THE ST LOUIS REPUBLIC

PUBLISHERS: GEORGE KNAPP & CO.
Charles W. Knapp, President and Gen. Mgr.
George L. Allen, Vice President.
W. B. Carr, Secretary
Office, Corner Seventh and Olive Streets.
(REPUBLIC BUILDING.)

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:
DAILY AND SUNDAY—SEVEN ISSUES A WEEK.
By Mail—In Advance—Postage Prepaid.

One Year	$6.50
Six months	3.50
Three Months	1.75
Any three days, except Sunday, one year	3.00
Sunday, with Magazine	2.00
Special Mail Edition, Sunday	1.75
Sunday Magazine	1.25

BY CARRIER, ST. LOUIS AND SUBURBS.

Per week, daily only	6 cents
Per week, daily and Sunday	13 cents

TWICE-A-WEEK ISSUE.
Published Monday and Thursday—one year $1.00
Remit by bank draft, express money order or registered letter.

Address THE REPUBLIC,
St. Louis, Mo.

☞Rejected communications cannot be returned under any circumstances.
Entered at the Post Office in St. Louis, Mo., as second-class matter.

DOMESTIC POSTAGE. PER COPY.

Eight, ten and twelve pages	1 cent
Sixteen, eighteen and twenty pages	2 cents for one or 3 cents for two copies
Twenty-two or twenty-eight pages	2 cents
Thirty pages	3 cents

TELEPHONE NUMBERS.

	Bell	Kinloch
Counting-Room	Main 2018	A 625
Editorial Reception-Room	Park 166	A 674

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1900.

NOVEMBER 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 November, 1900, all in regular editions, was as per schedule below:

Date.	Copies.	Date.	Copies.
1	88,220	17	84,975
2	89,350	18 Sunday	87,700
3	90,710	19	83,520
4 Sunday	92,380	20	81,970
5	92,760	21	81,630
6	94,330	22	81,630
7	178,210	23	81,090
8	119,340	24	85,860
9	96,990	25 Sunday	87,590
10	94,270	26	80,760
11 Sunday	92,240	27	81,170
12	89,700	28	80,270
13	87,860	29	81,780
14	85,850	30	80,070
15	85,400		
16	85,520		

Total for the month. 2,723,145
Less all copies spoiled in printing, left over or filed 74,606
Net number distributed 2,648,539
Average daily distribution 88,284

And said W. B. Carr further says that the number of copies returned or reported unsold during the month of November was 8.97 per cent.

W. B. CARR.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 30th day of November, 1900.
J. F. FARISH,
Notary Public, City of St. Louis, Mo. My term expires April 26, 1901.

OUR REGULAR ARMY.

That was a plain statement of truth made by Congressman Cochran of Missouri when, in opposing the administration army-increase bill, he asserted that the permanent enlargement of the American military establishment would contain the essence of imperialism and mark a departure from the principles of constitutional government.

The only excuse for the permanent increase of the army to a total of 100,000 men is found in the conditions existing in the Philippines. That it is necessary, for the maintenance of American prestige, to suppress the native insurrection in those islands, if we are to hold them as subject territory, may not be denied. Mr. Cochran argues that no army on earth can conquer and pacify the people of the Philippines.

If this is true we should not desire to assume the responsibility for an unending war on a people so pledged to freedom that they cannot be subjugated. If it is untrue, and the insurrection may be suppressed within a reasonable time, there should need to be only another volunteer army raised, say on a three years' enlistment, for the purpose of prosecuting the war to a finish.

It is certain that, if we are not committed to a policy of foreign conquest, there is now no more need for an army of 100,000 men than there was before the war with Spain. If the Filipinos shall be subdued and shall consent to our government, will not the troops be withdrawn from their territory? And do we need a regular army of 100,000 men in this country? Americans should devote some thought to this question. It is vital with significance for the future of American institutions.

ARRAIGNS THE MAYOR.

Painstaking and resultful, the report of the Council Committee which investigated the office of the Supply Commissioner voices a sterner arraignment of Mayor Ziegenhein and his helpers than of Supply Commissioner Meier and Deputy Supply Commissioner Martin, severe as is the latter arraignment. That report by unavoidable implication charges Mayor Ziegenhein with open connivance at patent corruption and plain neglect in office.

Over nine months ago the February Grand Jury made charges against the office of the Supply Commissioner and recommended an investigation. Mayor Ziegenhein scoffed at the report and disregarded the recommendation. Pressed harder, he took refuge behind the pretext that the charges were too indefinite for investigation. Public clamor continued and forced him against his will to make an "investigation."

How perfunctory this "investigation" was is shown by the report of the Council Committee. Practically the only witnesses he summoned were the members of the Grand Jury, who were bound by their oaths to preserve silence regarding the disclosures of the Grand Jury room. He did not examine, publicly or privately, the heads of city institutions and made no attempt to find the business men of St. Louis who had been barred from selling goods to the city because they would not connive at or profit by corrupt practices. The entire trend, tenor and purpose of the "investigation" seemed to be to deter those who knew the facts from bringing them forward. A triumphant acquittal of the Supply Commissioner and hearty approval of the conduct of his office were the result.

The report of the Council Committee supplements the report of the February Grand Jury and adds the weight of a more extended inquiry and of more definite charges. It was evident from the first that Supply Commissioner Meier was incompetent and unfit for his position. No able, energetic official could have remained ignorant of the improper conduct which was evidently not uncommon with his subordinates. Mayor Ziegenhein must have known these facts, which were presented circumstantially in the public press, which a Grand Jury and a Council Committee found out easily and which were not unknown to numbers of plain citizens of St. Louis. His "investigation" aimed to smooth these facts over and to hide them rather than to cast offenders out of the municipal administration.

The people of St. Louis will deal with Mayor Ziegenhein. The Council can deal with the Supply Commissioner and his subordinate.

TO PAVE THE WAY.

In this period of greatest commercial prosperity St. Louis feels most strongly the desire for rapid advancement in municipal government. Hence the advisability and timeliness of the meeting to be held at the Mercantile Club next Tuesday evening for the purpose of properly considering the creation of a nonpartisan commission whose duty it shall be to devise Charter or constitutional amendments that shall enable St. Louis to be put in condition for the World's Fair.

Nor can there be any doubt as to the propriety of Tuesday's meeting being composed of those St. Louisans who represent the leading commercial and industrial organizations, the trades, the various clubs, the several newspapers of the city and certain officials. A conference thus organized is of necessity nonpartisan in character and is in touch with all the interests concerned in the proposition to be discussed. The thought which it brings to bear on the subject will be capable and honest thought for the good of the community, not a factional scheming for partisan advantage, nor the ineffectual contriving of untrained men after vague reforms.

The problem of how so to amend the Charter of the city of St. Louis, or the Constitution of the State of Missouri, as to authorize and enable St. Louis to raise and expend the moneys necessary for municipal improvements of whose imperative need there is no question is a problem that must be approached in a spirit of the keenest intelligence and fair-minded desire for the best good of the entire community. It is strictly a business problem; there is of right no element of party politics in it, and its proper and wise solution must not be retarded or prevented by an injection of politics or the wrangling of politicians for party gain. The duty is one that must be performed at an early date—and the right thing must be done. It is no time for bunglers, self-seekers or professional politicians to be intrusted with the performance of a public service of so great moment. The city's best and most unselfish thought must be devoted to this all-important proposition.

For these reasons the St. Louis Newspaper Publishers' Association has undertaken the initiative in calling Tuesday night's meeting and in inviting representative St. Louisans as already indicated to participate in the discussion of ways and means for St. Louis's municipal improvement. The Publishers' Association urges upon the gentlemen thus selected the vital necessity for their attendance and earnest interest in the meeting's purpose. It asks of the public a consistent and loyal support of the work thus to be undertaken. It is a work for the greater glory and infinite good of St. Louis, and it is strenuously demanded by existing conditions.

BOOKS OF THE DAY.

It is with a very considerable pride that The Republic presents to the attention of its readers to-day the book number of The St. Louis Republic Sunday Magazine, the first time that such a number has ever been issued by a St. Louis newspaper.

The value of this special magazine edition devoted to current literature, to book talk of timely interest and high quality, to poesy and the play and the wide field of contemporaneous art in general, supplemented with the latest advertisements of new and interesting volumes being issued by the great publishing houses, cannot well be overestimated. More than at any other time in its history the American public is a reading public. The present is distinctly a book age, full as it is of great achievements in other lines of human endeavor. A successful book now sells in the hundreds of thousands where tens of thousands used to constitute the high-water mark of the most pronounced hit in literature.

It is to this vast reading public of the day that the book number of The St. Louis Republic Sunday Magazine will appeal with especial magnetism. It will do this to no lesser degree in the interesting character of its book advertisements than in the quality of the many original and authoritative articles on literature and art which comprise its reading matter proper. The publishers' advertisements are vital with interest and information for the lover of books. In themselves, representing what may be called a symposium of the great American publishing houses, they reflect with unerring accuracy the current trend of literary thought and achievement. They are so full and rich with bookish enlightenment, indeed, that their reading brings the keenest pleasure.

The Republic commends the book number of its Sunday Magazine to its readers. It feels certain of the most cordial and friendly reception of such an edition at such a time. The idea is but a development due to public sentiment. The American people are to-day pre-eminently a book-loving people. The Republic's book number is for lovers of books.

NO MICE WERE THERE.

"Familiarity breeds contempt" seems to be the moral of the banquet given by the biology class of a woman's college in Baltimore at which a real human skeleton occupied a chair, in which frogs, amoeba, bacteria and fungi were brought to mind by the decorations and in which chemical apparatus formed the tableware to as large an extent as possible.

It would be wrong to conclude that the women who sat at table were less gentle and tender and womanly than their sisters who would have been thrown into hysterics at the mere sight of a skeleton. It would be wrong to conclude that they would cuddle their infants to their breasts with a less motherly hug because they were able to look an amoeba in the eye without flinching.

Custom stales sensation. It would be too much to expect the pilot of a shoot-the-chutes scow, who makes the trip down the chute hundreds of times a day, to be greatly agitated over the descent. Just so it is unreasonable to expect a woman who has associated on terms of intimacy with human skeletons to be jarred out of her appetite by the presence of one at a banquet table.

One thing, however, was omitted from the feast which would have completely acquitted the fair sex of entertaining unfounded antipathies toward harmless objects. A wee, little, scampering mouse should have been tethered to the leg of each diner's chair and permitted to roam to the length of his tether at his own cunning little will. Had the class in biology under these circumstances eaten its meal without standing on the chairs the complete emancipation of the sex from absurd mental perturbations might have been hailed. But probably those who planned the dinner never once thought of this feature.

AMERICAN.

President McKinley must be credited in full with the legitimate distinction attaching to the signing by all the interested Powers of an agreement with regard to a united course in China which largely does away with the menace of war that has existed in the Chinese situation up to date.

This agreement formulates a policy which has been the definite policy of the American Government since the development of the Chinese crisis, and which has been urged upon the other Powers by the United States through Minister Conger with consistent earnestness. Its general acceptance cannot but be regarded as a signal triumph for American diplomacy.

The especial satisfaction for Americans contained in this achievement lies in the fact that the policy thus agreed upon is in consonance with the best American tradition. It holds China properly responsible for the outrages committed during the period of the Boxer rebellion. It insists upon the punishment of the guilty leaders of that movement. It rightfully demands indemnity for the assassination of foreigners, for the destruction of the property of foreigners and for the expense attaching to the relief expeditions necessitated by the besieging of the foreign legations in Pekin.

With true American spirit, however, it refrains from making this outbreak in China an excuse for the dismemberment of that Empire and the division of the spoils of territory among the great Powers. It goes only so far as to insist upon certain reforms in Chinese diplomatic methods as shall justifiably increase foreign influence for the protection of the rights of all the Powers in China. It promises in effect the salvation of China as a nation and the averting of a general war which was at one time imminent and which, without such an agreement, would continue as a peril likely to develop anew at any moment.

Fair play is a jewel, and fair play demands that Mr. McKinley be credited with this great diplomatic and truly American achievement. All Americans can join in praising the President for his work in China.

Jurists, considering the vacancy in the office of Railroad Commissioner, declare that Colonel Flory is "a mere locum tenens." Missourians began to suspect the Colonel when he mounted his railway handcar, but they hardly thought it would come to this.

Water-rate reducers are complaining of the "large and needless pile" of money which Water Commissioner Flad "inherited" from his predecessor. No complaint of that kind will stick against the Ziegenhein administration when it goes out of office.

Bacteriologists cannot fairly attribute Lieutenant Hobson's attack of typhoid fever to bacteria transmitted in osculation unless they can show that he pursued the same tactics in the Philippines and Hawaii that he pursued in the United States.

Petty persecution is an admirable cement and the Globe-Democrat may be doing a valuable work when it calls the business and professional men who are striving for municipal reform "mouthing hypocrites" and "discredited politicians."

An independent movement in St. Louis serves notice on the parties that they must nominate their tickets early and put candidates on those tickets who cannot be assailed. The party which is unwilling to meet these conditions deserves defeat.

East St. Louis shows a proper appreciation of the benefits it will receive from the Louisiana Purchase World's Fair when it volunteers to assist energetically in the completion of the $5,000,000 guarantee fund.

Since darkness again threatens the public institutions of the city Mayor Ziegenhein might suggest that the roof be taken off the buildings to give the moon a chance to illuminate the interiors.

Talking of General Mercier's plan for a French invasion of England, wasn't it Von Moltke who said he knew fourteen ways of getting an army into England, but not one way to get it out again?

General Mercier appears to have a conviction that if another invincible Armada were sent against the British Isles it might with the aid of a modern Weather Bureau have a better fate.

Judging from the way Joe Chamberlain was roasted in Parliament the other day, his fellow-Britishers must have thought they had him safe for a touchdown on the gridiron.

Strong action by the best citizens of St. Louis, regardless of party, is the only influence that can put the city government in the front rank of municipalities, where it belongs.

The Beautiful Things.

Life's beautiful things are so many,
So free to the humblest one,
That even to count them for thought's delight,
Ah, surely, we'd never be done!
But only because of their plenty,
Because they are ours when we will,
We value them lightly as common and cheap,
And our souls are unsatisfied still!

Reaching out for the things of our dreaming,
With vision so stubborn and blind,
That the rapture which calls to us day by day
Is too near for our seeking to find;
Oh, the loss of it all, and the pity,
And the yearning and hunger and pain,
That we live in a world full of beautiful things,
The beauty of which we disdain!

RIPLEY D. SAUNDERS.

MANY UNITED STATES SENATORS DIE IN THE HARNESS.

RECOLLECTIONS OF DAVIS STORIES.

BY ALLEN V. COCKRELL.

Special Correspondence of The Sunday Republic.

Washington, Dec. 8.—The dark hand of death was felt more keenly in the Senate at its opening on Monday than for many years past. For it had invaded that body of ninety men with ruthless cruelty in the short interval which had elapsed since the adjournment of Congress last spring. During the short recess two of the most eminent members of that august body have gone to the undiscovered country. The late Senator Gear of Iowa was carried away in the midst of his well-earned summer vacation, while the flowers have scarce withered on the grave of Senator Davis of Minnesota. Both men had passed the average age of Senators. Gear had reached his seventy-fifth year and Davis two years beyond three score. Their deaths have increased the already large percentage of Senators who have died while in office. Of the 940 odd men who have been members of the Senate since its organization, 116 of them, or more than 12 per cent, have died in harness. This heavy mortality may be largely attributed to the advanced age of most of the Senators. In 1893 the average age of the members of the Senate was 58 years. Since that time, however, the influx of younger men, like Beveridge, Dolliver and Marion Butler, has perceptibly lowered this average, and we may look for a further gradual decrease in the mortality of the Senate from now on.

It will be recorded of Cushman K. Davis that during his thirteen years of senatorial service he was the greatest authority on international affairs in Congress, if indeed he had his peer in the whole United States. In this particular line he was the acknowledged leader in the Senate. As a scholar, pure and simple, he was a most formidable rival of Hoar of Massachusetts. He loved to roam among the musty old bookstores of Washington, and nothing delighted him more than to light on a rare volume which the Massachusetts Senator did not happen to possess. Straightway he would go to the Worcester statesman to tell of his find, and then a few moments of good-natured chaffing would ensue, tinctured perhaps with a little heart-burning on the part of Hoar. Davis was a great student and whiled away many hours, often far into the night, in his little den near the top of his house, stretched in an easy chair before the fire, surrounded by his beloved books and enveloped in the smoke of an endless succession of cigars. Belated citizens coming home in the wee sma' hours of the morning often noticed the light which shone from the top story of the statesman's great house facing Farragut Square and wondered thereat. He was an inveterate smoker, and has been known to consume as many as twenty-five cigars in a day. Notwithstanding his great statesmanship Davis was no orator. His voice was thin and almost inaudible even in the dead calm of the Senate. He rarely spoke, but when he did his arguments were masterly and complete, and, in spite of his oratorical defects, his speeches commanded the closest attention.

Long before he ever came to the Senate Davis was United States District Attorney for Minnesota, and in after years, when in the mood for story-telling, he loved to relate incidents of his four years' service as Uncle Sam's lawyer. One of the best of his repertoire was of a personal experience which he always told with great gusto. It happened at a murder trial at Minneapolis, in which the important witness for the defense was a negro lad only 10 years of age. Davis was conducting the prosecution, and thought the boy too young to understand the nature of an oath.

"Boy," he said, "do you know what would happen if you swore to a lie?"

"Yes, sah. Mammy would lick me."

"Would anything else happen?"

"Deed dey would, 'cause de devil would git me."

At this point Davis leaned over and said with pretended sternness:

"Don't you know, boy, that I would get you, too?"

"Yes, sah; dat's what I jus' said" was the frightened response. The roar of laughter which greeted the rejoinder ever after made Davis wary of probing too deep in the examination of witnesses.

* * * *

Of another mold of man was Gear of Iowa. Of the blood of New York Yankees, grim and blunt-spoken, he was essentially one of the "plain people," and not a scholar. With only a common-school education, he rose from the ranks to the eminent position which he held at his death. In public speech he was more fitted for the stump than for a prepared effort on the floor of the Senate. With a keen appreciation of just what the people wanted to hear, and a typical Yankee sense of humor, Gear was at his best when "chalking the woods" in an old-time campaign.

His self-command under all circumstances was admirable, and on only one occasion was he known to be distinctly embarrassed. It was during his first year on the stump. He was one of the speakers at a large gathering, made up almost wholly of farmers, who had driven to the place of meeting. While he was delivering a rousing talk a heavy storm came up. Immediately one after another of his hearers jumped up and hurried out, until the speaker was left with an array of empty benches before him. Gear, who didn't appreciate the situation, flushed crimson. He could not recall a word that could have given offense, and failed to understand the sudden emptying of the hall. In a moment, however, his embarrassment was quickly changed to amusement when the chairman arose and said:

"It's all right, Colonel. They're only going out to look after the horses. They'll be back."

The orator sat down and waited until the farmers returned, and then resumed his speech, with great success.

ALLEN V. COCKRELL.

SOME CONSIDERATIONS TO BE OBSERVED IN THE SELECTION OF A WORLD'S FAIR SITE LOCATIONS THAT THESE CONSIDERATIONS SUGGEST.

To the Editor of The Republic.

St. Louis, Dec. 7.—As the time approaches for selecting a location for the Exposition to celebrate the purchase of the Louisiana Territory a public discussion of the vital considerations is in order.

Space sufficient to accommodate all the possible buildings, landscape features and artistic, practical and historical exhibits is a prime essential. Next transportation to and from the grounds, as also from one part of the grounds to others, more rapid and comfortable than the invalid chairs which have served previous great expositions. Then, distance from the center of the city will largely affect the daily attendance and receipts, and must measurably influence the location. The easier it will be to get there and the greater the facilities for getting about after arrival, the more people will be attracted. The transit from outside may be amply provided for by steam and electric roads, and inside by novelties, such as unicycle belt road, automobiles over certain asphalt ways especially set apart for such use, or horses, with rubber-tired park wagons or other light vehicles, under concession to responsible parties, controlled by the management, would add life to scene and comfort to visitors who may be unable or unwilling to walk from five to fifty miles a day to see what they want.

If possible to select a site with the Mississippi River as a main feature, it would harmonize with the object of the celebration of a great event which forever assured to the United States the control of this great waterway.

As to how the location is to be determined, it cannot be denied that it must of necessity be so fairly done that advocates of the several other sites will acquiesce. Heretofore similar expositions have made as much as possible out of concessions of all sorts, but I do not know that sites have been open to competition. But in our case a disinterested commission might be appointed to receive propositions or suggestions from advocates of competing localities; then let them select the three that they think preferable and submit these to a vote of the subscribers, each share of stock to be entitled to one vote. If no one of the three has a majority of all the votes cast, drop the lowest and vote again on the other two.

Proceeding on the premises herein briefly set forth to a consideration of sites suitable, these are numerous enough to embarrass any commission that may be charged with the selection. To invite discussion, I will briefly mention:

Number One.

Begin at the Mississippi River, on a line with Loughborough avenue, which is the street bounding Carondelet Park on the south, thence west to the western limit of the park, thence south one mile, thence east to the river, at one mile below the starting point, giving one mile of the river front. This district includes the River des Peres, which may be dredged and widened into canal and lakes, subject to expert landscape engineering, with a dam at the mouth, a great body of water can be held and a reproduction of Venice accomplished. This district is largely farm and garden, of moderate value, much of it high, commanding magnificent views of the Mississippi and of the St. Louis and Merrimec hills. It is free from the city smoke, the prevailing summer breezes coming from the south. Besides the rail facilities existing and to be added to, pleasure boats would ply from and to the city, giving visitors the next best thing to lake breezes, as a relief from our summer heat.

Paris built a magnificent bridge, named for the Czar, as a part of her exhibit. We could build a double track, steel bridge at this point and dedicate it to Jefferson. Of course, we would illuminate with electric portrait of Jefferson, electric fountains and other devices, making the river front exceedingly attractive at night.

Number Two.

Begin on the Mississippi River at Kansas street, which is the street that bounds Carondelet Park on the north, thence west to the west side of the park, thence north one mile, thence east to the river at a point one mile north of the place of beginning.

This district includes a good deal of unimproved land, which, however, is more valuable than in No. 1, because nearer the business center. It also includes more buildings, which would have to be considered, but the land, as the Fair management would leave it, should, as a whole, be worth more than the land and improvements are now. This includes a good part of the bluffs north of Carondelet, and affords even a better site for the proposed monumental bridge, and elevators would be arranged from the river landing and railroad to the level at top of the bluffs.

While the ground is mainly high, there are many depressions readily adapted for lakes, and besides, it includes Pompeiian's Pond, permanently a considerable body of water, which a landscape engineer would harmonize with other features. The views from all parts of this tract are magnificent.

Number Three.

Begin at Arsenal street (which bounds Tower Grove Park on the south), at Grand avenue, thence west to King's highway, thence south one mile, thence east to Grand avenue, at point one mile south of Arsenal street. This is a beautiful tract, mainly high, with a sufficiency of depressions for desired lake effect. Much of the land is vacant, but, for reasons stated in No. 2, is more valuable. One advantage of this location is its proximity to our most highly improved park, lending a finish to the proposed fair grounds, and while our people would doubtless oppose the use of any of the park proper for fair uses, it might be proper to locate some of the permanent structures on the reserve strip which practically belongs to the city but is not considered a part of the park.

Number Four.

The Fair Grounds, a considerable body of land controlled by one set of owners and surrounded by not very expensive improvements, should be an active competitor for the location. It is already well supplied with transit facilities, which can be manifolded. It is as nearly central as any of the locations proposed, and even Missourians do not have to be "shown the way" to it.

Number Five.

Perhaps a strip half a mile wide, from the river along the south line of O'Fallon Park to the west line of the park and then widened, northwardly to the north line of same and taking in as much territory to the west of the park and of the half-mile strip as required, may be feasible. North End advocates will be better able to speak on this.

I limit the river front to a half mile because that district covers many valuable manufacturing plants, and also because the high ground west of the park will be preferable for the uses of the Fair. This site commands grand views of the river and has already excellent rail and electric connections. It might be feasible and desirable to locate one or two of the permanent buildings on the west side of the park.

Number Six.

If the boss of the Fair happened to be Emperor Napoleon III, and he had a Baron Hausseman to carry out his decree it might be feasible to wipe out Kerry Patch and Little Jerusalem and build Jefferson's white city on that site. Take Cass avenue from Broadway to Grand avenue as the center line, and for space include six or more squares both north and south.

Of course this is all built up, but the land would be worth more if every brick was off and blue grass on instead. This is a general suggestion and not personal to many good friends in that district. Seriously, the advantage of having the Fair in the heart of the city is worth thinking of.

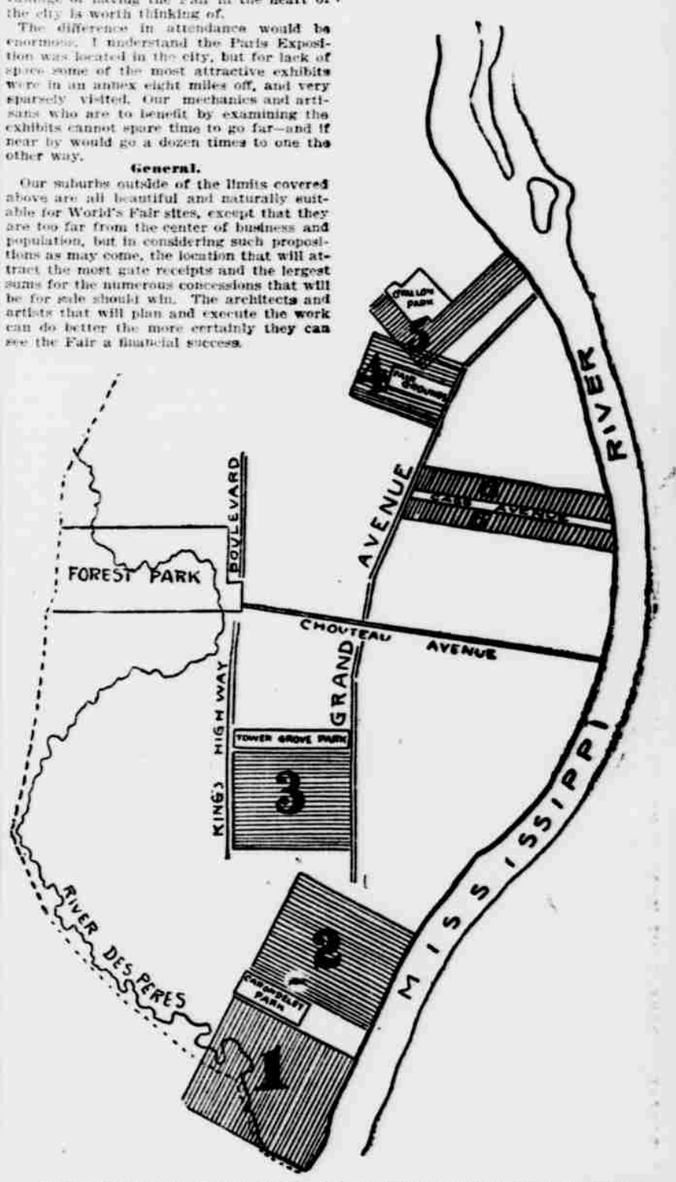
The difference in attendance would be enormous. I understand the Paris Exposition was located in the city, but for lack of space some of the most attractive exhibits were in an annex eight miles off, and very sparsely visited. Our mechanics and artisans who are to benefit by examining the exhibits cannot spare time to go far—and if near by would go a dozen times to one the other way.

General.

Our suburbs outside of the limits covered above are all beautiful and naturally suitable for World's Fair sites, except that they are too far from the center of business and population, but in considering such propositions as may come, the location that will attract the most gate receipts and the largest sums for the numerous concessions that will be for sale should win. The architects and artists that will plan and execute the work can do better the more certainly they can see the Fair a financial success.

If this serves to stimulate interest and discussion it will have a favorable effect. Everybody is expected to talk and act for the Fair until the good work is accomplished.

ALEX. H. SMITH.



POSSIBLE SITES DESCRIBED IN THE ACCOMPANYING ARTICLE.

JEROME ON BEAUTY AND POPULARITY.

Mr. Jerome K. Jerome was asked by an English editor the other day if pretty women are popular. This was his reply:

"I am unable to express a personal opinion on this subject in its broader bearings, being a married man, to whom, as a matter of course, no woman not a relation can be really interesting. The best I can do for you is to give you the result of a few inquiries I have made among the sex itself. I put you query first to a cousin of mine, a girl of that age when one is sure of many things upon which later we become less confident. 'Of course, they are!' she replied, emphatically; 'what a stupid question!' 'It is not my question,' I interrupted; 'it is the editor's.' 'I don't care whose it is,' she retorted; '— as if he could not see it for himself, the silly man!' (I am not excusing her, she has been brought up that way; it is nothing to do with me.) 'Why, it is quite a nuisance at times—you know what I mean, people worry you, won't let you alone. There is such a lot of things I wanted to do this year—study Italian, read Goethe. It is so silly of them, because really the plain girls are just as nice. I know some awfully nice, plain girls. Men are very silly in that way. If I were a man, I would rather talk to a plain girl.'

"I asked a married women next, the wife of a professor of mathematics. She considered the question for a while in silence, and then answered: 'With men, yes; but with her own sex, no. They are very curious in that way,' she continued, 'women. Now, with me it is different. I like a pretty woman, and, generally speaking, they are nicer. A plain woman is generally a bit warped in her mind. She knows she is plain, and broods over it. Then that, of course, makes her envious. Now, there is Mrs. —; well, I won't mention names—you know her, I dare say. She would be really a very nice woman if it were not for that. I am sure I try to be as agreeable as I can be to her, but she positively hates me.'

"Going up the scale of age, I next cornered a widow. Said she: 'I think such discussions do harm. They lead silly women to believe that the only thing to be considered is personal appearance. I am convinced that in reality it plays a much smaller part than we imagine. I always think of what poor dear James said to me only a day or two before the accident. I remember the occasion very well. We were sitting on the balcony of the hotel overlooking the bay; it was a moonlight night. "Tell me, James," I said, "do men marry merely for beauty?" "Often," he answered, "and live to regret it." "And have you regretted it, James?" I asked. "No, Mildred," he answered, "never. But if beauty had been your only charm I might have. Your face attracted me, I admit; it is your mind and heart that have held me." Those are the most important things," continued my widow friend—'mind and heart.'

"I have questioned other ladies also, but these three replies here set forth embody the wisdom that I have thus gathered on the subject, and which, summarized, would seem to be this: Ladies, you should thank God you are pretty, but not be conceited on the subject. It is no credit to you personally that you are beautiful. It is a free gift from heaven, for which you should be grateful, and to it you should endeavor to add goodness and virtue."

MISSOURI DEMOCRATS.

Mr. J. T. Bradshaw of Chillicothe, Mo., is a candidate for the clerkship of the House of Representatives. He has been active in the party for years, and has never before been a candidate for any office. Mr. Bradshaw was born in Xenia, Ill., in 1857, and removed with his parents to Lebanon, Mo., in 1869. He established the Laclede County Leader in 1878, when 19 years of age. The Leader was consolidated with The Rustic in 1880, and Mr. Bradshaw continued his newspaper career in Lebanon until 1886, when he went to Chillicothe to conduct the Constitution. At the present time he is out of active newspaper work. Mr. Bradshaw was a friend and supporter of Bland, and was a delegate to the National Convention at Chicago in 1896.

WHAT PLACE WILL MR. BARRIE HAVE?

What will be Mr. Barrie's place among the classics of Scottish fiction? That he will have a place is beyond doubt. To my thinking "A Window in Thrums" is more assured of immortality than Stevenson's "Weir of Hermiston," or Mrs. Oliphant's "Kirsteen," or Black's "Daughter of Heth"; nay, it is as assured of immortality as Scott's "Antiquary" or Galt's "Entail," writes William Wallace in the Bookman. For it is a chapter in the history of Scotland; in some two hundred pages it gives an absolutely faithful representation of "Scecederism," in the Carlylean sense of religious earnestness, bursting the bonds of denominationalism, transcending poverty, contemplating the last struggle with the Last Enemy in the spirit of Seneca. "Death belongs to the class of things which indeed are not an evil, but still have the appearance of being an evil." Thrums is but a "handful of houses jumbled in a cup," but it is also a community composed of men, for each of whom, in virtue of his Auld Licht Kirk, "the vague, shoreless universe has become a firm city and dwelling which he knows." And Mr. Barrie has accomplished this task, both as the historian and the photographer of Thrums, in the right spirit and with a due appreciation of moral perspective. Some other artists of the so-called "Kailyard" school—Ian Maclaren particularly—have a more intimate knowledge of the lights and shades, the humor and the pathos of Scottish "Kirkiness." Mrs. Oliphant, too—the "Chronicles of Carlingford" are sufficient to prove that—could have produced a story of Scottish religious life which would have had the finality of "Middlemarch" had she taken the necessary time, and, like Mr. Barrie, acquired the journalist's art of discovering salient points, if not of separating the eternal from the evanescent. But Mr. Barrie, in virtue of his instinct for drollery, has brought to his task of reproducing Thrums the necessary sense of detachment. His "Secederism" like the Solemn League and Covenant itself, "now brings a smile, now brings a tear." But the smile is never what hurried evening journalists call "cynical." You laugh at Gavin Dishart getting a call because of his capacity for banging the pulpit Bible, but you have a high respect both for him and for the men who gave him a call—and that, too, although you may think Auld Lichtism to have been a "martyrdom by mistake." In virtue of what he has already done as a Scottish realist—and altogether apart from what he may do or fail in doing—I should be inclined to bracket Mr. Barrie with Galt (Galt at his best, as in "The Entail," the Scottish Balzac), as second to Scott among Scottish novelists, Stevenson being fourth and Mrs. Oliphant fifth.