

good as another. I think when we gave the counties 151 votes at large, as we did two years ago, we did enough. There is danger of overdoing this. It is of course one must consider something, and of naturally the larger aggregations of people are the ones to concede."

DOOMED TO A DELAY.

The Auditorium Resolution Again Fails to Pass the Aldermen.

A Spirited Discussion in Which the City's Pledge Is Urged.

In Taxing Playhouses, Where Does the People's Church Figure?

A Vast Amount of Routine Business Quickly Disposed Of.

The principal feature of last night's meeting of the board of aldermen was the action taken upon the public auditorium project.

The matter came before the aldermen in the shape of an assembly file directing the joint committee to report on the auditorium project.

Greater interest was shown in the auditorium project than in any other matter on the agenda.

It was pointed out that the auditorium project is a matter of public interest and that the city should take prompt action thereon.

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WHAT IS A THEATER?

Solons Want to Know Where the People's Church Stands.

When the assembly file amending the license ordinance relating to the fee to be paid by theaters was reached, Ald. Gehan raised the objection that it was imposing an unjust tax on the people's church.

The measure fixes the license of all theaters and playhouses at \$100 per annum, and the donkey auditorium from the Ninth ward placed a liberal construction upon the term playhouse.

He facetiously remarked that he was there to defend the common rights of the people's church, and moved to amend so that the ordinance read that the Metropolitan and the Grand opera house pay a license of \$100 each per annum.

In answer to the question, Ald. Sullivan took the floor. He professed that he could not conceive how there could be any connection made between a playhouse and the people's church.

"Object to this definition," he exclaimed. "The people's church is not a playhouse. It is a sacred place where known lectures being given there, but never of a play."

"What of a concert?" persisted Ald. Gehan.

"A concert!" cried the member from Merriam Park, "why a concert can be given in any church, and I consider it given in most of them. That doesn't make the churches play houses, by any means."

"What about Adeline Patti?" "I wouldn't call it a play," he replied. "She would have sung there had she come here," Gehan retorted, "and she would have sung some one act of an opera. I am not in favor of taxing any other playhouses, outside of the Grand and Metropolitan—the places that have been taxed in the past."

"What about the Olympic?" asked Ald. Sullivan. "Is it a playhouse, and should it be taxed?"

"If Ald. Sullivan wishes to impose a tax upon the Olympic," retorted Gehan, "it is his privilege to introduce a measure to that end."

Ald. Sanborn moved that the board concur in the ordinance as it now stands, and this prevailed.

ST. PAUL'S SHARE OF THE 2 PER CENT OF THE INSURANCE PREMIUMS PAID.

Corporation Attorney Lawler has discovered that there is now in the state over \$1,000 that should be turned over to St. Paul, and he directed the attention of the board of aldermen thereto in the following letter, which was referred to a committee to investigate:

"Under the law of the state, the insurance companies doing business in this state are required to pay 2 per cent on all premiums received in cash or obligations, a part of which, under the law, goes to the relief association of the fire departments in the several cities of the state. In addition to this amount the statute provides that when, by the laws of any other state, insurance companies of this state are doing business in that other state, they have obligations imposed upon them by such foreign state, the same obligation shall be imposed upon all insurance companies of such other state doing business in this state. Under this provision insurance companies of the state of Wisconsin are required to pay an additional 2 per cent on premiums collected into the state treasury."

"But I want to heartily endorse every word uttered by Ald. Melady," he said. "Since the committee of representative aldermen authorized to investigate the matter and make the positive pledge that we were actually building this auditorium, and moreover, authorizing the city to contribute to the building of this structure—since these gentlemen did this and it has been advertised throughout the city, and since we have provided, I insist in all honor and justice to the credit and reputation of St. Paul we should not violate that promise. It is our duty to see that we are not failing in securing the convention. It has gone out that we are building a mammoth auditorium, and now let us show that we do not mean to do it. We have provided the means and we own the site, and the building should now be completed."

Ald. Gehan argued at length that there had been a great change of sentiment since the convention had been called to order. He stated that the state convention to organize a state officers did not want an auditorium, and Ald. Bott responded with feeling, reiterating that the committee had made a pledge to the people of St. Paul, and that the city should stand by that pledge.

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LEE'S MORAL LESSON.

The Retiring Postmaster Loads Down the Employes With Advice.

On the Occasion of the Amnities Connected With the Change.

Rev. Peyton Morgan Greeted by the Members of His New Flock.

Rather Disappointing Was the New York Symphony Concert.

Capt. Henry A. Castle stepped into the podium to speak last evening, and Col. William Lee retired from the position of postmaster, which he has filled for four years and two months with credit to the business interests.

An agreeable surprise was in store for the postmaster in the shape of a token of esteem from the employes.

About 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon a bulky package was carried into the postmaster's room, where the new and retiring chief were discussing affairs of the office.

The package came the heads of departments, the clerical force and mail carriers to present a bulky package.

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HONORED BY THE MAYOR.

Good Men Named for the Several City Boards.

As promised, Mayor Smith, in exercising his appointive prerogative, has consulted the best interests of the public institutions of St. Paul.

The members of the board of school inspectors have passed the crucial test, and the mayor could see no reason for making a change in the personnel.

The terms of Inspectors F. C. Smith and A. C. Anderson expired with the month of February, and yesterday their commissions of reappointment were authorized by Mayor Smith.

There were also two vacancies for like reasons on the board of park commissioners. The terms of Dan Abernethy and John Dale expired.

The former was reappointed, and to fill the vacancy occasioned by the retirement of Mr. Mayor Smith paid a tribute to the qualities of one of St. Paul's foremost business men.

He selected for this position Mr. Bredenhagen, who is well known in St. Paul owing to his prominence for six or eight years in the state.

In 1888 he was elected to the state board of equalization and served as secretary of the board of state, and Gov. McGill appointed him to the state board of equalization.

Mr. Bredenhagen is now the vice president and general manager of the St. Paul and Northern Pacific company, and was formerly agent for the Northwest for the Fire and Marine Insurance company. He is a heavy owner of St. Paul real estate, and a resident of the Sixth ward.

CONVENT ART WORK.

An Interesting Exhibit at St. Agatha's Hall.

The two days' exhibit of music and art work at St. Agatha's convent on East Exchange street closed yesterday afternoon. All day long the convent was crowded with people who had come to see the exhibit.

The exhibit was a very interesting one, and the work was of a high order. The paintings were of various subjects, and the music was of a high order.

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CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SINCE THE BUILDING WAS ERECTED, RESIGNED YESTERDAY.

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