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The Stimulus of Clear Skies.

Today's bright sun and the breaking clouds of yesterday were the first clear indications of spring. Naturally there was a shifting of general thought and street talk into agricultural channels. From the man who plants sweet peas and morning glories on a few feet of city lot, to the man who owns acres in the Dakotas, and from the suburban lake dweller to the banker or merchant dependent for ultimate success upon the agricultural outturn in the northwest, all are interested in soil conditions and the weather to come. All felt delight in the softer breezes bearing assurance that spring is here.

There is overheard, in some scattered comment around town, the occasional statement that the season is late this year. This is wholly wrong. Spring is opening seasonably, and with conditions as promising as the country could wish for. It is the natural thing to make comparisons of one season with that immediately preceding. Last year there was a spring breakup in the northwest that was remarkably early. Old settlers had to go far back in memory to find comparisons. Reports of seeding were coming into Minneapolis from the wheat farms a week or ten days earlier than the present date. But this was extraordinary. There is no particular date that can be said to be the average, for in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota the extent of arable land is so vast, and the soil and topographic conditions so variant, that often one locality is seeded down, when, in another, far removed, the work has not yet begun. If it were possible, however, to average it all, April 10 might be said to be the average date for the beginning of seeding operations for the northwest as a whole. If the fine weather continues over Sunday next, farmers will be at work on high land in several important counties in North and South Dakota, and Minnesota will be getting into line.

No conclusions can be drawn at this date as to the extent of acreage or variation of crops as between wheat and coarse grains. It is certain that there is abundant moisture generally, and that the start will be favorable. The Red river valley promises no serious delay from excess moisture this year.

The farmers had a prosperous year in 1905, money was plentiful and credit high. Another year of good crops will put the northwest into even stronger position and increase its money surplus and purchasing power very materially.

The Japanese famine may prove to be a small affair compared with our coal famine.

The Students and Football.

Because of the students of the state university adopted a moderate tone in their criticisms of the recent faculty invasion of the realm of sports is no reason for satirically congratulating them on allowing the faculty to live. The students were confronted with a serious problem, that of their individual rights. They have seen the game of football made the center of a storm which appears to contain some of the elements of a good comic-opera situation. The game had developed abuses without a doubt. It had become commercialized and had assumed too large a place in the college world. This was not the fault of the students entirely, but arose in a measure from coddling the game originally received from the authorities. Its popularity was such that it drew students from one college to another. The great universities patronized it. Yale and Harvard made much of it, and the minor colleges, from Maine to California, followed suit.

Suddenly the faculties awaked to the fact that they had nursed a Frankenstein. Football threatened to become the master. The college authorities have grappled with the problem vigorously. It is not to be supposed that everything they have done has been wise or well considered, because college faculties are ripped into two parties by the football question. There are on all college faculties men who never took any part in sports, who never had any capacity in that direction, and who have carried thru life a jealous feeling of hatred for bodily exercises. These men are the extremists, who would reduce colleges to places where mental pabulum is handed out in the form of lectures, dusted from time to time for each new set of students.

There are also on the faculties men of warm red blood, who enjoy out-of-door exercises themselves, and who look upon them as an integral part of a liberal education. Where the "mental and moral" professors are in the majority, football has been treated to summary ejectment. Where the other class has the upper hand, the evils of the game have been recognized and efforts are being made to minimize them.

The faculty of the University of Minnesota appears to be in this latter class. But it is not altogether free from criticism. The students resent every interference with personal liberty. This is Americanism. But so far as football is concerned, Americanism must give way to regulation and control. It is a good sign that the students of the state university are showing a dispoistion to meet their regulators in a spirit of reason. There is more to be gained this way than by hanging the faculty in effigy or in the composition of ribald songs.

A person standing around on the corners awhile finds out how to run the coal business.

"Progressive Republicanism."

The Des Moines Capital, next to Senator Elkins, is one of Governor Cummins' most ardent opponents. The governor is conducting a campaign for renomination. In a recent issue of the Capital, there is an editorial on Cummins' republicanism. The occasion for it is the allegation that the governor in filing his nomination papers under the Polk county primary law forgot to declare that he is a republican. This gives the Capital an opportunity to question whether he really is a republican and somehow it comes to the conclusion that he is what is called a "progressive republican"—that is, he believes that the world moves. The Capital doesn't. It insists that what was good republican doctrine ten years ago or twenty-five years ago, must necessarily be good now; that even in respect to such matters as the tariff there are never to be any changes of view, and that revised beliefs with respect to the treatment of the great corporations are evidences of apostasy and heresy.

But the point of particular interest to us in the Capital's editorial is the distinction between what is called "genuine republicanism" in Iowa and "progressive republicanism" in Minnesota. The Capital says "progressive republicanism" is popular in Minnesota—that, in fact, there is very little "genuine republicanism" in this state; that the entire republican delegation from Minnesota only a few years ago voted for the free trade Mills bill. Of course, only one member voted for it, but that's near enough.

The Capital says further: "The great daily newspapers of Minnesota are unrepublican. It is no argument for Iowa republicans to say that Cumminsism is popular in Minnesota. In past years, when Minnesota went back on the republican doctrines, Iowa stood true." How about Boies? Iowa made a break from the republican ranks long before Minnesota did; but we will not quarrel about precedence in a matter of that kind. Let Iowa have it. The question is whether Minnesota is more republican than Iowa, and whether there is such a thing as "progressive republicanism." It is to be hoped there is. We have always thought of Mr. Roosevelt as that kind. Bourbonism, which is a synonym for hide-bound conservatism, ruined the democracy, and it will ruin any other party which yields to it. It will ruin the republican party of Iowa. Times and conditions change. Party policies must keep pace with them. The sentiments and preferences of the people are bound to change and party leaders who cannot recognize these changed conditions are soon left without followers. The Capital has done Mr. Cummins pretty nearly as much of a favor as Senator Elkins did. If it can only attach to him firmly enough the stigma of being a "progressive republican," he ought to win out.

This is the logical time for the lignite boys and the peat fuel men to work nights.

The Merchandise Rate Hearing.

Testimony opposed to a reduction of merchandise rates in Minnesota has been rolling in upon the railroad commission for the last four days, and it is little wonder that the commission stops for breath before exercising its right to cross-examine the expert witnesses for the companies. The railroads must be credited with a disposition to tell things. They gave some information along entirely new lines. Of great importance is the evidence showing actual cost of moving freight, and the relation between the cost of handling thru freight and local freight.

Most of this information has only relative value, however. It does not get down to the ground principle of what is a reasonable rate. This must be determined by giving the company a reasonable revenue on the money expended for trackage and equipment. Only two companies gave information as to the cost of their lines, and only one ventured to show what income is being earned on the investment.

The railroad argument against the reduction, when boiled down, covers the following points:

First—Local freight business, which embraces the classes reduced by the commission's schedule, costs several times as much to handle as thru freight, and is carried on rates that are relatively low.

Second—Rates on local business actually handled are lower in Minnesota than in Iowa, and other surrounding states, while the density of traffic is lower, and operating expenses are higher, due to the greater cost of coal.

Third—The effect of the reduction proposed would not end in Minnesota, but would force down rates from Chicago into Iowa and South Dakota, and from Minnesota points into the Dakotas. The proposed rates are actually lower than present interstate rates on the northern lines.

Fourth—The reduction would force long lines out of business at competitive points, by making the rate lower than the actual cost of handling the business over the longer mileage. It would thus remove competition in service.

Fifth—The reduction is so small compared to the cost of merchandise that consumers would not get any benefit.

All these points were well supported with testimony, and must be met by the commission. There are indications that careful study and analysis of the figures will make them tell a different story in many cases. The first point was damaged by President Stickney, who declared that the ratio for the different classes proposed by the commission was proper and fair. The second is the strongest made for the railroad side of the case. The other three points are largely argumentative.

Spring is beginning to realize that it is about time for that thrill that comes with Casey at the bat.

Postoffice Abuses.

The appropriation for the postoffice for the year 1907 carries a total of $197,373,848, an increase of $10,000,000 over the previous total.

Even with this vast sum at its disposal the postoffice is driven to the necessity of depriving congressmen of part of their cherished franking privilege in order to hold down the deficit. The franking privilege will hereafter be a legitimate perquisite of the congressman, which, like a railroad pass, he must use personally. He will no longer be permitted to lend it to his brother-in-law, who has a bill of groceries coming from Chicago, nor will he be able to frank his wife's Christmas shopping thru the mails. Packages to be franked must be such as would be mailable if stamps instead of a frank were used. Nor will the congressman be allowed to loan his frank to the state or county committee to load up the mails with tons of campaign literature which makes very indifferent fuel.

Another item in the bill provides that from July 1 to Dec. 31, 1906, a record shall be kept of all second-class mail matter received for free distribution or at 1 cent a pound, so as to show the weight in pounds of all newspapers, magazines and periodicals, including sample copies of every description. The object of this is to secure data which will show the average cost of each class and thus pave the way for some legislation which will relieve the postoffice of carrying a mass of stuff which has no place in the mails at all. There is no probability of the government attempting to raise the classification upon the popular publications which have made such rapid strides in circulation as the result of low postage rates, but in doing the people a favor of securing for them free reading matter of a high class, the postoffice has been imposed upon by the being obliged to haul at pound rates an astonishing tonnage of printed stuff, which is composed either of papers which have no legitimate circulation, which nobody buys, or of pure advertising matter, which has no higher standing than handbills. The data collected will probably show that the postoffice has been putting a premium on a large amount of stuff which is seriously harmful, by giving it almost free access to the mails.

Arkansas has started to elect senators by direct vote. In the primaries this week the decision of a majority of the voters is to determine the senatorial election. This has been agreed to in writing by the candidates themselves, and under the direction of the democratic state committee most of the legislative candidates have pledged themselves to abide by the decision of the people. So far as Arkansas is concerned, therefore, the legislature will merely be called on formally to ratify the choice of the voters for United States senator. This is easier than amending the United States constitution.

In the Bavarian city of Munich the streets are cleaned by the women and are kept in such an immaculate state of neatness that they are a constant source of surprise and delight to visitors. American women have never undertaken the work of street cleaning systematically, but still they accomplish something by wearing long, trailing skirts.

The first number of the Philadelphia Public Ledger, published March 25, 1836, had this paragraph:

The congressional news up to this date possesses not the slightest interest—congress seems determined to fritter away its time instead of rendering it profitable to the nation—shame on such tardy legislation.

Same old congress!

Senator Elkins, the man who took the pains to send all over Iowa an attack on Governor Cummins, has just been forced to yield to the demand of an independent mining company which charged, in a suit at law, that his railroad was trying to crush it out of existence. That Cummins boy is a lucky cuss.

The new grandson of John D. Rockefeller is also the grandson of Senator Nelson Wilmarth Aldrich of Rhode Island. A boy with a bunch of foxy grandpas like that will have to look sharp or he will lose his marbles.

Did you know that the wooden-shoe industry was threatened with extinction if the tariff is not increased, and that you are liable to be obliged to buy your wooden shoes in Europe?

A Nebraska man advertises for a wife who can take a joke. The woman who accepts him knows in advance what she is getting.

Now, if Dr. Washington Gladden had been entrusted with that subpena for John D., it might have been different.

The arrival of April fool day on Sunday may prove to be one on the April fool jokers.

Winnipeg is acting like Chicago these days.

THE OPEN BOOK

By W. P. Kirkwood.

A BOOK TO HELP ONE SOLVE THE COUNTRY HOUSE PROBLEM. — The other day we passed a house which was being made over for at least the fourth time—a house belonging to a reputed millionaire. We remember to have felt the hope that the man (or the woman, perhaps) would get things the way he wanted them this time. The case, tho, goes to support the statement remade in the preface of **The Country House,** a practical manual of the planning and construction of the American country home, by Charles Edw. Hooper, that a man must needs build three houses before he will have one to suit him. Mr. Hooper's book is written with a view to obviating this necessity. Mr. Hooper would forewarn the prospectiye builder of some of the actual difficulties in house building. Certainly it is easier to read a book than to build two houses before being able to get at the one that is to count, especially when the book is as attractive as the one in hand. It is a large volume and is copiously illustrated with beautiful halftones, that are in themselves enough to tempt one to set about building a home. The following chapter headings will show the range of subjects covered: Selection of a Site, Planning the House, Construction of the Shell, Details of Finish, Doors and Doorways, Windows and Window Motives, Fireplaces, Chimneys and Fireproofing, Halls and Stairways, Living and Other Rooms, The Dining Room, Kitchen and Their Relations, Heating, Ventilation and Lighting, Plumbing, Water Supply and Drainage, Outbuildings, Gateways, Etc., Gardens and Their Accessories, Contract and Specifications, Hints.

Doubleday, Page & Co., New York.

A "PARSON" IN A NEVADA MINING CAMP.—The preacher of the gospel who would choose a Nevada mining camp for his field in preference to a city church with a salary of $4,000 and perquisites, would have to be fired with a tremendous amount of enthusiasm for his work. There was one of that kind, however, if one may take a work of fiction for evidence; tho, of course, one cannot bear down too hard on the "fact" under the circumstances. Nevertheless one gets so used to finding that characters in fiction have originals these days that he is disposed to accept strikingly vital characters as real. Hence, we say, there was one of the above kind of preachers, for we have the evidence of A. B. Ward's **The Sage-Brush Parson,** with its strikingly life-like central figure, Clement Vaughan, a young Englishman educated in medicine, but bent on the regeneration of Eureka, Nev. The book is full of the brutally strenuous life of a wild camp. The "hero" is bent first upon winning the confidence of the community for himself as a man, and the experiences he goes thru in the winning process are of a kind to try the young man out as by fire. The story is not merely made up of the incidents in the work of a mining camp parson, however, for thru it runs a thread of romance as fine and as characteristic of the west as the work of the parson himself, and the grim humor therein. It has its unpleasant features, but these, too, are strictly western. The story is well told It is altogether a story that both entertains and does one good.

Little, Brown & Co., Boston.

The largest library in the world, according to Hamilton Bell, in the April Appleton's Booklovers' Magazine, is the Bibliotheque Nationale in Paris, which contains 3,000,000 volumes. The second largest is the British Museum in London, containing 2,500,000 volumes. The number of volumes in the former is swelled by reckoning every pamphlet, which in the British Museum and many other libraries are bound into volumes, each containing several brochures.

A HERO OF TODAY.—In the grounds of the parliament buildings at Ottawa, Canada, stands a statue erected to the memory of Henry A. Harper, and his heroic sacrifice of his own life in an attempt to save the life of a young woman. No doubt the romantic had something to do with the movement which resulted in the memorial, but no one can read **The Secret of Heroism,** a memoir of Mr. Harper, by W. L. Mackenzie King, without the feeling that the character of the man, regardless of his heroic self-sacrifice, deserved to be commemorated. That character was, in its very essence, heroism. Mr. Harper was a man of the finest ideals of life, and he was striving manfully to realize his ideals in practice. He had already rendered the Canadian department of labor valuable services, and there is no doubt but that his fine abilities and clear mind would have carried him far up the ladder of distinction in his country's service had his life been spared.

His biographer has done his work modestly but effectively. His praise is convincing, but not so convincing as the extracts from the letters of the man about whom the book is written. He has made a book that offers the young men of these times much needed inspiration.

Fleming H. Revell Co., New York.

THE MAGAZINES

California's New Inland Sea Explained.—Thomas H. Macbride in the **Popular Science Monthly** tells how the Salton basin, California, has recently been transformed into a great sea. It has not been by subterranean channels letting the waters of the ocean into the basin, which is below sea level, but has been by floods in the Colorado river, causing the river to flow thru old channels into the Salton basin. It all looks very simple as the Iowa university professor explains it, and spoils a fine mystery. Other articles of special interest in Popular Science are: "The Queen Ant as a Psychological Study," "The Development of the Glacial Hypothesis in America," "The Greatest Need in Research."

Our Success in Panama.—Dr. Henry C. Rowland claims in the April issue of **Appleton's Booklovers Magazine** that our work so far on the Panama canal has been a great success which will vindicate itself in time. Under the heading "The Truth About Panama" he tells of the work of the sanitary corps, and explains the French failure in the enterprise by stating that their engineering skill was several decades in advance of their medical science. He cites many examples of misinformation in regard to the state of affairs on the isthmus, and among others he says in regard to a new drainage ditch in Colon:

This ditch, which is almost completed, has been dug by one of the old French shovels depicted by a former writer as standing ruined and useless in one of the main streets of Colon.

Rex E. Beach continues his papers on the looting of Alaska in the same magazine. Another feature is a clever story by Edith Wharton. Some fine reproductions of paintings constitute the number's color work.

Essayist Comes to the Defense of Cooper.—A new view of Fenimore Cooper is presented in an illuminating essay in the April **Scribner** by W. C. Brownell. He says Cooper's "was above all a large nature, even his littlenesses were those of a large nature. Only critical myopia can be blind to the magnificent forest with its pioneer clearings, its fringe of 'settlements,' its wood-embosomed lakes, its neighboring prairie on the one side and on the other the distant ocean with the cities of its farther shore—the splendid panorama of man, of nature and of human life unrolled for us by this large intelligence and noble imagination, this manly and patriotic American representative in the literary parliament of the world."

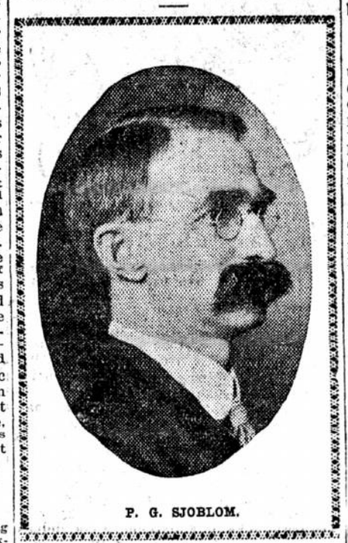
New Serial by David Graham Phillips.—A generous installment of a new serial by David Graham Phillips occupies the opening pages of **The Reader's** April number. The title is "The Fortune Hunter," and in it the author of "The Plum Tree," and "The Deluge" tells the love story of a beautiful young girl of New York's East Side. The pictures are by E. M. Ashe. Mayor Dunne of Chicago, the best-known American exponent of the theory of municipal ownership, has written for the April Reader an article which makes a strong case for those who think the public should own and control the things the public uses, such as streetcars, telephones, telegraph lines and the like. In "The Deathless Heathen" Emerson Hough talks of the spring fret of the unsubdued savage that is in each one of us—the love of the wide sky and the out-of-doors, that fights within us when the grass begins to grow.

Minnesota Politics

State Committee Rule Limits the Use of Proxies—St. Louis County Republicans Will Send an Unpledged Delegation.

If Joel P. Heatwole appears at the state committee meeting next Tuesday as the bearer of W. E. Verity's proxy, he may run against a rule of the committee that will bar him from its deliberations. The rule has been that an absent member could only turn his proxy over to some other republican from his district. Verity is a member of the committee accredited to the sixth congressional district, and under the rule Heatwole could not vote his proxy.

The story that R. C. Dunn intends to urge the use of the governorship vote as a basis for apportioning delegates is pronounced incorrect by a friend of the Princeton man, who says Dunn is satisfied with the scheme of taking the average vote for candidates on the state ticket, or at least, if not satisfied, he knows better than to attempt to urge the adoption of the Dunn vote. This same authority says that Dunn will use his influence in the committee on behalf of Duluth as the convention city.



P. G. SJOBLOM.

A Minneapolis newspaper man is one of the candidates for secretary of state, and will ask for the indorsement of the Hennepin delegation. Peter G. Sjoblom (he asks to have it pronounced "Sherblum") is editor of the Minneapolis Telegram, a south town weekly, which he has built up to be one of the leading weeklies of the state, editorially. He is not without experience in the office to which he aspires. He was a candidate in the convention six years ago, and had the bulk of the Hennepin delegates, but without a solid following from here was unable to secure the first place, so made a deal which landed him as assistant in the office for two years. One of his accomplishments when in office was the new election law pamphlet with side notes. He is a forceful writer, and is noted for the way in which he exhausts the possibilities of any subject he tackles. Politically he has been active in the republican cause, taking a prominent part in the naturalization work that followed the passage of the 1898 amendment requiring voters to have second papers.

Peter G. Sjoblom was born in 1866 in Gothenburg, Sweden, and came over with his parents when a few months old. They settled first in Indiana, but came to Red Wing in 1869, where young Sjoblom grew up. He attended the public schools of Red Wing, the University of Minnesota, and the University of Michigan. After finishing his education he taught school, and from 1890 to 1894 was a member of the faculty of Augustana college at Rock Island, Ill. He has been connected with newspaper since boyhood. In 1897 he became a deputy clerk in the Minneapolis municipal court, and in 1898 had an appointment in the internal revenue service, which he left to enter the secretary of state's office. Since 1902 he has been editing the Telegram and carrying on a missionary campaign for voting machines.

"St. Louis county is not going to capitulate to any candidate for governor in advance of the convention," says a prominent Duluth republican. "There is little disposition to stand for an organization in favor of Block, Lord, Somerville or any other candidate. The county will probably send a strong delegation, unpledged to anyone, but instructed to vote as a unit for the candidate, irrespective of location or nationality, who seems most likely to win in November, whether it be Lord, Block, Brower, or some dark horse like Boutelle, capable of making a good campaign."

Duluth republicans say there was no intention to discriminate in their toast list. Senator Lord was invited to speak, but declined, and just before the dinner both Lord and Somerville were both asked to talk informally, but declined. Thus it happened that Block was the only candidate on the list of speakers.

—Charles B. Cheney.

AMUSEMENTS

Metropolitan—"Fires of St. John."

"Once in the year there is a marriage night. Then the witches ride out on their broomsticks—then the wild throng strides over the forest ways—then there awakens in our hearts the wild wishes that life has not fulfilled, and mark you well, cannot fulfill. * * * The ghost of our dead wishes, it is the red plumage of the birds of paradise—it is the old chaos—the pagan in us. And be we ever so happy in daylight and restraint, tonight is St. John's night."

Such is the atmospheric background of Sudermann's master drama, given its initial presentation at the Metropolitan last evening—a background of pagan Germanic folklore amounting to a creed. Even nowadays, on the evening of the summer solstice, the country people of Germany build immense bonfires and indulge in various love charms and merry-makings—it is the Teutonic midsummer night's dream. Folklore, however, is not the theme of Sudermann's drama, but rather the keynote of its tense realism.

To mention the phrase "problem play" to the average theatergoer is as dangerous as to say "Boo!" to a child in the dark. Yet even we Americans are awakening to the problem play. The problem of sin is here set forth as unswervingly as in Ibsen. The solution, tho a bitter pill for the spectator, is sane and wholesome; not suicide, but marriage, and a resolve on righteous living.

"Fires of St. John" is German to the core. The Weszkalnene speaks the Lithuanian dialect of the rustics from Sudermann's home district, and the whole drama is a palpitating picture of German middle-class life. Last evening's presentation preserved the German flavor, with one exception, the nomenclature. We may forgive the substitution of Brauer for Vogelreuten, but Marie is an unlicensed tampering with the heroine's name. She should be Marikke, lovingly known as Heinchen ("Little Stay-at-home"). The play observes the unities of time and place, and is marked by a finesse of technic. Without the brilliant variety of "Magda," glimmerings of bourgeois humor lighten the tragic situation, which is sustained with cumulative power until the electrifying climax at the close of act III. There Miss O'Neil and Mr. Robson are superb.

Miss O'Neil's Marie stands out a tragic delineation, quiet, forceful, earnest, impassioned, consistent thruout. That was the flaw in her splendid acting—its painful consistency. When the pastor picks up the napkin, the stage direction says that Marie smiles. Miss O'Neil does not smile. If only once her face would brighten with human kindness, if we felt that she could smile—then her art would be genius. As it is, I observe her gain in restraint and poise, even since last winter in Boston, her supple handling of herself, her modulated intonation, her elemental passion. Miss O'Neil is no mediocre actress, and her impersonation of the strong, young creature hedged in by birth and environment is a tug at the heartstrings.

The character of George, a mixture of the lofty and mean, as Sudermann draws him, is not quite convincing, yet Mr. Robson brings out the man's dualism—his subservience to a false sense of duty, his love of nature athrill with things unseen. Mr. Robson as Brauer is capital thruout. His conception is definitive. He knows the value of the pause for comedy and for pathos. Mr. Glendenning is an interesting Pastor Haffner. The daughter, Gertrude, that simple child, wilful, obedient, intuitive, loving, is very sympathetically portrayed by Miss Chamberlain. Indeed, all of the parts are admirably taken, with a single exception, the minor role of Katie. She is bunglingly made-up and hopelessly amateurish. Katie should furnish a clever character bit.

—M. Le R. Arnold.

Foyer Chat.

Of the many great successes recorded this season none come more highly indorsed than Al H. Wilson, the clever German comedian and singer, who appears at the Metropolitan for the half week opening next Sunday evening, in his new, rollicking comedy, "The German Gypsy," under the management of Sidney R. Ellis.

Next Thursday night the distinguished actor, E. S. Willard, will appear at the Metropolitan for an engagement of three nights and matinee. No visitor is more welcome to the public that appreciates the best in art, and no actor is abler to sustain the respect of audiences by the skill and expressive power of his acting. Two plays, "David Garrick" and "The Man Who Was," will be offered on the opening night. "The Professor's Love Story" will be given Friday night and at the matinee performance on Saturday, and on Saturday evening "The Middleman" will be presented.

The beautiful society play, "The Wife," by David Belasco and Henry C. De Mille, will receive a most adequate representation at the hands of Ralph Stuart and his excellent company at the Lyceum next week. The first performance will be given Sunday afternoon, and will introduce Evelyn Vaughn, the new leading lady, to a Minneapolis audience.

Tonight will be amateur night at the Unique, and one of the biggest and brightest shows of the season is promised. In addition to the "reg'lars," several ambitious young men and women who have never set foot on a stage, will try to win the favor of the audience. For good measure the best professional acts, including the expert rifle shooting of the Lutz brothers, will be put on.

Herrman the great, with his new repertory of illusions; the eight Alisons in their daringly original acrobatic feats; Happy Jack Gardner, with his clever parodies and his battered tuba; Katherine Dahl, the prima donna soprano, just over from the Alhambra, London; Will H. Armstrong and Magdalene Holly in their one-act comedy, "The Expressman"; Carson and Willard, with their "Frizzled Finance," which satirizes modern commercial methods, and the Dierickx brothers, heavy weight manipulators, are rounding out a week at the Orpheum, during which unusually large and well-pleased audiences have applauded their efforts.

Thru her success in the one-act version of "Carmen," which she will present at the Orpheum next week, Valerie Bergere is being hailed by the critics in all the cities on the circuit as the greatest emotional actress in vaudeville.

ST. PAUL WILL PARADE

Corner-Stone Laying Will Be Recherche Affair.

The St. Paul Junior Pioneers' committee in charge of the program for the St. Paul Auditorium corner-stone laying, has completed arrangements. There will be a parade thru the business district at 2 p.m., starting in front of the St. Paul armory. It will be participated in by the Philippine veterans, German veterans, Sons of Veterans, police, Junion Pioneers, fire department and various societies. Mayor Robert A. Smith will lay the corner stone. Other speakers will include Rev. J. J. Lawler, E. C. Stringer, T. D. O'Brien and William Hamm.

Try 'em Sunday.

A well-written "Want Ad," telling fully your desires, will bring quick results when placed in the Sunday Journal. Tomorrow is the day to send them in.

Git-La Grippe is a rational treatment for colds. It kills the grippe germ. Cures in one day. All druggists. 25c.

Neat as a Bugs' Ear!

Are the electric berth lights in the new sleeping cars on the "North Star Limited" to Chicago. The newest and finest. Call at Minneapolis & St. Louis offices for rates and information.

Git-La Grippe cures the worst cold in a day. It contains the proper remedies to kill the grippe germ. No quinine. 25c.

Mystic Shriners' Excursions to California.

On account of Shriners' Convention, Los Angeles, Calif., May 7th to 10th, the Minneapolis & St. Louis R. R. will sell tickets to San Francisco and Los Angeles from April 25th to May 5th, limited to July 31st, for return trip at rate of $59.90 from St. Paul or Minneapolis. Tickets good going via any route, returning via any other direct route, or will be routed one way via Portland at rate of $72.40. Stop-over privileges granted. For further particulars, call on J. G. Rickel, City Ticket Agent, 424 Nicollet Ave.

Glove rubbers—standard for 60 years. Foot-Schulze on the soles.

City News

ADJOURN RATE HEARING

RAILROADS CLOSE TESTIMONY AND CROSS-EXAMINATION WILL COME LATER.

The hearing on state merchandise rates before the railroad commission yesterday afternoon. The commission put one witness on the stand, Thomas Yapp, the statistician, who identified a series of rate tables prepared by him, comparing the existing rates in Minnesota and the proposed rate schedule, with local rates in other states. These tables will be compared with those presented by railroad officials.

Eric Olson, the Martin county farmer who attended the hearing from first to last, then came to the front. He presented his own original system of rate making, and declared that he was ready to prove its efficiency and benefit to the farmers' interests. The commission received his memoranda and placed them in the records of the case, promising to give Mr. Olson a hearing at some later time.

The hearing is not finished, but adjourned until the commissioners have had time to digest the mass of testimony presented. It will be completely transcribed into a record, and in the course of several weeks the commission will recall some of the railroad officials for cross-examination.

All three commissioners leave today for Washington, where they will attend the convention of the national association of state commissioners, beginning Monday.

ROYAL INN CLOSED

Employees Ran It One Day and Then Creditors Intervened.

The Royal Inn cafe, on Third street between First avenues and Nicollet, has a heavy padlock on the door, and those who would like to patronize it have to take what little satisfaction they can out of looking thru the windows at the tables within.

Last Monday morning H. F. Simmons, the proprietor, failed to put in an appearance and "oen up" that his help might gain entrance. The help forced the door. They found a good supply of provisions in the larder, and to secure money that was due them, operated the cafe during the day and took the earnings to apply on the money due them.

The help would probably have operated the restaurant longer, but creditors interfered. These creditors have claims aggregating between $4,000 and $5,000. Boutell brothers have a sale mortgage, which covers practically all the furnishings. J. S. Kearney, owner of the building, has a chattel mortgage lease which will permit him to appropriate what Boutell brothers do not take. The cash registers are covered by a claim of the company from which they were purchased. The linen used was secured from a linen supply house and was not the property of the cafe.

This morning the Minneapolis General Electric company removed the electric light meters so that the light cannot any longer be used.

Mr. Simmons, the Royal Inn proprietor, is still in the city.

CAPTAINS ARE ANXIOUS

Street Railway Company's Fleet Plays Hob at Tonka.

The future status of the Lake Minnetonka boats which do not belong to the street railway company is a problem. The street railway company will operate a line of boats around the lakes as well as ferries to Big Island park. If the boat service already provided for is not sufficient to take care of the pick-up trade, more boats will be built.

The question then arises in the minds of the old-time steamboat captains: Where do we come in? Heretofore the different steamers have made regular ports of call of the larger towns and hotel landings, and have made other points on signal. The street railway line expects to cut into this business and do it on regular schedule, the same as a streetcar.

What, then, will the Acte do, the Puritan, Pilgrim and some of the great fleet of the smaller fry? The Mr. Buttinski will be replaced by the big ferries and the usefulness of the other steamers is a problem to some of the oldtimers.

ALUMNI HOLD ANNUAL

South High Graduates Prepare for Reception in May.

The alumni of the South High school held their annual meting last night in the assembly room to elect officers and consider arrangements for the annual alumni reception to the senior class in May. The officers elected are Lester A. Stover, president; Rosettah Monahan, vice president; Elizabeth Hall, secretary; Lannes I. Condit, treasurer. All are members of the class of '05.

A general committee on arrangements was appointed as follows: '05, Ray Donald, Melville Borgman, Blanche Murphy; '04, George Lawton, Sophie Brown, Willis Newton; '03, Helen Hall, Leslie Hughes, Blanche Scallen; '02, George Earl, Frank Lyon, Pearl Pressley.

PHEASANT NURSE

State Wants a Man Who Can Care for the Birds.

S. F. Fullerton, executive agent of the state game and fish commission, has gone to Chicago to find a man who understands caring for the ring-necked pheasants now kept at the state hatchery for breeding purposes. There are eighty-three hens at the hatchery, and several have been sent out to be cared for by private parties.

Mr. Fullerton is looking after needed fishways in dams, and has just prescribed a proper fishway at Pine City, where there was no proper means for the fish to get upstream for the spawning season.

The Game of the Diplomats.

"The Diplomatic Game," by F. Cunliffe-Owen, the leading article in The Journal's Sunday Magazine, has a timely interest while the nations of the world are watching the Morocco game still in progress at Algeciras. No diplomatist writes this article; he would not be a diplomat if he did. But the author is the best-qualified man in America to write entertainingly on such a topic, and in various guises he has told countless interesting stories of diplomats, statesmen and royalties. "The Diplomatic Game" is in his very best vein, and even the players whose game he exposes will be amused by it. For diplomacy, as Mr. Cunliffe-Owen clearly shows, even when professing to be most communicative, always holds something in reserve. In addition to the many secret international agreements of the existence of which the people have no suspicion, there are confidential clauses to nearly every treaty, clauses not included in the official publication.

The characteristic traits of Pickwick Rye are the essentials of a perfect whiskey; they are absolute purity and perfect maturity.

Defective Page