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### MINNESOTA LEGISLATURE.

#### Resolution Calls for Investigation of High Price of Coal.

St. Paul, Jan. 21.—Representative Jacoby of St. Paul sent up a resolution in the house calling for an investigation of the high prices charged for coal and wood. Representative Wells, Williston county, gave notice of debate and the resolution went over.

Mr. Ekman introduced a constitutional amendment to raise the limit of indebtedness of any township or village or other organization borrowing money from the permanent school or university fund, from 10 to 20 per cent. A similar constitutional amendment to make the limit 15 per cent was defeated at the last election.

The following bills were introduced: Tax on legacies, exempting \$5,000; additional judge for Seventh judicial district; regards tests of validity of county organization; amend law relating to "blind pigs," relating to tender of payment of judgment; abolishing justice courts in cities of over 50,000; additional judge in Fifteenth judicial district; punishing persons defrauding a partner.

In the Senate. The removal of the state university, the state normal schools and the institutions for the deaf and the blind at Faribault from the management of the state board of control is provided for in a bill introduced by Senator C. M. Buck of Faribault. The measure differs from the house bill in that the senate provision leaves the management of the state public school at Owatonna with the state board of control.

The following bills were introduced: Fixing terms of court in First judicial district; amend municipal courts act relating to cities of less than 5,000 inhabitants; regulating fees in municipal courts in cities of less than 5,000 inhabitants; prevent removal of railroad passenger depots; regulating elections in townships in which villages are located.

#### BUYS BACK HIS FARM.

#### South Dakotan Pays a Premium for Own Former Farm.

Viborg, S. D., Jan. 22.—A year ago a farmer who lived near this place sold his farm for \$40 an acre and moved to Canada, where he thought he could do better than to reinvest his money in south Dakota farm land. He purchased a farm there for a fraction of what he had sold his farm near here for, and it was lucky for him that he could buy so cheap, for he did not like the country. He has now returned with his family and will in future remain in South Dakota. He succeeded in purchasing his old farm, but had to pay \$50 an acre for it.

#### SMALLPOX OUTBREAK.

#### Two Cases in Lake City and Others in Neighboring Towns.

Lake City, Minn., Jan. 22.—Two cases of smallpox have broken out in this city and are now under quarantine at the home of Henry Dankers. Two school girls named Raymond returned recently from their home near Reed's Landing, where they had been spending their Christmas vacation, and were taken ill this week with the disease. Other members of the family were sick at the time these two were home and they easily contracted it from them. More smallpox has broken out in the country near Cook's Valley and Reed's Landing.

#### NINE MEN ARE KILLED.

#### Result of a Rear-end Collision on the Great Northern.

Wanatchee, Wash., Jan. 22.—Nine men are dead and eight or ten injured as a result of a rear-end collision on the Great Northern yesterday at a point known as Happy Hollow, just above Chivavium. A bridge gang train smashed into an engine standing on the track attached to a rotary snow plow. A car containing fifty men belonging to the bridge crew, was thrown from the track. The dead and injured are all members of the work gang. Neither engineer, fireman or brakeman were among the injured.

#### KILLED BY STREET CARS.

#### While Crossing the Street Man is Caught Between Two Cars.

St. Paul, Jan. 22.—Gustav Malmquist is dead at the Bethesda hospital from injuries received in a street car accident yesterday morning. While attempting to cross the street at the corner of Third and Maria he was caught between two cars and fatally crushed. The police ambulance was called and the injured man was taken to the hospital, where he died early in the afternoon.

#### KITTREDGE RE-ELECTED.

#### South Dakota Senator Sent Back for Full Term.

Pierre, S. D., Jan. 22.—A. B. Kittredge of Sioux Falls, who was appointed two years ago to succeed Senator Kyle, deceased, yesterday was elected to succeed himself. There was no Republican opposition. J. A. Bowler of Sioux Falls received the Democratic vote. To-day a joint session will be held at noon to canvass the vote.

#### HANSBROUGH RE-ELECTED.

#### North Dakota Senator Formally Chosen to Serve Six More Years.

Bismarck, N. D., Jan. 22.—A vote was taken in the senate and house of representatives yesterday afternoon, and Senator Hansbrough was re-elected to the United States senate for another term. The vote will be ratified in joint session to-day. Senator Hansbrough was not present, being detained in Washington on committee work.

#### Looted by a Highwayman.

Reno, Nev., Jan. 22.—At 10 o'clock yesterday morning a highwayman entered the Southern Pacific ticket office and held up the agent at the point of a revolver, securing all the cash in the money drawer, about \$1,000.

#### Fatal Coasting Accident.

Lake Geneva, Wis., Jan. 22.—While coasting down a hill a sleigh on which were a number of boys ran into a team going up hill, and as a result one was killed and two others seriously injured.

## SCANDINAVIAN NEWS

### DENMARK.

An unpleasant accident occurred at a barber shop in Axelhus, Copenhagen, on Christmas day. Just as the barber was about to shave an elderly customer the latter suddenly collapsed and dropped down on the floor. A physician who happened to be present announced that the man was dead. Shortly afterwards Mr. Durhauge, an attorney, who lived in the same building, entered the shop and identified the dead man as his father, Rev. Durhauge. The old man had just come from Jylland to pay his son a visit during the Christmas holidays.

Holger Drachmann is writing no less than three dramas at the same time, and all of them are to be prepared for the foreign stage. A one-act piece is to appear in French; another, "The Sea," is intended for the Anglo-American stage; and the third, "The Night," for German-Austrian stage.

The town of Ronne is going to have new waterworks at a cost of \$67,000. Daniel Bruun has written an interesting book about the Danish colonies.

### NORWAY.

Several days of mild weather left a crust on the snow in Finnmark, and it will be difficult for the same reindeer to break this crust and reach the moss on which they live during winter.

The seals are doing great damage to the fisheries around Tromsø.

Telephone connections have been established between Narvik, Norway, and Kiruna, Sweden.

The weather was exceptionally fine in Norway just before Christmas. There was excellent sleighing, but too little snow for ski running.

The celebrated Ranheim property, at Strindem, near Trondhjem, has changed owners, the consideration being \$50,000.

The city council of Bergen, by a vote of 40 to 35, has rejected a motion to establish a municipal pension system. The majority was composed of the Conservatives and a few Liberals.

The volume of the Christmas trade was below the average, and the goods sold were chiefly of the cheaper grades. The sale of books was about as large as in former years. The trade was more satisfactory in Trondhjem and Kristiansund than in other cities.

There are three "mush stations" in Kristiana, that is, places where poor people may eat oatmeal mush and milk free of charge.

The Kristiana electric street railway company offered 1,000 new shares for sale to the old stockholders, and the total number of shares subscribed for was 3,368. The face value of each share is \$54, and the rate paid was \$47.50. The money raised by the issue of the new stock will be spent for the construction of a new line to Frogner and an extension of the Bygdø line.

### SWEDEN.

The Skane and Smaland railway company has floated bonds amounting to \$400,000, and they are endorsed by the city of Helsingborg.

At Goings, Skane, is a farmhouse most of the furniture of which is made of oak and is several hundred years old.

About 100 sugarbeet growers held a convention at East Tomarås, Skane, and resolved that the price of beets next fall ought to be 25½ cents per 100 pounds for fall delivery, and 28½ cents per 100 pounds for winter delivery.

John Carlsson, a Swedish business man at Grimsby, has advised the Swedish export union to establish a Swedish chamber of commerce in London. Mr. Carlsson has already ascertained that Swedish business men in England as well as English business men are in favor of organizing such a body.

The volume of mail matter distributed at Stockholm during the Christmas holidays was the largest in the history of the city.

The Troilhattan tourist club has spent hundreds of dollars for the construction of paths leading to the most interesting points at the Troilhattan waterfalls.

Major General von Vegesack, an officer of the Swedish army, died at the age of 82 years. He distinguished himself in the union army during the Civil War.

It will be remembered that King Oscar's decision of the Samoa question went squarely against the United States. The Swedes are highly gratified to see that The Nation (American magazine), under the caption, "Imperialism under the Microscope," sustains the decision in vigorous language. The Nation thinks it was very fortunate that the question was settled in that way. If it had been settled by a war with Germany, the magazine holds, the truth would perhaps never have been publicly established.

Half a dozen match factories in southern Sweden will henceforth be under one management, and the main office will be at Jonkoping.

Those that are interested in the liquor traffic on the one hand and those that are interested in the temperance movement on the other are hotly discussing the bill which provides that the maximum percentage of alcohol in untaxed beer shall be put at two per cent. It seems to be agreed that small beer, or svagdricka, should not be taxed; but the difficulty lies in fixing the exact limit between taxed and untaxed drinks.

The temperance organizations of Helsingborg and community have resolved to hold a temperance exposition at Helsingborg next summer.

### SPUN OUT OF WHOLE CLOTH.

#### World Taken In by a Yarn of Massacre and Cannibalism.

A great many newspapers and geographical magazines published last spring a harrowing story of the fate of an exploring expedition sent to New Guinea by the Paris newspaper, La Patrie. Dr. Henry Rouyer had returned to France with the melancholy particulars.

He reported, in brief, that his exploring party had penetrated a short distance inland on the south coast of the great island when they were treacherously attacked by natives, who killed 25 men, four of whom were whites. Thirty-three others were wounded, including Dr. Rouyer.

The doctor was knocked senseless by a blow on the head. When he came to he saw the bodies of his murdered friends for the cooking pot.

They had begun to roast the body of the unfortunate Mr. Haganbeck when, just in the nick of time to save the horrified doctor, a rescue party burst through the woods, having heard the screams of the men. The doctor owed his life to the prompt appearance of these rescuers. In other words, he lived to fill several columns of La Patrie with the gruesome details of this terrible event.

Every newspaper that was worth its salt repeated the sad story. The periodicals of learned and dignified geographical societies gave it considerable space.

Petermann's Mitteilungen, one of the most scientific publications, thought that the tragical affair might have been indirectly the result of the doings of a person named Kroesen, who had been sent to inflict punishment upon the natives for stealing property from white men in the British domain. The magazine said that according to the logic of the Papuans they would be likely to hold any white men whom they might catch responsible for the acts of the other whites.

One little fact mentioned by Petermann's Mitteilungen might perhaps have aroused suspicion as to the veracity of Dr. Rouyer. This, says the New York Sun, was that nothing whatever had been heard in the geographical world of the activity or even of the existence of the exploring party before the massacre occurred.

The same journal now desires to withdraw its report of Dr. Rouyer's story. It says that investigation proves that the report of the massacre of the French expedition on the south coast of New Guinea was "a frivolous invention of an alleged member of a pretended expedition and of the Paris newspaper La Patrie." No such expedition had been anywhere near New Guinea. Dr. Rouyer, who so vividly reported the massacre and asserted that he had been wounded and rescued, has in fact never been nearer to New Guinea than Buitenzorg on the island of Java.

The long story which La Patrie printed was adorned with pictures of villages, boats and other things purporting to have been made from photographs taken in New Guinea. The pictures, however, represent scenes in the neighborhood of Buitenzorg.

The able narrative of Dr. Henry Rouyer, sad to say, must be relegated to the realm of fable. It is not the first time that the imagination of a romancer has enlivened the pages, not always picturesque and interesting, of geographical exploration.

#### BREAKING IT GENTLY.

#### How the Head of the Firm Was Told of Cashier's Defalcation.

The cashier of a certain firm had absconded and the head clerk, says London Answers, was decided on as being a fit and proper person to acquaint the head of the firm of the fact on his arrival.

There had been a dog fight in the street, and a small crowd was just dispersing as the chief's carriage dashed up.

"What's that crowd after, Jorkins?" demanded the head of the firm.

"The chief clerk thought he recognized a chance of breaking the news gently, and seized it."

"The vacancy, sir," he replied.

"Vacancy? What vacancy?"

"Cashier, sir."

"But we want no cashier, Jorkins."

"Beg pardon, sir, but we've a vacancy for one!"

"Jorkins, are you mad?"

"No, sir. That is, sir, I don't know, sir. Fact is, sir—all the cash is gone, and—and—"

"Well?"

"The cashier's gone with it, sir."

#### Worry.

If people worried less about the future and more about the present it would be more to the point.—Washington (La.) Democrat.

### SPOOKY SENSATION!

#### Man Who Does Not Believe in Ghosts Has Curious Experience.

"The merest accident will sometimes attack one's faith in such a way as to almost blot it out," said a young man who, says the New Orleans Times-Democrat, calls frequently an uptown home where there is always a cordial welcome for him. "A little thing occurred the other night which nearly converted me to a belief in ghosts, though I have always set myself against such ideas, and believe only what reason sanctions. You know men of affairs do not sanction superstitions, and I have never wanted to be counted as one who accepted anything unless it were logically proven. Therefore, I could never believe in ghosts, and if I would I would not admit it. I called at a friend's house the other evening and we were sitting in the reception room which is back from the parlor. No one was in the parlor, and in fact, all the doors were closed and the lights not burning. We were conversing pleasantly about one thing, and then another, when suddenly we were startled by hearing the tones of a piano coming from the parlor. Every person in the room looked from one to the other in blank amazement. The ladies turned pale, and I felt a lump in my throat. Breathless silence prevailed for the space of nearly a minute, I suppose. 'What can it mean?' asked the lady of the house in a whisper. I thought of burglars at first, and, being unarmed, looked around for some thing with which to defend myself and the ladies. Getting the poker, I ventured out into the hall and stealthily stole to the parlor door. I listened with my ear close to the key-hole. Not the slightest noise came from within. I knew I had to go in, so I swallowed the lump in my throat for the third time, and softly opened the door. Looking in very cautiously at first, I then stepped partly into the room. There was light enough for me to see everywhere in the room. There was no burglar there. I searched carefully and knew I could not be mistaken. We therefore, with light hearts, returned to our seats. After a short lapse of time we were again startled by the tones of the piano. Three or four clear bass notes were followed by tones in the minor key, as if answering the first. Now you can imagine our feelings. I never had such strange impressions. It is that awe which seizes a man when he meets the inexplicable in the darkness. What to do was the problem. Just at that instant I wished that I had a burglar to fight, so strangely was I affected. 'Get a lamp,' I said, in desperation. 'I'll see what this thing is if I have to take up the carpet.' We once more entered the parlor. Behold the ghost. A pet kitten, inappropriately known as Mouse, was saucily looking us in the face from the keyboard of the piano. I had an insane desire to choke that feline, but valued the friendship of the family too much to be rash. The kitten, of course, thought it great sport to run the scale on the piano, and then bow its back in pride over the achievement."

#### ANDREW JACKSON.

#### Incident in His Career Showing His Love for His Wife.

Jackson was arrayed for bed. Propped against a book was a large miniature of Mrs. Jackson which he through the day wore on a black cord about his neck. He had been pondering it, says A. H. Lewis, in Everybody's Magazine, and the tears were still wet upon his face. Open before him was her prayer-book.

"I read it for her sake," he said, indicating the prayer-book. "She tried to make me a Christian. I promised her, so soon as I was done with this presidency and with politics, I'd become a Christian. I can't be a hypocrite, you know that; you know, too, what a president must be, and what a Christian should be. No man can be both; no man can be both." Here the general sighed. His gaze again sought the miniature while a wonderful love looked from his eyes until the tears came to cloud them. "The day will come when I shall keep my word with her. I want Heaven for her sake. And yet I could have no Heaven without her—it would be as Heaven unless I met her there," and the sobs took strong possession of his voice while his tears fell. "I'd give every honor and triumph I ever had—or have—or shall have—to hold her hand again and have her by my side one moment."

#### Something to Learn.

No man was ever so completely skilled in the conduct of life, as not to receive new information from age and experience.—Terence.