see him boosting their pet aversion must be an unpleasant experience, to say the least. The Warroad Plaindealer, one of the original Eddy sheets, said only last week that the city papers were showing friendship to Governor Johnson by favorable mention of Jacobson. "They know," said the Plaindealer, "that Eddy would defeat Johnson, and they do not want Johnson defeated." Eddy himself seems to take a different view of the prospect, and thinks Jacobson the man to do the business.

Report has it that the Martin county delegation is likely to present the name of Colonel F. W. Betz of Fairmont as a candidate for state treasurer. Colonel Betz is a prominent German republican, who has done good service on committees and has had charge of the campaign in Martin county on more than one occasion.

Big Stone county wants the state senator to succeed H. W. Stone of Benson. F. M. Geier of Ortonville is preparing to go after the republican nomination, while John Mitchel of the same place, a prominent democratic worker, may oppose him. O. E. Hogue of Benson, who represented the district in the last house, will be a candidate for the same place.

—Charles B. Cheney.

AMUSEMENTS

Bijou—"Bankers and Brokers."

Gus Yorke and Nick Adams, whose Hebrew comedy work is so far above the average in that line that it is a shame to call it by the same name, are in Minneapolis with a brand new, catchy vehicle that should prove a big success. It is a satire on frenzied finance built for the most part on original lines. There is enough plot to hold the two acts together and to create a personal interest in the affairs of the principals. Tho there is nothing startlingly clever in the lines or the music, the piece is on the whole full of fun and is well presented.

The stage settings and costumes are sumptuous and many of the effects are novel and pleasing. This is specially true of movements and pictures following "Summertime's the Time" in the second act. Some clever lighting that proves effective and pleasing is used in the "Honey Dew" song rendered by Eddie Barto and Minnie Lafferty, assisted by the pony ballet, consisting of six charming show girls.

For the most part the piece moves with a swing and dash, the deficiencies in the vehicle being more than made up by the company. One of the biggest song hits is made by the parodies of the two stars who have a full line of amusing verses and keep them coming as long as they last. Rita Redmond and Anna Lloyd are overloaded with work, fully half of the vocal numbers being thrown upon them. Miss Redmond should have an opportunity to devote her talents to her better numbers and save her voice, which is evidently suffering from a cold or overwork. Miss Lloyd should have greater opportunity for rest or study, but is withal bright and vivacious.

The principals are all adequate and well selected. F. T. S. Buckley has an eccentric stunt as Senor Coloza and does it well.

The production is one of the best and most amusing of the sort seen this season and should make a hit in Minneapolis. Two novelties that are effectively brought into play are the pneumatic tube and the revolving doors.

M. C. B.

Orpheum—Modern Vaudeville.

Broad humor—very broad some of it—marks the bill at the Orpheum this week. Almost every act is a mirth provoker, altho the musical features are above the average. Some of the entertainers provoke smiles thru merit and some when they do not wish to. At any rate the bill affords smiles, sardonic in spots, but smiles—and the mission of the entertainer is to make the world laugh.

The bill opens with the five Vernons, who are successful in pretentious selections on the xylophone. The act is worthy from a musical standpoint and well staged. Wynne Winslow, soprano, is a Minneapolis favorite and last night her splendid voice was at its best. Her singing is always a bright spot in a vaudeville program.

"Left At The Post" affords Mary Dupont full opportunity for the delineation of her powers as a wrathfully explosive maiden, jilted at the altar and looking for a bridegroom—anything so it's a man. Willard Hutchinson as the unwilling victim of the determined would-be-bride is good.

Chris Bruno's antics and his comedy dancing are amusing. He is followed by Watson, Hutchings and Edwards in their famous screamer, nightmare, or anything one might be minded to call it. The author labeled it "The Vaudeville Exchange," and it is all of that and more. It is a travesty, a mass of froth and foam, but a scream nevertheless.

Sydney Deane & Co., presenting "Christmas on Blackwell's Island," made the same hit in Minneapolis that has marked the presentation of the act in the eastern cities. There is a strong vein of humor thru the music and repartee and the singers and jesters make no effort to indulge in any tear-squeezing, for which there is a standing invitation in the setting of the act.

Ferry Corwey is a good example of the methods of the modern clowns and a combination of pantomine and bizarre music made the turn go well. The kinodrome in the dream of the rarebit fiend, a wonderful and weird film, closes the show.

—J. H. R.

Foyer Chat.

Hamlin and Mitchell's production of the musical extravaganza, "Babes in Toyland," is to be the attraction at the Metropolitan for three nights and one matinee, commencing next Thursday. For gorgeous effects both in scenic display and magnificent costuming, the "Babes" ranks with the very best presentations in both Europe and America. A very large company is concerned in this production, among them being Ignacio Martinetti, Katherine Bell, Albertine Bensen, Gene Luneska, Maud Campbell, Katherine Murray, Ida Ward, Gus Pixley, Walter Schrode, John F. Ward, Edward P. Sullivan, Robert Burns and James Wilson.

"Kathleen Mavourneen," the beautiful poetic conceit in which an Irish maiden's dream is woven into a strong, interesting drama, was presented to two overflowing audiences at the Lyceum yesterday. The Ralph Stuart company has long had this beautiful play in rehearsal, and a praiseworthy effort has been made to afford an appropriate setting for "the sweetest Irish play ever written." A most interesting feature of the performance is the innovation of Irish pipers, Irish dancers and characteristic music by the Lyceum's fine orchestra. Tonight, handsome souvenir piano copies of the famous Irish song, "Kathleen Mavourneen," will be presented to every lady attending the theater. The play will be reviewed in Tuesday's Journal.

The big comedy bill which has been heralded as the week's attraction at the Unique will be given at two performances tonight. Some changes were necessitated by the demands of the circuit, but they are all for the better. The bill includes such stellar favorites of the vaudeville stage as the famous Gillette sisters, Herbert, the frog man; Dawson and Whitfield and Seamour and May.

One of the events of the season at the Bijou will be the appearance next week of the favorite comedian, Nat M. Wills and his big company in "The Duke of Duluth." This musical farce has met with big success thruout the east, having had a successful run at the Majestic theater, New York.

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Defective Page