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JANUARY CIRCULATION.

W. B. Carr, Business Manager of The St. Louis Republic, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of the daily and Sunday Republic printed during the month of January, 1900, all in regular editions, was as per schedule below:

Date.	Copies.	Date.	Copies.
1	79,300	17	75,490
2	75,850	18	76,190
3	74,340	19	76,960
4	76,070	20	78,340
5	74,910	21 Sunday	82,330
6	77,30	22	76,040
7 Sunday	80,980	23	76,910
8	74,840	24	76,700
9	74,770	25	76,890
10	75,830	26	77,970
11	75,230	27	79,670
12	75,740	28 Sunday	83,310
13	77,855	29	78,000
14 Sunday	82,900	30	76,830
15	75,660	31	79,660
16	75,750		

Total for the month 2,398,625
Less all copies spoiled in printing, left over or filed 57,673

Net number distributed ... 2,340,952
Average daily distribution. 75,514

And said W. B. Carr further says that the number of copies returned or reported unsold during the month of January was 5.13 per cent.

W. B. CARR.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 31st day of January, 1900.

J. F. FARISH,
Notary Public, City of St. Louis, Mo. My term expires April 26, 1901.

PUZZLING.

What is the matter with sprinkling contracts? Did the contractors lose money last year?

There is somewhere a reason for the enormous increase in the amounts demanded by bidding contractors.

If the contractors have raised their bids because they have learned that this year's inspection will inspect, the increased cost may prove a public blessing. But, in that case, how does Mayor Ziegenhein justify the heavy salary list of the inspectors last year?

These new bids are symptoms of something queer. What is it?

PURCHASED SEATS.

The statement made by Senator Clark before the Senate investigating committee showed that he spent $135,000 to secure his election to a position which in the six years of its duration would net a salary of $30,000. Senator Clark, therefore, valued the honor of being a United States Senator at $85,000.

The expenditure of this amount of money shows that he tracked and trailed and hunted the office with a persistence and a disregard for cost which argued plainly that the office itself was seeking some one else.

The election of a United States Senator by a joint session of the two branches of the State Legislature facilitates work of the kind which the mining magnate is charged with having done. There would be infinitely less chance for such corruption if United States Senators were elected by the people without the intervention of the State legislatures.

The conservatism which the framers of the Constitution thought would be secured by the intervention of the legislatures is secured sufficiently by the age limitation and by the long tenure of office.

The United States Senate should be made up of brains and of judgment ripened by experience. Wealth should not be a consideration in the choice of a Senator. As things are, however, this consideration appears in many instances to have been paramount.

DODGING WON'T AVAIL.

It will not avail the State Department to submit to Congress a routine bureaucratic report on the Macrum case which, through skillful manipulation, fails to enlighten that body on the points at issue.

There are three distinct charges which must be fully answered, either by means of the official report of the State Department or through an investigation conducted by Congress. It must be definitely known whether the British censor at Durban opened and read the official mail of the State Department addressed under the seal of the American Government to the American Consul at Pretoria. It must be known whether an official telegram from this Consul to the State Department at Washington was held back by the British censor from November 14 to December 2. It must be known whether the British authorities are in possession of the key to the cipher code used by the American State Department.

These charges are all easily susceptible of proof. If Congress finds reason to distrust the honesty of the State Department in this matter, it is the duty of Congress to itself make an official investigation that shall bring out the truth. To say that the American people earnestly desire enlightenment on these points is putting it mildly. Their national pride leads them to demand the facts in a case the significance of which in its present shape is extremely humiliating to Americans of the proper spirit.

The time has come for Secretary of State Hay to face the music. He has done all in his power to prove his servile subservience to British influence. Instead of protecting an American Consul at his post, he has seen fit to dismiss that official and to follow the British lead in attempting to discredit him. Former Consul Macrum is entitled to a full and fair hearing. He will get it if Congress does its duty by the nation. And Secretary Hay, as well as this more humble servant of the people, must abide by the results of the hearing.

PROLONGED IMPERIALISM.

Congressman Hopkins of Illinois, a member of the House Ways and Means Committee, is an imperialist of so proud a kidney that there is a ring of the heredity spirit of ancient Rome in the speeches with which he makes the walls of an American Congress echo.

It wearies and bores Mr. Hopkins that any person should question the right to rob the Puerto Ricans to any extent or in any manner we may see fit, or deny our privilege of governing that island and the Philippines as we please. "I am entirely clear," says Mr. Hopkins, "that the Philippine Islands and Puerto Rico under the treaty have become the property of the United States and are a part of it." Wherefore this Illinois Cleon decrees that Congress has unlimited power in dealing with these American "colonies" the American constitution to the contrary notwithstanding.

Persons who have thoughtfully digested the examples of history will not fail to note the familiar sound of this argument. It is the breaking of the surf over the treacherous points of the rocks upon which all republics school upon the greed of empire come to wreck and ruin. It is the denial of the rights of other peoples which will make federal the future denial to some strong minded republican of our own rights. It is the recognition of the superiority of might over right, the beginning of the end for a Republic whose creed proclaimed and whose founders defended the reverse of this proposition.

The administration imperialists are traveling swiftly these days. They have already left the old Americanism far behind. A few years of the gait now maintained will bring us well abreast of the monarchies of Europe, the centralized government, the one autocratic control, the militarist spirit, the big standing army, the crushing tax-burdens and all. It depends upon the American people whether this gait shall be maintained. For the present, at least, the empire plotters must bow to the people's will.

IT WOULD MEAN WAR.

In view of the spirit animating the British Government and people it is not probable that other European Powers will intervene to bring about a termination of the British-Boer war that shall result in preserving the integrity of the two Dutch Republics in South Africa.

At a moment when the situation looked blackest for England the determination of the British Government not to tolerate intervention was most bluntly published to the world. It was announced that the war in South Africa was a war to establish the unquestioned supremacy of Great Britain and that it would be prosecuted to a finish with this end in view. The announcement was emphasized by the placing in commission of all ships available for naval service and by preparations to call out the full force of England's military strength on land.

It is reasonably certain that Great Britain will not submit to intervention as the fact becomes apparent that British arms are to prevail in South Africa. The conflict has now become too momentous in significance to be abandoned save with the fullest "honor" to the Victor. The European Power or alliance that may see fit to attempt intervention must be ready to accept the alternative of war. It is doubtful whether this point of readiness has yet been reached. Intervention to preserve the honor and home rule of the plucky Boers would be humane and just, but European Governments are not unselfish enough to accept the risk.

MUST FIGHT FAIR.

If the Filipino insurgents have resorted to guerrilla tactics in which the rules governing civilized warfare have been ignored, there is ample justification for the organization of the Calamba military commission of American officers to deal with captured hostiles as bandits.

It must be remembered that the Filipinos claim to be a civilized people, basing their right to national independence on the necessary fact of their worthiness. It is, therefore, incumbent upon them to make war along civilized lines. The moment they resort to the tricks of savagery they invalidate their claim to freedom and render it imperative that they shall be dealt with as savages.

The most ardent advocate of Filipino rights may not justly deny the truth of this proposition. An exaggerated sentiment must not lead Americans to forget their sacred duty to American soldiers fighting for the flag in foreign lands. These soldiers fight fair. They must be fought fairly, or the enemy must take the consequences.

It will be the fault of the Filipinos themselves if the great mass of the American people shall come to regard them as a race unfitted for self-government, and with whom it is grimly necessary to deal in war as Malay savages outlawed by their own treacherous deeds. One thing is certain if the American soldiers now fighting the Aguinaldans are being opposed by bandit methods the fate of the bandit must await the foe resorting to such methods.

FAILED IN OFFENSE.

The German military authority who credits the present position of the Boers to their inability to assume a tactical offensive seems to have touched the sore spot.

"White's capitulation and Buller's decisive defeat, even if dearly bought, would have enabled Joubert to send reinforcements to Cronje now," he says.

Many things indicate that Joubert overlooked a magnificent opportunity when he failed to pursue Buller after the defeat of the latter at Spion Kop. Buller's dispatch to the War Department at that time laid great stress on the fact that he had been able to transfer his baggage wagons across a swift stream with high banks without loss. If a hard pursuit had followed the driving of the British from Spion Kop they would certainly not have been able to save their baggage wagons, and the complete rout of the British and a decisive defeat might have resulted.

The Boers were from the first confronted with the superior resources of the British. It was only a question of how soon Great Britain could bring these resources to bear on the situation. The Boers' only hope of success at arms lay in a campaign that would keep Great Britain from bringing her resources to bear. It lay in pursuits and assaults, not in the force repelling of attacks.

The conclusion of the German authority seems justified—that the hope of the Boers now lies in a change in the international situation, or in a change in the sentiment in Great Britain which may come with the repulse of British arms, and a recovery of British prestige.

IT'S A WISE POLICY.

In welcoming the Knights of Labor to St. Louis Mayor Ziegenhein sounds a keynote in the movement for the suppression of anarchy when he calls the Anti-Anarchist Crusade a crusade of wisdom and materially increased the chances for final success in the good work which they have undertaken.

Reputable citizens, duly licensed to sell liquor at retail, and conforming to the law in the management of their business, are directly and vitally interested in the condition of the Waterworks fund. They are especial sufferers in the way of incorporate contract through the action of Anti-Anarchists attempting to blackmail the Waterworks fund by unlawfully extending to themselves. It is to be supposed that they will be alert and active in the election to close the disreputable resorts see fit to have no dealing with the community.

Father Coffey and his associates in the Anti-Anarchist Crusade are plainly moving along broad lines to accomplish the purpose for which they have organized. Aiming to crush a definite and crying evil they will gain the sympathy of all reputable citizens. The combination of strength possible to be gained by this policy promises splendid success.

A little Puerto Rico tariff makes the tariff imperialists will allege the American Constitution to should follow from indirect taxation, she doesn't appreciate the contempt felt for democratic utterances by the empire plotters.

Secretary Hay's Nicaragua Canal policy seems to have the unique characteristic that it recognizes the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty, which it has been a traditional American policy to consider dead past exhumation.

The lack of interest shown by leaders of the House of Representatives in the debate on the Puerto Rican tariff bill is not remarkable. No debate in which all the arguments are on one side can be interesting.

It has been definitely ascertained that Aguinaldo is now in Hong-Kong. That is, he is just near enough to the seat of war to resume operations as soon as the United States soldiers relax their vigilance.

Cullom's men controlled the Logan County convention, and Tanner knew that in Jackson County, Republican dead beats of this native stock send the Illinois Democrats first under the wire.

Filipinos who adopt bandit tactics against American soldiers must not be surprised if they are pulled up with a short turn the finale of a tree and a convenient rope being handy.

Secretary of State Hay may yet learn that a failure to protect American Consuls from British domination cannot be corrected by a later effort to discredit the humiliated Consul.

In the introduction of the St. Louis World's Fair bill in Congress formal notice was given to the universe that the biggest international exposition in history is now set for 1903.

Kansas City's fight for the Democratic National Convention should be made on the basis that victory is not certain until the vote of the National Committee is counted to-day.

From the way the Boers are all following Cronje's spinning rush line on the South African gridiron it seems likely that a mass defense of the final goal is contemplated.

"Two official envelopes bearing a British censor's stickers are the only proof that Macrum has," say the friends of the State Department. Enough is as good as a feast.

In calling on her retired veterans to volunteer for home defense the Queen serves notice that in case of sudden war in Europe England proposes to fight like sixty.

One argument in favor of the "curfew whistle" movement is that it might rescue local humanity from the "curfew shall not ring tonight" declamatory bore.

Reputable saloonkeepers may advantageously exert all their influence to bring about the suppression of the wine-room evil.

Washington.

[illegible]

RIPLEY D. SAUNDERS.

EXPECTS THE PLAGUE.

Dr. Hurty Says It Will Surely Reach the Middle States.

Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 21.—Doctor J. N. Hurty, secretary of the State Board of Health, said to-day that he expected the bubonic plague to reach Indiana within the next two or three years. "It is surely coming this way," he said, "and will sooner or later reach this part of the country. A few years ago we heard of it only in China, and in other distant lands, but now we know it is in the Hawaiian Islands, and that it is working its way toward us. Ships are constantly passing to and from Honolulu, carrying rats and other vermin which might transmit the disease. I do not mean to alarm the people, but I truly believe the bubonic plague will reach this State."

"What will be the effect of the plague here?" was asked.

"I do not think it will be any worse than typhoid fever." Doctor Hurty responded. "It springs from filth and unsanitary conditions, as typhoid fever does. By strict and rigid quarantine I believe the plague may be controlled, and that its effects will not be widespread."

ELABORATE FLORAL EFFECTS AT THE SMITH-PLATT WEDDING.

Pink Bridesmaid Roses to the Number of Two Thousand Used in the Decorations—Brandt-Bock and Wilkins-Garrels Wedding—Imperial Club Ball.

[illegible]

MR. LUDO WEPPER WILKINS
Of New York City.

[illegible]

MRS. LUDO WEPPER WILKINS
Of New York City, who was Miss Cora Anna Garrels of No. 2231 West Pine boulevard until last night.

[illegible] Chorus," and the bridal party appeared, entering from the rear of the library, proceeding across the hall and into the drawing-room down the aisle between the rows of lighted candles. Mr. Charles Robert Platt, the bride's brother, came first, walking alone. He was followed by Mr. Edward Platt, also a brother of the bride, and Mr. John Coleman, together. Then two groomsmen, Doctor Shafer and Mr. Samuel Fortune. Following these came the maids. Miss Bryson entered alone. She was followed by Miss Eleanor McNeely of Philadelphia and Miss Rita Mason of St. Louis. Miss Maude Carlisle of Peoria, Ill., came next by herself. Then Miss Nellie Rocke well of Chicago, also alone. Then the maid of honor, Miss Almira McNeely of Philadelphia. The bride came last with her oldest brother, Mr. Philip Platt, who gave her away.

Within the rose-bower Doctor Smith and his best man, Mr. J. De Mun Smith, were waiting, and upon the arrival of the bride the party arranged itself with the groomsmen in the rear, the maids immediately in front of them, leaving the bride and bridegroom alone before the Reverend Father Cohmer, S. J., who conducted the service.

The gowns were distinctly handsome. The bride chose ivory-white satin duchesse for her wedding gown, ornamented with point lace. The skirt had a fall of lace on the train, and the bodice was slightly draped with the lace below a gulmpe of shirred tulle. The sleeves were also of tulle, outlined by a bridal fall of tulle with sprays of orange blossoms in simple fashion. The bride wore no jewels and carried a large shower bouquet of white orchids, mingled with lilies of the valley.

The maid of honor and bridesmaids followed the Greek idea with a modification of the prevailing fashion. Miss McNeely, the maid of honor, wore a gown of green silk, with a bodice of green and white striped taffeta, the skirt being of plain green silk. The other bridesmaids all wore gowns of white point d'esprit over white taffeta with yoke to the throat of white satin and large white sleeves to the knee. A fine wedding was the dressing also of the service were such. The bridesmaids carried huge bouquets of pink roses.

Mr. Platt had made no mourning for the occasion and appeared in a fancy dress of white with garniture of black flowers and trimmed in diamonds and pearls.

Mrs. Elizabeth Smith, mother of the bride, wore black velvet and lettins of old lace.

Relatives and intimate friends, numbering [illegible], were present at the ceremony. Some of them were:

Messrs. and Mesdames:

David R. Francis,	Russell Waite,
Henry Hitchcock,	George Busch,
Charles Coleman,	Peter Lee,
Shepherd Calhoun,	Doctor and Mrs.
Charles Head Smith,	James Bryson,
William Hood	

Mesdames:

Roberts,	Page,
Alcock,	
Misses:	
Wakeman,	Isabel Brownlee.

Messrs.:

David R. Francis Jr.,	Julius Dix,
Parker Francis,	Alex Brownlee.

From 8 until 9 o'clock Doctor and Mrs. Smith and the bridal party received guests numbering members including both young and elderly people. Late last night the bride and bridegroom departed for an Eastern trip of a fortnight's duration. Shortly after their return they will go to housekeeping on Maryland avenue, but have not as yet definitely decided on a house, and have consequently announced no at home days.

The bridal gifts at this wedding were many. They included silver in almost every variety, a complete chest of table silver, several tea services, silver serving dishes, bric-a-brac, costly china for table use and for ornamental purposes only, a set of many dozens of glassware decorated in gold, pictures, clocks, gay Navajo blankets, and works of art of many kinds. Doctor Smith gave his bride a ring set in rubies and diamonds. The bride presented her maids with stock pins of gold and pearls, while the bridegroom gave similar stick pins to his groomsmen.

The bride is the only daughter of Mrs. Elizabeth Williamson Smith, and has but just returned from a lengthy European trip. She is greatly admired in St. Louis, but since her debut has been seen little in the social world owing to the fact that her family has been in mourning. Doctor Smith is a son of the late Doctor Elsworth Smith and a brother of Mrs. Perry Francis, at whose recent marriage he served in the capacity of groomsman. Mr. and Mrs. Perry Francis returned from their honeymoon journey only a few days ago, in order to be present at the wedding of yesterday.

The wedding of Miss Berde Bock and Doctor Herman D. Brandt took place yesterday evening at 4 o'clock in the home of Miss Bock's parents, Doctor and Mrs. A. F. Bock, No. 1109 North Grand avenue. The Reverend Doctor Louis Eberle, Rector of the Eden Evangelical College, who is an uncle of the bride, performed the ceremony. She was attended by her sister, Miss Elsa Bock, as maid of honor, and the Misses Clara Vogelsang, Elizabeth Eggers, Henrietta Link and Estelle Crone as bridesmaids. Mr. Emil Brandt, the bridegroom's brother, was the best man, and the groomsmen were Messrs. Henry Eggers, Herman Steffregen, Leo Bader and Doctor Alfred Koettner. Only the immediate families of the couple were present at the ceremony and the bridal dinner that followed, but there was a large reception from 8 until 10 o'clock to which the friends of Doctor and Mrs. Brandt had been invited. At 10 o'clock the couple departed for a bridal trip in Cuba. They will also visit Puerto Rico in the course of their travels, and will return about the middle of next month to live at No. 2828 North Grand avenue.

The bride's dress was white satin, with embroidered silk chiffon. The yoke was filled in with applique embroidery and the skirt was made en traine. Her only jewel was a diamond pendant, the bridegroom's gift. She carried a shower bouquet of lilies of the valley and white roses, with long white satin streamers.

The maid of honor, Miss Elsa Bock, and the bridesmaids were all gowned alike in white Persian tulle, with many folds of Valenciennes lace and French embroidery. All of the young ladies wore pale green satin belts and collars and pretty little Cupid bows of pale green satin in their coiffures. Each attendant carried a shower bouquet of white roses and ferns.

The ceremony was performed in the parlor of the Bock residence, which was lavishly decorated with dark green smilax and large lilies and white carnations. A canopy, constructed of the smilax and lilies, hanging pendant, interspersed with white carnations and hyacinths, served as the altar, under which the couple were married. The floral ornaments of the drawing-room were pink and white, with much smilax entwined at appropriate places. In the dining-room the decorations were red and green and the hall was wreathed with smilax.

At 8 o'clock yesterday evening Miss Cora Anna Garrels of No. 2231 West Pine boulevard and Mr. Ludo Webber Wilkens of New York City were married at the bride's home. The Reverend Doctor George R. Gleiner performed the ceremony. Mr. Alfred Polk Wilkens, the brother of the bridegroom, and Miss Pauline Gehner were the only bridal attendants. After the ceremony there was a quiet family dinner, and from 8 to 10 o'clock the bridal couple received their friends at a general reception.

The bride's gown was an elaborate affair of white satin. The waist and the yoke and the sleeves were made of tucked shirring and white tulle. The bodice was of soft liberty satin, and the white satin overskirt fell over billows flounces of white tulle. The bridal veil was fastened on the left shoulder, with a diamond circle, the bridegroom's gift. She wore a myrtle bridal wreath and carried a shower bouquet of white orchids and lilies of the valley.

Miss Gehner, the maid of honor, wore a deep pink silk gown with garniture of lace, and pearls, and carried a bouquet of pink roses. The bride's favor to her attendant was a wreath of pearls.

While the ceremony was being performed in the bay window of the parlor, an orchestra softly played Mendelssohn's "Spring Song." The bay window was arranged in a canopy of pink roses and smilax. The parlor throughout was decorated with the pink roses and on the mantle there was a large crystal vase of the flowers, with two ropes of the same delicate roses entwined about the short columns on both sides reflecting prettily in the mirrors. The reception hall was simply wreathed in smilax, the broad staircase being almost hidden in the leaves. In the dining-room the colors were pink, to coincide with the tone throughout the house.

After the reception Mr. and Mrs. Wilkens departed for a trip through the South. They will be at home next month in New York City, where they will live.

On Wednesday evening at Carrollton, Ill., the marriage of Miss Katherine Doolittle, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Doolittle, to the Reverend W. J. Davidson, pastor of the M. E. Church of Greenfield, Ill., was solemnized at Trinity Episcopal Church by the Reverend E. D. Irvine. The bridal party entered the church to the strains of "Mendelssohn's" wedding march, played by Miss Mabel Johnson of Greenfield, Ill. The ushers, Oscar M. Fairbank and Zeno Chrisman, came first, followed by the maids of honor, Miss Maggie Doolittle of Chatsworth, Ill. Next came the bride leaning on her father's arm. At the altar joined she was met by the bridegroom and his best man, Mr. E. R. Hobart.

The bride was gowned in white crepe de tissue in white silk velvet. Her veil was fastened with orange blossoms, and she carried bride's roses. The maid of honor was gowned in white embroidered Swiss with a bouquet of La France roses.

Miss Doolittle was one of Carrollton's accomplished and popular young women. The Reverend Mr. Davidson is well known as a talented young minister of exceptional promise. He and his bride departed on a five trip for a city outside the South.

Miss Antoine Josephine Bowman of No. 2001 Delmar boulevard gave a very pretty reception yesterday afternoon in honor of Miss Alice of Denver, who is Miss Aldis. Will only guest. In the course of the afternoon Miss Bowman announced her engagement to Mr. Andrew Schwartz Harnett of Chicago. The announcement was quite a surprise to Miss Bowman's friends. She is the daughter of Doctor G. A. Bowman. Mr. Harnett is the son of Mr. F. N. Harnett of this city and is a brother of Mrs. Will Leighton.

Miss Bowman has invited a number of young ladies and a great number of tables were arranged in the Bowman residence. The parlors were given between the hours of 2 and 4 o'clock. The ladies who were the pallas were Mrs. John Capen, Miss McKeen and Mrs. Samuel Compton. Some of those present were:

Misses:

Louise Eberenfield,	Anna Sullivan of Jefferson City.
Alice Scudder,	Grace Dale,
Daisy Orr,	McKeen,
Blake,	Green,
Holmes,	Pitcher,
Mabel Holmes,	Dolle,
Ada Greer,	Grace Mason,
Evadne Rumsey,	Frank Wentworth,
Genevieve Hartley,	Alby Watson,
Edith Francisco,	Julia Lee.
Jessie Wright,	
Helen Noel.	

Mesdames:

John Capen,	R. F. Dolle,
Griswold Stone,	William Lee,
Harry Cooke,	Samuel Compton.
Joseph Bascome,	

The imperial club gave its second and final ball of the season last night at Mohler's.

The ballroom was decorated in a great profusion of greens, Southern smilax being used to festoon the walls and to twine about the side mirrors. The gallery was also hung with smilax, and pendant amid the vines were hanging baskets of ferns and pink flowers.

Mr. Young ornamented the entire ceiling by festooning ropes of Southern smilax from the central chandelier to the edge of the surrounding gallery. Beneath the chandelier was suspended a large ball of pink carnations. Above the entrance to the ballroom white draperies were arranged, caught with ribbons and pink flowers.

The rooms below, where the Naomiay Club served a five-course supper at midnight, were decorated in a fashion appropriate to Washington's Birthday, with much red, white and blue bunting on the walls. American flags draped the pillars, upheld in columns of smilax. Supper was served at small round tables, each decorated with a different wedding flower—tulips, bridal rose, pink and yellow jonquils, carnations, marguerites and carnations. The chaperones and their escorts sat at a large central round table.

There were eight patronesses last evening:

Mrs. Henry Potter,	Mrs. Pierre Chouteau,
Mrs. Mullinckrodt,	Mrs. Geo. Leighton,
Mrs. George Wallace,	Mrs. Henry Scott,
Mrs. Niedringhaus,	Mrs. Charles Chapman,
Mrs. McKittrick,	

Of these not all were present. Mrs. Mullinckrodt is in mourning, and, therefore, did not attend.

Mrs. Chapman, Mrs. McKittrick and Mrs. Leighton sent regrets because of illness.

Mrs. Henry Scott wore lavender brocade and duchess lace, with a bouquet of lavender orchids and lilies of the valley.

Mrs. Pierre Chouteau wore pink satin, chiffon and point lace.

Mrs. Henry Potter was in pale gray tulle, embroidered in silver spangles.

Mrs. Niedringhaus wore pink brocade, with plissings of pink chiffon.

Bouquets of orchids were sent to all the patronesses by the committee of the imperial, and these flowers were carried by the women of the receiving party during the evening.

The Imperial is never an early ball, dancing rarely beginning much before midnight, and last night was no exception from the usual lateness.

Among the guests were:

Messrs. and Mesdames:

Howard Benoist,	Perry Francis,
Lindell Gordon,	Lilburn McNair,
Charles Scudder,	John David Davis,
Daniel Catlin.	

Mesdames:

Eugene Allardie,	Philip Scanlon,
George Tiffany,	John Douglass,
De Mun Walsh,	George Markham,
Christy Hutchinson,	D. H. Clark,
Charles Gleason,	D. R. Francis, Sr.,
Julius Fox,	D. R. Francis, Jr.,
Allen West,	Guy Paddock,
Sam Fordyce,	Charles Henshaw,
Robert Holmes,	Claude Kennerly,
V. Mott Porter.	

Misses:

Ellen Walsh,	Carrie Howard,
Florence Hayward,	Marie Scanlon,
Sallie Walsh,	Mary Lauenberger,
Margot Postlewaite,	Mamie Tutt,
Isabel Belcher,	McBlair,
Marie Tracy,	Marion Lindsay,
Martha Hutchinson,	Sidney Boyd,
Sophie Sloan,	Marie Walsh,
Irene Catlin,	

MRS. HERMAN D. BRANDT,
Who was Miss Berde Bock of No. 1109 North Grand avenue until yesterday.

TUFTS COLLEGE.

Rapid Growth Reported in All but the Divinity Department.

Medford, Mass., Feb. 21.—The annual report of President E. H. Capen of Tufts College states that the entire college has enjoyed a very rapid growth within the past few years, in every department, with the exception of the divinity school. Doctor Capen says: "The decline in attendance in the divinity school is a source of some anxiety. Whether this decline is occasioned by the policy of requiring the tuition of the theological students or by raising the standard of admission to the school, or whether both of these have had some effect, it may be difficult to determine. In my judgment, however, it is more likely to be due to the weakening of the religious motive which is characteristic of the time and which is apparent in nearly all the churches, and to the overwhelming attractions which are presented to young men in other professions."

The following statement of Dean Williams of the medical school with reference to coeducation at Tufts is given:

"About 20 per cent of the medical students are women, and it is the universal opinion of the medical faculty that the presence of women students at the lectures and the clinics has operated in a manner distinctly beneficial to the best interests of the school."

SPIERING QUARTET CONCERT LAST NIGHT.

Last night's concert of the Spiering Quartet at Memorial Hall had but one drawback. The audience was small. This is not an unusual circumstance in chamber music concerts, and the Spiering Quartet have never been fool made in the way of whether when they visited St. Louis. Allowing for every thing, however, it is unaccountable that in a city where noble clubs are so numerous the art in its most finished form should not find wider appreciation.

Mr. Spiering played the Bach Chaconne as a special feature. It cannot be said that he rendered it with all the ease and abandon of the great masters, but his style is correct and the music delivered on his bow—the wind was two [illegible] with tenderness. It is [illegible] especially has a [illegible] of tasteful and [illegible] phrasing.

There were two quartets. The first was a Mozart in G major. The composition is a typical Mozart quartet, graceful, studious and discursive with captivating music and phrasing. It was played with skill and precision. The tempo was taken, perhaps, a trifle slowly, but all together there was little to detract from the general good treatment. The second of the quartets was the Boccherini. A minuet. The Spierings deserve only praise for the elevated style in which they played this superb composition, with its delicate harmonies and rich sensuous effects.

The last of the seasonal concerts by this organization will be given at Memorial Hall March 5.

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New York reports that Olga Nethersole's play, "Sapho," has been condemned by the police, to the extent that Miss Nethersole has been placed under arrest. The details of this interesting item are to be found in the news column this morning. "Sapho" was produced in Chicago about four months ago. It was brought to this city soon afterwards, playing at the Olympic Theater. The Republic pronounced it "the lowest, the basest play" of theatrical record. Miss Nethersole has defended the piece by saying that in spite of appearances on the surface the play presents a strong moral. As a matter of fact, the thing is wholly and hopelessly indecent. It is a bid for the most, much of which has followed the press announcements. In a letter received from Louis Nethersole the other day the word "colossal" was used in describing the success. The best friends of Miss Nethersole, the many who believe in her artistic intelligence, have been hopefully opposed to "Sapho." It is a play that stands for nothing but immediate profits, threatening the owner's professional future, because of the qualities that are condemned by the moving mass known as the best people. Whatever the outcome, cause or purpose of the New York arrest, there is sympathy for Miss Nethersole, the woman, and congratulations for those that have moved so vigorously against "Sapho," the indecent.

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Mr. Lind and Mr. Davies are unfortunate in having Mr. Mertens and Mr. Sheehan for alternates this week. Not that Mr. Lind or Mr. Davies are in any sense out of their usual form, but for the reason that Mr. Mertens and Mr. Sheehan are not only exceptional in their particular characterizations and because, further, they are unusually happy in this Wagnerian-Verdi music of "Aida." In the face of the weather, the Castle Square offering of this week is enjoying patronage that is keeping desirable seats in demand. The triumphal entry of Rhadames, in the second half of the second act, presents a scenic offering that has not been surpassed on a St. Louis stage. As an illustration of the wealth of its production it is worth noting that in one instance Mr. Temple, the stage manager, permits no less than twenty soldiers to march on the stage and off again without returning to a place in the picture. Your old-fashioned stage manager would call this a waste of raw material. Mr. Temple uses these twenty as a part of his massive scheme of effect and they serve their purpose admirably. Miss Norwood, who alternates with Miss de Treville in the title part, is in all respects admirable. Her great voice, vibrant physique back of it, and undoubted intelligence bring to the part a measure of appreciation that meet the situation with all adequateness.

"Quo Vadis," the superb spectacle at the Olympic Theater, is crowding the Music Hall production in effects. The excellent acting of the principals, taken with the gorgeousness of the production and the popularity of the story, are serving to pack the theater. Some time ago the question was raised as to the priority in the matter of "The Sign of the Cross" and "Quo Vadis." Mr. Barrett, author of "The Sign of the Cross," points to the fact that his play was produced at the Grand Opera-house in this city before the Polander's book was heard of. It is further stated that the two authors doubtless went to the same authorities for their materials, in this way producing works somewhat similar.

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Notes From the Stage.

Mr. and Mrs. Kendal are announced for next week at the Olympic.

"The Children of the Ghetto" comes to the Century next Sunday night. This is the New York and London company. It includes Wilton Lackaye and Otto Weinders.

There is to be an extra matinee of "Quo Vadis" this afternoon.

"Aida" will be sung at an extra matinee this afternoon.

"Sunshine River" will be followed by Hoyt's A Black Sheep, at the Grand Opera-house.

The Columbia's big vaudeville bill includes Helene Mora, Mathews and Harris, James Thornton, Al Leech and the Three Blossoms, Bonnie Thornton, Galetti's Monkeys, Three Rosey Sisters, Three Fortunes Bros., Mack and Elliot, Arthur Lane, Lizzie McKeever, Fogarty and Lavigne, Lizzie May King and the Franklins.

William H. Sherwood will be the pianist at the Symphony Concert at the Odeon to-night.

Victoria Bateman will be at Hopkins's next week. The present bill is "Faust."

The Honeys Burlesquers will be followed by the Australians at the Standard.

"La Traviata" is to be next week's bill at Music Hall.

DECEMBER AND MAY.

Young Mrs. Cockrell Says Her Husband Has Left Her.

Mrs. Mary Ellen Cockrell called at the office of Acting Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Maurer yesterday morning and asked that a warrant be issued against her husband, John Cockrell, charging wife-abandonment. The woman is only 21 years old. She said that she had been married three years and that her husband is 62 years old.

They lived together until a few days ago when Cockrell packed up his clothes and told his wife that he was going away. He did not charge her with anything, but simply said that he was tired of married life and wanted to live alone. Cockrell is a large man, being more than six feet tall and weighing 290 pounds. He told his wife that when they walked together on the street the difference in their size attracted attention, and this was one reason for his leaving her.

The marriage of the Cockrells was romantic. Mrs. Cockrell at the time was a girl of 18 and was engaged as a domestic in a house in the West End. One day she was on the sidewalk sweeping when Cockrell passed along. He admired the girl's rosy cheeks and pretty figure and engaged her in conversation. Marriage was proposed and a few days later the couple eloped to Clayton and were married by a Justice. Her friends were opposed to the union, but, she says, her husband had money and she did not object to the difference in their ages.

All went well for a while. The newly married pair lived in a neatly furnished home and two children were born. One of them died in infancy, but the other still lives. Mrs. Cockrell said last night that the change in her husband's conduct toward her came early last spring. She had frequent quarrels with him, and once he left her and was away for a week. She says that she believes he is keeping bachelor quarters somewhere on Market street. She does not want to see her husband punished and will forgive him if he will return home. She lives at No. 1424 Pine street.

Attorney Maurer will withhold the warrant pending investigation. He has written Mr. Cockrell a letter asking an explanation.

Illinois Supreme Court.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Springfield, Ill., Feb. 21.—The Supreme Court today filed opinions in the following cases:

Affirmed: Lancaster vs. Snow; Barclay vs. Barclay; Pratt vs. Griffin; Partlow vs. Moorehead.

Reversed and remanded: Hurlburt vs. City of Chicago; Baldwin vs. Same; Mason vs. Same; Donahue vs. Same; Brusenbark vs. Saul.