THE DAILY GLOBE

IS PUBLISHED EVERY DAY

AT NEWSPAPER ROW,

COR. FOURTH AND MINNESOTA STS.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF ST. PAUL.

Address all letters and telegrams to THE GLOBE, St. Paul, Minn.
EASTERN ADVERTISING OFFICE, ROOM 401, TEMPLE COURT BUILDING, NEW YORK.
WASHINGTON BUREAU, 1405 F ST. N. W. Complete files of the Globe always kept on hand for reference.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

Payable in Advance.

Daily and Sunday, per Month	.50
Daily and Sunday, Six Months	$2.75
Daily and Sunday, One Year	$5.00
Daily Only, per Month	.40
Daily Only, Six Months	$2.25
Daily Only, One Year	$4.00
Sunday Only, One Year	$1.50
Weekly, One Year	$1.00

TODAY'S WEATHER.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—Forecast for Wednesday: Minnesota—Generally fair, threatening in southeast portion; colder; northwesterly winds becoming variable.

Wisconsin—Partly cloudy; probably light showers in southeast portion; fresh and brisk westerly winds; colder in northern portion.

The Dakotas—Fair and colder; variable winds.

Montana—Fair, followed by light rain or snow Wednesday night; colder in eastern portions; easterly to southerly winds.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

United States Department of Agriculture, Weather Bureau, Washington, Dec. 29, 6:48 p. m. Local Time, 8 p. m. 75th Meridian Time.—Observations taken at the same moment of time at all stations.

TEMPERATURES.

Place.	Tem.	Place.	Tem.
St. Paul	34	Edmonton	12
Duluth	34	Battleford	0
Huron	32	Prince Albert	4
Bismarck	34	Calgary	26
Williston	24	Medicine Hat	30
Havre	26	Swift Current	18
Helena	38	Qu'Appelle	8
		Minnedosa	18
		Winnipeg	28

DAILY MEANS.

Barometer, 30.21; thermometer, 30; relative humidity, 96; wind, southeast; weather, cloudy; maximum thermometer, 34; minimum thermometer, 25; daily range, 9; aount of rainfall or melted snow in last 24 hours, 0.

Note—Barometer corrected for temperature and elevation. —P. F. Lyons, Observer.

THE RUSH FOR THE TROUGH.

Nothing describes so well as the old familiar phrase "the rush for the trough" the performance that has now begun at Washington. The regular Republican show of tariff hearings holds the boards. It is the usual saturnalia of self-interest, the regular game of grab. Manufacturers and their agents flock to the national capital and put in their claims for permission to mulct the consumers of the country for their private profit. There is no other thought in their minds. There is not the faintest glimmer of unselfishness or even of decent regard for one another among them. The proverbial "honor among thieves" fails when applied to the beneficiaries of the protective system. The representative of the Manufacturing Chemists' association, of Philadelphia, modestly states that his people want "no favors," but only justice. "They are now being crushed between the textile manufacturers and the importers." So the tin plate men will, a little later, enter their plaint because the steel billet men have pushed them so hard. And so we go on from link to link of this villainous chain, each one of which is striving to rend its neighbor, and clamoring at the same time for a bounty because its neighbor returns evil for evil. The representative of the color manufacturers of New York says that his people are contented with the present duties. They are ample; but, he adds, if the duties on chemicals are to be increased, then there must be a relative increase on colors. And so up we go. There must be a boost all along the line because election debts have to be paid. There has been promised to one infant a bottle of pap, and all the other infants yell lustily that they will starve, although now well fed, unless they can be treated with equal liberality. It is not surprising, in view of these events, to have the naive remark at the end of the first chapter of this carnival of greed that "without exception all who appeared today asked for an increase of the duties on the particular industry in which they were interested."

If the Republican party chooses to cut its own throat, we shall not be found among the mourners. Its inauguration is going to bring down upon it such universal condemnation in this country as even the Democratic failure to perform the pledges contained in its platform of 1892 did not involve. The manufacturing business of this country is just as well able, far better in fact, to maintain itself in competition with the rest of the world than the agricultural interest. Our farmers meet on equal terms the cheapest labor in the world's open market. Our manufacturers, after a generation of protection, after a development that enables them to sell their wares in every quarter of the globe in competition with other nations, a development that has raised our export of domestic manufactures to one-fourth of the total of all that we send abroad, gather greedily at Washington in this rush for the trough. They want more taxes levied on the consumer. They want to make the farmer pay more for his lumber, his clothing, his household utensils, for every article that he does not produce directly from the soil, in order that they may put it in their own pockets. This country will never know enduring prosperity, and its industries will never be upon any other than an artificial and rickety foundation, until we have put a peremptory end to legislative favoritism, under the mask of "protection." Setting aside the matter of justice to the consumer, it is demanded by public decency and by a regard for ordinary morality that such an exhibition as that made by the tariff crowd at Washington should never be repeated.

GETTING NEW LIGHT.

To us, who have fought for the last four years against the stubborn purpose of the representatives of Minneapolis in the legislature to impose their scheme for local government upon every other city in the state, it is a strange and wonderful thing that there is a strong movement on foot in that city to frame a new charter. Public-spirited gentlemen have been stirring in that city, in view of recent disclosures, to get up a charter better suited to the times and less open to the abuses common to municipalities. At present they are pretty much at sea as to what they ought to do. They realize the infirmity of their municipal scheme. It has fathered one of the worst scandals of the time, and cost the city an immense amount of money. It is going to be the parent of prodigality and rascality as long as it exists. The necessity for a chnge is apparent. But the only possibility of change lies in accepting the home rule amendment which passed the legislature at the instance of the St. Paul delegation, to open to the cities of the state a way out of choosing between their present defective charters and the evil system of Minneapolis known as the Howard charter act.

It is very funny to see the comments of the Minneapolis Journal on the home rule provision. That newspaper would rather suffer anything, publicly or privately, than to get relief from an act of legislature that originated with a St. Paul senator. So it describes the Sheehan bill as a "very unsatisfactory and faulty affair." The criticisms that it makes are worse than puerile. The principal one of these is that the home rule law does not provide real home rue, because the legislature must first prescribe the general limits within which a charter may be framed. If the Journal knows any way by which this power could be taken away from the legislature, it ought to trot it out. We have never heard of any proposition in any city to set up a city government as superior to that of the state within which it lies. Of course, the legislature must retain its power to set limits beyond which the city government cannot go, just as the federal constitution denies certain powers and privileges to the states. We have never heard that the states of the Union have no real power over their own affairs, because the general limits within which they act are prescribed by the federal constitution.

In the same line, the Journal objects becuse "the amendment allows the legislature to step in at any time and adopt general charter laws for cities of certain classifications of population, and wipe out whatever charters any city may have adopted on their own account under the earlier provisions of the bill." It is probably entirely wrong in this assumption. "It was necessary, in order to get the home rule amendment through the legislature, to make this very concession to the Minneapolis members. Their hearts were set upon the Howard charter act, to extend the Minneapolis system to all cities in the state. They insisted that nothing should impair this power of the legislature to pass an act universally applicable, and it was granted because it could not well be denied. To oppose it involves the same absurd supposition to which we have just referred, that you can set up an imperium in imperio and forever tie the hands of the state government as to local governments subject to its own jurisdiction. It is certainly not possible, without changing the constitution, and as certainly not desirable to relieve any city forever from a supervisory authority of the state. This provision that the state may pass general laws does not, however, contemplate that these should take the place of a charter adopted under home rule, and to a paper less careless and prejudiced than the Journal it would be evident that this could not be done.

The home rule amendment is not merely a law, but, by popular vote, a part of the constitution of the state of Minnesota. Any city that adopts a charter under it is acting, not under statute, but under constitutional provision. It is, therefore, plain that when the Journal laments that Minneapolis might adopt a home rule charter only to come down to the capitol to fint it wiped out later on by "the St. Paul lobby," it is barking at the moon. That any legislature can override the constitution of the state and legislate out of existence something which rests upon a part of the constitution framed and adopted especially for that purpose is a new view of legislative powers which we commend to a more careful study of the constitutional lawyers of the Journal.

The interesting fact about the whole thing is that the city of Minneapolis itself has finally been brought, by disastrous experience, to view the system of government by council in its true light. It is the parent and bulwark of all kinds of abuses in local government. It is the friend of rapacity and the shield of corruption. Those who have made their own fight against it have justified themselves. No more, probably, shall we have to defend the other cities of the state from an attempt to foist upon them this evil system. Minneapolis herself cannot do better than, realizing the mistakes of the past, to take advantage of the home rule amendment and frame a charter that will be in line with the completest experience of American cities, and that will at least render improbable the repetition of the unhappy experience from which she has suffered.

GIVE IT EFFECT.

Whatever the coming legislature may or may not do it should relieve itself and the state of the scandal of adopting a constitutional amendment conferring upon the legislature the power to rectify an admitted evil, with successive legislatures refusing to obey the mandate and give it effect in suitable legislation. We refer to the amendment submitted to the voters and by them ratified in 1890, adding to section 4 of article 1, which secures inviolate the right of trial by jury, the provision that "the legislature may provide that the agreement of five-sixths of any jury in any civil action or proceeding, after not less than six hours' deliberation, shall be a sufficient verdict therein."

This amendment was submitted after prolonged discussion, in which the evils of the unanimous verdict were amply shown. Chief among the arguments for the majority verdict was the opportunity the old system offered to "hang the jury" by corrupting a single member of it, and the power thus given the unscrupulous agents of corporations to procure a denial of justice. The frequent miscarriages of justice thus occasioned, as well as those caused by the presence of a stupid or a prejudiced juror, are matters within the experience of every lawyer and judge, and constituted an evil that was a reproach to our judicial system. It brought into question the entire jury system and made thoughtful men ask if this old bulwark against the oppression of king and noble had not only outlived its first purpose, but had not become instead an instrument of the same kind of oppression it was meant to guard against.

When, too, in the same courts, in equity cases, questions of fact, involving vast sums, are submitted without question to the decision of the judge, without any suspicion that the rights of man are sacrificed, it is puerile to maintain that cases on the law side of the same court, presided over by the same judge, involving no more important issue than the contested ownership of a pig, must be referred to twelve peers of the republic, who must agree upon what are the facts of the case and unite in a unanimous verdict assessing the damages or determining the title. When, again, interests as vast as the fiscal policy of the nation are decided by a bare majority in the electoral colleges, it fatigues absurdity itself that absolute unanimity should be demanded of the twelve men in the box as to whether it was Jones' dog that worried Smith's sheep, and, if so, what amount of damage he caused.

Three successive legislatures have come and gone leaving a trail of useless when not mischievous legislation behind them, and in each of them influences are said to have been powerful enough to smother any bill seeking to give effect to this beneficial amendment. That these influences, whatever they were, were not honest is apparent, for no one who feels his cause just is unwilling to take the judgment of a majority of his fellows upon it. It is just as apparent that one who knows his cause is weak or unjust would wish the opportunity to defer or defeat justice by securing a friend upon the trial jury who would fail to see the force of the evidence that had made his eleven colleagues of one mind. Whatever the cause of former inaction, whether mere indifference or more potent influences, this legislature should earn some merit for consideration of public interest by giving to the amendment of 1890 the effect it requires by suitable legislation.

SILVER'S REDUCTIO AD ABSURDUM.

What Mr. Bryan's party could not succeed in having done in a legal way, sundry enterprising individuals, with an unquenchable faith in the divinity of silver and an unconquerable purpose that it have its full rights, are doing; clandestinely, however, owing to the hostile and malicious attitude of certain statutes of the United States. It has been the fashion in all times to apply opprobrious epithets to those who were resisting tyranny and striving to promise and install the right, and these worthy gentlemen are no exception, although they protest, with vigor, when they do speak, that they are not counterfeiters. But we anticipate.

Some little time ago the receiving teller of a San Francisco bank, making up his cash, thought that one of the silver dollars in his till was a trifle heavier than it should be. Laying it aside he sent it to the mint for examination. It was there pronounced a counterfeit. There was nothing on the face of it to indicate this except a trifling imperfection in the milling, not perceptible to ordinary inspection, but the assay showed a little more pure silver in the coin than the 371¼ grains in the minted coins. Thereupon the treasury detectives were put upon the track, and, putting this and that together, they found that a Montana silver miner had been engaged in the business of coining silver dollars freely and quite unrestrictedly, at a ratio of 16 to 1, without waiting for the consent of any foreign government, and, indeed, without that of his own. The Montanan has managed to elude the special agents of the treasury who have been seeking him in order to introduce him to his irate Uncle Samuel, but this accidental find of the San Francisco teller has made the treasury officers cautious in receiving silver dollars, and it is reported from Washington that there have been found by them many such that were better dollars than those from the mints, so far as their silver contents are concerned. Could anything better illustrate the absurdity of the free coinage policy?

AT THE THEATERS.

"The Prisoner of Zenda" was again presented to as large and as enthusiastic an audience last night as on Monday night. No admirer of true art should miss this play. Special matinee New Year's and regular matinee Saturday.

* * *

The popularity of farce comedy is being evidenced at the Grand the present week by the large audiences which are favoring the performance of "McSorley's Twins," as presented by Ferguson and Emerick and the capable assisting contingent. Today at 2:30 a popular priced matinee will be given and a special afternoon performance will be given Friday, New Year's day.

Ice Blockade.

ST. JOHNS, N. F., Dec. 29.—An ice blockade on the whole of the Northwestern coast of the island has begun and steamers and vessels are returning here, it being impossible to reach the mining settlements. All navigation will be suspended for the balance of the year.

THEY TALK SCHOOL

FIRST DAY'S WORK OF THE MINNESOTA EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

MANY TEACHERS ARE PRESENT

VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE ORGANIZATION CONSIDER BRANCHES OF TEACHING.

REPORT OF YESTERDAY'S DOINGS.

President Parr Delivers His Annual Address—Prof. Coulter, of Chicago, Is Heard.

When President S. S. Parr, of St. Cloud, called the Minnesota Educational association to order yesterday for the first general session there were probably in the neighborhood of 500 instructors within range of his voice, most of them of course of the gentler sex. The fact that so many teachers left their homes and came to St. Paul during the holidays shows in no mistakable manner the keen interest taken in this state in school matters. The session was held in the Plymouth church on Wabasha street, and among those present were the most notable educators the North Star state boasts, as well as a number of prominent men and women only indirectly interested in teaching. Noticeable in the audience were: Ex-Gov. Ramsey, President Northrop, of the state university; Dr. Kiehle, Supt. Weld, Stillwater; Mrs. A. W. Cooley, Minneapolis; Horace Goodhue, Northfield; Martin A. Shoemaker, George B. Alton, superintendent of high schools; E. A. Engsctrom, Goodhue county; President J. W. Olson, Albert Lea; A. W. Rankin, state inspector of graded schools; Edward Searing, Mankato normal school; President Shepard, Winona normal school; President Lord, Moorhead normal; President Kleeberger, St. Cloud normal.

The session was the thirty-fourth annual, and while the general session was held in the Plymouth church the various sections met in the capitol, at the high school and the Windsor hotel. It was an interesting assemblage, containing, as it did, teachers from every rank, from university president to the modest, demure little kindergartner. During the day the sections considered everything educational from high school methods to child study, music, county superintendents' work, elementary work, while in the evening the teachers listened to a talk on "Educational Problems," by Prof. John Coulter, of the Chicago university.

SUPT. PARR'S ANNUAL.

At the general session in the morning Supt. Parr called the convention to order and straightway delivered his annual address. He opened with the statement that the Minnesota schools fell short of the demands made upon them.

So far as direct effects are concerned, said Mr. Parr, the ultimate test of efficiency in the American school system is not cheapness of cost, nor neutrality in religion and politics, nor uniformity of system, nor isolation from other educational interests, nor even superiority over private establishments, but rather:

First—The ability to furnish equal opportunity to all classes of the community so that they may be trained to respect one another and to do justice to the rights and duties which devolve upon them.

Second—Power to arrange the machinery of school attendance so that those classes and individuals who would otherwise neglect their educational duties and so become a menace to public safety shall receive such stimulation as will lessen the dangers from this source.

Then followed a series of papers by well known instructors. The first was entitled "The Stratum in School Below the Average," and was read by Miss Alice J. Mott, of Faribault, who suggested that the solution of the problem of dull pupils was along the line of elective schools, making all schools "special" institutions in the sense of recognizing the peculiar characteristics of each child.

George A. Stanton, of Sauk Center, followed with the topic "The Best Method With the Slow and Deficient Pupil." Mr. Stanton expressed the view that from 7 to 10 per cent of the pupils in a school might be regarded as abnormal. It was from this class, he said, that the ranks of criminals and tramps were recruited.

LIBRARY WORK.

In the general library discussion held under the auspices of the Minnesota Educational association, Miss Littie M. Crafts, assistant librarian of the state university, spoke on "Library Economy as a Part of the College Curriculum." She explained the relation which the library sustained to the mission of educational institutions. It was the duty of the librarian to teach the student how to use a library, not what was in the books, but how to grasp their contents. Instruction in the use of the best reference books was essential.

Dr. Hosmer, of the Minneapolis public library, delivered an address on "The Relation of the Public Library to the Schools." Reference was made to the libraries of Milwaukee, Detroit and Cleveland as the three libraries of the country which were the originators of the idea of the connection between the public libraries and the public schools. In Minneapolis, everything was done to make the relation between the schools and the library a cordial one.

State Superintendent W. W. Pendergast spoke on the "Minnesota School Libraries." He referred to the advantages derived by the children of the schools from the libraries, and their use for occupying times of recreation.

Dr. Kiehle, of the state university, continued the discussion. He hoped that some plan for library instruction would be formulated.

PROF. COULTER'S ADDRESS.

Pedagogues who attempt to teach what they themselves do not know received a caustic treatment last night from Prof. John M. Coulter, of the university of Chicago, who addressed the University Educational association at Plymouth church. Prof. Coulter occupies the chair of botany in the Chicago university. The subject of his address was "Some Educational Problems." The address was listened to with the closest attention and marked evidence of appreciation.

President Parr introduced Prof. Coulter to the association. In his prefatory remarks Prof. Coulter said that never in the history of education had there been such a movement toward change as now. A feeling of unrest prevailed. It was not probable that a leader would spring up at once and solve the problem of education. The progress would be gradual. The truth would at last be revealed by a series of approximations. The true education was not just at hand, but it was nearer than it was a year ago.

Prof. Coulter, in discussing the problems of education, first spoke of the act of teaching. In observing the work of teachers he had noted a general lack of simplicity in the methods of teaching. They were inclined to use unnatural and abstract language that often obscured their meaning. Far too many teachers had learned the form of teaching rather than the subject to be taught. Methods of presentation meant nothing when the teacher had nothing to present. It was fortunate that the human mind was of so tough a structure, that it grew and developed in spite of the teachers.

"I have sometimes thought," declared Prof. Coulter, "that the whole question of the science of teaching is, not how to impart instruction, but how to impose the fewest obstacles to mental development."

Prof. Coulter next discussed the subject of science in secondary schools, devoting special attention to the old and the present methods of teaching botany.

The third problem considered by Prof. Coulter the speaker styled "The Overproduction of Pedagogues"—not teachers, but pedagogues. An idea prevailed that a common school education and a few weeks' special training would equip a teacher. It was such a pernicious theory that was responsible for the existence of incompetent teachers. The great conservator of public education was the state. It was in the power of the state to stop the overproduction of pedagogues by making higher the barrier guarding the entrance to the profession of teaching. The time had come when the barrier should be made higher and higher.

Prof. Coulter's fourth and last problem was "the ever-present one" of "Schools and Universities." In the main the universities had imposed more upon the schools than they had conceded. Prof. Coulter said that while he believed that many of the requirements for entrance to the university were wise and justifiable, he did not believe in so extending the specific demands as to make the high school nothing more or better than the university appendage. Prof. Coulter thought that the specific demands of the university ought to be very few. Over specialization was a great evil. What should be required was a certain degree of intellectual development. The time had long since passed when lack of proficiency in a certain aristocracy of subjects or studies should block the avenues to a higher education and prevent a student from proceeding with his education until he had acquired a certain knowledge of those specific subjects. That school or that teacher held in the dictatorial grasp of an institution that recognizes nothing but such an arbitrary system was pedagogically blind.

Prof. Coulter denounced the set entrance examination required by universities. The testimony of the teacher as to the pupil's qualifications was the best testimony to be had. Universities seemed to pride themselves more upon their raw material than upon their finished product. Prof. Coulter added in conclusion that he had often thought that the close-meshed seive was placed at the wrong end of the university course.

ENTERTAINED BY GREGG.

County Superintendents Enjoy Something of a Treat.

The county superintendents section, which began its deliberations the night before, assembled promptly at 2:30 yesterday in the senate chamber, and for an hour listened to a most interesting discourse from Supt. O. C. Gregg, of the State Farmers' Institute. Mr. Gregg, who has made agricultural matters a life study, spoke extemporaneously and his remarks proved to be of the most interesting character. He took for his subject "How can the Home and Social Life on the Farm Better Prepare the Rising Generation for Agricultural Life?" At the conclusion of his address he was asked a number of questions and a vote of thanks was unanimously voted him for his contribution to the general fund of information. His address in part was as follows:

Wherever you find a dull boy, there you will find one who will tamely submit to the monotony of daily drudgery. On the other hand, where there is a bright intellect, there will be unrest, as the monotony of toil gives the mind no employment, and so seeks to find a place where it can be suitably engaged. Restlessness in the mind is one of the means by which we attain unto better things. The intelligent educator will always seek to find means by which such minds become awakened, and indeed would endeavor to awaken them by making the labor of the hand to ever find proper employment for the mind.

One great difficulty in the average farm life is the monotony of toil. Provisions must be made in the home for times of relaxation and change of thought and interest. The speaker was not in sympathy with the thought that all boys who are born upon the farm should become agriculturists. Experience has taught us that all departments of life have received very substantial aid from men whose boyhood and youth were spent upon the farm. Such ones had an aptitude for other vocations. The aptitude was what might be called a divine call for him to do other things. Among those boys born upon the farm, however, are those who have taste for farm life. Their ability to succeed in agriculture will be largely measured by their mental ability. Such ones, if not properly directed, will become restless for the reason that we have explained, and if they lack recreation will endeavor to break the monotony of their lives by seeking a change in other employment.

Books and papers should become a part of every farm home equipment. Let some of those papers be the large weeklies published in our cities. They bring news of the world in a condensed and interesting manner to the reader. Let maps, and a globe if need be, form part of the literary outfit. Let the habit be formed of daily reading, and let there be no stint of the proper amount of time for this which is to become a recreation.

One superintendent in conversation with this speaker, had referred to the chart used by the institute forces in their work over the state, illustrating the methods of barn building and stable erection. These are never considered complete unless provision is carefully made for ventilating tubes in these homes for cattle and horses, but, he added, the ventilation of many school houses is no better than it was in the days of our grandfathers. Superintendent Gregg at this point referred to his own experience with a young man who had been employed by him, but was for the winter attending a school. He was a sturdy, strong and robust man, but complained shortly after he commenced attending the district school, that he became drowsy between the hours of 9 and 12, and 1 and 4 in the afternoon. The reason was soon made plain. A new floor had been placed on top of the old one, and storm windows had been added to the building, carefully battened down, and with all of this extra care to prevent draughts, not one single provision had been made for the receiving of pure air into that little crowded school room.

Mr. Gregg at this point described a very cheap but efficient means by which school rooms could be ventilated by means of a central flue made of sewer pipe, that should be inclosed by a large brick chimney, so creating a strong upward draft that could be utilized in drawing the impure air from the floor of the room by means of a wooden air duct and a simple register. Speaking of school houses, he said:

Many school houses in Minnesota are built upon a bleak knoll, wind-swept from every quarter. The majority of school teachers will keep the inside of the building tidy and in order, but without it is cheerless and forbidding. No tree for shrub may be found about the place, and if any trees have been planted upon Arbor day, as is frequently done, they soon seem to give up in despair under the rough treatment they receive. What would it do about the special care of growing trees about the school house? Will it be a nursery for forestry? Will the trees be selected with reference to the place so that they will be shapely and well-grown when they have come to maturity? Will the children receive that instruction which they will need to preserve them, and even to cultivate them so far as found necessary for their good growth? This would be another means by which interest in agriculture is excited and maintained.

Superintendent Gregg referred to his experience as a little boy in a manufacturing village in Southern New York, where most of the scholars of the public schools were children of operatives in the cotton mills. Many of them, in the nature of the case, were rude and rough. At this place, however, there was a teacher who bordered the school ground, that were surrounded with a high board fence, with flower beds. Certain scholars were given sections of the bed to cultivate in flowers. The owners of adjacent land had fruit trees that overhung the high fence, upon which there ripened from year to year, plums, peaches and apples. These flowers were kept inviolate, and no fruit ever was plucked from those branches, except by permission. The speaker suggested that the growing of flowers about the country school houses could be much more easily accomplished than under the unfavorable conditions that he had described, and suggested that possibly that might be one of the means by which interest in plants could be excited, and from that, interest in agriculture be stimulated.

In closing the speaker suggested that the teachers of the various district schools should exercise their influence as best they could, to provide recreations during the evenings, that would tend to counteract what is come to be a dissipation in many country districts, by assemblies that meet, even under the auspices of the church organizations, that keep unduly late hours. Such assemblies ofttimes keep young people up at night until the late hours of 1 and 2 in the morning. Such assemblies are dissipations pure and simple, even though they may go under the guise of a Christian cloak.

Superintendent Gregg closed by urging the county superintendents assembled, as well as the representative teachers, that they should select the bright pupils who seemed to have an interest in agriculture, and urge upon them the value of the State Farm school as a place where they could supplement the common school education that they had received, by a course in agriculture that would equip them to do their life work to much greater advantage than they otherwise would.

HIGH SCHOOL COUNCIL.

One of the Most Interesting Sessions of the Day.

Perhaps the most representative gathering of the afternoon was in the hall of representatives where Superintendent Frank Weld, of Stillwater, called the High School council to order at 3 o'clock. After a little preliminary business had been disposed of Superintendents F. E. Hubbard, of Red Wing; F. T. Bliss, of Waseca, and Aaron Schmit, of Jackson, were named the nominating committee, and later Superintendent Adams, of Northfield, was added to the list.

Inspector Alton, of the high school apparatus committee, urged that some person be retained at a modest salary to look after the work, and a committee was named including Julius Horton and F. V. Hubbard, with Mr. Alton as chairman, to further a plan of making the laboratory apparatus at the state prison.

Superintendent S. S. Parr, of St. Cloud, reported for the committee appointed to consider a closer relation between the high school and the university. Prof. Parr made a strong plea for a closer acquaintance between the two institutions named, and pointed out that there would be a mutual profit following visits from the faculties of both institutions, one to the other. He contended that scholastic demands are, first, four years preparatory work upon any of three courses, viz., classical, literary and scientific; algebra, geometry, history, English and physics being common to all. Second, a general improvement of the high schools, and the use of funds, libraries, appliances, etc. Third, a specialization in securing corps of better trained teachers, and fourth, the raising of the quality of graded work.

William S. Mack, a member of the board of education of Aurora, Ill., in a paper covered in a masterly way his views on "A Board's Relation to the Pupil." The paper from beginning to end was listened to intently, and was filled with carefully expressed, concise views on the various phases of the relation mentioned. Briefly yet comprehensively Mr. Mack went over the provisions made in different states for the establishment and maintenance of free schools, the character of school laws, the matter of school sites and buildings, and in fact delivered what proved to be one of the most satisfactory papers yet read. He pointed out the urgent necessity for good grounds, good buildings and above all good instructors, and was not slow to say how to bring about the best results along these lines.

After a discussion of this paper, Miss Mary Donovan, of the Stillwater High school, read a paper on examinations. From the famous teacher in the first century who told his followers about the fig tree, which bore no fruit, down to modern instruction, and how to ascertain how it was being imparted to the pupil mind, Miss Donovan made a long jump, but took time to contrast the methods which obtained during the two periods. Miss Donovan does not exactly approve what she calls written final examinations. She does not believe they furnish a real test of the knowledge of the pupil. She asks "If the custom of giving final examinations does not tend to produce general culture, nor to add to the students knowledge, nor to enhance his enjoyment of his work, why then do we examine? It must be that something is gained by it. What is it? All that I can see is a mark." She cited cases where pupils were careless, inaccurate and indifferent occasionally, and thus fell below marks which would properly indicate their real knowledge. The paper was thoroughly well put together and was discussed by Superintendent Ford, of Owatonna, and Superintendent Z. N. Vaughn, of Anoka.

GEOGRAPHY AND MODELING.

Two Subjects Discussed in the Elementary Section.

Mrs. Alice Cooley, of Minneapolis, presided over the deliberations of the elementary section which convened in the spacious assembly hall at the high school. "Elementary Geography" was the topic up for discussion, and Prof. Darius Stewart, of Fargo, who was down on the programme very modestly for "suggestions," spoke for an hour during which he advanced a number of new ideas on the subject of geography for younger pupils. Latitude and longitude occupied not a little of his attention, and during the explanation of the symbols, as Mrs. Cooley called them in her opening remarks, the Dakota teacher made a strong plea for the handling of geography in such a way as to appeal to the child mind. He encouraged the teachers to do all they could in the way of making the details clear to young pupils, and forthwith advanced a plan which, he said, would not give students false impressions as to latitude and longitude as old maps and globes were apt to.

Illustrating his statements with globes and sections together with maps, he showed the true relations different points bore one another, and explained how by his plan, students could not go wrong in the matter of perspective. He submitted tests by means of maps and quarter sections of globes made by pupils in his own school. The matter will be discussed further today.

Miss Jean Gowdy, of Minneapolis, followed with a paper on "Sand Modeling, Its Purpose and Legitimate Use." Miss Gowdy took the position that sand modeling promotes self-interest and activity in the child, gives him another avenue for expression, in which he may express himself when words fail in him, and makes clear through touch, ideas which he had gained but partially by sight. A fourth advantage claimed, was that it shows the teacher the working of the child's mind.

Miss Gowdy denies vigorously that sand modeling is dead and lifeless in the main because neither light nor shade can be produced, and insists that it can be made living and animated by the manner in which it is taught and used.

Minnehaha falls was mentioned as being the nearest approach to an ideal location for a geography class, presenting as it does, nearly all forms of land and water.

The subject was generausly discussed, the discussion being led by Miss Carrie Robbins, of Mankato.

GRADED SCHOOLS.

Question of the Promotion of Pupils Discussed.

Room 16 in the capitol was comfortably filled with the graded school instructors when George E. Butler, of Bird Island, the presiding officer, called the initial meeting of this section to order. There was to be an hour of round-the-table discussion with Mr. Butler leading, and the question was "On What Principle Should the Promotion of Pupils from Grade to Grade Be Determined?" After the few introductory remarks from Mr. Butler, C. A. Pachin, of Caledonia, opened the discussion.

It was contended in the first place, that the ability of the pupil should in itself determine the matter of promotion from one grade to another, but the mooted question, it was submitted, was how best to determine the ability of the pupil. Some of the teachers held that the instructor having the student, and coming into direct contact could best tell his capabilities, and that no written examination or test would fully bring this out. This was urged with special vigor in the case of the lower grades, where the younger students had not the necessary physical ability to stand the test. Those taking the opposite view in the discussion maintained, and it appeared to be the sense of the meeting, that a written test or examination was the true and only medium to determine, for the reason that whatever the teachers' ability, or however keen his insight, there were points which might run from day to day, and only be partially known to either teacher or pupil. The only way, they argue, to determine these points is to test the pupils ability to express them in good clear logical fashion, the object being not so much to test the subject matter digested, as to test the pupils power to do work assigned to him.

STUDY OF CHILDREN.

It Is Considered in the Sectional Meeting.

The child study section met in the Windsor parlors about 5 o'clock, the members being slow in assembling on account of the other sessions of the day. In the absence of Prof. Kirkpatrick, of Winona, who is ill, Supt. S. S. Parr, of the St. Cloud city schools, presided. Miss Isabel Lawrence, of the St. Cloud normal school, told of the child study that had been done at that institution, comprising the analysis of stories popular with the children, to determine the elements which were of interest to them and the constructive work that followed the researches thus made. The work, however, was young, and could be judged but poorly yet. She was of the opinion, however, that the children cared little for descriptions of beautiful things.

Prof. Parr was of the opinion that the children appreciated beauty as well as older people, but he did not believe that they enjoyed reading descriptions of such, and while he had observed in language lessons of small scholars the frequent occurrence of the word beautiful in qualifying nouns, he was under the impression that the words were borrowed from the teacher.

Mrs. A. W. Cooley, primary supervisor in the Minneapolis schools, related her experience. She had endeavored to ascertain from the children the name of the books they most enjoyed, in order to determine if possible the elements that appealed to their nature, but the result had been that the lads who were least high and noble in their reading always wrote the name of the Bible or some other book that they knew she thought was a good book. Mrs. Cooley precipitated some discussion by the suggestion that the attempt to teach the little ones of things divine, and to gather from them their ideas of God and heaven had proven almost equally unsuccessful, and she was of the opinion that this branch of study had no place really in child study, properly so-called. Prof. Taylor, of Mankato, Miss Blaisdell, Prof. Sawyer and others participated in the discussion.

WANT MUSIC TAUGHT.

Teachers in That Section Vote Unanimously for It.

The music section gathered in Room 14 at the Windsor during the early hours of yesterday afternoon, and listened to the annual address of the president, Prof. O. E. McFadon, music supervisor in the Minneapolis schools. Mr. McFadon spoke of the failure of the last legislature to pass the bill asked to require examinations in music of applicants for state certificates of the first and second grades, and urged that the association take steps looking to the agitation of a similar measure again at this session.

Charles W. Johnson, of Minneapolis, also urged the importance of musical training in the schools, and George C. Krimbill, of Winona, secretary of the music section, placed it well at the top of school studies in point of importance in the symmetrical development of the youthful mentality. Prof. Curry, of South St. Paul, asked the teachers how many of them would be in favor of an act requiring musical examinations of applicants for second as well as first grade certificates, and the vote was unanimous.

COLLEGE MEN MEET.

They Exchange Views on Topics of Interest.

The college section met in the Plymouth church yesterday afternoon. President Dean Horace Goodhue, of Carleton college, presided.

Prof. Goodhue spoke on "Higher Education." Of the colleges and universities in the United States two were founded in the seventeenth century, twenty-two in the eighteenth, and 570 in the nineteenth. One hundred and forty-one were for men only, 310 were educational, and 143 for women only. Five million dollars were invested in grounds and buildings, and $3,000,000 of endowment.

Prof. Goodhue called attention to the multiplication and the slow, but steady increase, both of requirements and courses. Of 15,142 great Americans, 5,326 were college-bred, and 100,000,000 had lived and died who had not a college education, yet out of these 100,000,000 only 10,000 had so wrought as to deserve recognition in a cyclopedia of biography.

Prof. Cyrus Northrop followed with an address on "College Administration."

President George H. Bridgman, of Hamline, discussed "The Province of the President;" President M. Waldstrom, of Gustavus Adolphus college, "The Province of the Faculty," and Harlan W. Page, of Carleton college, "The Province of the Trustees."

MRS. TUCKER FORTUNATE.

Substantial Windfall Comes to a St. Paul Family.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 29.—Mrs. Mary Logan Tucker, wife of Maj. William F. Tucker, paymaster in the United States army, department of Dakota, with headquarters at St. Paul, received a very substantial legacy from the late George E. Lemon. Under terms of his will, which has just been filed here, Mrs. Tucker receives a cash legacy of $25,000, and a one-fifth interest in the entire estate. The five-year-old son of Maj. and Mrs. Tucker, who was named after Capt. Lemon, also receives $25,000 and a one-fifth interest in the estate. These are the largest legacies left to any two persons under the terms of the will. During his life, Capt. Lemon was an intimate friend of Gen. and Mrs. John A. Logan, Maj. and Mrs. Tucker are now in Washington, visiting at the home of Mrs. Logan.

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