New and Desirable Clothing at January Reductions

Is what we are now offering. On our main floor we have placed on **separate tables** all small lots of

Men's Suits, Overcoats AND Ulsters

in our store at the following reductions:

$20.00 Suits now.....$16.00
$18.00 Suits now.....$15.00
$15.00 Suits now.....$12.00
$12.50 Suits now.....$10.00

In Our Boys' and Children's Dept.

We have taken all broken lots of **Ulsters, Reefers, Cape Overcoats, Two-Piece Knee-Pant Suits, Reefer Suits** and **Junior Suits** and placed them on separate tables at reductions ranging from 15 to 33 per cent discount. Here is a grand opportunity to clothe the little ones for very little outlay.

Browning, King & Co.

COR. SEVENTH AND ROBERT STREETS, ST. PAUL, MINN.

STUCKY STEPS OUT

NEW PRESIDENT ELECTED BY THE LOUISVILLE CLUB FOR NEXT YEAR.

PREMIUMS FOR PLAYERS.

THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS IF THE COLONELS CLOSE IN SEVENTH PLACE.

MONEY TO SECURE NEW BLOOD.

Substantial Sum Put at the Disposition of the Management to Strengthen the Team.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Jan. 6.—The annual meeting of the directors of the Louisville Base Ball club, which had been postponed because of the death of George Ruckstahl, one of the largest stockholders, was held at the Louisville hotel tonight. The meeting was entirely harmonious. Although the plans for the coming season were discussed in detail, the feature of the meeting was the retirement of Dr. T. Hunt Stuckey from the presidency of the club and the election of Harry Pulliam to succeed him. Mr. Pulliam has acted as financial agent for the club for several years, and is well known in base ball circles throughout the country. First Baseman Rogers, who came to Louisville towards the close of last season from Washington, will manage the Colonels this year, succeeding Manager W. H. McGunigle.

President Pulliam was given the disposal of $10,000, to be used to strengthen the club by the purchase of new players, trading or in any way he sees fit. An incentive to good work on the part of the 1897 team is given in the offer of premiums, to be determined by the standing of the club at the end of the season. If the Colonels soar to ninth place $1,000 is to be distributed among the players; if to eighth, $2,000; if seventh is reached $3,000 will be divided up. In addition to this a prize of $100 will be given at the end of the season to the man having the best batting average, the man with the best base stealing record, the man making the most sacrifice hits and the pitcher who wins the most games. After the meeting the directors were tendered a banquet by Secretary Dehler.

FREE LIGHT.

Light on the vital subject of health. Light made by the focussed knowledge of a lifetime of successful medical practice. Given to you absolutely free in the form of Dr. Pierce's Common Sense Medical Adviser. This book is exactly what its name implies. There are no technical terms, no efforts to "show off" a great store of medical knowledge. It is a condensation. There are over 1000 pages, and every page is full of talk about common sicknesses that are known in every family, and how to cure them. Dr. Pierce has studied and practiced medicine for over thirty years. He is the head, the ruling power of the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, of Buffalo, N. Y. He is a busy man, but it's the busy people who are the world's benefactors.

This book is particularly a book for mothers. It will relieve them from many anxieties. The book is fully illustrated. There are colored plates, and plain black and white. For 21 cents in stamps, to pay cost of mailing *only*, you may have this book in paper binding. For 31 cents in one-cent stamps, you may have it in fine French cloth. Address, Dr. R. V. Pierce, at above mentioned institution.

Dr. Pierce's Pellets. If constipation was painful like a toothache, sickness would to a very great extent be a thing of the past. If it was painful, the proper remedy would be promptly resorted to, and the long train of disorders for which it is responsible would cease to exist. But, unfortunately constipation is the easiest to neglect of all sickness-breeding conditions. A resort to the right remedy is put off from day to day. It shows itself in a headache, and some injurious headache powder that gives but temproary relief is used. Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets go to the first cause of the trouble and cure it. They are a prompt and permanent cure for constipation. They cause no pain and never gripe. Druggists sell them, and sell nothing else that is "just as good."

FISK AND VOGEL.

Won the High Score Badge in Last Night's Game.

In the twelfth game of the whist tourney of the St. Paul Chess and Whist club, played last night, Fiske and Vogel won the high score badge, as indicated by the following results:

North and South.	
Sperry and Chapin	163
Miller and Sanders	158
Erwin and Fetter	160
Williams and Potter	153
Whitney and Armstrong	161
Buford and Galusha	153
Total	948
Average—158.	
East and West.	
Stoltze and Ward	157
Hay and Ringold	155
Morgan and Stevenson	148
Harris and Mall	146
Gordon and Metcalf	156
Fiske and Vogel	162
Total	924
Average—154.	

DETROIT BONSPIEL.

Play Begun Under Rather Unfavorable Conditions.

DETROIT, Mich., Jan. 6.—Unfavorable weather caused the Detroit Curling club to advise several of the teams entered in the international bonspiel not to come, but a change in the atmosphere occurred just in time to bring the near-by teams here for the opening today. The ice was made under difficulties and had to be built almost sheet by sheet, and the surface was not as smooth as desired.

The total results this afternoon and evening were as follows. Toledo, 22; Ridgetown, Ont., 29; Windsor, Ont., 41; Grand Rapids, 14; Thamesville, 24; St. Marys, 35; Woodstock, 27; Stratford, 28; London, 31; Chatham, 37; Sarnia, 25; Detroit, 30.

Cleveland Scores.

CLEVELAND, O., Jan. 6.—At the close of the racing tonight in the women's six-day bicycle contest the scores stood as follows: Farnsworth, 114 miles; Anderson, 114; Keyes, 113.14; Brown, 113.14; Kalgren, 113.5; Allen, 112.9. Anderson and Farnsworth gained one lap on Keys and Brown tonight. Farnsworth finished first and Anderson second.

New Orleans Races.

NEW ORLEANS, La., Jan. 6.—Summary: First race, seven furlongs F M B won, Anna Mayes second, Judith C third. Time, 1:34½. Second race, seven furlongs—Our Bishop won, Provident second, Candy third. Time, 1:34½. Third race, mile and twenty yards—Partner won, Terra Archer second, Master Fred third. Time, 1:51. Fourth race, mile and a furlong—Rossmar won, Loudon second, Judge Steadman third. Time, 2:00¼. Fifth race, six furlongs—Brother Fred won, Squire Gillam second, Woodlawn third. Time, 1:21. Sixth race, six furlongs—Meddler won, Rouble second, Sir John third. Time, 1:18.

DAUNTLESS RETURNS.

Her Expedition Safely Landed on the Cuban Coast.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Jan. 6.—The steamer Dauntless arrived in port this evening from its alleged filibustering expedition to Cuba, the party having been safely landed, as reported in last night's dispatches. The officers of the tug profess that they have merely been on a wrecking expedition, and say that they have not seen the coast of Cuba. A very rough trip was experienced. Unless the Dauntless shall be detained she will at once load with arms and ammunition and apply for clearance papers for Nuevitas, Cuba.

Horatio Rubens, general counsel for the Cuban junta of New York, is here conducting an investigation into the cause of the foundering of the steamer Commodore, laden with arms and ammunition for Cuba, last Friday night. No conclusion has been reached.

ANNEXATION FEARED

By the "Patriotic Vigilance Committee" of Canada.

TORONTO, Ont., Jan. 6.—The political organization styling itself the "Patriotic Vigilance Committee" has distributed throughout Canada a circular charging that "an insiduous conspiracy has for several months been at work throughout the dominion, aiming at the overthrow of the authority of our gracious sovereign, the queen and empress, and the annexation of our beloved country to the United States. Behind what is ostensibly a political movement is plainly to be seen the hand of the Roman Catholic church, the ever watchful enemy of Protestant liberty." In conclusion, the circular advises the organization of associations in every district to report the actions of those suspected of annexation tendencies.

INCENDIARISM AT SEA.

Indicated in the Case of the Schooner Bonnel.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Jan. 6.—The tug Mary Ann, from New York, sighted the schooner M. L. Bonnel shortly after 9 o'clock last night in the vicinity of Greenwich. The schooner appeared to be all right, with sails set and side lights burning. At that time there was no sign of fire. Overhauling her, the Mary Ann's captain discovered fire on the schooner's aft. He waited to see rockets sent up, but no signals were given. He suddenly detected two boats putting off across the schooner's bow in a stealthy manner. Aboard the boats were chests and other goods, evidently the effects of the captain and crew. He hailed the boats and asked if help was needed. The reply he received was a warning, accompanied by an oath: "Don't go near her, she is loaded with cartridges and oil."

The skipper of the schooner, Allen by name, boarded the Mary Ann, while his crew stuck to the boats. Allen's story is to the effect that the mate had a lamp in the cabin when the bottom suddenly fell out and the oil scattered on the floor ignited. Allen gave no reason for leaving his vessel without making an effort to save her, except to say that owing to her cargo it was dangerous to remain aboard longer. Allen alleged that a part of his cargo was stored under the cabin, and Capt. Rogers thinks that a peculiar place to stow such a cargo. The crew reached shore safely.

CHECK WORKERS ARRESTED.

Big Business Done by the Gang in Chicago.

CHICAGO, Jan. 6.—Five men, who, it is alleged, compose a band of forgers, are locked up at the Woodlawn police station charged with having fleeced a number of prominent citizens by means of forged checks. One of the members of the band is still at large. Two of those under arrest have made a written confession, the police say, in which they implicate their companions. Those under arrest are: Arthur L. Foreman, alias Howard E. Stone; Elmer Russell, Eddie L. Root, alias O'Rourke; Charles McCuen, William Bert. The member wha has not been arrested is said to be Paul Moran.

Their work, which has extended over about one year, has been confined to the signatures of millionaires and prominent business men. George F. Swift, the wealthy packer, and Henry Weiskopf, a prominent grocer, are among those whose signatures were forged for large amounts. A worthless check for $1,200, bearing George F. Swift's signature, was cashed at the National Live Stock bank, and other checks aggregating $2,500 to $3,000, bearing the signatutre of H. Weiskopf & Co., have been cashed at other banks. These are all the forgeries known at present, but the statements of the men who have confessed shows that the forgeries will run anywhere between $10,000 and $20,000. All the prisoners are young, none being over twenty-five years.

EX-CONGRESSMAN KILLED.

Among the Victims of the War in Cuba.

DALTON, Ga., Jan. 6.—There is little doubt that the Hon. Charles Dougherty, ex-congressman from the Second district of Florida, has been slain in Cuba. Reports have been published from Cuba about the killing there of one Charles Dougherty, an American citizen, who was identified by a gold watch found on his person.

Mr. Dougherty was born near this place and grew to manhood here, then he moved to Florida, and was elected to congress within three years. At the end of his congressional service he returned to his old home, leaving there last July, since which time nothing has been heard from him. Letters and telegrams sent to Dayton and other Florida points, have returned with the information that he is not there. Telegrams to all parts of Florida today have been without result. When Mr. Dougherty left home he had just such a watch with the autograph indicated. He was an ardent Cuban sympathizer, often declaring his purpose to join the insurgent army.

Davis' Stock Ordered Sold.

BOSTON, Mass., Jan. 6.—The order of the probate court in the A. J. Davis will case directing the sale of 90,000 shares of Butte & Boston mining stock at $2 a share, from which an appeal was taken by the heirs, has been affirmed by Judge Holmes. He states that the court finds that, unless such sale be immediately made, the said 90,000 shares of stock will be deprived of their value, and that the rights of parties cannot be otherwise protected.

Foreclosure Ordered.

DUBUQUE, Io., Jan. 6.—The district court ordered the foreclosure of a mortgage for $55,000 against the Iowa Iron works today. The firm built the torpedo boat Ericcson, the revenue cutter Windom and many Mississippi river steamboats.

Clover Leaf Boycott Off.

TOLEDO, O., Jan. 6.—In the United States court, when the case of the Continental Trust company against the Clover Leaf was called, Attorney Brown, for the railroad, moved to dissolve the injunction secured by the Clover Leaf, restraining the Vanderbilt lines from establishing a boycott against the road. There was no objection and the judge made the order which dismisses the boycott.

Killed by Giant Powder.

LEADVILLE, Col., Jan. 6.—By an explosion of giant powder at Twin Lakes station this afternoon Peter Fagin and Michael Sebia were killed and Joseph Larkin fatally injured. They were employed at grading on the Colorado Midland railroad, and were thawing the powder when it exploded.

Treaties Went Over.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—The senate held a brief executive session today for the purpose of securing action on the Orange Free State and Argentine extradition treaties, but did not succeed in accomplishing that purpose. The treaties went over for a day on the suggestion of Senator Chandler that they should be printed before being taken up in the senate.

Melba's Gowns.

Melba has $100,000 invested in gowns, it is said, one of them having cost $15,000. Though $15,000 is a good deal for a single dress, it is worth while to note that the wearer earned it herself.—Boston Globe.

NEEDS OF A STATE

GOV. CLOUGH'S MESSAGE TO THE LEGISLATURE ON THE SUBJECT

TOUCHES ALL DEPARTMENTS.

AMENDMENTS NEEDED FOR SOME LAWS REGULATING FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

Appropriations Needed for Use There—Interest of the State in Game Preservation.

Following is Gov. Clough's message, mention of the delivery of which is made in another column:

Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives:

You have assembled here as representatives of the people in the legislative branch of their government. You meet at a time when the citizens of Minnesota, in common with those of other states, have for over three years been suffering from financial depression and industrial stagnation. The markets for the products of our farms, factories and mines have been circumscribed and, as a result, their prices have greatly depreciated. Auspicious skies, conspiring with the wonderful fertility of our soil and improving methods of agriculture, have, however, reduced the farmers' suffering and loss to a minimum. The vast deposits of valuable iron ores within our borders, more cheaply mined than are like deposits in any other quarter of the globe, have, by their increasing output, fostered our industrial progress. In these and in other respects, no state in our nation has been favored during the past three years to such an extent as Minnesota. From 1890 to 1895 our population increased from 1,301,820 to 1,574,619. Our resources have increased even faster than our population, and the attitude of our people in days of adversity has strengthened our credit at home and abroad. At the present time, in those parts of the state that have adopted a wisely diversified system of farming, prosperity prevails and the oltlook is most encouraging. In no section have crop failures, the plague of insects, blight, frosts and kindred agents, either with or without the influence of hard times, brought a want or suffering that calls for any special state aid at the hands of your honorable bodies.

In obedience to a constitutional requirement, I hereby submit for your consideration suggestions relative to the affairs and conditions of the state.

State Finances.

On the 30th day of November, 1896, the state treasury had to the credit of the several funds the following sums, to-wit:

Revenue fund	$168,797 04
Soldiers' relief fund	46,677 00
Funding tax fund	215,137 65
Permanent school fund	52,050 70
General school fund	48,215 72
Permanent university fund	3,868 55
General university fund	39,901 13
Internal improvement fund	14,011 37
Internal improvement land fund	30,863 92
Internal improvement land fund interest	4,357 31
State institutions fund	51,741 74
School text-book fund	47,546 49
Swamp land fund	7,914 23
Reform school fund	8,826 46
Grain inspection fund	116,234 98
Total	$850,114 29

Statements in detail showing the estimated receipts and disbursements of the revenue fund for the next two years are elsewhere presented. It is from this fund that the ordinary expenses of the state are paid. The estimated receipts are based upon a tax levy of one and one-half mills, the same as that for the past two years. The estimated receipts from state taxes are $100,000 less than two years ago. This reduction arises from the fact that the equalized assessed value of the real and personal property of the state is about $75,000,000 less than it was at that time.

The accompanying statements of estimated receipts and expenditures for the fiscal years 1898 and 1899 show a probable excess of receipts over disbursements of $407,000. This excess is available for new buildings and other purposes not included in the accompanying estimated expenditures. The corresponding estimated excess of four years ago was $983,000, and for two years ago it was $1,001,000. This small relative amount of $407,000 of estimated excess of receipts over the ordinary expenditures of the state measures the extreme limit of appropriations for new buildings and for kindred purposes that can be met by a tax levy of one and one-half mills. If, therefore, the appropriations shown in the accompanying statement are exceeded by over $200,000 annually, it will be necessary to provide additional income for the revenue fund. If such additional income is necessary, I recommend that it be sought by methods other than that of an addition to the tax levy of one and one-half mills. To increase the tax levy under the conditions that now prevail in Minnesota would seem, in my judgment, to turn away from all that experience teaches relating to the subject. It is to depart from the modern and judicious tendency in state taxation, which seeks to lessen the amount of direct tax levies by deriving increased revenue from other sources.

In an agricultural community, such as most of our states were fifty years ago, nearly all the wealth is in the hands of private individuals and is readily reached by the assessor and made to bear its just share of the burdens of government. This is done by the tax levy. With the development of modern industries and all the complicated financial institutions of a manufacturing and commercial people, the whole problem of taxation is changed, and all the old methods must be modified or great inequalities and injustice arise. A reliance solely upon the old tax levy in a commonwealth such as ours tends relatively more and more to throw the burden of state support opon the citizens with limited resources, and more and more to exempt the holdings of the rich. To correct the wrong thus arising, all advanced communities in the new and in the old world have begun to make an ever-increasing use of new forms of taxation, such as taxes upon inheritances and corporation taxes and fees of various kinds. It is upon some one or more of these modern sources of public revenue that I would urge you to rely, if the old tax levy of one and one-half mills will not suffice to meet all the necessary expenditures during the next two years.

Owing to the changes in modern society and the consequent need of, as well as popular demand for, these newer forms of taxation, there arises at times, in the most progressive and wide-awake communities, the necessity for a thorough revision of laws and the constitutional provisions regulating the same. Minnesota has, to a limited extent, made use of these modern forms of taxation. But there has, to a limited extent, made use of these modern forms of taxation. But there are many things about their operation, as well as concerning the general subject of taxation, which the people of the state are discussing. They wish to know more fully than they now do, whether the present gross earnings taxes upon certain corporations call for as heavy a relative contribution from them as the old tax levy does from the masses of our citizens. They do not ask nor wish their legislative and executive officers to lay unjust burdens upon any one, neither are they willing that any, and especially the rich and great corporations, shall be relieved from any of their just share of the public contributions. They desire to know the facts and then have laws framed to correspond therewith.

This condition of affairs has repeatedly arisen in the older states. To meet the necessities of that condition, several of these states have at times created tmeporary tax commissions or committees to investigate the subject in all its bearings. Such commissions or committees have ascertained how old methods of taxation can and should be modified to meet new conditions. They have also gathered a great variety of facts not obtainable by the ordinary equalization board, concerning the relative ratio of the assessed to the real value of the property in the various sections of the state. To aid in securing a greater equality of taxation in the several counties of our state and to gather the information that may assist in framing schemes of taxation that will relieve the industrial classes by methods that shall be best for the state and just to all concerned, I would suggest the advisability of some general investigation of the subject of taxation by the creation of a tax commission or the appointment of a joint committee of your honorable bodies to sit after the close of the regular session. The commission or committee could then present the facts obtained by it for the use of the next equalization board and report its findings to the next session of the legislature.

Estimates for Buildings, Equipment and Repairs for State Institutions.

In past years estimates have been made to the legislature of the cost of erecting new buildings for various state institutions and appropriations have been made on the basis of those estimates. Later, when the authorities have proceeded to construct the structures authorized by law, the appropriations are found barely sufficient to erect the buildings, but not properly to equip the same. The equipments must then await the action of the next session of the legislature or be paid for out of the fund for current expenses, thus seriously interfering with the operation of the institution as contemplated by the law making power. This opens the way for suspicion of bad faith or poor management. Possibly this condition cannot always be prevented, but in the interest of sound business management, it should be guarded against as fully as practical. To this end I recommend that state institutions asking for appropriations for new buildings be required to submit detailed estimates for the same, always including proper equipments. In estimates for current expenses and appropriations for the same, the cost of needed repairs and of new equipments of a permanent character should be stated as a separate item, and a more rigid system of accounting insisted upon. Such a system should limit the use of funds appropriated by the legislature for current expenses from being applied for repairs and equipments that can be foreseen and brought to the attention of the law making power.

School and University Funds.

My predecessor, two years ago, called attention to the defective constitutional and statutory provisions regulating the investment of school and university and other funds under the control of the state. He recommended that a constitutional amendment be prepared and submitted to the people, authorizing the investment of those funds in the bonds of the various municipalities of our state. Such an amendment was prepared and was adopted at the last election. Appropriate legislation is now needed to make the new constitutional provision effective.

Defective Titles of State to Real Estate of State Institutions.

In his report, State Treasurer Koerner calls attention to the facts discovered by him of the defective titles of the state to several valuable pieces of property upon which state institutions are located. He recommends the appropriation of money to clear these titles. This recommendation is a most timely one, and I trust will receive proper consideration at your hands.

Public Examiner.

The duties of the public examiner have, with the passage of years, grown in extent and importance. That office now has supervision of the treasury of the state, of sixteen state institutions, eighty-one counties, one city, one hundred and fifty-four state banks, thirteen savings banks, nine loan and trust mocpanies, twelve national and forty-seve local building and loan associations, and fire companies, or a total of 334 distinct interests. In his report he makes a number of recommendations, of which I call your attention, especially to the following:

The law regulating the management of county moneys should be so amended as to secure better supervision of the officials in control of the funds and the use of more and better records of its disbursement. The law should require all receipts issued by the treasurer to be presented to the auditor for signature and registration before delivery, and treasurers should be required to deposit daily all moneys received by them and make all payments by checks, and those checks should state upon their face the number of the order or warrant for which they are issued.

The law now authorizing the expenditure of small sums of money, less than $200, by town officers on roads should be so amended as to forbid the county commissioners to expend such moneys, except in cases where the town officials fail properly to qualify as required by statute.

Financial Institutions.

The public examiner makes a number of wise recommendations concerning the laws regulating the management of our financial institutions. I call your attention to the following:

The banking law should be so amended as to require all private banks to indicate by their names that they are not incorporated, and also provide for periodical publication of their condition. The importance of this recommendation can be seen from the fact that these banks in Minnesota number 206, and have deposits of over five million dollars.

The laws governing loan and trust companies should be so amended as to limit the liability which such companies may assume as indorser or guarantor. The permission to issue debenture bonds should be restricted to the security of such mortgages as the company may have in excess of those in the guaranty fund.

The law regulating national building and loan associations should be so amended as to permit the stock of borrowing members to have dividends credited to the same to the extent that would accrue, if computed at the rate which the member is paying in interest and premiums. This would leave the earnings of the non-borrowing member to be charged with the expense of administration which would not be inequitable, when it is considered that the borrowers pay all profits which the non-borrowers receive. The change is recommended to assist in securing greater economy of management, as well as a greater equity to the borrowing or debtor class of members.

The affairs of four of the national building associations are being wound up through the courts. Owing to the nature of the business, so much delay and expense is met with in the process as to make the situation a serious one for all concerned. It is hoped that some scheme may be evolved and embodied in law by your honorable bodies by which liquidation of such concerns may be permitted in an equitable manner and also avoid the present expense and serious delay in final settlement.

Difficulties somewhat similar have developed in connection with local building and loan associations in the hand of receivers. As with the nationals, I can commend the subject to your consideration, trusting that some method may be developed for securing justice to all the many small depositors without involving undue expense or delay.

Railroad and Warehouse Commission.

The railroad and warehouse commission has submitted a report of the work accomplished under its direction during the past two years. It renews a number of recommendations of various kinds made in past years, to which I beg to invite your consideration. Among the recommendations of the commission to which I will especially invite your attention is the proposed amendment of law requiring reports from common carriers to be filed each year with the commission on or before September 30th, and exacting a penalty for neglect or refusal to comply with this provision of statute.

Grain Inspection.

Of the many and varied industries of the state, none equal in importance to that of agriculture, and of the objects of which the tillers of the soil in Minnesota have heretofore directed their attentions, the raising of grain has been and is pre-eminently the most important.

From the first no subject has enlisted wider interests and engaged more earnestly the attention of the legislature than the question of how to protect the interests and promote the welfare of the farmer, and especially how to so regulate the handling, marketing and transportation of the cereals as to conserve the interests and rights of their producers.

For many years previous to the enactment of the warehouse and grain law the producers of the state had alleged that they had been the victims of great injustice by reason of a system of handling the grain crops which was instituted and controlled by the boards of trade composed largely of the buyers of grain. The measure referred to was the result of this feeling of dissatisfaction, and since its enactment in 1885, the inspection, weighing and registration system at the terminal points, Minneapolis, Duluth, St. Paul and St. Cloud, has been under state control and has proved of incalculable benefit to the producers and shippers of the state in securnig an intelligent and impartial inspection of grain, uniform standards and a correct, reliable system of state weights.

At the session of 1893 additional legislation was secured for the purpose of strengthening and supplementing the terminal inspection law. The most important was the "Country Warehouse Law," its object being to extend the jurisdiction of the railroad and warehouse commission to the local markets of the state, for the purpose of correcting the general evils that might exist, and furnish the farmers with an impartial tribunal before which to bring complaints of injustice and oppression, with a view to their proper consideration and adjustment. Three years' experience under its operation has fully demonstrated its usefulness and justified its enactment. In 1895 the law was amended in several particulars, where experience had dictated its necessity, all provisions of a practical and salutary nature being retained, while those of an opposite character were eliminated. The law may now be regarded as complete and practical in all its features, fully meeting the intention of its friends and promoters, and also the hearty approval of the general public.

In addition to these measures in the interest of the grain producers of the state, are chapters 61 and 65 of the Laws of 1893, the former providing for the erection of elevators and warehouses on the right of way of railways, and providing for condemnation proceedings in connection therewith, and the latter for the construction of switches and side-tracks upon the right of way of railroad companies to elevators and mills located on lands adjacent to such right of way.

It is conceded by those who have carefully observed the development, operation and results of these various measures, that equally meritorious laws, looking to the protection of the producers and grain interests in their various aspects, have at no time been enacted. They were prepared with great care and forethought, and inspired by the desire to cover as far as consistent and practical the problem of handling grain at the interior and terminal markets and to afford, without stint, the facilities and protection which have so long been demanded by the people of the state.

From this brief review of the grain laws the vast importance of the work of the railroad and warehouse commission and the departments under its control may be appreciated. The increase in the business at the terminal points may be best understood by quoting from the last report of the state grain inspector, which sets forth that the annual receipts of grain at the four terminal points have increased from 97,635 carloads in 1885, to 250,805 car loads in 1896. The annual earnings of the department have increased from $63,471 to $241,943, while the number of persons required to discharge the duties has grown from 54 in 1885 to 145 in 1896. By careful methods and wise management, although the scope of its duties have been widely extended, the cost to the owner of grain for the combined service of inspection and weighing has decreased from 1 1-3 to 2-3 of a mill per bushel. This branch of state administration is in no sense a tax upon the general public, but strictly self-supporting, being maintained from fees collected exclusively from the owners of grain.

Business Methods Applied to State Administration.

Of subjects relating to state administration, with the exception of taxation, none is of greater public interest than the movement for securing thorough application of business methods to the conduct of all state and municipal affairs. This movement is usually referred to under the designation of civil service reform. It has many phases. Minnesota, years ago, by the wise action of its chief executive and its legislature, in creating and appointing non-partisan boards for the regulation and control of our penal, charitable and educational institutions, applied strict business principles to a greater relative portion of its civil service than was at the time attaned in any other state of the Union, or than is yet attained in more than two or three states. The success of the application of business methods in such a large relative portion of the employes under state control early led to a general desire for its application in still other departments of state. The board of railroad and warehouse commissioners four years after the establishment of our system of grain inspection became convinced that proper fulfillment and the efficient discharge of the exacting duties imposed upon them in that system necessitated in the same a classification and training of its employes. Acting upon that conviction, such a classification was put into operation in 1889 by the board, and with such gratifying results that Minnesota grain inspection stands pre-eminent throughout the world for the honesty and uniformity of its grades and the business methods of its administration. This scheme of classified service was indorsed and ratified by my predecessor, as was that business management of all our state institutions previously begun, and has at all times received my hearty approval.

Education.

The educational interests of the state have materially advanced during the past two years, notwithstanding the prevailing stagnation of business. In every county there is shown an increase in school enrollment, average attendance and expenditure for school purposes. The total value of buildings and sites for public schools, including normal schools and the state university, has increased from $14,049,704 in 1894 to $16,292,839 in 1896. The pupils enrolled have increased from 341,478 to 359,189, and the gain in average attendance was from 121,496 to 135,702. The school enrollment has increased faster than population, and the average attendance and value of school property nearly, if not quite, twice as fast. The increase in average attendance is the most hopeful sign, showing that the object for which our people tax themselves to support schools is being attained to an increasing extent.

The superintendent of public instruction reports that one of the main agencies leading to this great relative increase in average attendance is the use of free text-books. He, therefore, joins with the county superintendents and other school officials in recommending that the free text-book system, now optional with each district, be made compulsory. In this recommendation I most heartily concur.

The superintendent also recommends that a Minnesota day for our public schools be established—a day which shall be specially devoted to teaching the history of the early discovery and settlement of the state, the heroic deeds of the sons of Minnesota on the frontier and on the field of war, and also to impart a knowledge of the resources of the state and a respect and love for its institutions. I concur in this recommendation, and add a further suggestion that the legislature appropriate annually a small sum of money, $100 or $200, to be expended under the joint authority of the superintendent of public instruction and state historical society for prizes to be distributed among the students of our high schools for essays upon topics of Minnesota interest.

Among the other recommendations of the superintendent of public instruction, in which I heartily concur, is the following:

A small sum should be annually granted to a limited number of schools in each county, on condition that they maintain a high standard. The rural schools labor under many and great disadvantages which are not met with in the schools of cities and villages. The state should employ all practical measures for encouraging an interest in these schools. The measure here recommended seeks to do for the rural schools what is now accomplished for the town schools by means of the present high school law.

The superintendent further recommends additional appropriation to meet the expenses of issuing state professional certificates, an increase in the aid to state graded schools and to state high schools. These and the other recommendations and suggestions of the superintendent of public instruction, including the proposed amendment of the law for normal instruction in high schools, I commend to your most thoughtful consideration.

Normal Schools.

The normal schools of the state are very important factors in fostering and developing our common schools, whose great advancement in the past two years has just been noted. The older of these schools call for moderate appropriations to maintain their high standard of usefulness and efficiency and to keep the buildings in a proper state of repair. The school established at Duluth by the last legislature will need liberal appropriations, if the same is to be early made an effective part of our educational system.

State University.

The steady growth of this institution may be noted by the following fact. In 1895 it conferred 285 degrees upon its graduates and in 1896, 337 degrees. The legislature of 1895 bestowed liberal appropriations upon the university, but its growth has, in many respects, been greater than was foreseen, and hence there are many pressing calls for the appropriation of money for this institution at your hands. The departments of botany, animal biology, drawing, mining and metallurgy, together with the museum and the collection of the geological and natural history survey are all accommodated, so far as may be, in a single building. The proper development of the work of a great university, such as we have in our state institution, calls for more extensive accommodations

Continued on Seventh Page.

AN AWFUL SORE

A Babe's Untold Suffering And Mother's Many Sleepless Nights.

CUTICURA WORKS WONDERS.

I herewith write out in full the beginning and end of that terrible disease, Eczema, which caused my babe untold suffering, and myself many sleepless nights.

My baby was born seemingly a fair, healthy child, but when she was three weeks old a swelling appeared on the back of her head, and in course of time broke. Every one called it a boil, and, now it had broken, would soon heal, but that was only the beginning of the trouble. It did not heal but grew worse, and the sore spread from the size of a dime to that of a dollar. I used all kinds of remedies that I could think of but nothing seemed to help, in fact it grew worse, her hair fell out where the sore was and I feared it would never grow again. It continued until my aged father came on a visit, and when he saw the baby he told me "to get CUTICURA SOAP and CUTICURA ointment right away." To please him I did so, and to my surprise, by their use the sore began to heal over, the hair grew over it, and to-day she has a nice head of hair, her skin is as fair as a lily, and she has no scar left to recall that awful sore.

CUTICURA soothes and allays all itching and burning that cause a child to fret and the mother to worry, and gives rest and comfort both to parent and child.

MRS. WM. RYER, Elk River, Minn.

SLEEP FOR SKIN-TORTURED BABIES AND REST FOR TIRED MOTHERS in a warm bath with CUTICURA SOAP, and a single application of CUTICURA (ointment), greatest of emollients and skin cures.

This treatment will give instant relief, permit rest for parent and sleep for child, and point to a speedy, permanent, and economical cure of the most torturing, disfiguring, and humiliating of itching, burning, bleeding, scaly, pimply, and crusted skin and scalp humors with loss of hair, when all else fails.

Sold throughout the world. POTTER DRUG AND CHEM. CORP., Sole Props., Boston.

"How to Cure Every Skin and Blood Humor," free.

LUXURIANT HAIR with clean, healthy scalp produced by CUTICURA SOAP.

RANSOM & HORTON'S

Forced Sale

Is like all their others, a grand success in point of numbers and goods sold, though of course involving an awful loss to them. Our store was crowded all day and we would advise our friends and customers who want goods to come right away or they won't find what they want.

CLOTH CLOAKS AT

$2.98, 4.98, 6.98 and 9.78

that were $8.50 to $30.00 were so ridiculously cheap that we were overwhelmed and couldn't wait on the trade. We will try and be better equipped today.

Fine Furs at Actual Half-Price

and many for less are being taken very rapidly. We have no time to write a big "ad" nor money to pay for it, but simply say the sale is on and is *genuine* and we advise all people who want our goods to come.

Ransom & Horton