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Those Insurance Indictments.

The indictment of George W. Perkins and Charles S. Fairchild for their share in the New York Life's legerdemain in connection with the "Prussian loan" was reluctantly found by the grand jury and will not appeal to the public as being of great importance. It may permit District Attorney Jerome to "point with pride," but that is about the extent of its significance.

Public resentment against officials of the big insurance companies has been aroused by their disregard of the interests of the policyholders and their extravagance in spending the policyholders' money. The bit of tergiversation by which the New York Life evaded for a time the demand of the Prussian government that it sell its stocks and buy bonds instead, so as to comply with the Prussian law and resume business in that country, involved perhaps a technical crime. But it is nothing at all compared with the real crimes against the American policyholders brought out by the Armstrong investigation.

What the insuring public would like to see is the bringing to justice of the men who played duck-on-the-rock with its money in a hundred different ways. Some of these men have been forced into retirement and into financial downfall by the revelations. Some of them have died. But there has never been any adequate punishment visited on most of the coterie of insurance magnates that maintained for years at Albany a bribery lobby, with Andy Hamilton in charge, and paid its expenses with the policyholders' money. Compared with matters of this kind, the "Prussian loan" affair is mighty small potatoes.

Mr. Manahan got it twice in the same place.

Raise the Teacher's Salary.

The state teachers' association, now in session here, took up today the question of how to secure a higher level of salaries for these underpaid and highly valuable servants of the state. The question is one of the greatest importance, since our free institutions rest primarily on our educational system. A fortnight ago The Journal published a synopsis of the forthcoming report of the association's committee, showing that teachers in Minnesota on the average receive $411 a year, which is less than an industrious section hand on the railroad will make with pick and bar. There are nearly 12,000 women teachers in Minnesota who receive only $336 a year, which is considerably less than a good domestic servant receives, the board and lodging furnished free to the latter being taken into account.

The appeal of the teachers for a higher wage, a wage more nearly commensurate with the service they should render to the community, is not necessarily a selfish one. It is rather due to a desire to raise the standards of teaching in this state and to attract into this vital vocation men and women who are worth more and can earn more than $411 a year. The salaries of teachers in cities are low enough, when one considers the cost of living and the narrow margin between actual necessary expenses and the amount received. But the teacher's wage in the rural districts, even taking the difference in cost of living into consideration, is far lower. The inevitable result is that the quality of the service in the country is inferior. The rate of taxation for school purposes is notoriously low in the country and the salaries of teachers are correspondingly low.

The principal remedy proposed for this state of affairs is a minimum teachers' salary law, and a comprehensive measure of that kind will no doubt be presented before the legislature with the approval of the state association. The exact form this bill is to take is not entirely settled, but there can be no doubt of the powers of the state in that direction. We have in Minnesota a high degree of local school government, but the state has a supervisory and directory power over all the schools. They are partially supported by a state fund and a state tax, they are taught by teachers who must have state certificates and attendance is made compulsory by state laws. If the state elects to establish a minimum wage, based on the assessed valuation of the district, the number of children of school age and other data, it may easily enforce its will on the district authorities. Withdrawal of state aid might be one method. Giving the teacher legal right to sue for the whole amount of the minimum salary guaranteed would be another.

But, as a matter of practice, it is probable that the local school authorities would need no other incentive to bring salaries up to the minimum level than the passage of a state law. The remedy, therefore, lies easily within the grasp of the legislature.

The new year is so near that it might be well to brush the dust from last year's resolutions and see if they were fractured anywhere.

France and Religion.

The French statesman who is alleged to have said that "France has Jesus Christ on the run" and will drive him out of the country is surely a poor reader of history or he would not have said it or thought it. France did drive Christianity out of the country once. The revolution not only conquered the nobility but it submerged the moral sense of the country and extinguished for a time its devotion to religion. But a century after the revolution Christian institutions are re-established in France. Moreover, the government has been trying by civil enactment to get back to the Christian idea of a day of rest in seven, the revolution having abolished this superstition and substituted one feast day in ten.

The efforts of the scientific men of the revolutionary period to establish a better order of things supplemented by the efforts of the violent men of the revolution to cut France loose from all the ties that bound it to Christianity have proved abortive.

Today France is in the throes of another battle. Her fight for the independent and interdependent existence of church and state has aroused the attention of the world, which must see that neither a state church nor a church state meets the wants of a growing civilization. But if the struggle in France is based upon an idea that Christianity can or ought to be driven forth it is only necessary to read French history to see what a mistake is being made.

James Creelman has written up the president in a way that makes a noise like a third term—or what is in reality a second term only.

Commission Not a Court.

The railroad commission has at last asserted its right to debar an individual who makes himself a nuisance from appearing before it. The commission should have taken a leaf out of the interstate commerce commission's book some time ago. The interstate commissioners never allow witnesses or attorneys to waste time or transgress propriety. The commissioners, in taking up a complaint, want certain information to use in deciding it. They go after those facts, and conduct the hearing themselves, allowing attorneys for the railroads or the complainants to examine witnesses just as long as they work on material facts. When they begin to wander and waste time, they are soon silenced, and the commissioners go to the heart of the matter with a few questions, ending the hearing. The devious methods of a courtroom cross-examination will not do for a business body like the interstate and state commissions.

Some people forget that a railroad commission is not a court, but an administrative body. It is empowered to investigate and to decide. The commission is in permanent possession of many facts, and when it begins an investigation it does not need to begin and get information from the ground up. The commission must, therefore, be the judge of what further facts are needed to make up its decision. It cannot be compelled to sit and listen to "weary lawyers with endless tongues" rehashing evidence already familiar to the commission.

When the commissioners have started a complaint themselves, with the intention of reducing rates, it must be exasperating to listen to an endless recital of immaterial facts on the same side of the case, with accusations of dishonesty and subservience thrown in. The results of recent hearings have been bearing down on the railroads, but the railroad attorneys have been very decent about it. The misconduct has come from so-called representatives of the people, who were being helped by the commission's action.

The shippers' association wants express rates reduced. They should employ a lawyer, and get a hearing before the railroad commission for that express purpose.

Bigger than State Rights.

Senator Beveridge puts a question difficult to answer to the advocates of state rights who oppose a national child labor law when he wants to know "why if we can agree on a national quarantine law to keep out yellow fever, which does not kill twenty people in twenty years, we cannot agree on a national child labor law to stop practices that actually kill thousands of children every year and irreclaimably ruins tens of thousands more."

The senator has a bill by which he wants to prevent industries employing child labor from selling their products outside of the state in which they are made. This is a remedy by national legislation for the evil of child labor. The actual regulation or prevention of the labor of children under 14 years of age belongs to the state, but unfortunately there are states where there are great and growing industries which have been built up upon and thrive upon the labor of children of very tender age. Perhaps the worst offenders against humanity in this regard are the cotton factories of the south and the coal mines of Pennsylvania. Both of them turn out products which must be sold outside of the states in which they are manufactured. Such a law as Senator Beveridge proposes would effectually correct what the state laws of those states have failed to prevent. When the cotton manufacturers of the south and the mine-owners of Pennsylvania cannot sell their products because they employ child labor, they will be obliged to abandon child labor and to some extent at least the evil will be remedied. There will remain, of course, the supplementary legislation which should follow establishing the schools and compelling attendance, which must be enacted by the states and enforced by them.

The value of Senator Beveridge's address in Nebraska yesterday is the suggestive and forcible parallel which he draws between the exercise of federal authority against a menace of the public health and the exercise of federal authority against a menace of the citizenship of the republic. If one is conceded as a necessary exercise of federal authority, the other must be, for the latter more clearly and certainly than the former involves the very life of the republic.

A Schenectady, N. Y., man has invented a motor car that is propelled by means of a clock. Some of the present motor cars strike now and then.

Distributing Rates Equal.

The gentlemen who are guiding the destinies of the shippers in efforts to get concessions from railroads in Minnesota need to post up on a few points. They got the shippers yesterday to pass resolutions demanding the same distributing rates from small jobbing centers as are given out of Minneapolis and St. Paul. The fact is they are enjoying the same rates now. The reason small towns are at a disadvantage in the jobbing business is that the twin cities get a better rate from Chicago and eastern points. That is an interstate proposition. As far as rates within the state are concerned, all distributing points are on the same basis. Minneapolis, St. Paul and Duluth have rates to the small towns of the state that will not average any lower, according to distance, than the distributing rates in force from St. Cloud, Fergus Falls, Crookston, Thief River Falls, Moorhead, Brainerd, Faribault, Albert Lea, Mankato and Winona.

There are plenty of genuine grievances that the shippers want corrected, without wasting any time on a false scent.

Some of the smaller places in Italy are suffering from American money which prosperous emigrants have sent to their relatives. The result in many cases is shown by a lack of industry and a lapse into drunkenness. Complaint is also made from northwestern Spain. Villages have been known to emigrate en masse to South America from Spain, taking along even the municipal authorities. One Spanish city, Bejar, has dwindled by emigration from a city of 20,000 people to a town of less than 10,000. There are two sides to the immigration question on both sides of the ocean.

The impure food manufacturers have a fine field for work in the states that have no laws against impure food. The national food law would not permit any of the foods to be shipped out of a state, but it cannot restrain them in the state if they are manufactured in that state. New York's very large population easily supports many factories catering to the state and city trade alone, and thus the inhabitants of that state are not protected by the national food law.

Brazil is clamoring for Japanese labor. There is a proposition among the coffee planters to ask the authority of the Brazilian congress for the introduction of 10,000 Japanese at once. Japanese agents are investigating the possibilities of rice culture in one of the states of Brazil. A few years ago a "scare" was out that Emperor William was about to attack us thru Brazil. This "scare" has been retired in favor of the Japanese scare. They are equally silly.

The advantage to be gained from the governor's reply to Manahan is the quietus this is likely to put upon the aspirations of noisy fellows who seem to think that the thing to do always is to play to the gallery. The matter of rate reduction is a serious business proposition, in which the rights of both the carrier and the shipper are to be considered carefully and candidly, and the cause of the shipper cannot be promoted in any other way.

Hicks, the weather prophet, predicted a cold snap between Christmas and New Year's. As the weather had been phenomenally warm, this looked on its face like a pretty safe prediction, but the climate will have to hurry a little or the planetary theory of weather will be handed a meteorological lemon.

Mr. Harriman states that anybody is better than Roosevelt. Mr. Bryan would not fully indorse this sentiment, but he might perhaps agree that he knows a certain party who would be better than Roosevelt.

Secretary Taft's friends announce that the secretary is now "in their hands" so far as the nomination for the presidency goes. A weight like this is likely to be something of a strain before 1908.

Colonel Santa Claus Mann of "the hard-boiled eyes," as his friend Tom Watson described him, was acquitted of perjury, but the public is well "onto" the value of a criticism in "Town Topics."

The Canadian government is trying to stop the immigration of Hindus. If the Hindu would wear a tall hat instead of a quilt for a head covering, he could easily disguise himself.

THAT KIND NEVER HAS ENOUGH

Chicago News.

More land frauds have been discovered in western Kansas. Uncle Sam has been so generous in giving away the public domain that it would seem as if the land-grabbers ought to be satisfied to remain inside the regulations.

GIRL TRADED FOR A TEAM OF HORSES

Child-Wife, Victim of a Vicious Pair, Wins Her Release in Court.

Special to The Journal.

Des Moines, Dec. 29.—Traded at the age of 13 to a man by her mother for a team of horses, is the remarkable tale told by Alma Toepfer, a 15-year-old wife, who had her marriage to Toepfer set aside in Judge Brennan's court.

The girl, who was married to Toepfer two years ago, after her mother had made the alleged trade, appeared in court clad in short dresses and with her hair done in braids. She was obviously only a child, and her testimony as to her married life moved Judge Brennan to indignation. The court directed an investigation of Toepfer, who, according to the testimony, is now living with the mother of the girl wife.

Toepfer is 35 years old and the little girl testified that he had often abused her after marrying her. She was rescued from him by the Humane society, which started her annulment action for her.

Accused of kidnapping the 18-year-old daughter of one of his neighbors, J. Graft, a prominent stockman at Winterset, who has a wife and three children at that place, has been arrested at Pella. Jessie Orr, the victim, is less than 18 years old, and was the belle of Winterset.

Bill Against Lobbying.

The lobbyist stands a poor show at the coming session of the legislature. A bill absolutely prohibiting lobbying unless under certain conditions has been drawn up by Representative-elect John Sullivan of Des Moines, to be presented as soon as the legislature assembles. It is thought it will pass.

The measure provides that when a committee is holding a hearing upon any question in which any lobbyist may be interested, he shall be notified and asked to appear. At no other time will he be allowed to address any member of the legislature under penalty of fine or imprisonment or both.

DROPS FROM SIGHT ON EVE OF MARRIAGE

Appleton, Wis., Dec. 29.—New London authorities are agog over the mysterious disappearance of Frank Kellogg, proprietor of a laundry of that city, on Christmas eve. He was to have been married on Christmas Day.

But those who know him best are firm in their belief that he has been foully dealt with and give no credence to the rumor that he left the city, having decided not to become a benedict. Relatives believe he is the victim of foul play.

Kellogg's fiancee is at a loss to understand his disappearance, and declares he was cheerful the last time she saw him.

CONSPIRACY CHARGED

Baltimore Men Arrested for Alleged Plan to Defraud Government.

Baltimore, Dec. 29.—John H. Seward of J. H. Seward & Co., importers of foreign fruits at this port; Robert M. Whiteford, a weigher in the United States customs department; Edward H. Satterfield and J. A. Little, bookkeepers for the Seward firm; Stephen Evans, Thomas Jackson and George Lewis, colored employees of the same concern, were arrested today by the United States officers. All were charged with conspiring to rob the United States government by fraudulent practices in connection with the weighing of foreign fruit sent under bond to the Mount Clare yards of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad to be weighed by Whiteford. Seward was released in $10,000 bond, and the others in $5,000. All are to appear before commissioner Rodgers on Jan. 15.

YACQUIS MURDERERS

Sixteen Americans Their Victims in Two Months.

Phoenix, Ariz., Dec. 29.—Business men of Sonora, Mex., recently arriving here, say that within the last two months sixteen Americans have been killed by Yacqui Indians at one point or another in Mexico. Most of them were settlers who fled three years ago during Indian troubles, but recently returned, believing the railroad building had progressed to a point where they would be protected and be safe from the murderous bands. They state the recent news of the Yacqui murders there is not surprising. In fact, they say, it is not news below the line.

RULES FOR SHIPPERS

Wisconsin Railroad Commission Comes to an Important Conclusion.

Madison, Wis., Dec. 29.—Railroads must ship freight by the shortest and least inexpensive route possible, and shippers may properly demand that they be charged no more for shipments than the tariff over the shortest route. This is a determination which the railroad commission announced yesterday. This question frequently comes before the commission.

It is an exceedingly important opinion in that it will be an obligation upon a carrier to transport freight over the shortest possible route and charge the shipper no more for the service than the rate over the shortest or least expensive route.

"SHERBIE" HAS A VISITOR

Wild Talk of 1908 Because Hearst's Man Dropped In.

Special to The Journal.

Milwaukee, Dec. 29.—Louis F. Lonergan, press agent for William R. Hearst, was among Mayor Sherbie Becker's callers today.

The visit started political tongues to wagging. Some of the wise ones assert that Mr. Hearst is looking for a running mate in a race for the presidency in 1908 and that he sent his lieutenant, Mr. Lonergan, to feel out the fearless young mayor on the vice presidency.

However, friends of the mayor insist that he will not be a candidate.

GOVERNMENT ISSUES BOOKS.

Washington, Dec. 29.—Herbert Putnam, librarian of congress, today announced the issue of two government publications, one the "Index to Portraits" and the other a preliminary list of headings and subheadings for an index to the federal statutes. The first work, consisting of 1,000 pages, is not for free distribution. The second publication consists of 800 pages and is being prepared under authority of congress. Interest in this work lies in the adoption of both scientific and consistent procedure in the indexing and digesting in general of the federal statute law.

IROQUOIS FIRE VICTIM DIES.

Chicago, Dec. 29.—After suffering for three years, lacking two days, from injuries received in the Iroquois theater fire, Mrs. Carrie Kuh, wife of a wealthy business man of this city, died today. Mrs. Kuh was burned severely in the fire, and after lying at the point of death for several weeks was partially cured by skin grafting. The shock, however, left her an invalid, and altho it was believed that she was on the road to ultimate recovery, her strength failed and she died.

NEGRO ATTACK STIRS EL RENO

Supposed Trooper Attempts to Rob Laundry—Shoots a Chinaman.

El Reno, Okla., Dec. 29.—Resisting an attempted hold-up in his laundry at 8:10 last night, Lee Sung, a Chinaman, was shot and dangerously wounded by an unknown negro who wore the uniform of the United States army.

The assailant escaped. Soldiers from Fort Reno, the sheriff's force, police and many posses of citizens are searching for him.

The numerous outrages perpetrated by negroes believed to be discharged soldiers of the Twenty-fifth infantry, have aroused the public to an intense degree.

The negro was dressed in the full uniform of the United States army, but it is not known whether he is a member of the negro troops now stationed at Fort Reno or one of the discharged soldiers. Some of those dismissed for participation in the Brownsville riots carried their uniforms away with them at the time of their discharge.

Penrose Silent.

Major Penrose, commanding officer at Fort Reno, when asked what action he had taken and whether the roll call of the troops at the fort had been called, refused to discuss the case.

"I am getting sick of this business," he said. "Every time a crime is committed it is laid to the negro soldiers.

"I won't tell anything about what has been done, further than to say that we are doing all in our power to aid in the apprehension of the guilty."

Major Penrose tonight refused to make any statement regarding a report that he had a clue to the identity and whereabouts of the person who shot and seriously wounded Captain Edgar B. Macklin a week ago. It is believed, however, that he has secured definite information and that the assailant will be in custody within a short time.

CHILD SLAVERY IS THEME OF BEVERIDGE

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 29.—Senator Albert J. Beveridge addressed the closing meeting of the Nebraska State Teachers' association here last night, speaking on "The Schools and the Nation." Senator Beveridge was introduced by William J. Bryan.

"Nothing," he said, "shows how greed forgets humanity as much as the child slavery in certain sections of this country. There is something wrong with a prosperity which is so immense that it finally comes to feed on the lives of little children.

"Men who make money by working infants are making too much money. There are, at a low estimate, half a million children under 14 years of age at work in cotton mills, glass factories, sweat shops, mines and other like industries."

COMSTOCK LOSES PLACE

Art Students Get Uncle Sam to Drop Him as P. O. Inspector.

New York, Dec. 29.—Anthony Comstock has lost the second round of his battle with the Students' league. A telegram from Washington announces that the art censor has been deprived of his position as postoffice inspector.

Members of the league went to Washington with complaints that the president of the Society for the Suppression of Vice was abusing his privilege as postoffice inspector. It was urged that it was not right that Mr. Comstock should be able to walk into any postoffice and examine the mail addressed to any individual or corporation, breaking the seals of letters as he saw fit. An investigation was ordered.

For more than thirty-four years Comstock has held the position of postoffice inspector, which enabled him to obtain possession of many secrets of value.

He was notified, however, that he would be reappointed as inspector and carried on the payrolls with a salary of $1,500 per year, and a daily allowance of $3, if he would quit all other employment. As president of the Society for the Suppression of Vice, he draws an annual salary of $5,000, and he has perquisites.

BURIED IN A SNOWSLIDE

Man and Horse Live Thru Frightful Experience in Montana.

Special to The Journal.

Dillon, Mont., Dec. 29.—John Evans of this city was riding near the top of a rugged peak in the Ruby mountains when the weight of his horse started a snowslide. Both himself and horse were swept over a steep cliff and down the steep mountain side for almost a mile.

The mountain was swept clean of trees and boulders by the force of the slide. Near the bottom Evans was covered by a great mass of snow, but dug himself out after great exertion. The horse was found half buried a few hundred yards farther on. Neither sustained serious injury, but both were covered with bruises and scratches.

HE LACKS MORAL SENSE

Mrs. Germond Says Her Husband Is a Degenerate.

Journal Special Service.

New York, Dec. 29.—After having remarried her husband to reform him, following the annulment of a previous ceremony by her parents, Mrs. Marie Josephine Germond is now suing for an absolute divorce. She alleges that he is absolutely without moral sense and cannot distinguish between right and wrong. The defendant, Philip C. Germond, is a son of the late Rev. Dr. Germond, who was long prominent in the Methodist church.

Germond has apparently disappeared. Mrs. Germond lives with her mother, Mrs. Opitz, in this city. She was married to Germond in 1901, when she was only 19 years old.

SAW GAS TURNED ON

Herman Bellek Tells Startling Story in Chicago Case.

Chicago, Dec. 29.—Herman Bellek, Jr., the son of the man now under arrest in connection with the six deaths in the Vzral family yesterday informed the police that he saw Mrs. Vzral turn on the gas in their home with the intention of suffocating two of the children, Ella and Bertha. The boy said he heard his father give Mrs. Vzral directions for the act. The two girls afterwards died and chemical analysis found arsenic in the bodies of both.

Discontinuance of Sunday Trains to Lake Minnetonka. The Minneapolis & St. Louis railroad has discontinued the train which heretofore left for Lake Minnetonka at 9:45 a.m. on Sundays and returning leaving Tonka Bay at 5 p.m.

WHAT TO SEE AT THE THEATERS NEXT WEEK

Metropolitan—

That perennial success, "Way Down East," comes to the Metropolitan tomorrow evening for an engagement of one week.

The love of David Bartlett, son of obstinate old Squire Bartlett, for Anna Moore furnishes the basis of the plot. The casting of the girl out into a raging snowstorm by the obstinate father, furnishes one of the greatest dramatic climaxes, but in the end the girl and her lover are reunited and the blessing of the father quickly follows.

Manager Brady has equipped the play with scenic environments that call forth special praise and each year he has sent the play on the road with a new scenic production that is complete. The big snow-storm effect is one of the most effective bits of stage realism ever attempted.

The play will be given here with the same cast that has been seen in it for a number of seasons and includes Phoebe Davies, who created the role of Anna Moore, Robert Fischer, Ella Hugh Wood, Ulric B. Collins, Mary Davenport, Frank Currier, Mabel Strickland, Frank Bell, Estelle Ward, John E. Brennan, Jeanne Millard, James T. Galloway, Burt Flansburg and the famous "Village Choir."

A special holiday matinee will be given on New Year's Day.

Bijou—

Harry Clay Barney's war drama, "The Boy Behind the Gun," will be the attraction at the Bijou all of New Year's week, beginning Sunday at 2:30. The engagement will include besides the usual Wednesday and Saturday matinees, a special holiday matinee on New Year's Day, starting at 3 p.m. Mr. Barney needs no introduction to local theatergoers, having appeared here on numerous occasions as Willie Live in "Across the Pacific."

The play deals with some of the most stirring incidents of the late Japanese-Russian war, some of the pictures shown being the San Francisco Yacht club; the headquarters of General Stoessel at Port Arthur; a reproduction of the Japanese tea gardens, with attendant geisha girls; the Russian military hospital at Port Arthur; the Japanese government building at Tokio, and a reproduction in minute detail of the terrible battle of the Sea of Japan, with Admiral Togo's flagship as the center.

In the last names scene, five gattling guns are used. The female members of the company are headed by the talented comedienne, Kitty Wolfe, and the cast includes a score of royal guards of Japan, brought to this country for this production. A number of entertaining specialties and song and dance numbers are introduced, together with a military drill and wall scaling act by the Japanese guards.

Lyceum—

Langdon McCormack's pastoral comedy, "Out of the Fold," will be produced at the Lyceum next week. Pathos and comedy are combined in this play, and the comedy is of the good, wholesome kind.

In the village school scene, comedy prevails from start to finish. Toby Hopkins, Buck Smith and Willie Cobb are three characters in this scene that are admirable. Prejudice gains its strongest hold in isolated villages, and that fact is eccentuated in the play.

An erring girl, not wholly guilty, is seeking expiation among the strangers of the rural village where the scenes of the play are laid. Finally she is wooed and won by the village schoolmaster, Nolan Crane, but on the eve of her marriage the engagement is broken because the story of her past has reached the lover's ears. The agitated Crane is finally recalled to his sense of honor by the persuasions of "Long Jim," and the situation is relieved by a happy ending.

Miss Ethel Clayton will play the character of Helen Grey, while Mr. Mortimer will appear as Nolan Crane. Marie Lathrop will be essayed by a new member of the Company, Miss Adele Knott, who was connected with Mr. Frawley's company when he made his tour round the world. Another newcomer, Miss Vernon, will play the part of Lucy, while the character part of Aunt Jane Larkin will be played by Miss Christine Hill.

The management has planned a reception to be held on the stage at the close of the Thursday matinee. All the patrons of the theater are invited to drink tea with the members of the company. The New Year's matinee will begin at 3 and the weekly special women's night will be observed Monday, as usual.

Orpheum—

Not one of the vaudeville features which the Orpheum theater will usher in the New Year has ever been seen at the local house.

Heading the bill will be the Empire City quartet, which has been the most popular singing organization ever known to vaudeville. The quartet for this season's piece de resistance are singing the Cooper Brothers' ode to optimism, "Cheer Up, Mary."

One of the handsomest women on the stage is Patrice, the comedienne who with her supporting company will appear in "A New Year's Dream."

Eight of the smartest little men that ever came out of the mikado's empire are the Kita Banzai Japs, who have added to their gymnastic work a scenic setting whose background is a $10,000 piece of embroidery stretching across the stage.

Musically, the feature of the bill will be Eugenie Barker, a dramatic soprano who was formerly with the Carl Rosa Grand Opera company.

A duo of vaudeville favorites who have not heretofore appeared before the local public are Mazuz & Wilson, a man and woman in juggling and barrel jumping, and the kinodrome's films, "The Villain Still Pursued Her," will make up the sum total of the New Year's vaudeville attractions.

Unique—

Many clever entertainers are scheduled to make life merry at the Unique during New Year's week, Albani will lead with one of the most ingenious acts in vaudeville. The three Masqueria Sisters' feature is Italian in tone, introducing the songs and dances peculiar to the streets of Italy. A musical comedy act will be put on by Ethel Vane & company. Irene Little will appear with a new song. Bright music and a laughable kinodrome comedy end the bill.

Dewey—

The burlesque organization, the Baltimore Beauties, which come to the Dewey for the week commencing with the Sunday matinee, has made a reputation for general excellence. Among the musical novelties are the Irish Boys, Rubes, march numbers, soubrets, bathing girls and burlesque boys. The great Murray Simons is an extra attraction.

The management will give an amateur night in conjunction with the regular performance every Thursday.

Railroads

EAU CLAIRE PLANS TROLLEY TO RIVER

Movement Started to Build Electric Line to Winona and La Crosse.

Special to The Journal.

Eau Claire, Wis., Dec. 29.—A movement is under way for the building of an interurban electric line to connect Eau Claire, LaCrosse, Winona, and towns along the proposed route. C. J. Sund of Gilmanton, one of the promoters, has succeeded in arousing the interest of business men of LaCrosse and Winona. Monday he will come to Eau Claire and be the guest of some of the leading business men of the city.

The route would lead from here almost in a direct line to Mondovi, twenty-five miles. This portion of the route is feasible and besides giving the residents of Mondovi and vicinity a handy route of travel would open up a good country. The plan also would be to make the line from here to Mondovi paying by carrying freight as well as passengers.

From Mondovi the line would follow the banks of the Beef river to Gilmanton, eight miles, thence along the river a few miles further and across the bluffs into Little Waumandee. Engineers who have surveyed this route before say that no tunnel would be necessary in crossing the bluffs. From there it would be an easy matter to select a route to Winona and LaCrosse.

The people of Waumandee have always been anxious to have better traveling and shipping facilities and at any time would have given a big bonus to a railroad entering there. Railroad companies have at different times made surveys of the section but never took definite action. It is one of the richest farming sections in the state and the residents are wealthy.

At the meeting in Eau Claire Monday it is expected that definite action will be taken. Several men from LaGrange, Ind., who make a specialty of building electric roads, will be here to confer with members of the local Commercial club.

Crow Goes to New York.

W. B. Crow, general northwestern freight agent for the Erie road, twenty-four years a railroad man at St. Paul, left yesterday for New York, where he will have headquarters as foreign freight agent. Mr. Crow has handled export grain and flour in Minnesota, North and South Dakota. At one time he was Erie freight agent in Minneapolis and has held his last position seven years.

Minneapolis Will Profit.

Other railroads are expected to follow the lead of the Milwaukee road in adapting itself to the rate reductions in Minnesota ordered by the Minnesota state railroad commission and concurred in by all of the lines in the state. Chicago men expect that Minneapolis will reap benefit from the general reduction.

Quality—yes, high quality—there is nothing better at any price in a pure wholesome baking powder than Hunts Perfect.

LETHBRIDGE RICH IN COAL DEPOSITS

Development of These Resources Is Building Up a Canadian City.

By Herbert Vanderhoof.

Correspondence of The Journal.

Lethbridge, Alberta, Can., Dec. 24.—Nature has been prodigal to this city, and man has done his part. For instance, nature gave Lethbridge beds of accessible coal; man has applied irrigation to naturally rich soil and made fertile areas blossom as the rose. The Alberta Railway & Irrigation company has played a prime part in the development of this town, the three fields of its activity being coalmining, railroad-building and irrigation. This development company in the beginning built a road on the main line of the Canadian Pacific from Lethbridge to Medicine Hat, with a spur southward to the states, with a terminal at Grand Forks. The Canadian Pacific railway bought out the first of these lines and made it an integral part of the Crow's Nest Pass division.

The beds of hard lignite coal are the great potential asset of Lethbridge. Coal means factories wherever the sun shines, and the attitude of the city is strongly in favor of fostering infant industries. Perhaps the most promising field for the investor today would be found in the establishment of packing houses, woolen mills, knitting mills, tanneries and shoe factories. The raw material is at hand, the coal means cheap and accessible power, and joined to this is the assurance of the Board of Trade that the actual investor and manufacturer may hope for tangible municipal help in the matter of sites, taxes, light and water.

It would seem that in the production of furniture and the building of portable houses the enterprising manufacturer cannot but make good in Lethbridge.

Railroad rates discriminate sharply against the finished product in favor of the raw material. Thus, the great forests of the British Columbia coast may be made to play an important part in the future of Lethbridge. Thru Vancouver, too, can be imported those incomparable silky oaks and hardwoods furnished by Australian forests, with mahogany and rosewood in the rough from the orient. A factory turning out the highest grades of office furniture in Lethbridge would be able successfully to cope with competition from east or west.

Change of Time
Via North-Western Line.

The following changes take effect December 30th:

Day Express to Chicago—Leave Minneapolis 7:35 a.m. instead of 7:50 a.m., St. Paul 8:20 a.m. instead of 8:30 a.m.

Day Express to North Wisconsin and Duluth—Leave Minneapolis 7:50 a.m. instead of 7:25 a.m., St. Paul 8:30 a.m. instead of 8:10 a.m.

No changes in departure of other trains via North-Western Line to Chicago, Milwaukee, Fond du Lac, Ashland, Duluth, Huron, Redfield, Sioux Falls, Mitchell, Des Moines, Sioux City, Omaha or Kansas City.

Defective Page