The Times-Dispatch

PUBLISHED DAILY AND WEEKLY AT THE

TIMES-DISPATCH BUILDING.

BUSINESS OFFICE, NO. 216 EAST MAIN STREET.

At No. 4 North Tenth Street, Richmond, Va. Entered January 27, 1903, at Richmond, Va., as second-class matter, under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Washington Bureau: No. 216 Colorado Building, Fourteenth and G Streets, Northwest.

Manchester Bureau: Carter's Drug Store, No. 1102 Hull Street.

Petersburg Headquarters: J. Beverley Harrison's, No. 109 North Sycamore Street.

The DAILY TIMES-DISPATCH is sold at 2 cents a copy.

The SUNDAY TIMES-DISPATCH is sold at 5 cents a copy.

The DAILY TIMES-DISPATCH, including Sunday, in Richmond and Manchester, by carrier, 12 cents per week or 50 cents per month.

THE TIMES-DISPATCH, Richmond, Va.

BY MAIL.	One Year.	Six Mos.	Three Mos.	One Mo.
Daily, with Sun.	$5.00	$2.50	$1.25	$ .50
" without Sun.	3.00	1.50	.75	.25
Sun. edition only	2.00	1.00	.50	.25
Weekly (Wed.)	1.00	.50	.25	—

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TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 1904.

The Times-Dispatch takes the full Associated Press Service, the London Times War Service and the Hearst News General News Service and has its own correspondents throughout Virginia and North Carolina and in the leading cities of the country.

If you go to the mountains, seashore or country, have The Times-Dispatch go with you.

City subscribers before leaving the city during the summer should notify their carrier or this office ('Phone 38). If you write, give both out-of-town and city addresses.

The World's Letter to the President.

In an open letter to the President, published on Saturday last, the New York World powerfully sums up the issues of the campaign as the personality of Theodore Roosevelt. The World says in part.

The paramount issue of this campaign is not, as you would have it, free trade or free silver, but you yourself—Theodore Roosevelt.

This issue is forced upon the country by your unusual temperament and talents—your own strong, able, ambitious, resourceful, militant, passionate personality, your versatile and surprising genius.

* * *

You have glorified war and threatened the future peace of the country by proposing a bullying overlordship of the other countries in this hemisphere and offering to constitute the United States the constable and collector for Europe in the rotten and irresponsible States of Central and South America.

* * *

You have, by your recommendations to Congress, and your signature to its extravagances, increased the national expenditures during your term to more than $2,500,000,000—an excess of $211,000,000 over the expenditures during President McKinley's term (which included the expenses of the war with Spain), and exceeding the cost of President Cleveland's second term by $889,000,000.

You and the Congress of your party have converted a surplus of $80,000,000 in 1900 into a deficit of more than $40,000,000 for the fiscal year just closed.

* * *

In view of this surpassing record of extravagance, it is perhaps, not strange, but will be regarded by the taxpayers as significant, that the words "economy," "retrenchment" and "reform," once the rule of the nation and the shibboleth of statesmen, do not once appear in your entire speech of acceptance—not once!

* * *

The principle of protection has been maintained by every party that has held power in this country since the adoption of the Constitution, including the administration of eight Democratic Presidents. Representative Clark, chairman of the St. Louis Convention, truly said that "the Democratic party is not a free trade party." Protection, however necessary under some conditions, is both needless and unjust when infant industries have become hoary monopolies. It is especially oppressive and exasperating when perverted to enable favored manufacturers to maintain arbitrary high prices in the home market while underselling foreign competitors in the markets of the world.

The free coinage of silver, which was the decisive issue in the last two elections, is no longer a living question, though there are indications in your speech that you will seek to revive it. The overwhelming verdict of the people, regardless of party, in the last two elections; the law of 1900 re-establishing the gold standard; the enormous increase in the world's production of gold; the fact that no party and no public man of importance, not even Mr. Bryan, is now advocating free silver; and, beyond all, the declaration of your opponent, Judge Parker, that he regards the gold standard as "firmly and irrevocably established"—a declaration unreservedly accepted by the St. Louis Convention by a vote of 774 to 191—afford cumulative proof that the silver issue is dead and buried past resurrection.

* * *

You boast that your policy is "to do fair and equal justice to all men, paying no heed to whether a man is rich or poor." Can it be maintained that a tariff law which enables favored manufacturers, in return for big campaign contributions, to levy tribute on the whole body of the people as an example of "fair and equal justice?" Who represents anti-monopoly and the rights of labor in your Cabinet? Is it Secretary of the Treasury Shaw, the banker, who preaches that high prices are a blessing—or Attorney-General Moody, who has not lifted a finger to enforce the anti-trust laws?—or Secretary of the Navy Morton, lately a vice-president of the Santa Fe Railroad, an ally of the Beef Trust?—or Secretary of Commerce and Labor Metcalf, a political representative of the Southern Pacific Railroad?—or Postmaster-General Payne, long the legislative and lobby agent of railroad and other corporations?

Do these acts of yours give very strong backing to your words asserting equal regard for all classes?

You say of the "great organizations known as trusts," that "we do not have to explain why the laws against them were not enforced, but to point out that they actually have been enforced." This will be news, indeed, to the victims of the unpunished and unhampered Beef Trust and the other "conspiracies in restraint of trade" which continue to stifle competition and to rob consumers in defiance of law.

* * *

"Mr. Cortelyou, formerly private secretary, was at the head of the Department of Commerce just long enough to acquire by 'diligent investigation' such information as would be useful to the filler of your campaign chest. The public does not share this information. There is no evidence that the law officers of the government are making use of it to suppress and punish such odious and oppressive monopolies as the Beef Trust—which control the great portion of the meat supply of 80,000,000 people. But ex-private and ex-public Secretary Cortelyou—Chairman Cortelyou of your Campaign Committee—no doubt knows all that the law enabled him to learn of the inner workings of the potential campaign contributors!"

* * *

You boast that "never has the administration of the government been on a cleaner and higher level." We appeal to all honest men whether in the annals of our government there was ever a grosser abuse of power, a greater public scandal or a more unprincipled defiance of decent public opinion than is this transfer of an official investigator and curber of great corporations to be a collector of campaign funds from them!

* * *

"You say that you 'earnestly desire friendship with all the nations of the New and Old Worlds,' and that you think 'peace is right as well as advantageous.' Can you wonder that the people find it hard to recognize in these pacific utterances the Roosevelt they have known hitherto? A short time ago, in urging the creation of an even larger navy, the advice you gave for the guidance of the nation was: 'Speak softly, but carry a big stick.' Is the man who habitually does this generally 'seeking peace?' Do you think that the other nations of the New World thought that you, as President of this republic, really 'desired peace and friendship' with them when you wrote in your letter to the Cuban dinner?—

"Any country whose peoples conduct themselves well can count upon our hearty friendliness. If a nation shows that it knows how to act with decency in industrial and political matters, if it keeps order and pays its obligations, then it need fear no interference from the United States. Brutal wrong-doing or an impotence which results in the general loosening of the ties of civilized society may finally require intervention by some civilized nation, and in the Western Hemisphere the United States cannot ignore its duty."

Is not this unmistakably a threat that if any of the republics of Central or South America fails to "act with decency"—you being the judge—or if it fails to "keep order and pay its obligations" (as some of the States of our Union have failed to pay), it "need fear no interference from the United States"; but that if any or all of these States fail to live up to your standard of order and morality, "civilized society may finally require intervention," and that then "the United States cannot ignore its duty?"

Our faith in the intelligence, the common sense and the conscience of the American people is too great to believe that they will give a commission for four years in his own name to the chance pilot who is now heading the ship of state toward the rocks upon which other republics have been wrecked—tolerated usurpations by the Executive; warlike adventures for gain and glory; contempt for law; privileged classes sustained by election bribes; corruption in high places and extravagant expenditures from unjust taxes. Honor and prudence alike require a change of pilots and a return to the chart of the Constitution, to the rule of law and the flag of a peace-loving republic.

This is a powerful arraignment of the acts and tendencies of President Roosevelt's administration, and it has received the unqualified endorsement of such Democrats as Wheeler H. Peckham, George Foster Peabody, Edward N. Sheppard and Judge Roger A. Pryor, of New York. We have no doubt that it will appeal with equal force to the Democrats of Virginia, and we earnestly commend it to their attention. The Democratic party has a great and important mission to fulfill at the next election. When the issue between four more years of Roosevelt or four years of safe, sane and constitutional government, is fairly presented, as it will be, long before the election, there is little doubt on which side the independent vote of this country will array itself.

A Doomed Industry.

From all accounts the situation at Fall River is most distressing both to manufacturers of cotton and to their employes. In spite of curtailment, the market for cotton goods is stagnant with no prospect of a revival before the fall.

"There are two causes for this," says the Springfield Republican, "attributable to the attitude of both the manufacturers and the buyers. The former in the majority of cases cannot sell cloth or yarn at the prices that would attract buyers without losing money, while the latter see in the large cotton crop a good reason for holding off. When trade eventually developes cotton prices will be based on the new crop rather than on those prevailing to-day. Hence it will be seen that for the manufacturers to make up goods based on ten-cent cotton to be marketed at a time when, as is expected, 8 1-2 cents or 9 cents will be the quoted figure would be bad business policy unless the cost of production is reduced in the meantime to an extent that will approximate this difference. The wage reduction furnishes the only way out, and has been resorted to."

Our contemporary further states that the manufacturers are not at all disconcerted by the strike as they are very willing to let their mills remain idle for the present. Nor is it surprising that the operatives have struck because their wages were already at the low-water mark, according to the Boston Post, and they would be unable to live at the reduction now offered. We are sorry for the mill operatives in Massachusetts. But sorrow will do no good. The cotton milling business in New England is suffering from Southern competition, and it will suffer more and more. The milling industry must be carried on near the cotton fields.

Play-Grounds.

Science, according to a recent article in the Contemporary Review, has demonstrated that the capacity and desire to play are invariable accompaniments of increasing power to reason. It has long been understood by ethnologists that the games of a race of people were of the utmost importance in determining its status, and it now seems that even among animals the capacity for play is of great scientific value in determining the animal's place in nature. So also of children; those children who play the best, think the best, study the best, grow the best and are the best. If this be so, and it appears to be demonstrated beyond all peradventure of doubt, the playgrounds are no longer philanthropic, but necessary. If by teaching the children to play properly, you can save them from idleness and arrested development, to say nothing of positive criminal tendencies, surely playgrounds are far more valuable to a community than police and reformatories. We commend this thought to the earnest attention of the Civic Improvement League which has already made a very healthy step in this direction. The Civic Improvement League both can does fill a place whose opportunities for power for good are simply inestimable. It has already begun along wise and encouraging lines. Let is keep it up. Let it open more playgrounds, beautify more buildings, pull down more fences and plant more flowers, and through it all let the public follow The Times-Dispatch in giving it hearty co-operation and support to so important and valuable a work. It has been well said that it is more important to start one child right than to convert many a full grown sinner, for the child's chance of life and opportunity for good or evil is infinitely greater than that of an older person. So let us start the Richmond children along the best possible ways by educating their hearts and bodies and minds in healthful and stimulating play.

We have received from Mr. Albert Shultz, publisher, Staunton, Va., the prospectus of a book soon to be issued, "The Obeservertions of a Retired Veteran," by the late Henry C. Tinsley. Mr. Tinsley was one of the most brilliant writers Virginia ever produced, and we know that his book will make entertaining and instructive reading. It is edited by Mr. A. C. Gordon, and the price will be $1.

The Postoffice Department has long been the dumping ground for disappointed or superfluous office-seekers. The Panama "canal zone," whatever that may be, seems to be coming in to divide the honors with the Postoffice Department in this respect.

The announcement has been made that neither party will spend any money in Indiana this year "except for legitimate purposes." The whole field in political Indiana is easily covered by "legitimate purposes."

With prospects for higher prices for wheat, tobacco a-booming and peanuts sailing in the upper columns of the market reports, old Virginia does not seem to have very much to cut up about.

The work of the foreign missionary is not yet at an end. Female slavery still prevails in China. Out of a population of about four hundred million, nearly ten million girls or women are slaves.

It may be well enough for certain vigorous office-seekers to remember that Panama bears a very close resemblance in some respects to "that bourne from which no traveler returns."

There are several men around town who, being short of the usual fund, are taking a lot of consolation in the Russell Sage doctrine that vacations are a nuisance.

"Equal rights to all men, especially highly protected Republicans," is the sum and substance of at least one paragraph in the President's acceptation speech.

Whoever gets elected President, he will not have to wait a month or six weeks for notification of the fact before turning on the calcium lights.

Virginia farmers who have wheat to sell and no overdue paper in bank can afford to sit right down and wait for future developments.

With a Comment or Two.

When the time for liveliness arrives, we predict that the State candidates in North Carolina will make things lively.—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

But the Republicans have refused to give the Democratic candidates a chance to "make it lively."—Winston-Salem Sentinel.

Too bad! entirely too bad!!

Lest we forget, the Charlotte Observer comes to remind us of a thing or two. It says:

"We are all prone to forget things, and among the forgotten things is what Old Man Cleveland did the last time he ran for President. We all recollect that he carried the South, including West Virginia, Maryland and Delaware; that he carried New York, New Jersey and Connecticut in the East; Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin in the West; but it has remained for the Philadelphia Record to remind us that he captured five electoral votes in Michigan, and lacked only a few hundred of getting all those of Ohio, where he actually got one. Nobody else is to be judged in any particular by the standard that old man erected, but Judge Parker is mightily like him, and if Cleveland could win with this great margin, against a safer man than Roosevelt, why can't Parker win, with something, though even a smaller majority to spare?"

Facts and figures are sometimes worth studying.

A Few Foreign Facts.

Tamarick timber 4,000 years old has been found in perfectly sound condition in ancient Egyptian temples.

The vast majority of the Japanese have never heard of Japan. They call their country Nihon or Nippon, and even that name has only been in use for thirteen or fourteen centuries.

Owing to threats by Moorish tribesmen, work has been suspended on the new custom house at Tangier. Some friction has also occurred between Spanish gendarmes at Ceuta, and local Moors.

By order of the Ameer of Afghanistan some astrologers, who prophesied a destructive pestilence in the country, have been imprisoned, and will be tortured to death if their prediction be falsified.

The production of vegetable coal in Bohemia during 1903 amounted to 18,301,611 tons, valued at 74,225,000 crowns. The number of men employed in the production was about 35,000.

Torpid, Congested Liver

Is primary cause of disease. One bottle of Drake's Palmetto Wine cures. A trial bottle free. Drake Formula Company, Chicago. Owens and Minor Drug Company, distributing agents.

STAGE "SUPERS" AND THEIR ROLE

Varieties of the Super—Confederate Veterans as Roman Senators in "Julius Caesar"—The Regular Super's Routine—Getting Good Results in Mob Scenes—Recruiting for One-Night Stands.

By Lyman B. Glover.

(Dramatic critic for two years general manager for Richard Mansfield.)

(Copyright, 1904, by Joseph B. Bowles.)

THE supernumerary is not born to blush unseen or waste his fragrance on the desert air, but he is a name less particle in the economy of the stage. He may be massed with others of his kind at the bottom of the programme in the line with "Courtiers, citizens and Roman slaves," but aside from this his arduous duties are not recognized save in the small wage received on pay day.

Yet the super is quite important, particularly when he becomes a constituent element in the harmless necessary mob, which gives motion and color to scenes that would languish but for these ministrations. In his individual capacity he is almost of as much importance as the least consequential among the properties, but in combination with others he becomes potential as an army with banners. To his case applies the saying that "in union there is strength," and with all his fellows he might exclaim, in the language of Morris: "United we stand, divided we fall."

* * *

The super of the ordinary play is scarcely more than a lay figure. He appears with what grace he may as a speechless lackey or in the role of a waiter who is true to his title in that he does nothing but wait. If in the course of human events he falls heir to a single line and distinguishes himself by accomplishing this wondrous feat of art and memory without more than the average exhibition of stage fright and incoherence, the cup of his ambition is full, and he not only speaks with pride of the "bit" he is doing, but immediately besieges the manager for an increase of pay. In rare and joyous instances the super of to-day becomes the excellent actor, or even the star of some to-morrow, and there is no bar sinister to advancement from these lowly ranks if there is merit and enterprise to improve a genuine opportunity.

In a collective sense the super is a fellow of infinite variety. He belongs to all grades of society, the top rank being represented by university students out for a lark, anxious to explore the unknown regions behind the scenes and perchance touch elbows with the actors in their war paint and powder. Between these exuberant and delightful young men and the "regulars," who are to be found in all the great cities, there are all sorts and conditions of men and women who can be prevailed upon to tread the boards in this lowly capacity. Some, perhaps most of them, are attracted by curiosity. They long, like all their fellows in this great world, for a new sensation, and to stand under the glare of the footlights and in neighborly association with actors whose names are famous is a sensation the anticipation of which but few can resist.

* * *

I recall one contingent of supers perhaps the most unique and unusual of any ever recruited. It was in the famous city of Richmond, Va., noted alike for its brave men and beautiful women, and the play was "Julius Caesar." A score of dignified men were needed to represent senators in that tragic meeting of the Roman senate, which culminates in the death of Julius Caesar at the hands of the conspirators. The principal people of the company representing Brutus, Cassius and the other important senators occupy the amphitheater seats in the first tier, while those above them are reserved for the supers, or extra people, who, with no words to say, sit in their white togas and attempt to look intelligent and reasonably concerned in the proceedings. In parenthesis it may be admitted that usually the men secured for these thinking parts are quite oblivious to the tragic occurrences of the scene and view the assassination of Caesar with entire composure, making much less of it than they might of a home run if they were occupying the bleachers at a base-ball game.

In the Virginia capital, where "Julius Caesar" was booked for one consecutive night, difficulty was experienced in obtaining senators. Callow youths in adequate numbers were accepted for the forum scene, but neither wigs nor false beards would lend them the venerable appearance necessary to the senatorial position. By some lucky chance communication was established with the Confederate Veterans' Home, where many braves in the winter of life were awaiting the last bugle call. Fortunately a sufficient number were able and willing to enlist for the evening, hoping, no doubt, to escape for a little while the galling monotony of waiting for the great reaper. At the appointed hour they reported weak and worn, yet interested as school boys at a ball game. In due time, properly costumed, they climbed feebly to their places in the senatorial amphitheater and watched with eager attention the hurried work of the stage hands who were trimming the scene and arranging the lights preparatory to the signal for the curtain. At the word of warning from the stage manager they assumed the dignified pose appropriate to Roman senators, an effort comparatively easy owing to their venerable aspect. As the scene progressed they listened intently, several of them with hand to ear in order that their dulled hearing might not cheat them of one word uttered on the stage. It was a pathetic sight to those who were in the secret and knew the history of these men, and I have no doubt that had that splendid Southern audience suspected the identity of these grave and reverend seniors there might have been a demonstration which would have disconcerted the great Brutus and his fellow conspirators.

* * *

In another instance recourse was had to the pupils of a school for barbers, and truth compels the admission that no set of men forming the mob in the forum scene could have been moved to greater spirit and enthusiasm by the crafty utterances of Marc Antony. Military schools, like the colleges, are always a certain source of supply, albeit these recruits are sometimes quite too juvenile to represent the average Roman citizen. Once jackies from a war ship were permitted by their commander to enlist for one night of stage work as members of the mob, and after their scenes were over they manned the fly gallery and hung from ladders in their eager anxiety to see what remained of the play.

While college men are perhaps the most desirable of the volunteer supers, it is sometimes difficult to suppress their buoyancy and love of fun. There is danger that they will laugh and unconsciously guy the performance at moments of the most serious import, and their fellows in the balcony can be depended upon to recognize their personal peculiarities by audible comments that greatly annoy the actors who are struggling with responsible roles and to whom anything in the nature of ridicule is a mortal offense.

* * *

But in the large cities dramatic companies are not obliged to depend upon chance recruits for supernumerary or mob service. Here regular agencies supply the men and the women who are needed for the super service. Requisition is made for the number of people needed and they are forthcoming at the appointed moment in charge of an agent, who is responsible for their conduct and charged with the by no means unimportant duty of paying to each individual his stipend on Saturday night.

Many of these regulars look upon themselves as professionals and take pride in their superiority to the amateurs who sometimes invade their ranks. When a large force is engaged, as happens in important productions, it is no small task to manage and keep track of the extra people. To each is given a number and an engagement card, and a representative of the company stands at the stage door every night to check the men, carefully noting absentees, who are fined the amount of their pay for each delinquency and cannot resume work after an absence unless an adequate excuse is forthcoming.

* * *

From the stage doorkeeper the super passes along to the big dressing-rooms below the stage, where he presently exchanges his bundle of street clothing for a check and receives the costume, which must be returned at the end of the performance before his own clothing can be regained. He subsequently comes under the eye of the wardrobe man, and of the wig man to see if his make-up is correct, and also halts at the booth of the armorer if the play requires the use of armor. When called for the scene the property man hands him the spear, shield or other article he is to carry upon the stage, and this he yields up to the same functionary at the end of the act. When the mob or ensemble scenes are in progress, assistant stage managers and prompters are located behind every wing to give cues for the shouts, murmurs and excited movements and keep the supers up to the work, in which they are also led by regular members of the company, who mingle with them and are responsible for much that is realistic and picturesque.

* * *

No doubt the question will naturally arise how uniformly artistic results can be secured in the mob scenes when a new set of supers must be secured at every stopping point on a season's route. It is a fact of common knowledge that members of a speaking cast rehearse for many weeks before the play goes on, and thereafter continue repeating the lines and perhaps improving their study from night to night. But it puzzles the uninitiated to determine by what miracle a constantly changing body of supers can be employed without shipwreck to every semblance of art in the performance. The booking of a company will usually include from thirty-five to forty weeks, of which, perhaps, eight may be that terror of terrors known as "one-night stands." Yet the well-managed company, requiring 150 supers, will pass through this ordeal of a battalion of new recruits every night, not only without disaster, but with banners flying. Naturally this requires organization, foresight and advance preparation of the most accurate and painstaking type.

The first step is to enlist as regular members of the company two-score young actors and actresses of some experience, who are rehearsed from the outset in all the movements and the outcries of the mob. Each man or woman represents seven or eight of the ultimate number and occupies a position which will be expanded to that number when the full force is recruited. Presently the supernumeraries appear ready for work and the stage manager carefully explains the meaning of the scenes and the raison d'etre of the mob. With these explanations complete when the rehearsals commence the new men are prepared to fall in with the leadership of the regulars, taking up the cries as they are prompted and rushing about the stage as they observe the others. Very few rehersals under such conditions are sufficient to smooth down the rough spots, secure harmonious action and create the illusion of real life. The litter bearers undergo a special drill in picking up and setting down their cargo of distinction, a most necessary precaution, since otherwise they might spill the royal personage into the footlights, a most undignified catastrophe calculated to delight the groundlings and grieve the judicious. Bearers of arms are carefully instructed in their duties and all are impressed with the necessity of maintaining positions, once determined, with the utmost care. No "go as you please" methods are possible to the "inspiration of the moment" theory, if accepted, would lead to both ludicrous and appalling results.

* * *

No doubt there will be some curiosity on the part of the uninitiated to learn how this process of instructing recruits is managed after the company has started out upon its travels and is in the thick of the fray. Knowing, as even the novice must, that the company usually arrives in town on the morning of the day in which the engagements is to begin, there is a sense of wonder that the local supers are ready for the work and appear to be well schooled members of the organization. The solution of this difficulty seems comparatively easy when it is known that an assistant stage manager always journeys ahead of the company to secure the necessary supers and train them in their work. An advance advertisement in the local paper calls for intelligent men to report at the stage door of a certain theatre at a given hour, and if this does not produce results the agent goes out into the highways and hedges and enlists recruits wherever he can. Gathering this motley assemblage around him on the dimly lighted stage, he mounts a chair and carefully explains the scenes, noting the different emotions that are to excite the mob. He recites the lines, indicating the proper places for each movement and outcry, and then, beginning de novo, requires the pupils to put into practice the instructions given them. A couple of rehearsals along, these lines will accomplish wonders, and when satisfied that the people understand the requirements of the case the stage manager gives directions for a super rehearsal with the company on its arrival, and hurries away to repeat the same nerve racking process in the next city.

* * *

For his efforts in behalf of art the super usually receives some compensation for extra rehearsal, and is paid, as a rule, fifty cents for each performance. Ladies receive double these munificent rates, this being one of the rare exceptions in which the fair sex have the advantage in pay, but even at this figure they do not become suddenly or violently rich.

Going beyond the mere practical details of the super's existence, one discovers results which dignifies the status of this mere adjunct of the actor. That he is not a sine qua non may be conceded, but it is equally certain that without him some of the most realistic effects could not be achieved. Mobs are of vital consequence in such plays as "The Christian," "Robespierre," "Henry V.," "Cyrano," "Du Barry," "Julius Caesar" and many others. Marc Antony's oration, delivered to a score of ordinary Romans seated about the bier of Caesar, would create no impression, but when projected against the mass of pulsating, tumultuous humanity that has invaded the forum, the effect is electrical. Therefore, hail to the super, who, although usually looked down upon with scorn and regarded lightly as no better than a "prop" or bit of scenery, is the saving essence of many scenes.

Health Board Issues Monthly Bulletin.

The July Bulletin, issued by the Virginia Board of Health, has appeared and contains some most interesting statistics concerning health conditions in the State. In the number appears a lecture delivered by Dr. St. George T. Grinnan, of this city, before the Medical College of Virginia. The paper treats of disease of children.

Bijou Bunch Here.

The old Bijou comedy favorites are in the city again for a two-weeks' stay. The following are stopping at Campbell's Hotel: Mr. and Mrs. John Early, Mr. and Mrs. Tony Hart, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Marble, Mr. and Mrs. Wilder, Willie Hatter, Misses Montia Blair, Mabel Morris, Via Belmont, Austin Sisters, Pope Sisters, and Marsh Sisters.

Methodist Conference.

The West Richmond District Conference of the Methodist Church will meet at Beaver Dam, Hanover county, to-day, and will continue in session three days. Rev. B. T. Wilson will preside.

THE MODERN WAY

To cure a weak stomach is to take Hostetter's Stomach Bitters at the very first symptom. It does away with starving and dieting yourself because it puts the stomach in proper condition to digest the food. In this way it cures Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Constipation, Biliousness, Heartburn, Insomnia, Headache, Cramps or Diarrhoea. Nervous and sickly women also find the Bitters unequalled as a regulator and tonic. We urge a fair trial.

HOSTETTER'S STOMACH BITTERS.

AUGUST 2ND IN WORLD'S HISTORY

16.

Three Roman legions under Varus cut off in Germany. "Quintilius Varus, give me my legions again," exclaimed the father of his country. Varus, however, had shared the fate of his legions.

1100.

William II. (Rufus), King of England, killed by an arrow. He possessed vigor, decision and policy, and acquired great wealth, by which he was enabled to purchase two French provinces. He founded Westminster Hall.

1675.

Brookfield destroyed by the Indians.

1684.

A treaty of peace concluded at Albany, between the Colonists and the Five Nations, who, since peace was established, had extended their arms southward, and conquered the country from the Mississippi to the borders of the plantations; involving Virginia and Maryland in the calamities of their Indian allies, whom they were unable to protect.

1704.

Battle of Blenheim, in Bavaria, the English and Austrians under the Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene, obtained a famous victory over the French and Bavarians, who lost 12,000 killed and drowned, and 13,000 prisoners, including Marshal Tallard. (13th by some authorities.)

1748.

Attack on Fort Massachusetts by 300 French and Indians. Captain Williams sallied with 30 men and drove the enemy before him, when an ambuscade arose and attempted to cut off his retreat to the fort. By a quick movement he regained the place, and returned their fire with so much spirit that the enemy withdrew, carrying off their dead and wounded.

1788.

Thomas Gainsborough died. He was one of the most celebrated English landscape painters of the nineteenth century.

1811.

William Williams, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, died, aged eighty-one.

1861.

Congress passed an act for raising 500,000 men and $500,000,000 by tax and tariff.

1864.

General Banks puts all the negroes between the ages of eighteen and forty (in the department of the Grand Gulf), into his army.

1898.

General Merritt requested the War Department to increase his command to 50,000 men. The troops with him and those on the way to join him amounted to 20,000.

PEOPLE REBUKE THE SACRILEGE

Minstrel Show Quoted Scripture and Audience Makes Protest.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

PITTSBURG, August 1.—The audience which attended the opening of the Bijou Theatre in this city Saturday night gave a remarkable rebuke to a minstrel company which attempted some sacrilegious jests.

In an effort to be humorous, one of the end men propounded certain problems, belief in which, it was said, insured solution. The stories of Daniel in the lion's den and Jonah and the whale were told. Then the interlocutor referred to the parable of the loaves and fishes, using almost the language of the Scriptural text.

While this was being told, there was not a sound in the theatre. The audience waited as though stunned for the denouement.

At last an old man in the audience said excitedly:

"Beg pardon, gentlemen, please cut that out," which request was echoed from all parts of the theatre.

Further irreverence was eliminated, and the management promised that no repetition of the offense would occur.

FIRE IN COUNTY.

Slaughter Houses of Keck and Eichel, on Brook Road, Burned.

Flames on Sunday night damaged the slaughter houses of W. H. Keck and A. Eichel and Company, on Brook Road, to the extent of about $3,000. The loss is partly covered by insurance.

The fire was discovered shortly before 11 o'clock by neighbors, W. T. Lauterback and W. W. Curry, who hastened to the scene, and did good work in removing horses, wagons and harness.

The Richmond fire department contributed aid, and together with the efforts of a bucket brigade, the Keck residence was saved. By quick and effective work on the part of the neighbors and the department, a number of houses in the vicinity were probably saved.

It is thought the fire was of incendiary origin, and the police are investigating along that line. Mr. Keck said yesterday that there had been no fire in his plant for two months.

The Keck loss is placed at about $2,500; that to the Eichel property at about $500.

Dr. Steel Returns.

Dr. George B. Steel returned to the city yesterday after a stay of several weeks at the Alleghany Hotel at Goshen. He has recovered from his recent illness, and is looking and feeling well.

Dr. Steel was greatly pleased with Goshen and its surroundings. Among other guests at Goshen were B. C. Upshaw, Miss Ella Blanton, E. B. Lorraine, T. E. Addison, Charles W. Kent, Mrs. L. Bloomberg, E. L. Bloomberg, Sol. J. Bloomberg, E. C. Toone, Dr. and Mrs. W. B. Gray, W. Brydon Tennant and family, Rev. James Nelson, R. L. Christian, Colonel John B. Purcell, William Grigg and J. L. Ezekiel.

Beauty Wins Prizes.

The following prizes were awarded on Thursday last at Buckroe Beach when the Retail Grocers' Association were there on their annual excursion: A rocking chair, donated by Sydnor & Hundley, awarded to Edna Briel, the best looking baby on the excursion. Edward Braun was awarded a ham, donated by the Virginia Packing Company, as the best looking child between three and six years of age in the party. The two best looking children between the ages of six and ten were Clara Taylor and Rupert Quarles. Their prizes in this event were a bunch of bananas, donated by J. C. Page. The prize for the loveliest young lady in the party was awarded to Miss Margaret Williams, of No. 217 East Grace Street. The trophy was a barrel of flour, donated by the Acme Milling Company.

Rev. Mr. Baylor at Immanuel.

Rev. Mr. Baylor, of Baltimore, who is supplying the pulpit of Immanuel Baptist Church during the absence in Pennsylvania of Rev. D. A. Solly, preached at both services on Sunday. There were large congregations and Mr. Baylor made a fine impression. He will preach again next Sunday, both morning and night.

Gave Them a Fruit Supper.

The ladies of Magnolia Circle, No. 2, U. A. O. D., gave the gentlemen members of the organization a delightful fruit supper at Reservoir Park last Thursday night. Games were indulged in until a late hour, and the evening passed most merrily.

Among those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Hudson and niece, Mr. and Mrs. Morriss, Mrs. Beck, Mr. and Mrs. Ford, Miss Julia Perry and Mr. Frank Francione, Frances Peyronnet and Peter Bonini, Miss Ford and Howard Brooks, Agnes Harp and Mr. Greenwood.

Neighborhood League.

A new organization known as "The Neighborhood Workers League," has recently come into the light. The organization has been at work for five years, and is engaged in neighborhood work in raising educational standards in teaching the true principles of citizenship and in inculcating homelife virtues.

The league has good standing, and is progressing favorably in its work of philanthrophy.

Are All Away.

Judge Beverly T. Crump, of the State Corporation Commission, has gone to the Hot Springs to attend the meeting of the State Bar Association.

Commissioners Fairfax and Stuart are spending August at their homes in Loudoun and Russell counties, respectively.

Spending His Vacation Here.

Rev. I. T. Betts, formerly of Florida, is in the city on a visit to his sisters, Mrs. S. B. Winston, Mrs. M. B. Thomas and Mrs. C. C. Butler, with whom he will spend several weeks' vacation.

Mr. Betts, formerly a pastor in one of the Tallahassee Baptist churches, is now engaged in evangelistic work.

Will Go to Chautauqua.

Miss Catharine Betty, daughter of Rev. L. B. Betty, of Park Place Methodist Church, left Saturday for the Chautauqua School, in New York, where she will take a course in physical culture, preparatory to her work next season at Blackstone Female College.

On to the Hot.

A large party of lawyers and laymen, many of them accompanied by lady members of their families, left yesterday for the Hot Springs to attend the annual meeting of the State Bar Association.

They will spend the greater part of the week at the famous resort.

Needs More Buildings.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—From every section of our country parents having children to educate write me for information as to Richmond's educational advantages. It has given me great pleasure to tell them that our public schools are quite equal to those of any other city in the South. I have not hesitated to say that I do not know the college in the South which surpasses Richmond College in the ability and skill of its faculty and in the moral and religious influences which surround it. Recently I have had special opportunities for making myself acquainted with the Woman's College. I speak with the inspiration of a deep conviction when I declare that Richmond has nothing of which she can be more justly proud than this institution. No school in this country for the higher education of women can boast of an abler faculty, of broader courses of study, of nobler ideals or of a wiser administration of its affairs. The attendance of pupils last year amounted to 270. This school makes no canvass for pupils. They come without solicitation. Nothing but the lack of room prevents an attendance of 500. Will not the public spirited men of Richmond help us to enlarge the capacity of the buildings?

J. B. HAWTHORNE.

Richmond, Va., July 30, 1904.

Summer Silverware.

Good enough for your summer home—in the mountains or at the seashore, and last for years. Not the heaviest in the world—and not the lighest by any means.

If you wish to equip your cottage we can think of nothing that will give better satisfaction.

J. T. Allen & Co., 14th & Main St.