Magic in the Parlor.
HENRY E. DIXEY will explain it in next Sunday's Republic. Pictures.

THE ST. LOUIS REPUBLIC.

The Model City's Model Street.
Read the story in next Sunday's Republic. Brilliant coloring.

NINETY-THIRD YEAR. ST. LOUIS, MO., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1900. PRICE { In St. Louis, One Cent. Outside St. Louis, Two Cents. On Trains, Three Cents.

WRECKS ON SANTA FE IN KANSAS AND TEXAS.

Two Men and a Boy Killed Near Olathe, Kas., and a Freight Train Smashed Up Near Dallas.

Telegraphers and Company Officials Both Claim to Have the Strike Practically Won—Latter Declare They Have Filled Places of All Strikers.

While officers of the Order of Railway Telegraphers claim they have practically won their strike, and that the Santa Fe will concede their demands within twenty-four hours, officials of the company say the places of all strikers have been filled and trains are running as usual.

Notices of discharge were sent yesterday to all operators who had left their keys, and it was announced that none will be reinstated.

Agents at St. Louis who were employing operators to take the places of strikers closed their offices yesterday on receipt of instructions to hire no more men.

Two wrecks occurred yesterday on the Santa Fe system. Near Olathe, Kas., in a freight smash-up, two stockmen were killed and a boy burned to death in a fire that followed the accident.

A double-header freight was wrecked at Clear Lake, Tex., twenty miles north of Dallas. Railroad officials say there was no loss of life.

General Manager Mudge claims the wires of the company have been interfered with, and offers a reward for any one caught tampering with property of the company.

THREE KILLED IN KANSAS.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Topeka, Kas., Dec. 11.—Noble Thomas, a boy 16 years old, was burned to death in a wreck on the Santa Fe, near Olathe, this morning. Two stockmen were also killed. In jumping from a way car W. R. Thomas of Emporia was badly injured.

Two miles west of Olathe a stock train was stalled with air brakes stuck. An extra freight, in charge of Conductor F. M. Tailer, ran into it. Engineer F. Furman and Fireman J. M. Helvie were injured. The stalled stock train was in charge of Conductor C. Nicholson.

Conductor Nicholson says that when his train stalled he went back to do the flagging. He says his train started, he lit a fuse and started for his own train, calling out to the stockmen when he saw a collision inevitable. All succeeded in getting out of the way car but one.

After the crash the wrecked way car caught fire and was destroyed, and a car next to the caboose, loaded with wheat, was also burned up. The track was cleared in a few hours.

To a reporter for The Republic to-night General Manager Mudge made this statement concerning the wreck:

"It is unfortunate that this collision occurred at this time. Such an accident would be likely to happen under block signal running, but with a strike on it is more serious. From the reports the conductor may not have protected his train fully, or the following train may have run over his signal. It cannot be determined without an investigation."

FREIGHT TRAIN WRECKED.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Dallas, Tex., Dec. 11.—The first wreck on the Gulf lines of the Santa Fe system since the strike of the Order of Railway Telegraphers went into effect occurred this morning at Clear Lake, twenty miles north of Dallas. A double-header freight train was partially derailed, and blocked the road all day. Trains into and out of Dallas used the tracks of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas road via Farmersville and Greenville. Officials of the company in Dallas state that no one was injured, but as no wires are working on that line between Dallas and Paris, the extent of the wreck has not been learned here.

So far as the strike of the operators is concerned, there appears to be no change in this section. Passenger and regular freight trains are still operated by time-card schedule. Trains are generally late, and traffic and travel light.

Financially, the O. R. T. seems to be well fixed in Texas. A member of the Dallas committee said to-day: "The order has more than 2,000 members in good standing on the various lines in the State. Dues and other financial obligations have been well paid up, and the order has approximately $60,000 to its credit in bank. The O. R. T. on the Missouri, Kansas and Texas lines alone has more than $25,000 in its treasury, and the conditions are equally good on the Southern Pacific, the Santa Fe, the Texas and Pacific and other systems operating in the State."

CHAIRMAN NEWMAN CONFIDENT.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Wichita, Kas., Dec. 11.—Trains are running on the Santa Fe to-night, both north and south, although all are delayed from thirty minutes to three hours. Very little freight is being moved. The railroad officers are making claims that the strike is ended, but not one-half of their stations are filled. The strikers are confident of success, and say that if the company does not come to time shortly, the train crews will strike in sympathy.

General Chairman Newman, who is conducting the strike, went to Newton last night, and held an important meeting with the train crews, and says they promised him their assistance if needed. To The Republic correspondent he said:

"Some of our men on the middle division have been persuaded to return to work, in hopes of getting better wages, and these men will be let out of the union. Most of the men are remaining firm, however, and we will bring the company to time before twenty-four hours have expired. All we want to do is to keep things in their present condition two days longer. The wreck at Iola this morning, wherein one man was burned to death, shows that the company will have to yield soon.

REWARD FOR WIRE CUTTERS.

Topeka, Kas., Dec. 11.—General Manager H. U. Mudge of the Santa Fe to-day issued a notice offering a reward for the arrest of persons who in any way interfered with the operations of the wires or instruments or any other property of the company.

"There was some interference with the wires on the Oklahoma division and at Olathe," said Mr. Mudge, in explanation of the notice.

HOW TRAFFIC IS AFFECTED.

Emporia, Kas., Dec. 11.—Chairman Newman of the eastern division of the Santa Fe operators, to-night gave out the following statement:

"Everything points to the final success of the strike of the telegraphers on the Santa Fe, on account of the inability of the company to secure a sufficient number of competent operators to operate the system, they have had the block system and are placing boys and inexperienced operators at the key to handle trains on which thousands of people ride.

"The following statement of freight trains run and loads and empties handled through Emporia shows the great loss the company is sustaining by the strike and shows the company is making a losing fight.

"The strike occurred December 8. Cars through Emporia averaged daily before the strike 710; after the strike 480. Cars of stock handled through Emporia Sunday, December 2, for Kansas City market, 108; Sunday, December 9, only thirteen cars for market. Only one stock train has been received from the Oklahoma division since the strike was called. Nothing but through freights are running, and they are badly delayed. Forty trains were handled through Emporia December 6, forty-four on the 7th, eighteen on the 9th and seventeen on the 10th.

"The situation on the different divisions is practically the same as on yesterday except that we have gained in some vicinities."

EMPLOYING NO MORE MEN.

Chicago, Dec. 11.—To-night Third Vice President J. M. Barr, superintendent of the operating department of the Santa Fe Railway, notified all the agents of the company not to employ any more operators, as enough men had been engaged to fill the places vacated by the telegraphers, who responded to the strike call. He said:

"At fifteen other points on the system we have been handling new operators since this trouble began. To-day I notified our agents not to engage any more."

Referring to the report that the company was filling strikers' places with incompetent operators, Mr. Barr said:

"We did write to schools in Iowa, asking for competent operators. The men sent us in every instance were thoroughly examined and will have to pass another examination when they reach the places to which they are assigned. We do not want the old employes to return. Their places have been filled with competent men, and we will retain them."

"The strike is practically over, and our business is normal," said President E. P. Ripley. "A little delay and some annoyance has been the burden of our trouble. The report that officials of the company are opposed to labor unions is false. We have no quarrel with labor unions. On the contrary, we believe they are a good thing when properly governed."

SHOT AND DRIVEN OUT OF TOWN.

Denver, Colo., Dec. 11.—A nonunion operator, giving his name as J. B. Comstock, who, with a companion, has been in charge of the Santa Fe station at Sedalia, twenty-five miles south of Denver, was brought to this city to-day with a bullet wound in his arm. He reported that seven men appeared at the station at 7:15 this evening and ordered him and his companion to leave at once. As they left the station several shots were fired, one striking Comstock in the arm. His companion escaped. Comstock hailed an incoming train and was brought to Denver. His injury is not serious.

DOLPHIN STARTS FOR ST. LOUIS.

Galveston, Tex., Dec. 11.—President Dolphin of the Order of Railway Telegraphers to-night issued the following statement:

"Representatives of the order have wired from Chicago that 90 per cent of the men sent from that city to take the places of strikers have been members of other trades and professions who took advantage of the offer of free transportation and meals to come South and see if they could not better their condition in their own trade; the other 10 per cent were mostly members of the order who were going on an excursion to the South.

"Big union meetings of the machinists, conductors and firemen have been held at The Needles, Las Vegas, N. M.; Pueblo, Colo.; Raton, N. M.; Gainesville, Tex.; Cleburne, Tex., and other points, indorsing the action of the telegraphers and signifying willingness to assist in bringing about a settlement."

Mr. Dolphin went north on the Santa Fe to-night. It was stated that he had started for St. Louis, the headquarters of the order.

MAY ORDER SYMPATHY STRIKE.

Pueblo, Colo., Dec. 11.—Representatives from the six railroad brotherhoods held a meeting to-night for the purpose of considering whether they should take action in support of the striking telegraphers. They were in secret session till late in the night. The various delegations were appointed as commissions to present the matter to their respective brotherhoods separately and have them determine what they want done.

COLONEL POLK'S STATEMENT.

Galveston, Tex., Dec. 11.—Reports received up to a late hour to-night at the general offices of the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe were very encouraging from the company's point of view.

General Manager Polk stated to-night that he was deluged with telegrams and letters of application from men seeking employment as operators and agents. Some of them have been accepted and others will be investigated. He also stated that he had received applications from members of the Order of Railway Telegraphers who want to return to work. In this connection Colonel Polk stated that under no circumstance will the company reinstate any man who had deserted his post.

Reports received to-night indicate that all trains are running on schedule time without delay or trouble, with the exception of the breaking in two and running together of a freight train near Cedar Hill.

A message received to-day from Division Superintendent Scott by General Manager Polk stated that a crowd of citizens, headed by ex-Agent Scale at Morgan, forced a new employe at that place out of town. Later another message announced that the new agent and operator had returned to the place and was prepared to remain on duty and that the company would protect him.

NO MORE OPERATORS NEEDED.

St. Louis Agents Informed That All Places Have Been Filled.

Local officials of the Santa Fe system said yesterday afternoon that the company had secured all the nonunion operators needed to fill the positions vacated by strikers, and that the strike was practically ended.

Agents of the company who have been engaging operators here received instructions by wire that there were no more places to fill.

In conformity with this order the office at No. 21 North Ninth street was closed, and advertisements were withdrawn from the newspapers.

The head of the local bureau said:

"The strike is practically ended. Within ten days from the time the O. R. T. called its men out, the Santa Fe will have forgotten that there was a strike. Trains of all kinds are now running, and new operators are being sent out from Chicago, St. Louis, Kansas City and New Orleans as fast as they are needed.

"In St. Louis we secured about seventy first-class operators, not members of the O. R. T., who were glad to go to work."

De Wet: "I've hung something on the tree for Johnnie."

TO PUT QUESTION OF GREATER SCHOOL TAX.

Board of Education Decides to Call a Special Election in February.

FROM FOUR TO SIX MILLS.

Proposed Increase Declared to Be Necessary on Account of the Growing Demand for Additional Facilities.

At the monthly meeting of the Board of Education last night it was decided to hold a special election of the taxpayers of St. Louis to ascertain their wishes on the question of raising the school tax from 40 cents to 60 cents on the $100 valuation.

The matter of increased taxation for school purposes has been under consideration of a special committee of the board. This committee, which consisted of James L. Ford, chairman; John Schroers, Robert Moore, John A. Harrison and Edward Eliot, submitted its report to the committee of the whole on Monday. The report was adopted as the report of the committee of the whole and a resolution framed to be presented to the board at its regular monthly meeting.

This resolution was adopted by the vote of all the members present at the meeting excepting Albert B. Greene. It follows:

Resolved, That, in the judgment of this board, it has become necessary to increase the annual rate of taxation for school purposes in the city of St. Louis on all taxable property within the limits of the city of St. Louis from 40 cents to 60 cents on the $100 valuation. Be it therefore further

Resolved, That a special election shall be held in the city of St. Louis on Tuesday, the twenty-sixth day of February, 1901, at which the question shall be submitted to the voters of said city, who are taxpayers of such city, whether the rate of taxation for school purposes in said city, on taxable property within the limits of the city of St. Louis, shall be increased from 40 cents to 60 cents on the $100 valuation, and that the Board of Election Commissioners of the city of St. Louis are hereby requested and directed to make all necessary rules and regulations for the conduct of such election and take charge thereof as by the statutes in such cases made and provided.

EDWARD C. ELIOT, Chairman.

According to law the Board of Education has the right to hold special elections, the expense of which is to be defrayed by the city. To avoid putting the expense of the present election upon the city a resolution was passed providing that the board petition the Legislature to change the law so that it might pay from its own funds all expenses incurred.

With the closest possible economy, the Board of Education finds that the proceeds of the 4-mill tax, which pays for all the needs of the schools, are insufficient to meet the proper demands which the people should make upon their system of public schools. A large increase in population is expected from the World's Fair, to be held here in 1903, making the erection of additional public schools imperative.

LEADING TOPICS —IN— TO-DAY'S REPUBLIC.

For Missouri—Fair Wednesday; warmer in northern portion. Thursday, fair in southern, probably fair in northern portion; winds becoming southerly.

For Illinois—Fair; warmer in northern and central portions. Thursday, cloudy, probably snow or rain; variable winds, becoming fresh, southerly.

For Arkansas—Fair Wednesday and Thursday; easterly winds.

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COUNCIL SUMMONS MEIER AND MARTIN.

Supply Commissioner and His Deputy Must Appear Before That Body Next Tuesday.

CITY ATTORNEY IN CHARGE.

He Will Conduct the Presentation of Evidence for the Council—Martin Probably Will Be Tried First.

The City Council yesterday afternoon unanimously adopted resolutions submitted by Chairman Wiggins of the Special Investigation Committee arranging for the trials by the body of Commissioner of Supplies Fred C. Meier and Deputy Commissioner of Supplies George H. Martin, the former on a charge of neglect of duty and the latter on a charge of misconduct in office.

The resolutions provide that both men shall be summoned by Secretary Graves to appear in the Council Chamber at 3 o'clock next Tuesday afternoon and show cause why they should not be removed from office. The notice is to be served by Sergeant-at-Arms Turner, and is to contain the specifications presented by the committee in its report to support the general charges.

The City Council will be represented in the proceedings by the City Attorney, Perry Post Taylor. When the body is called to order next Tuesday it will resolve itself into the committee of the whole, when it will be ready to begin the procedure. As the resolution for the trial of Deputy Commissioner of Supplies Martin was the first to be adopted, it is likely that his trial will take precedence over that of his superior officer. The Council will devise a routine for the trials next Tuesday, after the charges will have been read and the preliminaries arranged.

President Meier, father of the Commissioner of Supplies, occupied the chair yesterday. Toward the close of the session, however, he relinquished the chair to vice President Horton. It is generally supposed that he will request Mr. Horton to officiate in the trials and that he will preside at the regular meetings, as usual.

Mr. Wiggins introduced an ordinance providing for the erection of scales at or near the new City Hall, on which all supplies for the new and old City Halls, the Jail and the Four Courts are to be weighed. The chief engineer of the new City Hall would have charge of the scales and would issue certificates to weights. No other certificates would be valid when vouchers would be submitted for payment or when requisitions would be offered for approval. The engineer and his assistants would not be permitted to accept any fees. The appropriation for the installation of the scales is to be derived from the fund for the erection of the new City Hall. This ordinance was presented as a sequence to recommendations made by the special committee in its report.

COLOMBIAN REVOLT PRACTICALLY ENDED.

Rebel War Vessel Destroyed by the Government Fleet.

SPECIAL BY CABLE.

Panama, Colombia, via Galveston, Tex., Dec. 11.—(Copyright, 1900, by the New York Herald.)—Official advices from Buenaventura indicate that the power of the rebels in the western part of the Republic has been broken.

Governor Alban of the State of Panama, who led the expedition which went to the relief of Buenaventura a month ago, cabled to-day that Port Tumaco, on the Bay of Tumaco, was recaptured December 4, after three days' fighting. The rebel steamer Galtan, which was engaged in the blockade of Buenaventura and has been the chief reliance of the rebel forces in their operations against coast towns, was destroyed by the Government fleet. Evidently the British steamer Taboga, which had been seized by the Government, and the gunboats at Buenaventura were used in the operations.

The United States cruiser Bancroft has left Colon for Bocas del Toro.

ST. LOUIS EXPRESS IN A COLLISION.

Four Injured and Many Passengers on the Chicago and Alton Severely Shaken Up.

Chicago, Dec. 11.—Four persons were injured and many passengers severely shaken up to-night in a head-end collision between a construction gravel train and the St. Louis express train on the Chicago and Alton road, near Sag Bridge, thirty miles out of Chicago.

The failure of the flagman to carry out instructions caused the accident. But for the fact that the express train was hauled by two locomotives, which tended to break the shock, the crowded coaches might have been demolished.

The injured: Engineer Wheatley jumped from the express engine; burned by escaping steam, and sustained severe cut in head.

Fireman Robinson jumped from engine; ankle broken and severely bruised.

Rear Brakeman Kelly cut about head and badly bruised.

Mrs. Charles Chaufka, Ellwood, Ill.; head cut and body bruised.

WEAKER REPUBLICS FEAR THIS NATION.

South American Countries Said to Be Planning an Alliance Against the United States.

SPECIAL BY CABLE.

San Juan, Porto Rico, Dec. 11.—(Copyright, 1900, by the New York Herald Company.)—It is reported here that the Republics of South America are negotiating an alliance, having been prompted to do so by the fear that American influence will become paramount and threatening in the Western Hemisphere.

The movement is said to be an outgrowth of the Latin-American Congress, recently held in Madrid.

The Executive Council of the Porto Rican Government has decided that franchise matters hereafter will be considered in secret session. This decision has occasioned much favorable comment.

It is estimated in official circles that the convention to cement the agreement between the Republics will meet in Santiago de Chile.

Emissaries are now making the circuit of South American capitals working up enthusiasm for the plan.

CITIZENS TAKE STEPS TO BUILD UP THE CITY.

Unanimous Response to Newspaper Publishers' Invitation.

PLANS FOR NEW LAWS.

Committee Is Named to Arrange for a Nonpartisan Commission.

Steps toward the upbuilding of St. Louis through the removal of constitutional and charter restrictions and for promoting its general welfare and improvement were decided upon last night at a meeting of representative citizens, called together by the St. Louis Daily Newspaper Publishers' Association.

The session, called to order at the Mercantile Club by President D. M. Houser of the Publishers' Association, was presided over by I. H. Lionberger, who was chosen as temporary chairman. Breckinridge Jones acted as secretary.

A resolution setting forth the views of the meeting was introduced by Charles W. Knapp and amended by him at the suggestion of Nathan Frank. It was then unanimously adopted. It provides for a committee of five men to prepare a scheme for the organization of a permanent nonpartisan commission for the public welfare.

This committee, composed of I. H. Lionberger, F. N. Judson, E. C. Simmons, B. Schnurmacher and C. P. Walbridge, is to report at a meeting which will be held on Thursday of next week. Discussion of the best methods to be pursued by the committee was general, at the request of the members.

SPEECHES ON THE NEEDS OF THE CITY.

Speeches on the needs of St. Louis, and the best means of securing legislation by which relief could be gained, were made by former Governor David R. Francis, F. N. Judson, William H. Thompson and Robert H. Kern.

The consensus of opinion seemed to be that the best way in which the fullest and speediest relief could be obtained would be through the calling of a constitutional convention, the manner in which this would have to be done being explained by City Counselor Benjamin Schnurmacher.

The meeting was attended by representatives of the principal social and commercial organizations of the city, and by representatives of the municipal administration. It was noted by several of the speakers that a response had been received from every one of the gentlemen invited, and that all of them were represented personally, by proxy, or by letter.

The meeting was absolutely free from partisanship and from personalities directed toward any one in public or private life. Discussion was wholly along the line of the needs of St. Louis, and how best the greatest good to all the people of the city could be secured. The session lasted an hour and a half.

PURPOSES OF THE MEETING SET FORTH.

The meeting was held in room "L" of the Mercantile Club. President Houser, in calling it to order, referred briefly to the purposes as set forth in the call issued by the Publishers' Association, which stated:

"It has become apparent that legislation of some sort, either by amendment of the City Charter, or by constitutional amendment, is urgently needed if St. Louis is to be put in condition for the World's Fair. Means must be devised to raise additional revenue for the growing wants of the city and to enable St. Louis to meet requirements due to conditions radically different from those in existence when the Scheme and Charter were adopted twenty-four years ago.

"The necessity for such remedial legislation has been clearly shown by the press of St. Louis, and it is proposed by the St. Louis Daily Newspaper Publishers' Association that a nonpartisan commission, composed of eminent citizens of St. Louis, be created to consider means of securing needed legislation."

M. J. Lowenstein's nomination of Isaac H. Lionberger as temporary chairman and Robert H. Kern's suggestion of Breckenridge Jones for temporary secretary were accepted unanimously. Mr. Jones's call of the roll of those invited as representatives of the social and commercial interests of the city, and of the municipal administration, showed that all but two were present, personally or by proxy.

ABSENTEES EXPRESS THEIR SYMPATHY.

O. L. Whitelaw, president of the Merchants' Exchange, sent word that his physician had ordered him to remain at home, and that the order had come too late for him to appoint a proxy. He sent assurances of his hearty sympathy with the movement, and of his willingness to do what he could to further it. B. J. Strauss, president of the Columbian Club, telegraphed his regrets that a sudden business call had taken him out of the city. He promised co-operation in any action decided upon.

In a letter which expressed thorough sympathy with the movement, John A. Harrison, president of the Board of Education, regretted his inability to accept the invitation to take part in the deliberations and named Doctor William Taussig as representative of the board.

Temporary Chairman Lionberger declared his belief that the importance of the movement inaugurated by the Publishers' Association could not be overestimated. He urged the advisability of a thorough discussion of the matters that would come up and the necessity for promptness in such action as should be decided upon.

A series of preambles and resolutions, submitted by Mr. Knapp for the avowed purpose of giving a starting point for the discussion, were argued at some length by several gentlemen. No action was taken on them as a motion, however, Mr. Knapp submitting instead a resolution which instructed the chair to appoint a committee of five on plan and scope. Mr. Frank suggested that the meeting name the members of the committee, and Mr. Knapp accepted the suggestion. The result was the resolution which was adopted by the meeting, and which is printed herewith.

F. N. JUDSON TELLS OF NEEDED CHANGES.

F. N. Judson, in answer to a suggestion from Mr. Lowenstein, discussed the needs of the city and the best manner in which they could be met. He declared the meeting to be the most remarkable one, in its representative character and the practically unanimous response of the gentlemen invited, that had ever assembled in St. Louis.

Mr. Judson explained some of the legal difficulties in the way of the progress of St. Louis. The city, he said, is confronted by a condition which is the natural result of extensive acquisition of territory and efforts to bring it all under municipal government without changes in a Charter which was framed for the government of a city much more compact. He deemed it imperative to take steps to curtail expenses and to increase the revenue to meet the new conditions. The city is shackled by the Constitution and its Charter, and he considered that the only real remedy lies in a constitutional convention and a new Constitution, or, less preferably, amendments to the present Constitution.

Former Governor David R. Francis, as a representative of the World's Fair, was asked to give his impressions. He declared he saw no way in which to remedy the situation except by constitutional amendments, or by a new Constitution. He did not know how it could be done; but he was directly in favor of granting the city the right to issue more bonds for the purpose of raising the revenue necessary for public improvements.

PLAN DECIDED UPON FOR PUBLIC WELFARE.

Resolved, That I. H. Lionberger, F. N. Judson, E. C. Simmons, B. Schnurmacher and C. P. Walbridge be appointed a committee of five on plan and organization, to prepare a scheme for the permanent organization of a nonpartisan commission for the public welfare.

Resolved, That the committee of five be requested to report its recommendations as to the plan of organization and nominations for membership of the commission to an adjourned meeting to be held at the Mercantile Club on Thursday evening, December 20.

D. R. FRANCIS ON RAISING NEEDED FUNDS.

He saw no reason why the present generation should be compelled to pay the whole cost of improvements which future generations would enjoy, when the money for them could be borrowed at 3 per cent, and the payments distributed over a long term of years. He believed that the citizens of St. Louis would at the present time willingly vote for a $10,000,000 bond issue for the purpose of giving the city needed improvements.

Mr. Francis discussed the question of the city's water supply at length and said that the character of St. Louis water is more criticised abroad than any other one thing. He argued against any charge in the provision, which prohibits the use of water revenue for any purpose other than improvements and extensions of the service; and hoped that the agitation in favor of a reduction of water rates would fail for the reason that in the accumulation of a surplus in that department lies the city's best hope for acquiring a municipal filtration plant. And this, he contended, is one of the great needs of the city.

Mr. Francis cited the case of New Orleans, which city is at this time expending $16,000,000 for street and sewer improvements, all of which money has been raised through the sale of bonds.

"From a World's Fair standpoint," said Mr. Francis, "St. Louis needs improvements, and must have them."

He agreed with Mr. Judson as to the representative character of the meeting, and commented upon the unanimity with which the invitations had been accepted. He thought this was due to concerted action of the press of the city, and that it could not otherwise have been achieved.

PEOPLE EXPECT SOMETHING TO BE DONE.

W. H. Thompson, chairman of the Finance Committee of the World's Fair, summarized the condition of St. Louis by likening the city to a boy who had outgrown his clothes and needed a new suit.

"The fact," he said, "that the invitations to this meeting were so generally accepted shows that the necessities are realized and that the people expect something to be done."

He did not see anything unreasonable in such an organization as was proposed. He said:

"Though we elect men to perform the duties of government we should not lose sight of them, and by giving them encouragement and showing our interest in affairs we will get better results."

Mr. Schnurmacher explained the methods by which a Constitutional Convention could be called and a new Constitution framed and acted upon. He declared it would be a much speedier process than that of amending the present Constitution and would accomplish more.

Other gentlemen discussed the chances for the success of a call for a Constitutional Convention and declared their opinion that the State was ripe for such a step.

Assistant Comptroller Fred Gabel expressed his belief that a Constitutional Convention was the speediest and probably the only way in which the desires results could be achieved.

MEN WHO ATTENDED THE CONFERENCE.

Those who were present at the meeting were:

C. P. Walbridge, president of the Business Men's League.

Malcolm Macbeth, president of the Real Estate Exchange.

L. D. Kingsland, president of the Manufacturers' Association.

F. N. Judson, for the St. Louis Club.

I. H. Lionberger, president of the University Club.

Robert H. Kern, for the Mercantile Club.

E. O. Stanard, for the Commercial Club.

Breckinridge Jones, for the Round Table Club.

E. J. Spencer, vice president of the Engineers' Club.

McArthur Johnson, president of the Central Trades and Labor Union.

J. A. Steinmeyer, president of the Furniture Board of Trade.

P. R. Little, for the Lumberman's Club.

Pierre Chouteau, chairman of the World's Fair Committee of 200.

D. R. Francis, chairman of the World's Fair Executive Committee.

William H. Thompson, chairman of the World's Fair Finance Committee.

Charles W. Knapp, editor and manager of The Republic.

Nathan Frank, president of the Star Publishing Company.

D. M. Houser, publisher of the Globe-Democrat.

William C. Steigers, business manager of the Post-Dispatch.

Emil Preetorius, president of the Westliche Post.

William A. Carpenter, for the St. Louis Chronicle.

Theodore Adelmann, for the Amerika.

M. J. Lowenstein, secretary of the St. Louis Daily Newspaper Publishers' Association.

Henry Ziegenhein, Mayor.

Robert E. McMath, president of the Board of Public Improvements.

Isaac H. Sturgeon, Comptroller.

Frederick Gabel, Assistant Comptroller.

E. F. W. Meier, President of the Council.

E. E. Murrell, Speaker of the House of Delegates.

Benjamin Schnurmacher, City Counselor.

Harry B. Hawes, president of the Board of Police Commissioners.

Doctor William Taussig, for the Board of Education.

C. F. Blanke, for the Union Club.

E. C. Simmons, appointed as proxy for President Hirschberg of the Noonday Club, wrote that his notification of the appointment reached him at a time when it was impossible for him to break an engagement for the same hour. But he gave assurances of his desire to co-operate in the work.

MORE AID FOR GALVESTON.

Red Cross Sends $1,000 to Provide Shelter for the Homeless.

Washington, Dec. 11.—The Washington auxiliary to the National Red Cross Association to-day sent $1,000 to Mr. John Seely, chairman of the Relief Committee at Galveston, Tex., to be used in providing shelter for the homeless. Another thousand will be sent soon by the auxiliary, which is receiving contributions from all parts of the United States.