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veto privilege, the most important of which enables the imperial government to undo as far as possible the evils it engenders by admitting Chinese labor for the mines. It is now seen that a tremendous mistake, moral and economic, was made when the coolies were brought in, and the imperial government will take steps to see that no more are brought in.

Altogether, the new constitution looks like a wise and statesmanlike solution of the troubles that have followed the Boer war.

Former wives of James G. Blaine, Jr., are not thinking of holding a convention.

Compulsory Voting. When the Canadian parliament reassembles after the holidays it will have up for consideration a bill for the reform of the elections act.

GOALS FROM THE FIELD. People of Linden Hills were greatly excited yesterday by the Tribune's effort to locate a new union depot in Loring park. They demanded to know why the improvement association of the Hills was not getting busy when union stations were being passed around.

The religious element is doing its whole duty by striving to bring about a better and more helpful understanding between the races. Out of frequent conferences between religious leaders, both white and black, has grown an organization whose object it is to promote the highest type of citizenship, promote peace and good will between the races and propose from time to time such legislation as conditions may require.

That there is a good deal of the milk of human kindness in Minneapolis is evidenced by an occurrence in the southern part of the city a few days ago. A young railroad man had established himself with his wife and child in a modest cottage in the city.

The Tribune suggests that the union depot be located in Loring park. Why, certainly, or on top of the court house, where it would be ready for the trains of airships when they come into use.

entirely. The melodramatics of course think it great and the same portion of the audience is amused by the mass of abstractions that combine to make the horseplay last nearly three hours. Mr. Blaney's imitation of an American newspaper correspondent is worse than his imitation of an actor, if that be possible.

The Orpheum—Vaudeville. This week's offering is another triumph for the booking agent. It is strong on comedy of a clean wholesome sort, the athletics are new and given with splendid spirit and the musical features are above the average.

The bill opens with Pero and Wilson, comedy pantomimes, who introduce new features into juggling and barrel jumping. Anna Chandler follows with songs and imitations, her best effort being the coster song, in costume, if such it could be called.

Patrice, the vaudeville veteran of the metropolitan circuit, is paying her first visit to Minneapolis. She is the staunch friend of the American republic; and, offering the sketch in which she first achieved fame, "A New Year's Dream," it made the same hit in Minneapolis as it has elsewhere.

PROTEST AGAINST FRANCE'S ACTION. American Churchmen Condemn Seizure of Church Property by the State. Held to Be Subject to New Civil Service Law.

Washington, Dec. 31.—A monster mass meeting of the citizens of Washington of various religious denominations was held here last night to condemn the action of the French government in confiscating the property of the Catholic church and imposing restrictions on the Catholics in France.

Resolutions Adopted. The following resolutions were adopted: Whereas, We view with exceeding regret and indignation the action by which the Catholic church in France is to be deprived of about twenty-six thousand of its churches, episcopates and parochial residences, clerical seminaries and other church property; and,

Resolved, That we, citizens of Washington of various religious denominations, do hereby solemnly condemn the action of the French government in the unjust confiscation of the entire property of the Catholic church in France, and, as a liberty-loving people, we denounce such conduct as hostile to the freedom of Christian worship.

BOMB THROWN AT PLAGE SEEKERS. Madison, Wis., Dec. 31.—The throng of seekers for legislative "snaps" will have to go thru the much-disked system of competitive examinations, and the highest competitors will receive the positions on the salary list.

The attorney general, in making this ruling, reverses himself, for fifteen months ago he declared to the civil service commission that only stenographers and typewriters in the legislative branch are designated by the employee law as coming within the competitive system of examination and appointment.

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KING EDWARD MAY MEET PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT. New York, Dec. 31.—Captain Kindred Smith, M. P., and captain of the Ninth Lancers, British army, was a passenger on the steamer Caronia, reaching here yesterday. Speaking of the selection of Mr. Bryce for the British ambassadorship in this country, Captain Smith declared that he thought the appointment an excellent one, he being a man who could be classed along with such men as Joseph H. Choate and the present American ambassador, Whitehall Reid.

Philanthropist Dead. "Second Lady" in Britain Dies at Age of 92. London, Dec. 31.—Baroness Burdett-Coutts, who has been ill for some time, died here since Christmas eve, is dead. The death of Baroness Burdett-Coutts occurring at the age of 92 years, of its depriving the country of one of its noblest and most accomplished philanthropists, removes from London a unique personality and an interesting social figure.

Woman Poet Laureate. France Bestows Rare Honor of Year on Young Mlle. Corthis. Paris, Dec. 31.—Judged by a jury of her peers (women of literary attainment and discernment) Mlle. Andre Corthis has been chosen poet laureate of the year 1906 in France.

Storm at Honolulu. Fierce Electrical Disturbance Wrecks Schooner and Canoes. Honolulu, Dec. 31.—Honolulu and vicinity yesterday experienced the severest electrical storm in many years. The schooner Lavinia and hundreds of canoes were wrecked. So far as known no lives were lost.

Demurrage a State Question. To the Editor of The Journal. I noticed an article in The Journal of the 26th inst. regarding the demurrage on the Great Northern Railway, and in an interview with E. E. Clark, interior commerce commissioner, in which he says that the individual state legislatures should keep hands off in respect to reciprocal demurrage laws and leave the question of the short shortage problem to congress for a future remedy.

Let Him Write a Book. Philadelphia Press. Let us sympathize with the poor knacker. He cannot send even one message a day to his congress.

The Secret of Human Society. Florida Times-Union. It is only because man is so different from his fellow that we are able to endure one another's company.

This Date in History. DEC. 31. 1775—Montgomery killed at battle of Quebec. 1800—Samuel Dexter of Massachusetts became secretary of treasury. 1828—Austin Loubet, ex-president of France, born. 1851—Emilian emperor revoked constitution of March 4, 1849. 1862—Battle of Murfreesboro, or Stone River. 1868—General Sheridan captured the Indian chiefs, Santanta and Lone Wolf. 1882—Leon Gambetta, ex-dictator of France, died. Born 1838.

Limiting Railroad Stocks. Some interesting legal questions come up in connection with the Great Northern's \$60,000,000 stock issue, and Attorney General Young's threatened suit to prevent the plan. Under the law this stock cannot be issued without consent of the railroad commission, and the Great Northern's territorial charter gives it no immunity in this respect.

At first thought it seems that such ought to be the remedy of the state. But what good would it do to revoke the charter, when New Jersey affords such a safe and convenient haven for all distressed corporation craft? The Great Northern would speedily incorporate in New Jersey and remove itself from the jurisdiction of Minnesota. It is to the advantage of the state to have the road remain a Minnesota corporation.

The attorney general purposes to ask for an injunction against the sale of the stock unless the law is complied with. The thought arises that an injunction might also be avoided by the New Jersey dodge. But so long as the Great Northern railway of Minnesota exists, the state has a remedy, in preventing the local corporation from transferring its property or rights. It is not likely that all the armions of Mr. Hill's lawyers could find a way to dodge an injunction issued by the Minnesota courts.

The situation, however, serves to give added force to arguments for close federal control and supervision of all corporations doing interstate business. State lines are such vexatious barriers that state control is always hampered and nullified, as it was in the Northern Securities case. With railroad systems reaching from ocean to ocean, it is absurd that the general government should have so little power to regulate them. One of the first federal laws on the subject should be on this very question of capitalization. Massachusetts has a statute on the subject worth copying. It provides that when new stock is issued, the purchasers must pay into the treasury of the corporation, not the par value, but the market value of the stock.

Solving Race Problem. The blood spilled in the Atlanta riots will not have been shed in vain, if the cries of their victims awake the better thought of the south to the necessity of moving toward the solution of the race problem. This very result seems, indeed, to have been attained. The best men of Atlanta, both white and black, are at last enlisted in the cause. They are working out practical methods by which, on the one hand, the whites may be brought to a juster conception of the rights and the needs of the colored man, and by which, on the other hand, the blacks may be inspired to raise themselves to a higher level of usefulness in the community.

These methods involve as their guiding principle a spirit of enlightened co-operation between the races. Activities have become manifest in three different fields of endeavor—civil, industrial and religious. In Atlanta there have been formed two civic leagues, one white and one colored, whose avowed object it is "to promote peace between the races, see that offenders of both races are apprehended and justice impartially administered, and permanently to secure protection to both white and black." On the rolls of these co-operating leagues are the names of the foremost and best citizens of Atlanta. They have practical ideas and mean to work—as our voters' and civic leagues do in the north—in practical ways. As an illustration may be cited the plan of making the colored race feel its responsibilities by naming colored policemen in districts given up to the blacks. There can be no doubt that the colored race, like the Indians, will respond quickly to such treatment and that order will thus be maintained far more easily and effectively than now.

Industrial schools fostered by the state and scattered thruout its territory form another helpful plan. This, of course, is a practical adoption of the helpful Booker T. Washington idea. Georgia is spending a large amount of money on eleven agricultural schools which are to educate the white farmers. It is now urged that as an offset to this plan, which takes no account of

Jerum K. Jerum says that the books which are read in this country are mainly third-rate novels. How can that be? Don't we read most of those that sell the most?

Jeffries is willing to lick a fellow man for \$50,000, but he is not the kind of man who hops up and down and demands a chance to fight for marbles or chalk.

Senator Foraker's idea of an army is that it should be a little better organized than a palm garden, say about as law-abiding as a Cincinnati caucus.

Who was it that first thought of asking the government to stock the new Princeton lake with fish? Nobody but Grover Cleveland.

Every bit of information from Belgrade indicates that King Peter would do well to keep the doors locked and sleep with one eye open.

A scientist says the days of blonde men are numbered. The days of the blonde who raises drooping side whiskers ought to be.

Strawberries in Boston are selling at 5 cents each, but no one has yet broken a leg in the rush to get them.

Mr. Briles may find among us more wealth but less commonwealth. It is bunched too much.

It is about time for the astrologers to announce that the year 1907 will be one of great calamities.

Demurrage a State Question. To the Editor of The Journal. I noticed an article in The Journal of the 26th inst. regarding the demurrage on the Great Northern Railway, and in an interview with E. E. Clark, interior commerce commissioner, in which he says that the individual state legislatures should keep hands off in respect to reciprocal demurrage laws and leave the question of the short shortage problem to congress for a future remedy.

LET HIM WRITE A BOOK. Philadelphia Press. Let us sympathize with the poor knacker. He cannot send even one message a day to his congress.

AMUSEMENTS. Metropolitan—"Way Down East." The story of a young man and his interesting family from "way down east" are making their annual visit in Minneapolis. Their family troubles are, as usual, arousing much sympathy for the new servant, who is really a well-born girl in trouble.

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