THE JOURNAL

VOLUME XXVIII—NO. 211.

LUCIAN SWIFT, MANAGER. | J. S. McLAIN, EDITOR.

PUBLISHED EVERY DAY

SUBSCRIPTION RATES BY MAIL.

Daily and Sunday, per month	.40
Daily only, per month	.25
Sunday only, per month	.15

BY CARRIER OUTSIDE THE CITY.

Daily and Sunday, one month	.50

BY CARRIER IN MINNEAPOLIS AND SUBURBS.

Daily and Sunday, one month	.45

POSTAGE RATES OF SINGLE COPIES.

Up to 18 pages	1 cent
Up to 36 pages	2 cents
Up to 54 pages	3 cents

Japan as a Model.

MR. CHARLES E. RUSSELL points out in Everybody's magazine that Japan has taken hold of her trusts in the manner that socialists in this country consider logical. She has trusted the trusts, making the government the supreme trust of the lot. Specific illustrations of this economic tendency he furnishes in the relation of the government to the tobacco, beer and flour trades. Formerly the American tobacco trust did a flourishing business in Japan. It had invested $12,000,000 in branches, offices, shops and works, when it occurred to the government that it might as well have the profit as the trust. So the government went into the tobacco business, passed a law that no cigars or cigarets should be sold which had not first been offered to the government agent and placed a duty of 250 per cent on foreign manufactures of tobacco. The American trust disappeared. In the same way the government assumed control of the brewery business, eliminated what Mr. Russell calls "stupid competition," with the result that Japan doubled her beer export in one year. Japan raises a little wheat, not enough for home consumption. She has for years imported flour from the United States. But when the war came Japan took notice of the fact that Russia had a lease from China of a wheat field in Manchuria containing more arable acres than all Japan. The Japanese government revoked that lease at Mukden, succeeded to it itself and is today spotting that territory with flour mills and developing wheat growing. Presumably the government will own the supply of flour as it now owns the supply of beer, tobacco and other things.

The tone of Mr. Russell's essay is extremely sympathetic. He evidently believes that the way to make a people great and happy is to syndicate the business of the country up to the point where the government can profitably take hold of it and then absorb them into the state. He intimates that Japan is so astute in her operations that we with our ideas of stupid competition cannot get hold of any of the oriental trade. What are we to do about it unless we immediately abolish all private business and begin over again on the Japanese model, imitating the imitator? Mr. Russell does not explicitly order this, but the trend of his logic is such that the conclusion is inescapable that this is what he expects.

The Japanese government may be doing several things of a novel character in the way of government monopolies, but it will take more than one eulogy of the system to convince even thinking Japanese that this is the true way to build a nation. Meanwhile, as Japan is a borrowing nation and as the lending people exercise their own fancy with regard to extending credit, it may be that Japan is paying for her sport in the realm of private business in the money markets of the world. It is true that she did pay a higher rate of interest while her armies were winning unexampled victories than did her antagonist whose troops were everywhere retreating in disorder. The Japanese government had no moral credit and nothing but the assurance that England was her ally and that she would have to pay out in some sort of fashion to have any credit at all. A government whose only claim to credit is the assumption that probably her big brother will make her pay, and which goes into all sorts of enterprises which are not governmental, and in which the losses or profits, the chances rather favoring losses, belong to the realm of private speculation, must suffer further depreciation of credit, shown in rising interest rates.

One hundred and forty Russian revolutionists confessed recently in Stockholm for fifteen days and the Stockholm reporters never found it out. The American reporter would never suffer his calling to be so disgraced.

Drainage Work an Obligation.

THE drainage propaganda in Minnesota has made great progress in the past year. The convention of the state drainage league, which will meet in Wadena next Tuesday, will hear reports of a most encouraging character. The significant fact of the last few weeks is the favorable reception given at Washington to Congressman Steenerson's bill. While not likely to pass at this session, the chances are strongly in favor of success at the short session next winter.

The drainage league has been doing good work in educating the people and press of the state to the fact that reclamation of state land is not only of interest to the locality, but to every taxpayer in Minnesota. The state only spends money on the drainage of lands owned by the state, which are lying idle and unproductive. The lands drained are sold and the money goes into the state treasury, for the benefit of all our people.

Some striking information on the subject is contained in an article by Judge Asher Murray of Wadena, a prominent member of the legislature. He shows by the record that the state got title to all the swamp land originally with the understanding that it be reclaimed by the state, and that the money from sales of the land should be devoted to the reclamation fund. The swamp land act of 1860 contained the following clauses:

"That to enable the state of Minnesota to construct the necessary levees and drains to reclaim the swamp and overflowed lands therein, the whole of those swamp and overflowed lands, made unfit thereby for cultivation are hereby granted to such state.

"Provided, however, that the proceeds of said lands whether from sale or direct appropriation in kind, shall be applied exclusively, so far as necessary, to the purpose of reclaiming said lands by means of the levees and drains aforesaid."

The terms of this grant have been absolutely disregarded by the state. Out of 5,000,000 acres of swamp land received, the state has given away 3,000,000 acres to railroad companies, and 500,000 acres to various state institutions. The rest of the swamp land has been conveyed to the state school fund and state institutions, by amendment to the constitution. Under this provision, the state is now effectually barred from carrying out the obligation imposed by congress, except by direct appropriation of state money. That obligation still exists, however, and happily, the material interests of the state lie in the same direct line. Money spent for the purpose comes back several times over when the lands are sold, and the land is transformed from a waste to fertile farms, supporting families, sending products to market, buying from the merchants, building roads and paying taxes.

The objects and efforts of the drainage league, therefore, are in the interest of the state's good faith and name. The practical business side of the question has already been amply demonstrated.

Somebody by the name of Stubbs is claiming the governor of Kansas promised to appoint him senator. It is scarcely credible that such a promise was made, but if it was, the governor had a right to break it when he woke up.

We cannot be too particular in our use of English. An Oklahoma exchange advertises as follows: "Full-blooded cow for sale, giving milk, three tons of hay, a lot of chickens and several stoves

Wanted—Another Man Who Will Do Things.

IN REVIEWING the work of this session of congress, now so near its close, it is impossible to separate President Roosevelt from active participation in the most important results. Never before has the chief executive done so much in one session to shape important legislation. Mr. Roosevelt's intense energy and untiring activity, his directness of method and insistence upon the accomplishment of results desired by the people, have aroused a good deal of antagonism in both houses from time to time and provoked bitter resistance of measures proposed by him. This hostility, however, on the part of both house and senate, has not deterred him from pressing constantly and vigorously for the accomplishment of desired ends.

The rate regulation bill has occupied more attention than any other matter. The resistance in the senate was stubborn and prolonged, but the attitude of that body only served to emphazise the correctness of the president's position and heighten his popularity, and in the end has brought about the construction of a bill even more radical and effective against abuses than was asked for in his original recommendations.

Suspicion having been aroused with regard to the sanitary conditions in the great Chicago packing houses and the wholesomeness of the product of those factories, the president caused an investigation to be made on his own account—an act which few of his predecessors would have undertaken. As a result of the reports made to him officially, he presented the matter to congress and has secured the construction of a bill providing for inspection which it is believed will correct the evils heretofore existing and establish public confidence in the cleanliness and wholesomeness of products of this great industry. This result, while not accomplished without serious derangement in the industry affected, extending even to the ranches and farms where the raw material is grown, cannot be otherwise in the end than highly beneficial to this industry, both at home and abroad. In any event it was demanded by every consideration of health and decency; it had to be.

Effective legislation in the interest of pure food was among his recommendations at the opening of the session. Bills to this end have been pending for years, and a measure reasonably satisfactory had passed the senate and was sleeping in one of the house committee rooms when the agitation over the meat question aroused such sentiment in favor of cleanliness and purity in all food supplies as to force it out of its retirement and compel its passage by the house.

The president has always stood for a lock canal in Panama, but interests believed not to be altogether friendly to the construction of any canal undertook in the senate, in defiance of the judgment of the best experts, to provide for a sea-level canal. This opposition, however, has been overcome and routed largely thru the influence of the president, backed by the action of the house and by the testimony of a great majority of the experts consulted.

Probably no measure has been enacted by congress since the establishment of the gold standard calculated to be of so great benefit to the industries of the country as the free alcohol bill—a measure which has had the support of the president from the beginning, and which owes its passage largely to his well-directed efforts.

Thruout the session the president has been active in promoting the passage of a better immigration law, which will go upon the statute books as one of the results of this session.

A decision by a federal judge established a rule in law denying to the government the right of appeal in important prosecutions for violation of the anti-trust law. The defect was emphasized in a special message, and has been remedied in legislation.

For years labor organizations, particularly among railroad men, have sought for the passage of an employers' liability bill, giving employees on railroads the right to damages for injuries sustained when the injuries might have resulted from carelessness or incompetence on the part of fellow employees. This just measure has had the support of the president and has become a law.

Among the things urged by the president at the beginning of the session was some provision for representation of Alaska in congress, and congress has at last passed a bill giving to that district an elective delegate with the same standing in the house as the representative of a territory.

The president stood for statehood for Oklahoma and Indian Territory as one state and for Arizona and New Mexico as another. He has not secured the admission of both combinations, but has obtained probably all to which he was entitled, the admission of New Mexico and Arizona being of very doubtful wisdom.

The president has stood for consular reforms and has secured material changes in the service, making for its betterment and for its greater usefulness to the foreign commerce of the country.

The session just closing will be notable for the important legislation enacted, but those who have followed the history of the session will be compelled to concede to the president unusual credit and unusual influence in the accomplishment of these results. The president's activity and insistence upon rate regulation, upon meat inspection and upon the passage of a pure food bill, as well as his prosecution of Standard Oil and other trusts, may have cost him the sympathy and support of a few timid financiers who are always ready to condemn anything which threatens to disturb established business conditions in any particular, but when a general survey of the situation is taken it is safe to say that the president has lost nothing of his popularity with the people or of the confidence which they repose in him as the advocate of the "square deal."

The aggressive policy of Theodore Roosevelt is radically different from that of William McKinley or any other republican president since the war, but it is a policy which compels the admiration of the country and commands its respect and confidence. It will be conceded that one who does so much is very liable to mistakes, but up to date the mistakes are not conspicuous or important. From what act or line of policy emanating from the White House is there reason to anticipate other than wholesome and helpful results?

And so thoroly in touch is the president with the sympathies and opinions of the people generally, that already the republican party is not a little concerned as to where to find for a successor a candidate who will satisfy the public ideal and win public confidence sufficiently to insure the perpetuation of republican administration. It is generally conceded that the candidate for his succession must represent to the people of the country something of the Roosevelt type and character and encourage the belief that the same policies which he has advocated, and the same direct and businesslike methods which he has employed, will be continued when he leaves his post of duty. Theodore Roosevelt was the chief asset of his party in the last presidential campaign; the man who comes nearest standing for what he stands for now is the man the republicans must have for their candidate in 1908.

The Philadelphia Record, commenting upon the holding of the semi-centennial of the republican party in that city, says: "There is scarcely a northern city with less title to the meeting than Philadelphia." Philadelphia in 1856 was a thoroly conservative city, but the democrats were not more implacably hostile to the new party than the remnants of the old-line whigs. "A republican meeting could hardly be held anywhere in the city in 1856 without being greeted with a shower of rotten eggs and other malodorous missiles." Philadelphia in time became thoroly republican and Pennsylvania became the banner republican state at the polls. The republicanism of Philadelphia has not always been a good thing for the city. At times and most of the time it has been reminiscent of the greetings to republican meetings fifty years ago.

An expert in the good roads bureau of the department of agriculture at Washington, while experimenting recently with crushed rock, hit upon the idea that finely pulverized granite might have a fertilizing value. A series of experiments proved this to be the case. Tobacco treated with powdered granite flourished as well as that treated with potash imported from Germany. The German potash costs $100 a ton; two tons of pulverized granite is said to contain practically the same amount of potash and it costs only $3 a ton. The St. Cloud and other Minnesota granite quarries will yet be putting up a fine brand of potash fertilizer.

Henry Watterson's delayed preference for Bryan is partially explained by the fact that Mr. Bryan is still in favor of opening the mint.

The Bialystok Horrors.

THE massacres of the Jews at Bialystok have thrilled with horror the whole civilized world. They have extorted from the dignified and conservative senate of the United States the passage by a unanimous vote of a joint resolution expressing the sense of the people of the United States in relation thereto. The passage of this resolution is an extraordinary act on the part of the senate. It cannot but have an effect upon the government of Russia—whether one of irritation or otherwise cannot yet be known. The fact of its passage is enough to stamp the horrors of the recent killings as the vilest of which the bureaucracy has been guilty. Incidentally it may lead to far-reaching effects in Russia. The duma has been fighting for the dismissal of the Goremykin ministry and for the appointment of a ministry taken from the responsible majority of the parliament. No progress has been made toward convincing the czar that his duty and the interest of the government demanded this concession from him. The Bialystok massacres furnish him a reason for the dismissal of Goremykin, if not for the substitution of a ministry from the duma. The administration of Goremykin is either indirectly involved in the butcheries or it has shown itself incapable of protecting the people of Russia from mob law. In either case, its mandate to rule Russia has expired and it should go.

Meanwhile it is a hopeful sign for Russia that there is now a power to even investigate such outrages. The duma appointed a committee which visited Bialystok and took testimony in regard to the uprising there against the Jews. The committee reported that the subordinate officers of the police and army instigated the riots by circulating false rumors about the Jews. The committee found that the governor was criminally guilty of prolonging the horrors by absenting himself from his post. The fact that he has not been dismissed convicts the government of secret sympathy with the party of massacre. In conclusion, the report says, "The ministry must be changed and one must be chosen from the majority in parliament or, otherwise, Russia will fall to the level of Persia or Turkey, and ultimately come under the tutorship of a really civilized government."

The position of the duma puts it up again to the czar either to abandon the effort to carry on a parliamentary government or to make his system logically representative of the people.

Attorney General Hadley of Missouri, the man who gave the oil trust a slight turn, is going after the ice monopolies in St. Louis and Kansas City. It may not do any good, but it will keep people thinking.

Beating the Constitution.

THE Oregon experiment of electing a United States senator by popular vote worked on its first application, apparently. The republican candidate, Mr. Bourne, defeated Senator Gearin, democrat, at the recent election. As the majority of the legislature is republican, it will doubtless carry out the will of the people and elect Bourne, and the advice of Senator Gearin to his democratic friends, commendable in spirit, was in fact entirely unnecessary.

The election by the legislature is the only essential thing, however, when it comes to seating a senator at Washington. As long as the federal constitution remains unchanged, the senators must be elected by vote of the state legislatures, and no other vote can have force and effect with congress. Oregon's scheme is all right for getting around the federal constitution. It has all the sanction of state law, but is really extra-legal, as no state law has any business regulating the manner of electing a senator. If the legislature should choose to elect some other man than Bourne, there would be no redress for him. The popular vote just taken would have no weight with the senate. The Oregon scheme, the practice of several southern states, and the Minnesota action in nominating a senatorial candidate at the state convention, are all devices to take power away from the legislature which has resided there too long.

It did not take the nation long to riddle the dream of a deliberative electoral college for the selection of a president, but it has taken us 118 years to get around to the point of nullifying a state legislature's power to choose a senator.

If Oklahoma votes to come in she will have to agree to prohibition for twenty-one years. They are used to drouth down there, but this one is of exceptional length and severity.

Kinds of Politicians.

MAYOR McCLELLAN of New York, who appears to have a certain talent for moral platitudes when called upon to address a meeting outside of the wigwam, has recently discussed the political tradesman and the professional politician after this wise: "By the profession of politics I do not mean the trade of politics. There is no occupation more ignoble, more sordid, more despicable than the trade of politics. There is none more inspiring more capable of good than its profession."

This is very beautiful, but what does it mean? The distinction that has heretofore been made has been between the professional politician and the amateur in which the professional bore the burden of public wrath as an enemy of the people. Now we learn that the professional politician is all right but the trades politician is a bad element. It would have been more understandable if Mr. McClellan had given us some concrete illustrations of his definitions. Thus Mr. Charles F. Murphy of New York is either a trading politician or a professional politician. If the latter he must under the McClellan rule have been working for the people all these years without hope of material reward, for Mr. McClellan informs us that there is no honest money in politics beyond a mere existence. If then Mr. Murphy has made a million or more dollars with no other visible means of support than politics we must conclude that he is getting a little too much out of it to be enrolled among the martyrs who are making sacrifices for the privilege of serving the people. Can it be that Mr. Murphy, who handed Mr. McClellan the mayoralty twice, is "ignoble, sordid and despicable?" If he is what is the man who accepted his gratuities and then threw him down?

If Mayor McClellan's modesty had not prohibited his being personal he might have added with appropriate adjectives a classification of this type of politicians. Maybe Mr. Hearst could help him to the adjectives.

San Francisco is doing some terrific saloon "regulating." The saloon license has been increased to $6,500 a year and the saloons must close at 8 p.m. This means a gold-plated "lid."

What the Russians Want.

"DO AS you like, but I do not want to be a Marie Antoinette." This sentiment credited to the empress dowager, the mother of the czar, is at the head of Vance Thompson's recent article on the situation in Russia entitled, "The Dawn of Russian Liberty." "It is not a question," he says, "whether the people will triumph, but of how they will triumph." Whether by the method of the French revolution, when the royal family went to the scaffold to feed the rising revenge of the trodden peasantry, or by the more ornate means which the English used to withdraw the power of the state from their kings, is a question for the future to settle.

This is his summary of the situation in Russia:

"The peasants want the land; the Poles want home rule; the Jews want equality; each race, each caste, has its own ambitions and needs. One and all demand a freedom greater than the world has known. And this poor little duma has been thrown to them as one throws a worm into an antheap. It is the beginning, not the end."

The bureaucracy, which is even today trying to withdraw the gift of the duma does not seem to see the future as those who have observed the history of revolutions see it. The bureaucracy is not so wise as the empress dowager. It apparently does not know that there were many dukes, marquises and countless counts who marched to the same scaffold which drank the blood of Marie Antoinette and shrieked for more.

Folks who have their eyes riveted on congress will no doubt be glad to learn briefly that the drydock Dewey is in the straits of Malacca and will reach Manila about the time the session is adjourned.

Grouchy and Waterloo.

THE anniversary of Waterloo could not pass without a renewal of the discussion of Grouchy and his failure to come to the scratch at the crisis of the battle. Grouchy might well plead that he is out of politics as a reason for being let alone, but it would scarcely avail. It is not that the world is so avidly bent on the destructive analysis of Grouchy as it is drawn by the speculation as to what would have occurred had Napoleon won the battle of Waterloo. Grouchy is merely a necessary incident.

The most conservative military critics are of the opinion that he would simply have won the battle of Waterloo. That he would have been enabled to make a second stand against the allies is doubtful and that he would have been able to beat back the whole of Europe is hardly believable.

Two things were in the way of the last result. First Napoleon by his many campaigns had drained France of its fighting men. They were mostly in hospitals or under the sod. Thousands of them were rotting unburied on the plains of Russia. Other thousands made mounds in the depths of Prussia, Austria and Spain. France, from having been the first military power of Europe, was rapidly deteriorating thru the process of exhaustion. This was not true of the allies. Russia had scarcely touched her surplus population. She had forests of men who had never crossed their own boundaries. True they were not the kind of soldiers to match man for man against the veterans of France, but they would serve and they were being increasingly better led. But Russia had not even been called upon for Waterloo. That battle was fought by English, Belgians and Prussians. They outnumbered the French and it is commonly believed now outgeneraled them too.

The second element in the contest was that at Waterloo Europe had given up the idea that Napoleon was a possibility as a sovereign in the European family of nations. He had been blackballed. The escape from Elba had silenced his friends and let loose his enemies and thenceforward there was nothing for Napoleon but war to the knife and the knife to the hilt. Victory for Napoleon at Waterloo would have been empty as far as practical results were concerned.

In the dramatization of "The Jungle," doubtless the heroine is thrown into a fit by ptomaine poison administered in her frugal lunch by the jealous foreman of the works. The hero, after enduring fearful hardships, at length reaches Washington, where he obtains an order to investigate the packing houses, and returning with the missing paper, rescues the heroine, who is just about to be put in the pink sausage vat by the villain.

Some objection has been made to the length of the obituary notices of Sysonby, the great trotting horse, which died recently. There can hardly be any objection to printing a good notice of the life and works of a good horse. In fact, it is a much better use of space than would be the detailing of the infamies of some alleged man about to be hanged for his crimes.

That eminent constitutional lawyer, J. Adam Bede, has pronounced the meat inspection bill unconstitutional. Great effort is being made to keep this from the members of the supreme court.

The Longworths were entertained in London by the Bradley-Martins. The Bradley-Martins were once as well known in this country as Buffalo Bill, but they are out of the swim now.

Dr. Hericourt of Paris, a medical authority, says that radium will not cure anything. After all, nothing has been found better than carrying a small potato constantly in the pocket.

Senator Lodge denounced the beef packers as lawless. Nonsense! Judge Humphreys supplied them with some of the best canned law in the market.

There was not a birth, death, marriage or arrest in Gaylord, Kan., during the past year. The local paper was the only thing that passed in its checks.

Home week passed in Kentucky without any pistol practice, all owing to the soothing influence of Hank Watterson.

Senator Platt doubtless feels that Mae Wood is one of those bygones that we ought to let be bygones.

A Chicago physician says the country is going insane for lack of rest. Then give us one!

Mr. Wadsworth did considerable "beefing" but the president had his way.

THE DEACON'S SUNDAY SHOES

We all knew that the good deacon was a humble and a meek 'un,
Most exceeding mild in manner, with the patience of a saint—
All his ways unostentatious, to all men benign and gracious;
Of his simple, modest bearing there was never a complaint,
He was always bright and cheerful; no one ever saw him fearful;
Yet there something was about him that would give us all the blues,
Something blatant and aggressive. It was simply the progressive
And excessive dismal creaking of the deacon's Sunday shoes.

It would give us nervous twinges, like a gate on rusty hinges,
It would wake the weary sinner from his slumberings profound;
It's superfluous to mention that we had to pay attention—
That we couldn't feign abstraction when he passed the plate around.
I am not quite certain whether it something in the leather,
Or if they were put together to arouse the drowsy pews,
But they certainly succeeded, and it's likely that we needed
Just that squeaky admonition of the deacon's Sunday shoes.

He is gone, that good old deacon—that bright, shining light and beacon,
That fair pattern and example to a wicked, wayward flock.
He is gone, we trust to glory, and we know that nevermore he
Will with squawking walking footgear give our ragged nerves a shock.
But our parson's fervent praying, that we sheep so prone to straying
Would tread ever in his footsteps half its force was bound to lose;
For a person that path treading would be likely to be dreading
He might overtake the squeaking of the deacon's Sunday shoes.

—Chicago News.

PRETTY SLIM SCANDAL

Kansas City Star.

The fact that Mr. Beveridge took a $5,000 attorney fee from an insurance company before he was elected to the senate does not make a very satisfactory "scandal," but his enemies deem it better than nothing.

AN AWFUL DOUBT

Indianapolis News.

This canned meat business almost makes a fellow suspect that some of the unparalleled prosperity now on the market is not always just exactly what it is labeled, either.

"HEART GROWS FONDER"

Kansas City Journal.

From the rate at which he has gained popularity in his absence, it might be well for Colonel Brayan to remain out of the country until after the presidential election.

THE FENCE

The fence it runs around the yard;
It has a swinging gait;
All day, all night, it stands on guard—
Such is the picket's fate.
A better servant it than most:
The fence it never leaves its post.

—Saturday Evening Post.

"Hoot Mon"

POSSIBLY the Long Bow man's dream of one day opening a letter and finding a check from a rich admirer who had long felt a sense of unacknowledged obligation for having had his attention drawn from the seamy side of life may yet be realized. While in America, journalists get nothing except permission to visit Rockefeller's estate and help themselves to all the apples they can carry away or to run over to Indianapolis and listen to a two hours' speech by the vice president, a different pace has been set in Italy. This was done by the Marchioness Isabella Lucini of Pavia. She gave $3,000 to the editor of a comic journal whose paper she had taken for a long time and always enjoyed. This was not to take care of subscriptions in arrears, for the marchioness had always kept hers paid up. It was given "in recognition of the many pleasant hours spent in perusing its humorous columns." Nor was this all. In addition, the marchioness set aside $300 for a banquet at which all the members of the staff were to be feasted. Imagine the astonishment of that editor; try to picture the joy of that banquet. Think of the resolutions passed by the Press club of Pavia.

* * * *

Why do not these things happen in America? Is it because the humorous paper and the humorous column have become so prevalent as to be taken seriously, like the piano in the flat? A surfeit of even a good thing is bad for the stomach. There is such a thing as overdoing a worthy movement. Humor is a worthy movement, but it is sadly overdone in the press of America where there is nothing serious except the more extravagant efforts to amuse. This may explain why the humorists do not receive legacies. Another reason may be that people take papers without understanding them any whatever. A man will take a paper for fourteen years without getting at what the funny man was saying. Another gets mad at the editor and stops his paper because the editor has said something about the Malthusian doctrine which he doesn't like. The editor has said the same thing forty times before, but he has not happened to see it. Another plods thru his paper daily for ten years and at the end of the tenth year he could not tell you in what part of the sheet to look for the local news. As for the market department, he never heard of it. Talent, nay, genius, has been expended in his behalf daily for 3,650 days, and he never heard of it. These represent the careless type of newspaper readers, but there are others just as annoying to the editor. There is the man who watches the paper like a hawk surveying the field for sparrows. Not a false note or a turned letter escapes him. He knows every line of each issue by heart and his delight is to accost a member of the staff and call up some obscure item. The newspaper man has not heard of it? Why, it was in your own paper. Is it possible you don't read your own paper? You ought to; it sometimes contains bits of information. Thus lightly he rubs it in until the staff man vows he will get up at daylight and read the paper thru every day, even the society news. But he soon falls down and in about a week is caught once more.

* * * *

But why cannot we have marchionesses with the "dough" in this town? Surely, we have funny editors and funny papers. Who will be the first noble woman to will $10,000 to the South Minneapolis Telegram, or throw a thousand-dollar bill over the transom of Old Pease, or hand out $300 for a banquet for the Press club? Imagine Smith Hall superintending such a pure food exhibit in the presense of 200 reporters and editors.

* * * *

Or, perhaps Charles W. Somerby would be the man to do the superintending. Charles used to be a newspaper man before he fell into the clutches of the law. He was always an enthusiastic member of the Press club, too. He was continually reorganizing the Press club when it died, as it frequently did. Some people thought he was losing his labor, but one time it is recorded he revived the Press club just at the "psychological moment." The Press club had just had its semi-annual funeral when a suspicious-looking package arrived. It was addressed to the Press club, and a note on the side from Judge Kerr of the municipal court requested that the club should smoke with him. Everybody present, that is, myself and Somerby, was dumbfounded. We had not expected such a windfall. I was for cracking open the box instanter, but even then the coral shelving of a great legal mind was slowly building itself up in the cranium of Somerby. Such coarse work was not for him. We must obtain title first. The thing to do was to reorganize the Press club. In some, feeble objection was raised that it would take too long and the cigars wouldn't go round such a large crowd anyway. But Somerby had a better plan. He and I should constitute the Press club, limited. The office boy, who did not smoke, was brought in as the third member of the corporation, and the cigars were divided, not like Gaul, into three parts, but into two. A very neat little note of thanks was sent to Judge Kerr, saying that his was the first donation received by the Press club and inviting him to call at the rooms. Judge Kerr could not trust himself to say what he thought of the brightness of this coup for a couple of years, and it is perhaps as well that in the the meantime no members of the Press club limited were brought into his court.

* * * *

Dr. Folwell, in his youth, studied the shorthand of Brother Pitman and became impressed with the fact that however short you might make the record, you had always to write it out in the elaborate longhand before it became the property of the race, so to say. He has had for some years an idea of simplifying the written communications, on the plan of the great sculptor who, being asked how he made such lifelike statues, replied briefly, "It is very simple; you just take a block of marble and with a hammer and chisel knock off the bits you don't want." Dr. Folwell's system knocks out the letters that are not needed. These are mainly the vowels. He also takes the kinks out of punctuation, which drives everybody but printers insane anyway. In explaining his system, Dr. Folwell wrote:

"Hwn ay wz a kd ay lrnd dh fngrfl v Isaac Pitman nd hv vr sns bn intrstd n fntk prjkts."

The gain in this system is that people would learn to read it without translation into the longer hand we now use. Typewriters could be arranged to carry many of the common words in slugs. People would complain for a time about the appearance of the stuff, but then people used to complain about men having their hair cut short. They even went to war about it, but the fact that short hair was not at first considered elegant did not prevent it being universally adopted by Caucasians.

* * * *

No, I am not a candidate for alderman from the thirteenth ward. The man who is a candidate is James S. Gray, a gentleman who was once a member of the city council and who should know better than do it again, but it appears does not. —James Gray.

NO COTTAGE WITH THE PUDDING

Simeon Ford tells of a woman in a Chicago hotel who was known as the most inveterate "kicker" the hostelry had ever known. One evening at dessert, the lady who was always complaining asked the waiter why the dish served her was called "ice cream pudding." "If you don't like it, ma'am, I'll bring you something else," suggested the polite negro. "Oh, it's very nice," responded the lady. "What I object to is that it should be called ice cream pudding. It's wrongly named. There should be ice cream served with it." "Yes, ma'am," replied the waiter, "but that's jest our name foor it. Lots o' dishes that way. Dey don't bring you a cottage with a cottage pudding, you know."

QUESTION OF TASTE

Unto a little African
A-swimmin' in the Nile
Appeared quite unexpectedly
A hungry crocodile.

And with that chill politeness
That makes the warm blood freeze,
Said, "I'll take a little dark meat
Without dressing, if you please."

Defective Page