The Daily Pioneer

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By R. W. HITCHCOCK.

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This Is Why.

MERCHANTS and business men generally are making less money today than two years ago. Moreover they are making narrower profits on their sales. Why is this?.

It seems to be a fact while business has fallen off beginning with the beginning of the presidential campaign, prices have steadily advanced, so that the wholesale price of many commodities today is almost equal and in some cases greater than the retail price of two years ago. A certain brand of overshoes, for instance, is sold in Bemidji today for less than actual cost, the selling price having remained the same while the wholesale price has steadily advanced. Why is this?

A few days ago the General Paper company filed its answer in a case brought against it by the United States, claiming that it is merely a sales agent and not an organization for the purpose of controlling the price of paper. Yet every printer in the land knows that since the organization of the General Paper company the paper upon which this newspaper is printed has cost twice as much as it did previous to the organization of the company and every printer in the land knows that it is the General Paper company that has done it.

This is perhaps the principal reason why business is duller than it was two years ago. The trusts are getting a better grip. The retailer makes smaller and smaller margins while the price of all commodities is gradually pushed up and up.

What are we going to do about it?"

BITS FROM THE NORTH COUNTRY

Northome has its day.

Lent makes its tardy beginning.

Twenty below a year ago today.

Firemen's tournament in August.

Bridgie claims to be innocent of crooks.

They are all for waterworks at Thief River.

In the social swim a good many go to the bottom.

Breckenridge high school out talks Long Prairie.

Fergus Falls votes on eight charter amendments.

Births 114 and deaths 35 in Itasca county last year.

The lumberman with logs all banked is a lucky fellow.

Eighty two out of 108 failed in teachers examinations in Todd county.

Local talent presents "The Scheme that Failed" at Grand Rapids. And they didn't fail at all.

Wadena people, mindful of their reputation for truth and veracity, havn't seen a single robin so far.

Walker has a market gardner who ripens tomatoes, beans and cucumbers before frost right along, Mr. McGuire of the experimental station to the contrary notwithstanding.

BACKWOODS SKETCHES

By A. M. GREELEY

The Supreme Test.

"I am thinking of getting married," said Faraway Jones in a timid tone.

"Well, you have been against the wheel before, so you know how a gambler goes broke," consoled his friend.

"Yes, I invested in mining stock when I married, sure, and find I got all assessments and no dividends. She was as gentle as a cyclone and as loving as a barb-wire fence. The only time she was good natured was after eating a hearty meal, but she starved to death. When she was dead the preacher says to me, 'the Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away', and the only answer I could think of giving him was, 'yes the Lamb taketh away the sin of the world.' But the woman I have my eye on now is of a different breed. She is gentle as a kitten and as sweet as dandelion in a haystack."

"The fruit that looks the sweetest sometimes has the bitter taste."

"But the fellow who has been bitten by a mad dog is apt to be careful of the next dog he pets. I've studied this one and I know she has the gentleness of an angel—she was never mad in her life. Last week she came home and found the neighbor's cows in her garden, destroying the corn. She looked surprised, then turned to me and said, 'If the roads were paved with gold, some people would still get off into the fields."

"Perhaps she did not like corn, anyhow."

"I was at her place one day when she burned a swell cake she was cooking. It didn't weaken her smile a bit."

"Some people smile in company, to curse in private."

"We were out boatriding one day when a storm came up and soaked her best Sunday clothes. She took it as a joke, and said, 'I guess the man in the clouds thinks we need a bath."

"Perhaps she thought a bonnet spoiled was not worth as much as a husband saved."

"Only yesterday she was hanging out a big washing when the clothesline broke and the mud flew spattering. I heard her laughing, and thats how I happened to notice what—"

"She laughed when the line broke!" The cynic rose to his feet with staring eyes. "And you wasting your time telling me this while she remains unmarried. Run, man, run. Get her quick and don't take a second's chance for losing such a prize."

PASSAGE OF THE CODE

PROCEDURE FAVORED BY JUDICIARY COMMITTEE ADOPTED BY THE HOUSE.

BILL TO PROHIBIT CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS BY CORPORATIONS INTRODUCED.

St. Paul, March 7.—The house committee on judiciary Monday won in a spirited talking match as to the procedure to be adopted in the consideration and final passage of the revised code.

The bill is to be considered, chapter by chapter, together with the amendments which have already been adopted, and further amendments, if offered, and the code then put upon its final passage.

To test the temper of the house and to offer a protest against what he intimated was a well laid plan to railroad the bill through, W. D. Washburn, Jr., of Minneapolis asked cosideration of a resolution in which was incorporated a plan of procedure.

It provided for the consideration of two chapters a day, or a total of eight days for the entire bill, and demanded of the judiciary that during such consideration it explain in detail each of the amendments agreed to in committee

The resolution was combated vigorously, W. B. Anderson and other members of the judiciary committee taking the lead.

Mr. Anderson denied that there was any scheme on foot to railroad the bill through the house.

After considerable more argument there arose cries of "question," and finally Speaker Clague put the motion.

The judiciary committee won and won handsomely.

Mr. Washburn had only a handful of supporters.

The Code Taken Up.

After the discussion the code was taken up, and finally, when the house took a recess until 2 o'clock, eight chapters on the code had been considered and disposed of.

Six chapters and their amendments were disposed of at a two hours' session in the afternoon. Minor changes were made in the chapter relating to school laws.

There seemed to be a general tendency to get rid of the affair and hand it over to the senate.

J. H. Dorsey of McLeod county would discourage the giving of campaign contributions by corporations, and offered a bill directed at that end, in the house.

The giving of such contributions to a candidate or a political committee is construed as a felony, and in case of conviction it is optional with the court to impose a $1,000 fine or imprisonment for one year in state's prison.

That there may be no escape from the provision of the proposed law every agent or member of a corporation sanctioning a contribution is made amenable to punishment.

B. H. Timberlake offered a bill appropriating $485,000 for a new main building at the university.

The appropriation covers a period of five years, and is to be met by a tax of one-tenth of a mill, which shall be anticipated by the issuance of state certificates of indebtedness.

While the board of control has jurisdiction in the placing of contracts and the construction of the building, the university people have the right to say what kind of a building shall be constructed.

For this purpose a commission of five, to be named by the president of the university, is provided and to it the plans must be submitted for approval. It is also to be consulted in the construction and equipment of the proposed building.

To Prevent Adulteration of Meat.

Stringent regulations are provided in a bill designed to prevent the adulteration of meat, offered by I. W. Bouch of Morrison county. The sale of veal from calves less than four weeks old is prohibited. No preservatives are permitted in sausage or canned meats, and in case of violation a $50 fine is provided.

Under the terms of a bill offered by J. R. Morley of Steele county the killing of quail and squirrels is prohibited until 1910. It is understood to have the sanction of the game and fish commission.

H. C. Block's bill, limiting the profit of the state on prison binding twine to one cent a pound, was recommended to pass in the house committee of the whole.

A heavily signed petition was received by the house from Otter Tail county, asking for the passage of a county option law.

If the legislature should pass a bill introduced by G. H. Wyman of Anoka a repetition of the big Equitable assurance society fight in Wisconsin will be enacted in Minnesota. Mr. Wyman's bill provides that mutual life insurance companies shall make distribution of their surplus among policyholders as often as is required by their charters. Some companies provide a distribution every two years, others once in three years and others once in five. Mr. Wyman's bill makes five years the maximun period.

S. F. No. 109, by Brower, appropriating $50,000 for a woman's dormitory at the St. Cloud normal school was passed.

Many members of the senate were present during the session.

The senate was not in session.

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PUBLIC LIBRARY—Open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, 2 to 6 p. m. Thursday 7 to 8:30 p. m. also. Library in basement of court House. Mrs. E. R. Ryan, librarian.

HELP WANTED.

WANTED—Cook at City hotel.

WANTED—For U. S. army able-bodied, unmarried men between ages of 21 and 35, citizens of United States, of good character and temperate habits, who can speak, read and write English. For information apply to Recruiting Officer, Miles block, Bemidji. Minnesota.

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE—Fifty young pigs, five and six weeks old. Wes Wright.

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FOR SALE—Rubber stamps The Pioneer will procure any kind of a rubber stamp for you on short notice.

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FOR RENT—Five room cottage, 905 Minnesota Ave. Apply at Schroeder's store.

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