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TODAY'S WEATHER.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—Forecast for Thursday: Minnesota—Fair; cooler in eastern portion; northwesterly winds.

Wisconsin—Generally fair; probably cooler in southeast portion; fresh west to northwest winds.

North Dakota—Fair; northerly winds.

South Dakota—Fair; probably colder; northerly winds.

Montana—Fair; probably colder; northeast to east winds.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

United States Department of Agriculture, Weather Bureau, Washington, Feb. 23, 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	14	Qu'Appelle	—8
Duluth	20	Minnedosa	8
Huron	22	Winnipeg	4
Bismarck	8		
Williston	4	Buffalo	30-32
Havre	16	Boston	38-42
Helena	36	Cheyenne	36-44
Edmonton	16	Chicago	20-24
Battleford	—4	Cincinnati	40-42
Prince Albert	0	Montreal	26-30
Calgary	8	New Orleans	60-66
Medicine Hat	—6	New York	36-42
Swift Current	0	Pittsburg	32-34

DAILY MEANS.

Barometer, 29.88; mean temperature, 14; relative humidity, 82; wind at 8 p. m., northwest; weather, partly cloudy; maximum temperature, 18; minimum temperature, 10; daily range, 8; amount of precipitation in last twenty-four hours, 0.

—Below zero.

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

Patriotism Speaks.

It is cheering in these days, when men are so strangely bound by party ties, and when broad and lofty views of public questions are so often subordinated to lesser aims, to note a revolt like that of Mr. Johnson, of Indiana, against the declared Hawaiian policy of his party. The reception of his declaration of independence by the house was no less significant than its contents. Although the question of annexation is not before the house in any shape, it is accepted now by all that it will be debated there before many weeks have passed. The necessary two-thirds vote to ratify the treaty cannot be secured in the senate. The men who are pushing this job are not of the sort who are discouraged by a mere evidence that public opinion is against them. They do not mind a little thing like evading a constitutional requirement, when it suits their purposes; and they propose to accomplish, by forcing through a joint resolution on a mere majority vote, what they cannot do in the regular and orderly way provided under the constitution for the adoption of treaties. It is their intention, when their failure in the senate has been made obvious, to pass such a resolution and send it to the house.

In anticipation of this Mr. Johnson declared himself bravely, and he is assured of a sturdy following. He talks like an American and a patriot. He opposes the annexation of Hawaii on the one general reason, which should be sufficient for every citizen of the United States, that, as far as can be learned, the people of Hawaii are opposed to it. It is an amazing thing that there should be found any party in this country, whose first cry, when it was born into the world, was that "all governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed," to brush aside that great foundation principle, and proclaim that the wishes of Hawaiians count for nothing. All the evidence goes to show that the sentiment in favor of annexation is confined to less than 5 per cent of the population of the Sandwich islands, nor would this ruling element for one moment dare to submit the question to a popular vote. Annexation under such circumstances becomes, not a voluntary agreement between contracting parties on equal terms, but a mere arbitrary assertion of power over the destinies of a helpless people, worthy of despotism itself.

Mr. Johnson struck straight from the shoulder when he said that, although originally a defender of President Harrison's policy, this persistent urging of annexation had convinced him that the Hawaiian government was overthrown by an intrigue, to which the United States was a party. He said, too, that this action, if ratified, would be but the beginning of a policy of grab, ending in the demoralization of our own institutions and system of government, and leading us into the evil path which our forefathers dared every danger to escape. These were the brave words of a Republican, speaking in opposition to the policy of a Republican administration and of a Republican majority in the senate. They were not received with the silence or coldness that usually follows a departure from the strict party programme. Mr. Johnson was congratulated, as he deserved to be, not only by Democrats, but by a large number of his Republican associates, and had with him the sympathy of the galleries.

We hope much from an aroused Americanism such as this when the inevitable joint resolution goes down to the house of representatives. Every day since this treaty was projected has found it waning in popularity; and we hope that the members of the house, who are so soon to account for their acts before their constituencies, will dare to bring to deserved defeat the crime that the senate contemplates against all the past traditions and the safe and wise policy of the republic.

Increased Consuming power.

The annual statistical abstract for 1897, issued by the treasury department, is at hand; and, in passing, we wish to acknowledge the obligation of all who have occasion to study government statistics to this administration for the retention of Mr. Ford, the only capable man the treasury's bureau of statistics has ever had. Prefacing the tables is a sheet giving the various data of the work reduced to a per capita basis. While this is nothing more than a generalization, and is never taken as a basis for precise calculations, still, in a large way, it serves to indicate conditions and, for purposes of comparison of periods, has a sufficient approximation to certainty to make a study of it interesting.

The advancing prosperity or poverty of a nation is shown by precisely the same signs that indicate like movement in individuals. When income increases with men, its signs are increased expenditure for the necessaries, the comforts and the elegancies of life. When the contrary is the case, it is indicated by retrenchment, diminished buying, lessened consumption. As a nation we are not frugal. When increase of income eases off the strain of outgo, the latter quickly takes up the slack and keeps the line taut. We are a nation of spenders, distributors of earnings, with a few accumulators who become the envy of the others and are scorned as plutocrats. Demagogues find stacks of ammunition in this fact, and dwell on the wealth of the "plutocrats," in the shadow of which the increased comforts of the mass are obscured.

It is this feature of the latest annual of Statistician Ford to which we direct attention. As income increases men eat more and clothe themselves and families better. Later they add articles of comfort, and supplement these with luxuries. The table before us deals with the necessaries of life; food and clothing. In 1867 we find that the quantity of raw cotton retained for home consumption was 8.48 pounds for each one of the 36,211,000 bodies forming the population of the United States. Thirty years later the number of bodies has doubled, and the number of pounds each finds use for has increased to 18.46 pounds, or by 140 per cent. Woolens are necessaries over the whole country, and, in spite of the policy of making them dearer by taxation of imports, inaugurated in 1867, the consumption of raw wool has risen from 5.45 pounds then to 8.26 pounds in 1897, an increase of 60 per cent, although the number needing woolens has doubled. It is an item that should have the attention of those who imagine that taxed imports protect the flockmasters that, in 1867, the foreign wool used was but 19 per cent of all, and in 1893, under the stiffest protection, it was 35 per cent.

In 1867 there was retained for home consumption 3.92 bushels of wheat per head, a quantity that rose to 4.78 bushels in 1896, before the short crop abroad enabled the millers to shove up the price of flour and make johnnycake and corn pones more frequent visitors on the tables of the poor, cutting the home consumption in 1897 to 3.88 bushels. Twenty-four and one-tenth pounds of sugar was all that Americans could afford to use per head in 1867, but each managed to use 64.5 pounds in 1897; while part of it went to sweeten the 9.55 pounds of coffee each drank, in decoction, against the 5.01 pounds used thirty years ago. We are not a nation of tea drinkers, else the consumption would have been increased more than from the 1.09 pounds a head in 1867 to the 1.55 pounds in 1897. And it should not be overlooked that thirty years ago we had a "cheaper money" than now, the greenback in that year—the only "money" in circulation then and for ten years later—having a purchasing power of only 71.7 cents, a fact always bearing heavily on the consuming power of a people. The "cheaper" money is, the less it can buy.

The Obligation of Wealth.

Once President Harrison spoke needed words of caution in his address to the Union League club on the 22d on "The Obligations of Wealth." He said that the special purpose of his address was to press home upon the prosperous, well-to-do people, especially those of our great cities, this thought: "That one of the conditions of the security of wealth is a proportionate and full contribution to the expenses of the state and local government. It is not only wrong but unsafe to make a show in our homes and on the streets that is not made in the tax returns." What is the key note of all the discontent that exists? The inequality of the rights of men before the law. What was it that 6,000,000 recorded their verdict against at the polls of 1896, but what they thought was the selfish use of law for the advantage of the few who obtained power to use it, and against the welfare of the masses? Mistaken they were in their specification, but certain it is that their vote was a magnificent protest against actual inequalities, laws that favor some at the cost of all; laws that bind fast the many, but ignored or defied by the few; opportunities given to some and withheld from others; burdens shifted from capable shoulders to those already overburdened.

The state is, as Mr. Harrison says, in one sense a partnership, whose profits and losses and expenses are to be borne in proportion to the capital share of each in it, the property possessed by each and protected by the law. Upon whom do the obligations of citizenship rest most heavily but upon the largest shareholders? They have the most at risk. What class evades those obligations the most and the most successfully but that whose stake is the largest? Scan the assessors' lists in any city and the proof stands out startlingly. What does this mean to the populace? That there is a law that extorts from them their portion and is nerveless before the possessors of large wealth. What is their natural conclusion? That, as Proudhon asserted, "property is a crime." What, when this feeling grows acute under some stress of popular excitement, of which the campaign of 1896 was a warning, will ensue? History records what has been done, and like causes produce like effects.

It will not do to denounce these who thus protest and agitate as anarchists. Their retort comes quickly and with irresistible force. Who are anarchists but those who defy law, and what have you done, Messieurs, but that? The fundamental law declares that all legal enactments should sacredly conserve the equality of all; you have defied that law in securing enactments granting you special privileges. It enjoins equality of burden-bearing upon all proportioned to wealth possessed; you defy that by withholding your wealth from levy and make others bear your share of the burden. Our former president tells you that "the duty of the state to protect life, liberty and property is conditioned upon a fair contribution to the cost of government. A full and conscientious discharge of that duty by the citizen is one of the tests of good citizenship. To evade that duty is a moral delinquency, an unpatriotic act." It is you, not we, who attack and undermine government. And who is there that can deny the truth of their retort? The federal tax laws, crowded with special privileges, and the assessment rolls, gaunt with escaped wealth, stand ready to confute him who would deny it. The ranting of the demagogue may be sneered at, but the warning of a Harrison cannot be ignored. He, at least, is no alarmist.

Setting a Bad Example.

Evil communications corrupted more than the good manners of men long before the days of the apostles and will continue their evil work until Gabriel's trumpet announces that the experiment is a failure and will be permanently discontinued. Corruption of this kind works its way into public as well as private life, but, in the former, its advance depends very much upon the popular conception of the uses of government. If that tolerates the use of the united power of the whole, under whatsoever plausible pretense, to further the interests of some at the general cost, it is inevitable that there will come a demoralized sense of the relations of the government to those who serve it or in it. If a legislator, national, state or municipal, finds regnant a policy of so using governmental powers as to add to the wealth of those able to secure their use, he will very humanly come to think that there is an injustice in asking him to grant these values and get no share himself. The boodling of legislatures of all degree has its root in this misuse of governmental powers. Were these privileges regarded as the property of the organization, to be sold or leased for the highest price, a different sense of public obligation would be felt by legislators.

The effect goes farther and ever farther. It affects the merely ministerial officers, the administrators, the superintendents, and finally reaches the lower rounds, where the effect is seen in the race for spoils to be had as compensation for work done for party or individual, and service to the public is looked upon as an uncompensated gratuity, of which the lowest possible minimum is to be rendered. It leads to that view of government which Randolph charged the Federalists with holding, that government is a job; to that view, otherwise expressed, that "public office is a private snap," a thing out of which something is to be made directly or indirectly, honestly or dishonestly, immaterial so that it is made. Two pending cases illustrate one phase of these many-phased effects. A commission is investigating charges against a naval officer who had the superintendence of a great public work, and who is charged with conniving at frauds in its construction, involving several million dollars. Another is trying to find out how another officer permitted frauds in the construction of the Brooklyn dry dock that render it worthless almost as soon as completed. A few years ago we had the armor plate frauds involving dereliction on the part of supervising officers of the navy.

The significance of these events should strike minds casehardened by similar exploitation of government by civil officers, for corruption has gone a long way into the body politic when it has touched officers of the army and navy. The school in which these are trained is one that puts honor and loyalty first in its training. When the rottenness of civil agents in the Indian bureau became so offensive that a change was imperiously demanded, army officers were transferred to those posts, and every one felt that there would be honest administration of their affairs. The trust in the integrity of officers of the army and navy was well founded upon the records made by them. Have the evil communications of civil corruption reached and made flabby the moral sense of these branches of the service? Have some officers of the army and navy, too, come to "look upon government as a job?"

The eyes of the observant are on the manner in which the restored Democracy administer the affairs of the greater city of New York. The management of the streets is especially watched. Waring had lifted their condition to so high a degree of cleanliness that a severe standard was set for his successor. He came to his work further handicapped by the reputation for inefficiency of his party predecessors. Recently New York was swamped with an enormous fall of snow. Waring had met such a condition once and handled it so as to extort praise from hostile critics. McCartney has been severely criticised by critics whom we had supposed to be fair, for failing to remove the snow. Col. Waring confounds them with a letter to his successor. He tells him he has ridden on his wheel over a large portion of the city, and of the streets he says: "If I were commissioner today I would be proud of them. If you can keep them so I shall have to find what comfort I can in the fact that I lead the way that you are following, and I shall be more than satisfied." It will be well for observers to keep their judgment in suspension, and not too hastily accept the statements of critics moved by animosity or partisanry. More is on trial in that great city than Tammany; it is the capacity of any party to give good administration of municipal affairs.

The ordinary man eats 1280 times his own weight in an average lifetime. Nobody has computed how many times a Kentuckian drinks his own weight during the same period.

Adrian Constantine Anson has been presented with a silver bat. It is doubtless an intimation that it is 16 to 1 that he never plays base ball professionally again.

A scheme is on foot in New York to marry off the bachelors to the old maids of the town. Most of the bachelors will probably be called out of town suddenly.

The most enterprising newspaper man in the country has been found. He sold the story of his own suicide to a San Francisco paper for $100.

Washington girls are now appearing at 4 o'clock teas in evening dress. Only those who have pretty necks are doing it, however.

Many gems of art have been found in a New York lumber loft. Chicago would call that New York's style of appreciating art.

The Pioneer Press has declared war with Spain three times this week, but the president seems to have difficulty in hearing it.

It is said the only thing that will save Germany is war. Perhaps Germany merely wants to be saved in pieces.

It costs New York $525 to turn in a fire alarm. It would be cheaper to let some things burn.

The battleship Texas has sailed from Galveston. Something awful may be expected soon.

Will Senator Mason please go out and state what he wants to a policeman?

Zola can write a melancholy novel or two during the year he is in prison.

A whole lot of people have found out that $1 wheat means $2 flour.

Alaska has a real estate boom. Look out for a "frost."

As Peter the Great, Sir Henry Irving feels the part.

Thrusts and Parries.

It jumped and its every motion were that of a rabbit. The party who exhibited it said there were five in the nest, and all but this one was perfect foxes.—Lake City Graphic-Sentinel.

Verily, the schoolmaster in Lake City is abroad.

It transpires that the United States is already fully prepared for war, and not a day would be lost should hostilities open.—Pioneer Press.

"Transpire. I. trans. To emit through the excretories of the skin and lungs. II. intrans. . . . 5. To happen or come to pass; occur. (An erroneous use.)" Century Dictionary. Thus defined our contemporary says that "it sweats that the United States," etc.

Minneapolis' Little Nap.—Minneapolis Journal.

Minneapolis' "Little Nap" is enjoying life in the City of Mexico instead of twisting twine in Stillwater.

Doctors at Devil's Lake performed an operation upon a little child who had been accidentally shot, in such a manner that parts of the brain protruded from the head.—Bismarck Tribune.

It does not need a doctor to do that. Anything with a hammer can perform that operation in just that manner.

PRESS COMMENT.

From the New York Sun.

The Hon. John Peter Sinjun, of Kansas, long famous for the zeal of his prohibition principles and the length of his mustachios, has fallen from grace and signed a druggist's petition for a liquor license. He should not be reproved too severely by his former admirers among the Drys. No man can serve two masters; and for some time Mr. Sinjun has been a reverent worshipper at the silver shrine. By degrees the crime of 1873 has come to monopolize his indignation. The curse of rum has faded, in his eyes, before the curse of gold.

From the Manitowoc Pilot.

Susan B. Anthony describes man as the common enemy of woman. The latter shows delightful readiness in obeying the scriptural injunction, "love your enemies."

From the Milwaukee Sentinel.

We conjecture—and the guess is humbly and respectfully submitted to the public—that outsiders, owing to that monotonous way of adverising the city which has prevailed, have come to regard Milwaukee as a place which stands for beer, and for little else. Milwaukeeans have fallen into the way of representing their city as a land flowing with beer.

From the Chicago Chronicle.

The United States senate, it appears, does not agree with the Hon. John W. Griggs, attorney general, in his opinion that the loss of $6,000,000 on the Kansas Pacific transaction is a comparatively small matter considering the total involved. Nor will Mr. Griggs find many people outside of the senate inclined to adopt his view of the matter.

From the Courier-Journal.

It was peculiarly appropriate that among those who welcomed "President" Dole at Chicago was Mr. F. W. Job.

From the Boston Herald.

Speaking of the wabbling of some of the senators on the financial question, the case is recalled of the schoolmaster, who, being asked by the school committee whether he taught that the earth was round, replied: "Some authorities call it round, and some square; I generally try to meet the views of the committee."

NORTHWEST NEWS AND VIEWS.

From the Owatonna Journal.

The Republican papers of the state seem this year to have discovered that

A man must serve his time to every trade
Save censure; critics all are ready made;

and in their new-found occupation they are going the limit. They are turning the searchlight on the reputation of the candidates for different offices, and if, as in the case of Van Sant, they can see in them nothing to find fault with, they saddle upon them the offenses of other people. These hypercritical people are not only furnishing our friends the enemy with such ammunition as there is, but they are without doubt furnishing a nice mess of crow for themselves one of these days.

From the Atwater Press.

Nearly all the congressmen of Minnesota have sown a plentiful supply of briar and bramble seeds, the fruits of which they will no doubt encounter on the road to re-election. Especially has this been true in the matter of postoffice patronage. It's too bad there are not enough offices to go around among those scrambling for them.

From the Wadena Tribune.

Again we hear more news of the prosperity wave. We had about begun to think the wave had been lost track of, but the Journal spots it again over in Otter Tail county. Nothing is said as to the course the wave is taking, but we hope it may roll into Wadena county, and sort of brace things up here. We have several hundred dollars on subscription, etc., which we would like to collect, but the people all say they can't pay—they have neither "honest" money nor silver dollars.

They Had Nerve.

From the Mankato Review.

We certainly admire the nerve if we are a little dubious about the judgment of the prison investigating committee in its thorough vindication of the prison officials of the charges of cruelty exercised towards prisoners at Stillwater. There was no occasion for a hesitating report, and, having decided to give the prison a whitewashing, they did it thorough and complete. According to their finding the deputy warden is an angel of mercy, and the alleged kicks and cuffs, with occasional knock-downs, were love taps—manifestations of interest in the personal and spiritual welfare of their wards. There is nothing like doing a thing thorough, and that is just what the investigating committee has done.

AT THE HOTELS.

ASTORIA—T. S. Farrell, Farnklin; J. M. Keefe, Morton; H. A. Jones, Janesville, N. D.; J. E. Bellivar, Janesville, N. D.; J. T. Dugan, Barnesville; Charles Armstrong, Troy, N. Y.; D. R. Murphy, Cincinnati, O.; Miss Muller, Tacoma; W. J. Greer, Minneapolis; Thomas Torson, St. James; W. T. Hoover, West Superior; S. E. Hoover, West Superior.

CLARENDON—James McHale, Shakopee; J. B. Swanson, Jamestown, N.D.; Ray Thompson, Chicago; William Koenig, Plainview; Miss Katie Murphy, Madison Lake; M. J. Kotschavak, St. Joe; F. T. Wilcox, West Superior; M. C. Mitchell, Albert Lea.

MERCHANTS'—H. S. Thompson, Chicago; O. B. Emerson, La Crosse; F. S. Lamberton, Estherville, Io.; H. G. Hilliar, Duluth; A. F. Griffith, Omaha; A. T. Ward, Hope; A. N. Johnson, Benson; G. M. Kerwin and wife, Howell, Mich.; W. E. Seelye, Brainerd; G. L. Heaty, Morris; George Wolff, Eau Claire; F. E. Fox, Willow City N. D.; L. F. Lammore, Heron Lake; L. A. Linder, Mankato; J. P. Heatwole, Northfield; John Flitt, Wahpeton, N. D.; A. K. Smyth, St. Anthony Park; H. S. Thompson, Chicago.

METROPOLITAN—W. H. Zeiglitz, Chatfield, Minn.; A. M. Burt, Staples, Minn.; Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Traer, White ear; John M. Cooke, New York; Geo. V. Watson, Marshalltown, Io.; Daniel Abrams, New York; E. S. Blanchard, Brainerd, Minn.; W. F. Calder, Chicago; W. Pendergast, Brooklyn; E. R. Manning, St. James, Minn.; D. E. Hogan, Philadelphia; Benjamin S. Dodge, Cambridge, Minn.; Mrs. E. B. Stoddard, Duluth.

RYAN—Jos. Fellwood, Duluth; D. M. Philban, Duluth; Robert Kelly, West Superior; D. E. McKainon, Winnipeg; B. S. Hurbel, Duluth.

WINDSOR—F. C. Hanford, Chicago; J. C. Holland, Eric, Pa.; F. F. Flynn, Des Moines, Io.; Nels Johnson, Ada, Minn.; J. B. Briggs, Chicago; Maney Hemmens, Jamesville, Wis.; J. M. Nye, Wells, Minn.; M. Brooks, Ashland, Wis.; A. T. Stebbins, Rochester, Minn.; Fred Gallop, Milwaukee; L. A. Simpson, Dickinson, N. D.; R. W. McCafee, Chicago; Lewis Fleckenstein, Faribault; Charles Sechleim, New Whatcom, Wash.; Mrs. Ed Nicholsen and daughters, San Diego, Cal.; L. R. Held, A. E. Spencer Lax, Wis.; C. C. Maxwell, Arlington, S. D.; J. S. Mullen, Litchfield, Minn.; Charles G. Hinds, Shakopee; W. Williams and wife, Little Falls; J. D. Westenhaver, Chicago; S. Grant, Boston; W. H. Putnam, Red Wing; O. Olsen, Willmar.

Klondike Avalanche.

TACOMA, Wash., Feb. 23.—Two weeks ago an avalanche came thundering down the mountain slopes, and at the south end of Lake Bennett an immense mass of snow and ice was deposited on the trail and 200 tons of supplies were buried many feet. So far as can be learned no one was injured by the avalanche.

All Bid Him Farewell.

Special to The St. Paul Globe.

SAUK CENTER, Minn., Feb. 23. — Mel Schurffins left for Seattle yesterday on his way to Alaska. More than 100 of his young friends were at the depot to bid him farewell. He is the third from this place to leave for that country.

Joined the Great Majority.

Special to The St. Paul Globe.

NORTHFIELD, Minn., Feb. 23.—Mr. G. Lenought, of this city, who lately disposed of his personal property, has left for the Klondike.

LIKE AN ENDLESS CHAIN

IS THE STREAM OF HUMANITY BOUND ALASKAWARD

Coast Trains Leaving St. Paul Yesterday Were Crowded as Usual—People Are Buying Outfits Before Starting, as They Find What They Want Can Be Secured Here.

Still the rush to the Klondike keeps up.

Both the Great Northern and Northern Pacific coast trains were well filled with through passengers, most of them armed with outfits big and little, and before starting time it was found necessary to add tourist coaches to the equipment.

The reduced rates seem to have had their effect in increasing the number of gold seekers, although the railroad folks urge that the item of transportation is among the least, and that a cut of $20 would make little difference to a man who intended laying out money for an outfit, provisions, etc. The business is increasing, and the passenger agents are telling their patrons that the rates may be restored at almost any time. While there were no large parties on the trains yesterday, the accommodations were taken for the most part by men from Eastern and middle states, with a few from Minnesota. Several parties are expected in from outlying territory today and tomorrow in cars which have been sent out by the local transcontinental lines.

DEPOPULATING FAIRMONT.

The Minnesota Town Loses Twenty-Seven of Its Healthy Citizens.

A score or more Klondikers, including retail clerks, carpenters, machinists, miners, barbers, court clerks and members of other crafts, came up from Fairmont, Minn., last night in a Great Northern tourist coach over the Iowa and Minnesota division of the Milwaukee road. There are twenty-three men in the party, all outfitted with comfortable mackinaw, and chamois-lined clothing, furs, etc., shot guns, rifles, etc., and supplied with nearly fifty dogs of one sort and another, to help drag the stuff over the rough places.

A portion of the party will head for Dawson City, under the leadership of Jack Johnson, while the balance will search the Copper river district for gold, with William Brosemer as their leader. Those who go over the Chilkoot pass will build boats upon the lakes and rivers as they progress, and hope to reach Dawson in a month and a half from Seattle.

Quite a number of the party slept on the car in the union depot last night, while several of them went to hotels. This morning some dogs and some clothing will be added to the outfit, and the party will start for the West on the Great Northern coast train. Following is the roster of the party: Harry Moore, James Scales, William Brosemer, Michael Russyniak, J. B. Colton, William Ratledge, Helmer Johnson, Jacob Johnson, Henry Radamacher, Fred Burklin, Fred Stowe, Edward Viessleman, A. N. Ratledge, Robert Krantz, John Anacher, Fred Fahrenholz, Paul Outhouse, George Noben, M. M. Curtis, Henry Hotemeyer, Sylvanus Tonne, Fred Walters and August Anderson.

JOLLY COACHLOAD

Admitted to Fellowship Much on the Secret Society Order.

In one of the Northern Pacific tourist coaches was a band, which settled together, although hailing from different states, and in some cases, different countries.

Skaguay was a common point and they all pitched in determined to make the journey as pleasant as possible until they separated, each to go his own way. There was C. W. Dossell, of Whitehall, Ill., who intends to join a party of his friends from Breene county Illinois, somewhere along the trail, V. G. Holman, a citizen of Halifax, Nova Scotia, who will join a party of three at Seattle, and two fellows from Osage, Io., Henry Priebe and John Brennan, whose plans beyond Skaguay are not very definite.

At the other end of the car were three Iowans, Newton Daman, John Bigalt and William Tyson, who are leaving Cresco, in the Hawkeye state, for the cold country.

P. H. Howard, a New Yorker, was admitted to the good fellowship club, and two men from Chicago, R. G. Calvert and D. P. Ogilvie, will be duly made members on the run to Minneapolis.

The applications as yet unacted on are those of L. C. Sherrod, who came in along from Sioux City, and two Minnesotians, A. F. Sawyer and H. E. Wagner, hailing from Rosemount.

STEAMERS HEADED THAT WAY.

Big Ocean Boat Leaves Providence for Seattle Via the Horn.

A chart was received at the Great Northern offices yesterday of one of the big ocean boats which is now en route from Providence, R. I., to Seattle, around the horn.

It is the City of Columbia, a vessel 275 feet long, and with a capacity greater than any three of the boats now in service on the sound.

There are on board the Columbia some 300 Brooklynites bound for the Klondike, and when the vessel started on her eight weeks trip to the Pacific coast she had on board 500 tons of coal. Her owner gave instructions to her captain to get there without loss of time if he burned up everp ton of coal on the boat. She is expected to arrive in two weeks, when she will be put in commission between Seattle and the Alaska points.

LANSING'S MINING COMPANY

Organized Ready for Work Before the Start Is Made.

Among the larger parties to start out yesterday was the Lansing Prospecting and Mining company, which came from the town of that name, in Michigan. The party came in over the Milwaukee, and proceeded on the Pacific mail, of the Northern Pacific, to Portland, where the members will join Richard K. W. Van Nuys, who went forward some days ago to secure provisions and steamship accomodations for his fellows. The company intended to go the Canadian side, but from advices received from the coast, it is expected that plans will take the gold seekers to the Copper river country.

Included in the outfit are dredging and other mining machinery, a ten horse-power boiler and engine, in knockdown form, for easy transportation.

In the party are Julius Watzel, president; Frank Knupf, treasurer; Charles Gate, secretary; Henry Coggswell, Samuel Taylor, Morris Finkelstein, August Connosky, Anthony Kowasky and Bert Hettler.

WILL LET OTHERS DIG.

St. Paul Party to Establish a Portable Sawmill.

An interesting party of St. Paul folks will leave over the Northern Pacific tomorrow afternoon for the gold country. They will take tools, but not mining tools, for they do not propose to dig for gold. They are bound for Lake Teslin, at the foot of the Teslin or Hootalinqua river, where they will establish their portable saw mill, and sell lumber to the travelers who pass by that way. Their saw mill has already gone forward in care of J. H. Burns, a member of the party, who is at Teslin, and when the steam is up they expect to be able to cut 40,000 feet a day.

The party is headed by C. R. Schacht, of 791 Holly avenue, who has been in the fuel business at Seven Corners for some years. With him are A. C. Schacht, his son; J. E. Dore, Charles and Gus Swanson, K. H. Lamprecht, Julius Burns and Herman Clever.

All of these people are from St. Paul except the last three, who hail from Rochester, Minn. The party has an extensive outfit, and will be absent for several years.

GERMANS FROM BUFFALO.

Seven of Them Unite Their Forces to Dig Gold Dust.

Seven Germans, hailing from Buffalo, N. Y., put in $450 each and formed an informal co-operative concern without a name, and reached here yesterday en route for Alaska. They have a big outfit, including a number of powerful dogs, and will sail from the coast early next month.

One member of the original party is now on the coast, and he will make the necessary steamship reservations. The party is determined to work hard until next fall, when the members feel that they will either strike it rich, or there will be little use staying away longer. Some of the party gave up their different trades to seek for gold.

The party includes Robert Schultz, Henry Kolkman, the Dittmans, father and son, John Suther, William Reeb and Louis Juhre. Thye left here on the Northern Pacific.

Nenont, of Northfield, Starts.

G. J. Lenont a Northfield farmer, was among the passengers who left yesterday for the gold fields via the Great Northern. Lenont has had very fair luck on his farm, but the alluring tales he has heard about the yellow stuff to be found in the far North has led him to abandon his wheat, and barley, and, with a big pack of stuff, and a comfortable sum of money in a leathern belt, which he wears about his waist, he left yesterday for Seattle, where he will overtake several friends, who left here a week ago, and with them hunt for his reward.

He says several Northfield men will come to St. Paul in several days to start for the Klondike.

More Minnesotans Off.

Minnesota was fairly well represented on both trains leaving during the afternoon. On the Northern acific train were George L. Keith and Frank Carr, who have lived for some years in Lake City.

On the Northern Pacific train were George L. complete their outfit at Seattle, where they will join several friends and proceed north.

In the adjoining section to them on the train was John Smith, a bookkeeper, from Buffalo, N. Y., who joined the other two as men often do under similar circumstances, because they are bound for the same place.

NOTES PANNED OUT.

Northern Pacific officials at Helena, Mont., are keeping close count on the number of gold seekers going through by their line and the average so far has been 150 each day. The cut in rates mean a loss of $1,500 a day on the average.

The Griswold party from Chicago will arrive here some time tomorrow in a Great Northern tourist car, which was sent down to the Windy City some days ago for their accommodation. The party will start West from here on the 25th.

Among the Northern Pacific passengers leaving here yesterday was E. R. Jordan, of Hayward, Wis., who will join several of his townsmen at Seattle, and with them proceed to the Klondike district in search of the yellow stuff.

Two Buckeyes, namely Thaddeus Reddish and William H. Gifford, both of them men of considerable experience in mining matters, boarded the Great Northern train for Alaska yesterday afternoon. They hail from Cleveland, and have spent several years in Montana and Nevada, where they dug for precious metals in years gone by. They left here on the Great Northern train.

The Northern Pacific carried to the West Walter Houghton and W. J. Gilmore, residents of Chicago, who are going to the Copper river district. The two men will delay in Seattle long enough to size up the situation and will write back to friends in Chicago.

Dr. Edgar Snyder, who lives and has his office at 303 Jackson street, left yesterday on the Northern Pacific train for Alaska. He declined to say in what portion of the gold fields he intended casting his fortune. He is well known in St. Paul, and in addition to his practice was formerly interested in the real estate market in this city.

Two men, P. J. Taggart and Heinrich Preble, purchased railroad and steamship tickets at the local Northern Pacific office yesterday for the gold country.

Two sturdy farmers, coming all the way from the little town of West Henrietta, Monroe county, New York, have heard considerable about the riches of the Klondike and were on their way West. The men are Willard S. Dunn and Daniel Blair, and left in a section of the Great Northern tourist sleeper for the coast.

Daniel Christoffers and Henry Behrens, New York commission men, were among yesterday's passengers.

MAC'S FIGURES WRONG

PRESIDENT BEMENT DOES NOT AGREE WITH M'CARDY

Total Cost of Water Works Up to Date Over a Million Dollars Less Than Comptroller McCardy Represented — Excellent Quality of Water—Water Meters Favored.

President Bement, of the water board, yesterday handed out for publication the sixteenth annual report of the board to the mayor and common council. The report is as follows:

The previous report of this department covered a period of thirteen months, from Dec. 1, 1895, to Dec. 31, 1896, to make the fiscal year of the board of of water commissioners conform with that of the other departments of the city, and this must be borne in mind if comparisons of the totals of this year are made with those of last year.

In our report last year your attention was called to the discrepancy between the total cost of the water works as given by the city comptroller and that which is shown by the figures of actual cost taken from our books. In the report of the comptroller of the city of St. Paul, dated Dec. 31, 1896, the water works are put in at a cost of $5,129,770. In the report for the year ending Dec. 31, 1897, in the statement of assets and liabilities of the city (exhibit No. 7), the water works are put in at the same figure, viz: $5,129,770, when, in actual fact, during the year there has been expended $56,801.88 for extensions, machinery, distribution mains, meters, etc., less credits for old material sold, and that amount should have been added to the cost of the works given last year. The sinking fund this year has been increased by cash $75,000 and interest earnings, $20,934.37, making a total of $461,525.08 in water department sinking fund to date, and the total cost of the works to the city, Jan. 1, 1898, is $3,815,661.16. This matter is brought up only for the purpose of explaining the discrepancy of $1,314,108.34 between the actual cost of the works to the city and that stated by the city comptroller, that it may be a matter of record, and accounted for when both reports are printed together in the single volume of the annual reports of the city for the year.

In the report of the city engineer, herewith appended, you will notice that the rainfall for the year ending December 31, 1897, was 30.52 inches, or 3.07 inches greater than the average rainfall up to December 31, 1896, and 4.21 inches less than the rainfall of the previous year. The rainfall for the year just ended, by months, was generally below the average, but the months of June and July were very large, and greatly in exces sof the monthly average, occurring most opportunely, as it filled our lakes nearly to the overflowing point just before the period when our greatest drain upon them began. And for this reason we were not obliged to use our reserve supply, and practically our Centerville and Baldwin lake plants were not used during the year, except occasionally for testing purposes.

The quality of the water was very satisfactory this year, a fact confirmed by the analysis of the water and the comparatively few complaints from the consumers.

A break occurred in the old force main, extending from the McCarron lake pumping station to the high service reservoir, on the Rice street embankment, where we had so much trouble last year, but this break was discovered immediately, water was shut off, and very little damage occurred. The necessity for and the advantage of having this auxiliary force main to the reservoir was shown. This main was completed early in the spring, and its value thus demonstrated.

Your attention is called to the increase in the number of water meters in use, fully 50 per cent, and a continuation of this policy of increasing the use of meters is urged. In the engineer's report this subject has been investigated, and at the end of the present year we hope to have the figures to show more accurately the amount of water required in this locality per capita. From what we have already compiled, it is shown that only about thirty-five gallons are used per capita, as against fifty gallons and upwards, as shown by the unmetered consumers of water.

Since the reduction in the charges for water to both metered and unmetered customers, seven months only, of this year, were affected by the reduction. Six months unmetered consumers, and eight months meter consumers, show a surplus of $7,935.29 over the cost to the department to furnish the water, and it is estimated that the full twelve months showing, of these reduced rates, would make the net expenditures and net receipts about even, leaving nothing for betterments or extensions, and this leaves available only the frontage tax to pay for the extensions, distribution mains and increase in machinery, which is equitable and as it should be, as the parties who are now getting the benefits of these extensions are the ones who are now paying for them.

Your plant is in excellent condition, in full repair, and when the new ten million gallon pump is installed at the McCarron lake station there will be no need of any increase in machinery for many years to come.

PRIZE FOR MINNESOTA.

A Good Showing Made by the Buttermakers From This State at Topeka.

TOPEKA, Kan., Feb. 23.—The big majority of delegates to the butter makers convention have arrived, and the meeting is now on in full force. With the possible exception of the great deep water harbor convention of a few years ago, this meeting is the largest and most important that has ever been held here.

The feature of the week was the great parade late yesterday afternoon. It presented an imposing appearance as it marched up Kansas avenue from the Rock Island depot. It was headed by Marshall's band with sixty pieces. Fully 700 delegates marched. The Iowa delegation was awarded the first prize for the best appearing delegation. The Minnesota delegation also secured a prize. The butter boards of New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Chicago each received honorable mention for fine appearance. The Kansas delegation did not compete for honors.

Treasurer Nissley's report shows the organization to be in good financial condition, there being a balance on hand of $4,000.

Today was butter makers day, and a programme of special interest to churners was given. The papers read were as follows:

"Maintaining a Harmonious Co-operation Between Butter Maker and Patrons," by M. W. Ashby, Hazleton, Io.; "State Aid for Dairying," Henry E. Alvord, Washington, D. C.; "The Use of Gasoline Engines as Power for Creameries and Skimming Stations," Charles Harding, Norfolk, Neb.

Tonight at 7:30 p. m. there was a musical entertainment arranged by the musical committee of the Commercial club of Topeka.

CHRISTIAN COLLEGE STUDENT

Cleveland Gathering the Largest of Its Kind in the History of the World.

CLEVELAND, O., Feb. 23. — Every incoming train throughout last night and today brought large numbers of delegates and visitors to the city to attend the third international convention of the Student Volunteer Movement. Several large delegations arrived on special trains during the early hours of the day, and at noon General Secretary Lewis felt assured that the effort to make the convention the largest Christian gathering of college student representatives in the history of the world had been accomplished.

Secretary Mott called the convention to order in a few well chosen words, and then introduced Rev. B. F. Meyer, of London, who conducted a prayer service, which lasted throughout the afternoon session. Upon the platform were more than 100 church leaders, representing all the Protestant denominations of North America, and among the delegates were students from nearly every college in North America, professors from over 100 colleges, and missionaries from twenty heathen lands.

Coast Coursing.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 23.—Ingleside coursing park was crowded at the annual meeting of the Interstate Coursing club to decide the ownership of the John Grace and Belle Brandon cups for the following year.