

LET CROAKERS CROAK

Building in St. Paul the Coming Season Will Be Up to the Average.

Architects Talk of Work on Hand and the General Outlook for Trade.

Contractors Inclined to Grumble at What is Considered Adverse Legislation.

And There are Certain Undefined Rumors of a Pending Immigration.

As prospects in the building trades as dull as they are reported to be, asked a representative of the GLOBE yesterday of Clarence H. Johnston, the well known architect.

"There is no foundation for such reports as have been made," he said. "The outlook is bright; brighter than last year, and fully as promising as in any other of the past half dozen. There is absolutely nothing alarming about the prospecting of the fact that there is more money in building circles up to the present. I fail to recall any crisis in the past few years when the money market was so tight as it is now."

The disparity of opinion on trade prospects between the builders and contractors and the architects is a marked one. The latter, as a rule, are gathered from conversations with the builders and contractors of the city, is scarcely encouraging. True, they say, there is a great deal of work in the way of residence building, but the actual carrying out of the projects depends largely on the ability to negotiate loans in the East. In the present condition of the money market this is a difficult matter, and many who would build if they could borrow the money will not be able to carry out their plans.

The character of the proposed legislation restricting the construction of mortgages, and debarring agents from securing a commission on the same, is all adverse to builders and contractors. In that it will restrict Eastern capital out of the state, capitalists will be averse to loaning money at a lower rate in the West than is obtainable in the East. Then again the bill to increase the liability of employers, it is claimed, will make manufacturing industries so risk that already established concerns will withdraw if the bill is passed, and others intending to locate here will stationarily avoid the locality. The latter bill, it is argued, as originally introduced, placed the employer entirely at the mercy of the employee, and in building circles is regarded as the most dangerous of all the proposed measures. Builders and contractors claim that the bill affects them equally as much as it does the manufacturers, permitting the recovery of heavy damages for injury received during the construction of a building, and for which the contractor is in no wise responsible. The contractors have their hopes on the fact that numerous petitions have been introduced against the bill, which may result in the passage of a much modified substitute. Viewing the situation from their position, the contractors do not feel elated at the prospects.

A cheerful view. The feeling among the architects is widely different. They, without an exception, speak cheerfully of the outlook, and predict a prosperous season. Architect A. H. Hain, replying to a question asked by the Globe, says: "The character of the work on hand already completed, and the season has not begun yet."

Among the most important structures to go this year are the new gymnasium at the University on Summit avenue, and the St. Joseph's academy, also on the hill. The former building is being planned in St. Paul, and will be built of old country material. It is supposed to cost \$300,000, and in the language of the manufacturer of the material must be the finest in the country, if it costs a million. St. Joseph's academy will also be built in St. Paul, near the St. Paul plant, and it will cost \$150,000.

Big Private Hotel. Architect C. A. Wallingford said that in his own case business gave promise of being lively. He has already plans under way for buildings that will cost in the aggregate about \$200,000. One of these is for a structure to be put up as soon as spring opens, on St. Anthony Hill, and designed for a private hotel. Mr. Wallingford does not desire the names of the projectors to appear, but the plans call for a four-story brown-stone-fronted building. The entrance is an arched marble portico, leading into a marble vestibule. Moorish arches lead to the parlor suites, which are to be finished in hard wood. The dining room will be finished in old colonial style, with tile and gold. The servants' hall will be entirely disconnected, and the site is on Selby avenue. This idea is a new one in the way of hotels in St. Paul, and the hotel will without doubt be very popular. It will cost, when completed, between \$200,000 and \$250,000. Mr. Wallingford has also prepared plans for a flat on Mississippi, near Broadway, for A. H. Wilgus, to cost \$50,000; another on Cedar street, near Mississippi, a block of dwellings, to cost between \$150,000 and \$200,000; and a store building on Seventh and Broadway streets, to cost, for Andrew Doyle, at a cost of \$15,000. These are comparatively small items, but they represent a fair number of things for so early a date as March 3.

Outlook Good. Architect Clarence H. Johnston, replying to a question as to the amount of work represented in the new specifications preparing, gave the figure at \$400,000. This represents nothing, he said, except an indication that the work is as bad as some people would have us believe.

People who have vacant or unimproved property and are anxious to convert the same into a source of income, will, it is held, be none the less liable to build in that rent is lower than it was a few years ago. Interest is also lower than it has ever been before, and while there are many houses for rent, prospective builders claim that they can produce a better and more satisfactory class of buildings which will rent readily. A large percentage of tenants occupy such new houses with content from buildings erected carelessly and hurriedly during the boom, and which

lack necessary conveniences. These largely constitute the vacant buildings at present, as for instance those now empty on upper Third street. Those who have rented houses in past years, and used their money for speculative purposes, will in view of the low rate of interest obtainable, find it advisable to build and occupy their own residences.

A MOTHER'S COMPLAINT. Mrs. Geis Makes Some Very Grave Charges Against Her Son.

Trina Geis has filed a complaint in the district court alleging that she gave Frank A. Geis her son, \$5,000 to invest for her in her own name, but that he has converted all of the money, except \$184.75, to his own use.

It is further stated, in particular terms, that the woman named to be deposited \$500 of the money in the bank in the name of her mother, and to purchase real estate in her name with the remainder, to be bought the property back of her. It is further stated, in particular terms, that the woman named to be deposited \$500 of the money in the bank in the name of her mother, and to purchase real estate in her name with the remainder, to be bought the property back of her.

As Well As Critical Comments Upon the Management of Departments.

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The report deals with the question of the salaries of the deputy clerks of court, and as regards the chief of the clerk of courts, says: "By section 2 of chapter 363, Special Laws of 1887, the clerk of the court is allowed the sum of seven hundred dollars (700) per annum in full for specified services, and an item of service being given as 'copying indictments' and for one case is given out as an item in the clerk's bill and was allowed, which, while not of much importance in amount, shows carelessness in scrutinizing the bills before allowing payment. This occurred on three different times: in October, November, 1890, and January, 1891. In each case the bill was \$7.50 and \$28.50, respectively. The clerk charges for making returns to the supreme court for the county which was a party, viz: Sheriff vs. County Commissioners, \$15.00; Goetz vs. County Commissioners, \$15.45; De Graff vs. County Commissioners, \$15.45. The last case De Graff was appellant, and it would seem, should have paid for return, but in all cases the charge is nearly one hundred times as much, as appears from the returns in the office of the clerk of the supreme court. The office of the sheriff is also reported upon, and the manner in which fees are charged for subpoenas, also for summoning of grand and petit jurors. On the subject of the fees for deputies, Mr. Kenyon, the examiner, says: "The sheriff is also allowed for bringing prisoners before any court for examination, \$1 and \$2 per day for attending court, and such prisoner. In many instances a deputy sheriff has appeared in court on the same day with different prisoners and charges per diem in each case, such receiving double per diem which can hardly be considered the intention of the statute. After examination has been had, there are numerous cases where the deputy sheriff appears in court on following days with the same prisoner and charged \$2 per day for attending such prisoner, which is contrary to the provision of the statute. After examination of the case of County vs. Dakota, 35 Minn. 305. However, the sheriff has paid to the sheriff to say that most of these cases are not in fact, but are brought before the municipal court, where the sheriff has no deputy in constant attendance. In regard to the abstract office, a thorough examination of the fees received as shown by the books of that office, was made, and the following was found to be the situation:

AS FOUND BY KENYON. Public Examiner's Examination Into the Finances of Ramsey County.

Mr. Murnane Vindicated From the Serious Charges Levelled Against His Office.

Detailed Salary List of Officers and the Year's Receipts and Expenses.

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IN AND ABOUT THE CITY. This is the last day to pay water tax on high streets, and the city engineer has issued a notice to that effect. Nine diamond-bedded houses of \$100 each yesterday for keeping houses of \$100 each.

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RECEIPTS. Fees Charged. 1887 (March 3 to Dec. 31) \$23,975.79

1888 (March 3 to Dec. 31) 22,782.28

1889 (March 3 to Dec. 31) 22,782.28

1890 (January only) 1,069.05

Total \$94,766.96

Fees uncollected 1,066.65

Total \$93,700.31

Allowed by county and paid 27,264.00

Total \$66,436.31

Salaries paid (Abstract office record) 1887 (March 3 to Dec. 31) \$17,243.41

1888 (March 3 to Dec. 31) 17,480.00

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1890 (January only) 1,545.00

Total \$53,748.41

Paid to county 11,406.70

Total \$42,341.71

Total receipts \$108,229.40

Total payments \$108,229.40

Balance \$2,491.10

To effect above balance, clerk claims as due from county \$500.00

Allowance clerk's salary for January \$55.00

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CRIME IN THE STATE.

A Gratifying Decrease of Criminals for the Past Year.

Secretary Hart, of the board of correction and charities, has compiled a very interesting table, showing the state of the prison census on the last day of the year for the past two years. A comparison of the figures makes plain the fact that crime is not increasing in the state, but, allowing for the increase of population, has decreased. The following table shows, in a condensed form, the contents of the report:

Dec. 31, Dec. 31, 1890, 1891.

In lock-ups..... 49 138

In jails..... 119 126

Total awaiting trial..... 167 264

Prisoners serving sentences..... 455 491

In lock-ups..... 70 63

In jails..... 194 154

In St. Paul workhouse..... 129 129

In House of Good Shepherd..... 8 5

Total petty convicts..... 495 291

In state prison..... 354 312

In state reformatory..... 97 139

Total state convicts..... 451 451

Total serving sentences..... 946 942

Total number of prisoners..... 1,023 916

FOR THE RED RIVER VALLEY. Big Appropriation Required to Reclaim Swamp Lands.

The members of the Red river drainage commission met again yesterday at the Merchants' and the committee appointed the previous evening presented a report. They had drafted, which asks for an appropriation of \$50,000, to carry on the drainage works in the valley. The bill, which also provides for the purchase of swamp lands, was adopted by the commission, and it will be presented to the legislature at the next session. The delegation from the counties interested, in the drainage work, are: St. Louis, \$12,500 to the work, so that if the bill passes, \$22,500 will be available for the undertaking. The bill also provides for the work of the commission closed.

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FIELD, MAHLER & CO.

The New Store, Wabasha, Fourth and Fifth Streets. Opposite Court House and Postoffice.

\$5.00 SUITS. A good assortment of those Imported All-Wool Dresses, which we are selling at the low price of—

—FIVE DOLLARS— is still on hand. This is one of the very best Dress Goods offerings we ever made. The fabrics are warranted All-Wool. They are as new as anything we have in the store. They were imported this season. They are as good as any Suit we ever sold regularly at \$10. Put them side by side with any Suit sold in the state at \$10 and nine out of ten persons will say ours is the handsomest. At

FIVE DOLLARS they are as cheap as Silver Dollars at Fifty Cents.

Don't think for a moment that the only New Dresses in the store are these \$5 Suits. We have nearly 700 of the Newest, Oddest and Handsomest Imported Dresses you ever laid eyes on. Most of the styles are our own and cannot be shown by any other house in the city this season. Prices, \$15 to \$50.

SILKS. A number of new things have been opened in our Silk Department this week at prices that should interest prudent buyers.

An extra quality of White India Silk, "Red Dragon Chop," 18 yards for \$9.50.

Natural Pongee, clean, perfectly pure Silk, 19 yards for \$7.50.

There may be cheaper Pongees in the market, but we guarantee the above price the lowest for equal qualities.

Special sale this week of 10 pieces Black Surah Silk, extra quality, 23 inches wide, at 65c a yard.

24-inch Pure India Silk, Lyons Dye, at 75c; equal in quality to silks usually retailed at \$1.

Black Shanghai Silks, 27 inches wide, \$1.

Black Shanghai Silks, 32 inches wide, \$1.50.

Black Shanghai Silks, 38 inches wide, \$1.75.

LINENS. The Linen Department offers 25 pieces of Medium and High Grade Cream Damask, full 72 inches wide, at 75c, 90c, \$1, \$1.10 and \$1.20 per yard. These goods are of superior quality, and the prices quoted will be found exceedingly low. There's not a piece in the lot that isn't worth considerably more.

HOSIERY. Our stock of Spring and Summer Hosiery now being complete, we make the following special introductory offerings: "Onyx" and other Fast Black brands of Hosiery, in extra qualities, at

25 CENTS per pair; cannot be duplicated later in the season.

Two lines of Ladies' "Onyx" Fast Black Hose, medium weight, specially adapted for present wear, regular 50-cent quality; 3 pairs for \$1.

Ladies' Plated Silk Hose, Fast Black Boot with Plain Colored Top, plain or ribbed, at 75c per pair; are well worth \$1. We thought so well of these that we took all the importer had.

SUBURBAN. Hereafter we shall make daily deliveries with our own wagons in Morning, Union and St. Anthony Parks, Macalester, Hamline and Washington.

Mail Orders are promptly filled.

Field, Mahler & Co. THE NEW STORE, Wabasha, Fourth and Fifth Sts., ST. PAUL, MINN.

The Boston B.Y.

Be Wise and Don't Wait.

It doesn't always happen that the man who hesitates is lost, and it very frequently happens that the man who doesn't hesitate makes