

THE ST. LOUIS REPUBLIC

PUBLISHERS: GEORGE KNAPP & CO. Charles W. Knapp, President and Gen. Mgr. George L. Allen, Vice President.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION: DAILY AND SUNDAY SEVEN ISSUES A WEEK. BY MAIL IN ADVANCE—POSTAGE PREPAID.

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school course, but have obtained a college or professional education on only one day and board yourself," earning during the term and availing themselves of endowments which are plentiful in every well-equipped educational institution.

The man who figures with great care whether he can give his children an education on \$2 a day will easily reach a negative result. He is like the man who declared that never would he enter the water until he had learned to swim.

It is difficult to see how this direct challenge may wisely or safely be ignored. Its effect on the native population will unquestionably be that of arousing all China to spring to arms for the expulsion or extermination of foreigners.

That convention, called to order for his first day's work on the Fourth of July, the finest anniversary in American history, is essentially an American party. Its life extends back to the days of the founding of this Government.

That time has not yet come. The Republican party, against whose evil and dangerous doctrines Democracy is now rallying its fullest strength, is committed to the domination of a syndicate caste which demands that the rights of the people be denied in order that the privileges of the syndicate caste shall be further extended.

Against this party the national Democracy is arrayed in behalf of the people. Its principles are the principles upon which the United States Government is founded. Its spirit is the spirit which animated the founders of that Government.

It is possible under the circumstances. The strike was a glancing mistake, the cost of which has been paid by the strikers, the company, the transit line patrons, the business element of St. Louis and the municipality itself.

It is so deplorable that the best thing to do now is to forget it, if that is possible. If there is any benefit to arise from the strike now happily ended it is to be hoped that it will be found in the development of better relations and a friendlier understanding between the transit company and its employees.

Great calamities, in which men become pale-stricken, are frequently characterized by exhibitions of incredible brutality. Some men in such conditions of panic lose all the better feelings which civilization imparts and become like the time savages, instinct only with fierce self-preservation that blindly tramples and crushes the weak.

Such exhibitions are inhuman, but they fall before events like those narrated of the Hoboken tug owners who are charged with pushing and beating men struggling in the water back with boat hooks because they had no money to pay their rescuers.

Such a picture of the future of the Republic is not to be feared. The rescuees would not have been attended with danger to the rescuers, reason was not frustrated by panic. If the charges against the tug owners were well founded, that they pushed men back into the water, they are guilty of murder and should be punished accordingly.

Whether the committee appointed by the Council will make such a sincere effort is problematical. The people of St. Louis hope they will and can be counted on to carefully observe the progress of events.

The Council Committee should bear in mind, as the people will bear in mind, that the February Grand Jury found a venous condition of affairs to exist in the office of the Supply Commissioner and that this body was absolutely without bias in the premises.

AMERICA PRESENTS STATUE TO FRANCE.

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RECEIVED BY THE PRESIDENT. Impressive Ceremony Witnessed by Enthusiastic Crowd—Speeches by Loubet, Archbishop Ireland, Peck and Porter.

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TRING TO MAKE BOTH ENDS MEET.

Assistant Comptroller Gabel Explains the City's Dire Financial Straits.

REVENUE NEARLY ALL GONE. Collection of Delinquent Taxes Not Likely to Afford Much Relief—Plans for Reducing Expenses.

Assistant Comptroller Fred Gabel has been wrestling with the maze of facts and figures incident to the making up of the general appropriation bill for several weeks.

Yesterday Mr. Gabel made this statement of the status of the city's financial affairs: "The amount of revenue, estimated for the year, is \$3,384,923.38. Of this sum all but \$728,000 has been appropriated or set aside, and yet there has been nothing appropriated for streets and parks for the fiscal year.

There are no other funds available except the unexpended balances from the appropriations made last year. Before these balances or any of them can be made available for appropriation this year, certain taxes for the year must be collected. These balances cannot be made available for the reason that contracts have been made under the ordinances which made the appropriations. Last year we expended \$24,000 for cleaning streets. In order to get any money for that work out of the unexpended balances from the year, the Municipal Assembly will have to vote some of the departments. The only other way to get money for cleaning streets is to repeal the ordinance making appropriations last year in which there remain unexpended balances.

There seems to be a lack of proper understanding of the question of collection of taxes for the year. It is estimated that \$200,000 are taxes on real property, and it is estimated that about \$150,000 will be collected. It is not possible to see on the back taxes of last year before January 1, 1901, and as it would require some time to collect back taxes for any given year, the city cannot expect any relief from the prosecution of delinquent taxes of last year.

Back Taxes Hard to Collect. "As for the preceding year, it is necessary to make this explanation. The delinquent taxes grow less and less each succeeding year until the fifth year. This being the last year in which the city can bring suit for the delinquent taxes, it is marked by a great slump in the amount of delinquent taxes for the year referred to. Now, it is an established fact that the city has not collected more than \$200,000 of delinquent taxes for the year until the fifth year, when they are finally paid voluntarily or collected on judgments in the courts.

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