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WORLD'S—1903—FAIR.

MEMORABLE FOR PROOF OF HARMONY.

Democratic Committeeman Chapline of Saline County is amply justified in making the assertion that the St. Louis convention of Democratic County Committeemen will be long remembered for the harmonizing influences it exerted upon the various interests represented.

Precisely in this achievement is the work of the convention most dismaying to the enemies of the Democratic party in Missouri. The convention was heralded in the Republican press as certain to develop into a gathering of malcontents and to end in factional dissension calculated to send the Democratic party into the next campaign crippled and demoralized. Great emphasis was placed upon the "sinister" motives which were alleged to have caused the calling of the convention. The secret purpose of the gathering, the opposition press claimed, was the overthrow of the present Democratic State Committee and a radical change in the party's leadership.

There was not a word of truth in these stories, as the proceedings of the convention amply proved. Missouri Democracy's determination to organize effectively and aggressively was never more plainly shown. Every member of the convention displayed a loyal willingness for faithful and harmonious party service. The resolutions adopted by the convention testify in confident terms to this spirit of party unity and devotion to the Democratic cause. Mr. Chapline of Saline County is right in his conception of the convention's teaching. The truth of party harmony was demonstrated beyond all question.

RELIEVE THE PRESSURE.

Nothing could better illustrate the changed position of the United States as a world power than the attitude of England. For years that country spoke of its "offspring" with some commiseration and much disparagement. Now that the progress of events has reversed the tide of wealth and prestige there is great danger that the British will overdo the friendship and brother fashion.

Americans know that England deems your Uncle Sam a very necessary friend in these days when all Europe is opposed to the policy of the insular kingdom. They also know that Englishmen want to keep our friendship at almost any cost, as witness the abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty. These proofs of friendship are patent to all the world.

Then why the extras? Why should the Poet Laureate inflict a supposed tribute to this country which was so evidently made to order? Why should the English press find nothing too good to say about our unparalleled advancement? Has the sweetness of taffy reached the degree where all the old dislike is sugared forever out of our cousins' comment?

A few more outpourings like the latest Austin production will cloy the American appetite for flattery—and the appetite is pretty keen at that. It was not until the United States forced recognition from every corner of the earth that England grew so appreciative.

We are friends of England—about the best friends that nation can find. We appreciate what that country has done for us in the way of literature, art and science. But now that we are entirely independent and have justly earned our independence, we can well say that English affection would have done more good at certain critical periods in the past.

AS THE BRITISH WORKMAN SEES IT.

In the discussion of the inroads that American trade is making on British commerce much has been said regarding the restrictive policy of English trades unions. Manufacturers have asserted that the chief cause of American supremacy is the limitation on output which unionists enforce. English authorities claim that as long as this obstruction continues the manufacturers compete with tied hands for markets.

It is good to hear another side of this question from a representative of the labor unions. Ben Tillett, a delegate to the recent convention of the American Federation of Labor. In the current number of the Independent he gives his views on the subject in a manner that shows a thorough acquaintance with facts.

He is frank enough to say that the United States have come into their just heritage because of the personal aggressiveness of the employers and the employes. "What America has demonstrated," says Mr. Tillett, "is that high wages mean efficiency and high economy. After all, the standard of living is the standard of productive effectiveness."

Another cause of American advancement in the world's trade is the facility with which they meet the demands of the customer. The Britisher will call a new demand a fad, ignore the customer's wishes, point to the years during which the old-fashioned article has sufficed, and wait for a return to former tastes. The result is that the American, by keeping pace or in advance of the customer's needs, not only captures the trade, but keeps it.

Especially true has this been with tools and machinery. Mr. Tillett claims that, whereas the American laborer is invited and encouraged to suggest improvements in the machinery he uses, "this would be an impertinence in the old country, for no one but those in responsible positions are considered intelligent enough to understand the machinery they may have used for a lifetime." In other words, the laborer is not expected to have the initiative possessed so commonly by the skilled workmen of the United States.

When America began to make inroads on English trade, the first suggestions, according to Mr. Tillett, were to the effect that wages should be cut. He claims that the trades unions have almost succeeded in combating this theory of competition. "What the employers are beginning to learn," he observes, "is that just as standardization in machinery means both efficiency and economy, so, too, uniformity in wages and working conditions, on a definite minimum basis, is also efficiency and economy, affording stability to prices, which, after all, is the aim of your trusts in America."

Mr. Tillett's deduction regarding the trusts is perhaps the consequence of the thankfulness that he feels over the inroads which this country is making on British trade. In the menace he sees a relief for the English laborer from present conditions. In so far as that end is furthered, he rejoices in the lesson that America is teaching the world.

MEN OF BUSINESS.

St. Louis is to be congratulated on the character of the interviews with municipal officials in The Republic regarding work of the past year and the purposes of this. Much has been accomplished in a public way, but even better than the record that has been made is the businesslike and earnest manner with which each head of a department sets forth the ideals that govern him.

No officer gives reason to anticipate anything but a high performance of public duty during 1902. The whole tone of their expressions on municipal subjects is worthy and equal to the best expectations of citizens. The unanimity with which officials not only point to past work but also promise future results in accord with the pledges that were made by candidates last spring is perhaps the most significant feature in a New Year's review of conditions in St. Louis.

And a fulfillment of the declarations made by the candidates during the campaign last spring is all that is desired by the public. The integrity they honored, the business ability they placed at the disposal of the public service and the devotion promised to the best interests of this city have brought a reward that is shown in the universal confidence of the whole people in the present city administration.

There are problems to be solved which will require the best judgment of well-trained minds. The same good sense that dictated the support of the Charter amendments will see that the improvements made possible by their adoption will be carried out with an eye single to the public good. Further legislation will be enacted that will make the administration and enforcement of the law easier and more effective.

There has been a notable lack of political manipulation during the past year, and it is in contrast with the practices of previous years. The problems to be solved are of a business nature. Business sense assures a successful solution. There has been a careful pruning of the pay rolls at the same time that there has been an increase in collections. Wherever possible, the revenues of the city have been increased by an attention to details on the part of officials. During this year new regulations will provide for the assessment of taxes on special privileges. Possible loopholes will be closed, resulting in larger funds for the support of municipal departments.

In a measure, the personal force that characterizes Mayor Wells's attitude toward official responsibility has brought about this regeneration of the public service. As a New Year's gift to the people of St. Louis, the mutual confidence existing between citizens and the heads of departments is something that cannot be too greatly appreciated.

GOMEZ AND MASO AS TYPES.

When old General Gomez returned to Havana the other day he was coolly received by the populace, and a counter demonstration arranged in behalf of General Maso for political effect in the election which took place on Tuesday would have completely eclipsed the Liberator's reception had not the police interfered to prevent so humiliating an incident.

This is entirely natural. All that Gomez had done for Cuba was to fight sturdily for Cuban independence throughout the best years of his life. He did this modestly, keeping in the field and not posing as a grand-stand hero. He is nothing of a politician, cannot make a speech, and is too simple and sincere by nature to be a good mixer.

General Maso, the oratorical blatherskite, who strove to bring about the chilly reception of old Gomez, is the sort of patriot who looks out for Number One first, last and all the time. You never heard very much of Maso when Gomez was fighting Spain that Cuba might be free. But when Cuban freedom came in sight and there arose an opportunity for political preferment and the advancement of personal fortunes Maso was very much in evidence. You'd think that he, and not old Gomez, was the Liberator of Cuba—that is, if you listened to Maso and his friends.

All of which goes to show that patriots are a fine "graft" for politicians. The former are a childlike folk, believing in certain high ideals and not unwilling to suffer for their faith. This arouses popular enthusiasm, and then the politician profits by orating himself into favor. Gomez and Maso are true types of the two temperaments. The one does. The other talks. And the people forget the deeds of the one in listening to the high-sounding gab of the other.

CONSULAR WORK FOR THE FAIR.

Secretary of State Hay's official circular of instruction to the National Government's diplomatic and consular officers, directing them to do everything in their power to foster and promote the interests of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, means a vast benefit to the World's Fair of 1903.

Under such instructions the consular service of the United States Government becomes in effect a splendidly organized bureau of exploitation for the World's Fair, every member of which is well trained for his especial work and in a position of advantage for its prosecution.

The effect of the Secretary of State's instructions should be almost immediately apparent in the aroused interest of foreign countries.

Taken in connection with the more direct and concentrated effort of the World's Fair Commissioners to the various foreign Governments, many of whom are now at their posts, and with the entire staff soon to be organized and at work, the enlistment of the Government consular service in the task of World's Fair promotion must result in great good.

Mr. Hay has issued his circular of instruction at a timely moment. The New Year opens with bright promise for energetic and effective World's Fair work in all lands.

A PLAIN-SPOKEN CONGRESSMAN.

Congressman Eddy of Minnesota evidently has no designs on the surplus about which Republicans have been bragging so much. In an interview on the question of raising the salaries of Congressmen and Senators, he has raked the feelings of more than one distinguished Representative when he says that not more than ten members of the House could earn $5,000 a year outside of Washington.

His estimate is plausible if the everyday evidences are worth considering. There are few Congressmen, failing of re-election, who are grabbed by business men at salaries equal to the Congressional remuneration.

President McKinley had a favorite method of appointing retired Representatives to commissions where the emoluments were worth respectful attention. It seemed necessary in order that they might live in decent comfort.

Mr. Eddy's other proposition that no Congressman earns $5,000 a year casts little credit upon legislative work. If the men sent to formulate the laws do not earn this rate of salary there should be revision of the rolls. To the plea that life in Washington is expensive a simple answer is that the people do not send Representatives there to live in luxury. The move for higher congressional salaries is opposed to a simplicity in American life in a place where there should be the most simplicity.

If Republicans think that the existence of the surplus calls for some such scheme they will find the people firmly opposed to this method of reduction. If anything, the surplus should be made larger by a pruning of expenses. Or the public debt can be reduced—a much more satisfactory disposition than the proposed salary grab. Two increases of congressional compensation in the history of this nation wrought disaster to the men who got the money. Another century has not yet created a different public sentiment.

Influential shippers in the Northwest assert that President James J. Hill of the Northern Pacific Railroad has threatened to prevent the building of needed branch lines if too much activity in the agitation against the Northern Securities merger is shown by the communities affected. If such a threat has been made, these communities should lose no time in showing their enmity to the so-called merger. If an effort to make the new corporation obey the laws is to be followed by retaliatory measures, against which the people are helpless unless they do take action, the officials of the different States should kill the evil thing in the beginning. No industrial community should be completely at the mercy of one interest.

Sooner or later St. Louis must authorize the Municipal Assembly to levy a small tax for the erection of public buildings and the completion of present unfinished structures. Mayor Wells suggests that a special election be held in the near future for that purpose. Considering the advisability of getting the city in shape for the World's Fair, it is not too early for a consideration of the tax. Whether a special election should be held or the matter be postponed until the general election in the fall is the chief question. When the opportunity to vote the money is presented to St. Louis, there should be absolutely no hesitation in giving a unanimous affirmative.

License Collector Whyte reports an increase of collections in his department during the first nine months of 1901 over the preceding twelve months to the amount of $143,609. In his estimate prepared for the Municipal Assembly, he said that the total increase for the year would probably be $160,000. There is every reason to expect that the sum will aggregate $200,000. The system and absolute integrity which Mr. Whyte has brought to this branch of the city government have alone justified the election of the entire Democratic ticket last spring.

Building permits aggregating $13,207,991 in value were issued by the Building Commissioner during the past year. This is an increase of $7,291,007 over 1900. No month showed a decrease. This year will probably result in even greater gains, the increased bank clearings and the activity incident to the World's Fair alone assuring a most prosperous season for contractors, home-builders and every workingman engaged in structural labor.

RECENT COMMENT.

Tariff Reform and Reciprocity.

Baltimore Sun.

The demand for reciprocal trade treaties with other countries comes largely from the agricultural people of the West. Not long ago Governor Stanley of Kansas called a convention which has been known as the Reciprocity Convention, to consider the question. The covention strongly favored trade relations with other countries, to be brought about by tariff reforms and reciprocity treaties. In the interest of the farmers, and especially those of the Mississippi Valley, as well as the people of Mexico, the tariff wall along the Rio Grande should be broken down. Mexico needs many of the agricultural products of this country as well as our manufactured articles. Breadstuffs are especially in demand in all the tropical countries of America, including more especially Cuba. Wheat cannot be raised in these countries, and the Government should see to it that tariff restrictions do not interfere with the sale of our wheat. The movement in Germany to exclude the products of the American farms is without doubt a measure of retaliation. It is one which may be made at any time by other countries of Europe, and if the foreign market for our surplus wheat, bacon and beef is closed it not only means ruin to the farmer, but to the workingman and the manufacturer alike.

A Reptilian Hoodoo.

New Orleans Times-Democrat.

The prejudice against naming a vessel after a reptile, snake or any stinging thing has received further backing through the recent wrecking of the Viper and Cobra. This is the fourth Viper that has been lost in the British navy. One was wrecked in 1780. The Viper, a French prize, used in the British service, was lost in 1793. A third of the name went to the bottom in 1797, and the fourth was recently smashed off Guernsey. The Serpent, wrecked eleven years ago, was the fourth British man-of-war of that name to meet the same fate. Two Snakes have been lost, one in 1784 and another in 1847. Three Lizards have been wrecked, one in 1515, and one in 1696 and one in 1843. An Adder was lost in 1846 and an Alligator in 1782, a Crocodile in 1784 and a Rattlesnake in 1781. Two Dragons and a Basalisk have also gone down, and if records of other navies could be gone through the list might be interminable.

Germany's Hapless Plight.

Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

The situation in Germany with reference to labor is exceedingly serious, and there is nothing to warrant the belief that mitigation will soon arrive. At the opening of fall it was estimated that over half a million of laborers were out of employment, and had been for many weeks. With the passing of fall and the coming of winter the number has largely increased, owing to the stoppage of outdoor work, impossible to be done in winter, and the number of the idle now approaches the million mark. The situation calls for wisdom—and the outcome will determine whether Emperor William, who agreeably disappointed friends and enemies by not plunging into a general war, has the necessary moderation and wisdom to tide over the most dangerous situation Germany has experienced since Bismarck placed the imperial crown on the head of the King of Prussia.

Low-Grade Republicanism.

Pittsburg Post.

The gage of battle has been thrown down by the adherents of Hanna and Foraker in Ohio and accepted by both leaders. There is no opposition to Foraker's reelection to the Senate, but aside from that Hanna wants the control of the Legislature, which means the Republican organization of Ohio. The issue on which a big battle is waged seems trivial and of no consequence, and merely an installment of peanut politics on the boss pattern. It recalls the low grade of political controversy to which Republican affairs have sunk in Pennsylvania. The party seems unable to go alone, and must be under the lash of a boss. Discipline means subservience and obedience, and it has no relation to the old-time freedom of political organization.

Minnesota Produces a Champion.

Minneapolis Tribune.

Mercedes Julips Pieterja is a female name that will go ringing down the ages as the champion of her class. Mercedes is a Holstein cow, and she has broken the seven days' record of milk and butter production. In that length of time she "gave down" 589 pounds of milk, containing 29.47 pounds of butter fat. The record made at the World's Fair by "Brown Bessie," the famous Jersey, was about twenty-two pounds of butter. Is it any wonder that Minnesota dairies are flourishing when our glorious soil and climate produce such "milky mothers of the herd" as Mercedes?

PLAYHOUSE FAVORITES.

MISS KATHRYN KIDDER,
Who in her new play, "Molly Pitcher," is soon to appear in St. Louis.

MILITARY RECEPTION GIVEN BY GOV. AND MRS. DOCKERY.

Executive Mansion at Jefferson City Scene of Brilliant Annual Affair—Officers of Missouri's Militia Present With Their Wives.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Jefferson City, Mo., Jan. 1.—The annual military reception, which has been the custom for many years to be given by the Chief Executive of the State to his staff and National Guards, was held to-night at the executive mansion by Governor and Mrs. A. M. Dockery, assisted by the State officers and their wives, and the wives who accompanied the members of the staff and the officers of the guards.

The mansion was elaborately decorated in flags, bunting, Christmas greens and large palms. The handsomely gowned women and the bright uniforms of the military, the blaze of lights and delightful music, furnished by the First Regiment Band, made the occasion one of the most brilliant ever given in the old historic mansion. The reception lasted until 10 o'clock, when the immense reception hall and drawing-rooms were converted into a dancing-room, and the young people enjoyed to the utmost the pleasure of the two-step and waltz.

Among the guests at the mansion who assisted Governor and Mrs. Dockery were Mr. and Mrs. Robert Motley of Bowling Green and Miss Alexander of Gallatin. In the dining-room Misses Ethel Edwards, Alma Gass, Helen Mann and Katherine Bell of Fulton presided over the coffee and punch, each table being prettily decorated in hyacinths, carnations and evergreens, festooning the chandeliers, and pink shades softening the lights.

Mrs. Dockery wore a handsome gown of white crepe de chine, trimmed in Russian embroidery and knots of pink velvet ribbon.

Among the prominent officials of the National Guards and the Governor's staff who were present were: General H. C. Clark and wife of Butler, Colonel James H. McCord, St. Joseph; Major George Halley, Kansas City; Major John A. Tuttle, Hillsboro; Major A. V. Adams, Adrain; Major Emmett Newton, Springfield; Captain Harry A. Shaw, Dexter; Captain Stephen E. Lowe, St. Louis; Colonel C. A. Sinclair, Colonel C. W. Holtcamp, Major Carl Pesold, Major L. M. Rumsey, Major Marquandt, Captain H. H. Hinton, Captain Lawrence Boswell, Captain John A. Laird of St. Louis, Colonel Harry Mitchell, Nevada; Colonel W. A. Raupp, Pierce City; Major F. M. Thorpe, Lamar; Major A. C. Landon, Clinton; Colonel Cusil Lechtman, Major George Hall, surgeon; Captain P. Paxton, commissary; Captain J. E. Jewell, ordnance; Captain C. Congdon, Captain W. Jackson, Lieutenant J. C. Hall, Adjutant; Lieutenant C. McClure, Lieutenant A. Connelly, Lieutenant W. Williams, Lieutenant J. K. Leitner, Lieutenant W. L. Coe, Lieutenant I. McGinnis, Sergeant James Sykes, Sergeant W. Sherlock of the Third Regiment, National Guards, Kansas City.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph T. Rice, Moberly; Doctor Frank J. Lutz, Sergeant General of the State, and his niece, Miss Lutz, of St. Louis, and Rabbi Harrison, also of St. Louis, were among the guests of the reception.

GOVERNOR YATES'S RECEPTION.

Executive Mansion at Springfield Scene of Brilliant Function.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Springfield, Ill., Jan. 1.—The leading social event of the year was celebrated to-day and probably never was the executive mansion the scene of a more brilliant function than this New Year's reception. At 11 o'clock all the officers assembled in the Leland Hotel and proceeded in a body to the mansion to pay their respects to the Governor and Mrs. Yates. An hour later officers of the Illinois National Guard, in full dress uniform, marched to the home of their Commander-in-Chief to greet him and his wife. Both State officials and military officers remained to assist in the public reception of the afternoon.

Mrs. Yates was assisted in the afternoon by wives of the State and militia officers and by friends from Quincy, Danville, Jacksonville, Peoria, Chicago and Springfield. The hostess was attired in a dainty creation of lace and silk—a yellow brocade with court train, flower trimmings cut from the brocade and appliqued to the costume with threads of gold. The chiffon petticoat was appliqued with flowers like the bodice, which was trimmed with yellow velvet with lace at neck and sleeves and brilliant buckles across the shoulders. The toilets of several other ladies in the receiving party were particularly elaborate.

CASTLE SQUARE SEASON WILL BEGIN IN MARCH.

The Short and Savage opera season at the Century Theater, which will in all probability be long and peaceful, will begin the week of March 2. Two operas will be given each week, with all the well-known Castle Square principals under contract for frequent appearances. Within a short time the sale of seats for the entire season of no fewer than seven weeks will be opened. The public will have access to the programme for the entire season, and in this way will be able to determine on performances and secure seats for them weeks in advance. There is to be a maximum price of $1 for the ground-floor seats, and nearly every seat in the theater will be reserved. On Wednesdays at the matinee cheaper prices will prevail, and at these performances, as well, there is to be a reservation of seats throughout the house. The orchestra will number twenty-seven and the stage will be in the hands of Mr. Temple, Edward Peerless the first.

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Mr. and Mrs. Nat C. Goodwin have signed a contract to begin an engagement at the Olympic Theater the week of March 23 in their old success, "When We Were Twenty-one."

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There are indications that "King Dodo" will press very close to the "Florodora" record at the Century Theater. Each performance finds the theater a bit more crowded, and the end of the engagement will mean another such turning away of customers as the "Ben-Hur" business at the Olympic developed. The piece is extremely bright in every way, and its principals are mostly better than good. The new comedian, Mr. Hitchcock, is new to the West, but he has been one of the Eastern funny men in the Savage forces for several years. His versatility is worth while, but it is as a straight funny man with the born right to make fun that he achieves most of his goodness.

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The sale of seats for the Irving-Terry engagement at the Olympic Theater next week will commence this morning at 9 o'clock. There is naturally great interest felt in this engagement, as the repertory is so varied, the bill being changed each night, and there being only one repetition, that of the "Merchant of Venice," on Monday night and at the Saturday matinee. Wills's poetical tragedy, "King Charles I," will be given Tuesday night; Wednesday there will be the double bill of "Nance Oldfield" and "The Bells"; Thursday night, the double bill of "Waterloo" and "Mme. Sans-Gene." Irving appearing as Corporal Brewster and as Napoleon in the latter, while Miss Terry will play the title role of Mme. Sans-Gene. Friday there will be another double bill of "Nancy Oldfield" and "The Lyons Mail"; Saturday night the engagement will end with Sir Henry Irving's characterization of "Louis XI." The performance will begin every evening, except Thursday, at 8:15, and on Thursday night at 8 o'clock. The matinee on Saturday will be given at 2 o'clock.

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There is undoubtedly a revival of interest in the days of the American Revolution. This is evidenced by the desire to see the new revolutionary comedy, "Molly Pitcher," which has been specially written by Glen MacDonough for Kathryn Kidder. The brave Molly, whose heroism at the battle of Monmouth has been immortalized by poet and sculptor, is surely a name to conjure with. Miss Kidder will be seen in her new play at the Century after "King Dodo," this week's bill. She will be supported by Olive Oliver, Lester Lonergan and Mabel Roebuck.

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The loves and sacrifices of Mary Tudor and Charles Brannon form the motif of "When Knighthood Was in Flower," which Julia Marlowe is giving at the Olympic. How the Princess refuses to obey her brother's command that she marry the aged King of France, and how she and Brandon are involved in great trouble as a result of her determination to wed the man of her choice, is swiftly disclosed in the first and second acts. The third transfers the leading characters to the great room of the Bow and String Inn at Bristol, whither the Princess and Brandon have fled, with the intention of taking ship for America, and thus escaping the wrath of Kings and the penalties of exalted station. But they are captured by a troop of the Royal Guards and torn from each other's embrace, Brandon to be exiled and Mary to be wedded to the King of France. She becomes the monarch's wife in name only, however. The last scene of the last act brings a happy ending and an exquisite tableau, which discovers King Henry, surrounded by a great array of courtiers, receiving back to England and to his favor his truant sister.

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"East Lynne," with vaudeville between acts, is the programme now being given at the Germania Theater by the American Stock Company.

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Heinemann and Welb produced the well-known German singing farce, "Adam und Eve" at the Germania last night. "Die Rautzau," by Erckman-Chatrian, will be given by this organization Sunday evening.

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The Burton Holmes lectures will begin at the Odeon January 2. The programme is as follows: "Moscow and Count Tolstoi," Saturday, January 11; "Siberia," January 14; "Pekin," January 21; "Korea," January 25.

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Weil's Band will give the second of its present series of concerts Sunday afternoon at the Odeon.

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Virginia Sterling, better known in St. Louis as Sadie Kelly, will appear at the Columbia next week. This will be her only engagement in vaudeville for the present, as she intends returning to New York to complete her musical studies.

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The Choral-Symphony Society will give its fourth concert January 9, Fritz Kreisler, violinist, being the artist.

The orchestra numbers are Symphony No. 2 in D major by Beethoven; Entr'acte for Strings, F major, by Reinecke; and Slavonic Dance, G minor, and a selection from Dvorak.

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Paul Gilmore, who was Henrietta Crossman's leading man for several seasons, comes to Havlin's next week in "Lost River." This drama was last seen here at the Olympic Theater, where it was well received. The hero is a contractor, who is engaged in the construction of an aqueduct. While in the country he meets and loves a girl, who, later, saves his life when villains in his employ seek to destroy the aqueduct. Among the startling scenes are those of the heroine's ride by the toll gate and a sensational bicycle race. Edith Fassett, Elizabeth Woodson and Bartley McCullom are with the company. "In Old Kentucky" is adding to the length of its popularity at Havlin's this week. There will be a buck-and-wing-dancing contest, open to all, to-morrow evening, for a prize of $10.

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George C. Boniface, Jr., Mary Hampton and Thomas J. Keogh will appear at the Grand after Williams and Walker, presenting the musical farce, "The Gay Mr. Goldstein." The organization is an unusually large one, and the piece is said to have been written with the one and only object of causing merriment. "The Sons of Ham," the current attraction, has been crowding the theater all week, and in order to satisfy the St. Louis following of the darky comedians a special matinee will be played to-morrow.

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The Imperial will have "A Homespun Heart," beginning with the matinee of the coming Sunday. The drama is rich in character delineation and thrilling in almost all of its incidents. The closing scene, in which the hero is restored to reason by a sudden shock, is sensational, and another of the features is one in which the half-witted young fellow amuses himself by having a chicken fight, the birds being from among those of the flock on the farm. "The Bowery After Dark" is the play of the week at the Imperial. The story dates from the beginning of the war between Spain and the United States, though the location of all of the scenes is in the Bowery district of New York.

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The Dewey extravaganza company will succeed Reilly and Woods at the Standard. One of the best features of the show is said to be "The Waiter and the Maid," a new sketch by Ford and Dot West. The Three Millettes, European performers, are to introduce new acrobatic feats, Quigley Brothers will give a "cross-fire" conversational turn, and the Zouaves, a stage military organization of sixteen girls, is announced as a special attraction. The entertainment will close with a musical jingle called "Expansion."

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For the second week the new American Stock Company at the Germania Theater will offer a lively melodrama entitled, "In Louisiana." It will be produced at the matinee next Sunday and continue through the week, except Sunday and Wednesday nights, when the German organization of Heinemann and Welb will appear. The principal feature of "In Louisiana" will be the railroad scene, in which two trains will crash together in the center of the stage, piling high the wreckage and burning the train in full view of the audience. Vaudeville specialties will be given by Olive Vail and Gladys Leslie.

HOW HE ACQUIRED FLORODORA.

John C. Fisher Backed His Judgment and Will Make Thousands.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Cincinnati, O., Jan. 1.—John C. Fisher, senior member of Fisher & Ryley, controlling the American rights of "Florodora," is in the city. According to Mr. Fisher, he acquired the musical comedy in this way:

"My attention was called to the possibilities of 'Florodora' by a friend, and I went to London to see it," said Mr. Fisher. "A number of New York managers, at the Hotel Cecil, after viewing a performance of the play, fairly roasted it. The music, however, had impressed me as being of the ear-tickling kind that would carry the productions to success anywhere, so I purchased it.

"As a sample of the business 'Florodora' is doing, I calculate the company playing in this city this week will net us $10,000 at least on the season."

JOHN P. WITHERS RESIGNS.

Disposes of His Interest in a Beaumont Bank.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Beaumont, Tex., Jan. 1.—John P. Withers, formerly of Kansas City, Mo., who organized the American National Bank in this city last spring, has resigned as director and president of the institution and yesterday left Beaumont for the North. His entire interest in the bank, amounting to some $51,000 of stock, has been purchased by the Beaumont business men who own a majority of the bank's stock. Judge George C. O'Brien of the Jefferson County Court is acting as president of the bank until the next meeting of the directors, January 14, when a president will be selected.

This bank was organized by Withers last May.

WANTS MONEY FOR CONSTRUCTION.

San Pedro and Los Angeles Railway Calls for $1,000,000.

Salt Lake, Utah, Jan. 1.—The Board of Directors of the San Pedro, Los Angeles and Salt Lake Railroad Company has just called upon the members of the company for an additional $1,000,000 to push the work of construction on the line that is to run from this city to the coast.

This money is to be paid at once and makes $6,000,000 already put up by the promoters.

GERMANY'S PROSPECTS FOR 1902 SEEM BRIGHTER, ACCORDING TO PRESIDENT KOCH OF THE REICHSBANK.

Berlin, Jan. 1.—President Koch of the Reichsbank is of the opinion that the business situation in Germany has really taken a turn for the better, and believes that the new year opens with somewhat better prospects. In an interview he says:

"The worst appears to be past. This is not merely my personal impression. The statement is based on reports I have received from the various parts of Germany where an improvement of the situation has begun.

"I must admit that coal and iron do not show improvement. In Silesia, the Rhineland and Westphalia it appears that business cannot improve. The overproduction has doubtless been too great. When the times promised so much the works hastened to secure material and went too far. I have read of some failures, but these do not compare in numbers or importance with those of last summer."