

THE ST. PAUL GLOBE

FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 1899.

Table with 2 columns: Subscription type (Daily, Weekly, Monthly) and Price (1 mo, 6 mos, 12 mos).

Entered at Postoffice at St. Paul, Minn., as Second-Class Matter, Address all communications and make all Remittances payable to THE GLOBE CO., St. Paul, Minnesota.

Branch Offices: New York, Chicago, St. Louis, etc.

WEATHER FOR TODAY.

Minnesota—Fair Friday and Saturday; variable winds. North Dakota—Fair Friday and Saturday; variable winds.

Table with 2 columns: Location (Baltimore, Bismarck, etc.) and Temperature (High, Low).

THE STATE'S BIENNIAL HOLD-UP.

It is an easier and a safer act to hold up a state than it is to hold up a train or an individual. In the last two cases there is the possibility of being shot by the assaulted party in self-defense, and there is the other serious inconvenience of being arrested, tried, convicted and given a long term of imprisonment.

The state of Minnesota, in its inception, evidently regarded the only persons liable to hold it up as the state's creditors and its disbursing officers, for it provided that no money should ever be appropriated except by bill, and also that no money should be paid out of the treasury except by express provision of law.

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lars? Would they not put a curb bit on their desire to spend? Will not the joint committee on appropriations add such a restrictive amendment to its joint bill this year?

THROWING KIEFER DOWN. For the first time in our history a Republican Ramsey county legislative delegation has succeeded in securing the enactment of a local measure which is worthy of public approval. They have made the office of county assessor elective on and after the next general election in the fall of 1900.

It is not difficult to understand how such a laudable measure came to be adopted. There is a split in the local Republican machine. Open war is being made on Mayor Kiefer. His administration possesses too much of a Germanic tinge to suit the exacting tastes of the native political talent.

To follow up the appointment of Pott-gieser to the board of public works by the selection of Herr Seng as his own successor would involve a degree of recognition of the "foreign element" altogether inconsistent with Republican reform ideas.

The local Republican officeholders are not all thieves. Hence the old adage about thieves falling out has only a limited application in this case. Yet it is undeniable that for the small legislative favor involved in making the office of assessor elective the people have to thank the commendable unpleasantness existing between the enemies and friends of what, in the parlance of our local statesmen, has come to be known as the Kieferverlin.

PROMISE OF VICTORY.

The political events of the past week have been exceptionally favorable to the Democratic cause. East and West, the trend toward Democracy is unmistakable. However we may seek to explain the fact, the fact itself exists.

Democrats do not ordinarily look for much of comfort toward Rhode Island. Yet even there the prospect presented by the recent election is full of hope. In the last national election the Republican candidate for president had a plurality over his Democratic opponent of 2,973. This year the Republican plurality is not half as great, while every district in the state shows a greater or less Democratic gain.

The Republican policy is clearly outlined in the frantic efforts put forward to foment Democratic divisions. In the recent contest in Chicago this disposition was most strongly manifested. The New York Sun, now recognized as the most unscrupulous champion of a discredited national administration, filled its columns with the most venomous and unfounded calumnies of Mayor Hirtshorn and his administration. In every city in the Union the Republican organs acted on the same cue. They recognize the important political truth that, with a divided opposition, the infamous record of Alger and his trust proteges may succeed in escaping condemnation.

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PLAYING AT CROSS PURPOSES.

A very curious and interesting play of cross purposes is the treatment accorded the bill to create a commission, and put \$25,000 at its disposal or to compensate it for its work, the duty of which should be to give our statutes a keelhauling, a weeding, a fumigation and general disinfecting, scraping off the barnacles, plucking out the tares, killing the microbes, or by whatever renovating process you may be pleased to term it, so that laymen, lawyers and judges may know what law is. As it now stands there is no lawyer with any regard for his reputation who would dare to give a client an opinion on the law of promissory notes until after he had looked all through the various compilations and examined the latest session laws. Cases have been known where the very learned judges of the supreme court have had to inform counsel for both appellant and respondent that they had overlooked a statute that bore directly upon their

case, and in other not infrequent cases the same erudite court has had occasion to remark that counsel for neither side called the court's attention to some existing but forgotten and entombed act.

And the curious byplay comes in in the manner in which the bill is treated by the two classes, the lawyers on the one hand and the laymen on the other. As confusion of laws breeds litigation, one would naturally expect, as human nature commonly acts, that the lawyers would be opposed and the laymen be insisting upon revision, codification and simplification. And we have the singularly contradictory reversal of this apparently natural attitude, with the lawyers favoring a measure that would diminish their business and the farmers successfully opposing one that would lessen their lawyers' bills. Queer, isn't it?

NOTARIAL SEALS.

Messrs. Staples and Jacobson have a peculiar ability to throw the house into a spasm, in which it slaughters some meritorious measure. A night's sleep usually restores to the house its good sense, and then it takes up the defunct bill, breathes life into it and passes it. The Abbott bill, requiring notarial seals to bear the name of the notary, is an instance. The result of the collective seal has only been to discredit the seal, depriving it of that world-wide credence, as an important commercial instrument, it is intended to have. Minnesota notaries, attesting documents for use in other states or countries, have generally been required to have affixed the certificate of the clerk of the court, under his seal, that they were duly appointed notaries. Numerous cases have occurred where frauds have been perpetrated by means of the form of a seal used in this state, the uniformity of which makes notaries indifferent to its care and use.

ESTERHAZY'S LETTERS.

Developments in the scandal growing out of the Dreyfus case. LONDON, April 7.—The Daily Chronicle this morning prints the text of three letters alluded to by examining Magistrate Lord Esher, yesterday, in his judgment, which Maj. Count Esterhazy addressed to President Faure under dates of Oct. 23 and Oct. 31, 1897, and Nov. 5, 1897. The first letter, which was dictated to him by Col. Picquart, is a plea for protection. He goes on to beg M. Faure to put an end to the scandal and says: "I should have the sorrow not to be listened to by the supreme head of my country, my precautions are taken for my appeal to reach the ears of my heroic emperor, the emperor of Germany. He is a soldier, and will know how to set the honor of a soldier above the mean and equivocal intrigues of politics. He will dare to speak out, loud and strong, and defend the honor of the ten generations of soldiers. It is for you, the president, to judge if you should force me to carry the matter into the public domain. An Esterhazy fears not anything or anybody if not good. Nothing and nobody will be able to make me say that I am sacrificed to—I know not what miserable political combinations."

Oh, come, come, everybody? Can't we send the beef, Secretary Alger, Gen. Egan and the whole kit to some far-off land, say Wake Island, and close the whole frank incident?" Illinois has again put up the price of broom corn half a cent a pound. The Democrats of Chicago may have purchased brooms with a lavish hand on Tuesday night.

It is presumed that Mr. Pingree has not overlooked the complimentary allusion to Mr. Jones, of Cleveland, who seems to be a Pingree sort of a fellow himself. The mayors of Cincinnati, Detroit, Chicago, Milwaukee and Minneapolis are Democrats. Mr. Kiefer, the next mayor of St. Paul will be a Democrat.

Is the millennium just over the hills? Fourteen of Chicago's aldermen have met to further a scheme for a non-partisan council. "Do not leave to me," he says, "the obligation of choosing between alternatives equally hateful to me."

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL.

METROPOLITAN. Modjeska, supported by a talented company, was greeted last night by an audience by no means in keeping with her deserts, in numbers at least, although it was enthusiastic as the evening proceeded, and in a measure made up in interest what it lacked in numbers. Queen of the mimic stage and mimic queen beside, the comely countess in truth was delightful. And Mary Stuart, with its opportunities of the role, that range through all the human impulses, love, hate, revenge, forgiveness, ambition, humility, and pride, hope and despair, revealed each moment a new beauty in the art that knows no modern mistress so faithful to her duty or so exacting of her subject as Modjeska. It might have been her of whom it was written: "Age cannot wither her, nor custom stain her infinite variety." So familiar is her Mary Stuart that it is almost superfluous to comment on its fidelity to the highest art.

TO BURN CHINESE VILLAGES.

PEKIN, April 6.—The governor of Kulu Chin has given orders to burn Chinese villages in the neighborhood of Chou, a short distance from Kulu Chou, where the German patrol was recently and suffering in Alaska, which are being considered here to be arbitrary and unnecessary, and are considered unlikely to be approved by the officials of the German legation, to whom the Chinese foreign minister yesterday sent a mild remonstrance.

CECIL RHODES SUCCEEDS.

LONDON, April 6.—The St. James Gazette this afternoon announces that Cecil Rhodes has now been named as the German government's candidate for the Cape-Cairo railway. German financiers have agreed to provide the capital, and certain have also agreed to guarantee a certain portion of the interest upon the German cross line from Dar-Os-Salam, twenty-five miles west of Zanzibar, which is to tap the Cape-Cairo railway. IN TIME OF PEACE. Sweden Proposes to Prepare for Possible War With Norway. STOCKHOLM, April 6.—The riksdag has voted 238,800 kroner for the purchase of 100,000 rifles, and 2,000,000 kroner for the improvement of the Swedish fortifications. BOURNEMOUTH, Eng., April 6.—The council of the town has passed a resolution instructing the mayor to refer to the United States ambassador, in London, the fact that the town here to express hope of his speedy restoration to health.

GEN. TORRES WARNED

AMERICAN RESIDENTS AT BLUE-FIELDS AND IN COSTA RICA APPEAL FOR RELIEF. CRUISER DETROIT DISPATCHED. Gunpowder Argument May Be Necessary to Convince Offenders That Uncle Sam Will Not Be Trifled With—Situation is Regarded as Highly Critical—British Residents Also Complain.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—The cruiser Detroit, which is now lying off La Guayra, Venezuela, has been ordered post haste to Bluefields, Nicaragua, for the protection of American interests in that quarter. On the way she will touch at Port Limon, Costa Rica, where her commander will put himself in communication with the United States consul at that port and whom he will also be required to make a very brief stop at Greytown. Her dispatch under hurry orders is at the urgent request of the state department.

ST. PAUL CITIZEN HIGHLY HONORED.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—The secretary of state has announced the United States delegation to the disarmament congress, which will meet at The Hague in the latter part of May, as follows: STANFORD NEWEL, minister to the Netherlands. SETH LOW, president Columbia university. CAPT. ALFRED T. MAHAN, U. S. N. The commission as a whole is regarded as an exceptionally strong body, being made up of men well known, not only in public and political life, but in the world of letters and international affairs. They are all men of scholarship, fine linguists, and possess those attainments helpful in congresses representing the nations of the world, conducted under the diplomatic usage which makes French the accepted language.

Stanford Newel, of St. Paul, was appointed minister to the Netherlands by President McKinley. He is a lawyer of repute, a prominent citizen of St. Paul, and through for many years active in politics held no office until he entered the diplomatic service. Andrew D. White graduated from Yale in 1853. He has been attached to the United States legation at St. Petersburg, professor of English literature, University of Michigan; minister of Cornell, 1887-1893; commissioner to Santo Domingo, 1871; minister to Germany, 1879-1883; minister to Germany.

Seth Low, graduate of Columbia university, and now its president; mayor of Brooklyn, 1881 and 1882; candidate for mayor of Greater New York, 1897; famous as an educator, reformer and man of affairs. Capt. William Crozier, ordnance department, U. S. A.; artillery expert in the invasion of Mexico, 1855; son of the late Judge Crozier; born in Ohio, and appointed to the military academy from Kansas. Capt. Alfred T. Mahan, naval expert and authority; author of "The Influence of Sea Power Upon History," midshipman, 1856; lieutenant, 1861; lieutenant commander, 1872; captain, 1885; retired, 1886; member of the board of strategy during the Spanish-American war.

He rested easily throughout the day, and was roused by it, though he has not roused yet from his repose of several days ago sufficiently to indicate what he will be about again. He is still kept here, and every effort is being made to have him take a complete quiet rest that is essential to his recovery. His physician is now visiting him twice a day, instead of once, as before his recent setback. Aggravated indigestion, and sending him to the sick man. Representative Baird, of Louisiana, is lying in a critical condition at his hotel apartments here, and is barely holding on to tonight. No material change in his condition is reported.

LOCAL WAIFS FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—Director Merrick of the census bureau, announces that all appointees to the census must have more than \$1,000 per annum must earn it by promotion. Lieut. Elliott, of the Fifteenth Minnesota, has passed successful examination for second lieutenant in the regular army. Senator Davis, of Louisiana, is in New Orleans, and is expected to visit St. Paul. Capt. A. H. Crossfield and family and Mrs. Crossfield, of Louisiana, are expected to visit St. Paul. Representative Stevens today called at the postoffice department and agreed to a change of the site of the postoffice at Maple Ridge, Isant county.

YALE BOAT CREW.

Capt. Allen Trying a New Experiment on the Oarsmen. NEW HAVEN, Conn., April 6.—Capt. Allen, of the Yale university crew, is trying a new experiment on the oarsmen, who compose the varsity squad. He is using an oarsman's recorder, the invention of C. M. Allan, of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute. The apparatus consists of a recording mechanism for the pair oars, so adapted that it automatically records the pressure applied by the oarsman for every position of the stroke. This far the results have been good, and it is probable that Dr. Galuad will find its record of much assistance when it comes to developing the fitness of the crew's work. The crew rowed a four-mile stretch today, two miles being of clear water on the straightaway. No attempt was made to take the time, but the men rowed as at any time this season previously. The order in the boat was: Stroke, Williams; No. 1, Edrien; No. 2, Allen; No. 3, Cross; No. 4, Flint; No. 3, Groswood; No. 2, Wickes; and how, Greenlaw. Walton, last year's coxswain, officiated in a like capacity today. The second boat was put into the water for the first time today, since ten days ago it was stroked by the crew and contained all the regular substitutes.

POPE AS PEACEMAKER.

Will Be Asked to Mediate in a Royal Family Quarrel. LONDON, April 7.—It is reported in Brussels, according to the Berlin correspondent of the Standard, that Cardinal Peter Lambert Goossens, archbishop of Mechlin, Belgium, has gone to Rome to petition for the mediation of the pope in the matrimonial differences between King Leopold's daughter, Princess Louise of Belgium, and her consort, Prince Philip of Saxe-Coburg.

WANT THE PRESIDENT.

New Orleans Citizens May Postpone Their Peace Jubilee. WASHINGTON, April 6.—A large delegation of prominent citizens of New Orleans, headed by Senator Caffery and Representatives Meyer and Davey, called at the White house today and invited the president to visit New Orleans on the occasion of the peace jubilee, March 3. The president informed the committee that it would be impossible to accept their invitation, owing to the press of public business. The committee then proposed to postpone the jubilee until fall, but he said he could not give a promise, but would take the matter under consideration.

GRAND OPERA SEASON.

ELLIS OPERA COMPANY WILL CLOSE WITH ITS TWIN CITY ENGAGEMENT. MME. MELBA ALREADY HERE. Australian Warbler Came Ahead of the Company to Rest in St. Paul—Manager Ellis is Anticipating a Week as Successful as Has Been the Others of the Transcontinental Tour.

Manager Charles A. Ellis, of the Ellis opera company, which is to give the Twin Cities their first season of grand opera since 1896, at the Metropolitan next week, arrived in this city yesterday, followed on a late train by the prima donna, Mme. Melba, who sang at Omaha Wednesday night, and will rest in St. Paul until Monday with her friend, Miss Donaldson, of London, who is accompanying her on a globe-trotting tour. The ladies are at the Ryan, and attended Modjeska's performance of "Mary Stuart" at the Metropolitan opera house last evening.

Manager Ellis reports that the season which will close next week has been one of the most successful, both artistically and financially, in the history of the organization which has succeeded to the prestige of the Damosch company, while adding to its lustre and to the galaxy of stars comprised in the old organization. The coming week of opera is to be of unusual interest, because the fact that it is the first time the peerless Melba has ever appeared in opera in St. Paul, her single visit here having been in concert two years ago. That those who heard her then will find a new interest in her operatic presentation is without doubt.

Coupled with her name are two others of renown, Mlle. Zelle de Lussan and Mme. Gadsdi. The Twin Cities have rarely honored a singer with a greater measure of popular favor. Mrs. Gadsdi went to accord the lovely French woman ten or eleven years ago when she came with the Boston Ideals. Gadsdi is known locally only through her single engagement here with the Damosch company three years ago, but that was sufficient to win for her a warm place in the hearts of lovers of music. The men of the company are less familiar here. Bonnard, who will sing Faust Monday night, has long been a part of the Paris de la Monnaie, Brussels, where, by the way, Melba made her professional debut in 1839. He has also been a popular idol during the summer seasons at Covent Garden, London. This is his first American tour. Fandolfini, who will sing Rodolfo, in "La Boheme," is a native of Milan, Italy, and has been warmly received everywhere in his first American tour. Densade is another Italian, whose work has met with cordial approval.

"We have appeared for the most part in the larger cities of the country," said Mr. Ellis last night, from New York to Boston to San Francisco, and the company has everywhere met not only with the most pleasing demonstrations of popular approval, but also with a success which was especially gratifying. Clear across the continent, the path of the company has been strewn with roses, as it were, and two of the most popular artists to compose it have been enabled to survive the work of the season with less of fatigue than is usually the case, especially on a tour of the extent of this country. Who is here tonight, in excellent health and spirits, and her voice is at its best. The other members of the company share in this felicitous condition. "Faust" for "Traviata," which we had intended to present for the opening performance Monday by the clamor of the people. Charles A. Ellis, manager of the Minneapolis company, was getting the best of the programme. The change has entailed rather more than the usual one or two days of rest, but the artist would do but that "Faust" should be presented here, and Monday night seemed to be the only night on which we could present it. We are absolutely breaking up our entire calendar for the week, and "Carmen" have both been enjoyed here before, but I think in "La Boheme" we have a selection that will prove a great success. It is a grand old-time success in Chicago, and I think that it will be better here than it was there, as the smaller playhouse is the better adapted to its characteristic music."

WORLD'S CONDENSED NEWS.

Greenville, S. C.—The Fourth New Jersey cavalry was mustered out today at Camp Wetherill. San Francisco—The court-martial to try Lieut. John M. Neal, of the Fourth cavalry, was convened at the Presidio today. Cleveland, O.—Cleveland vessel owners interested in the proposed Mutual Marine Insurance company will drop the project until next year. St. Thomas, D. W. I.—A fire at Port of Spain, island of Trinidad, on Wednesday destroyed several stores and did damage to the amount of \$125,000. Reading, Pa.—A fire, which originated in a cigar store, destroyed the plant of Hershey, of Lancaster, and occupied by the Lancaster caramel factory, of which he is proprietor, did over \$100,000 worth of damage. Washington—All the troops which are to return to the United States for muster out are expected to arrive before May 1. About 35,000 returned in March, and it is expected that 25,000 more will arrive during the present month. Topeka, Kan.—State Superintendent of Insurance Church has granted a license to the Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance company, which has been in operation since 1852. New York—Frank McBride, who says he is a laborer, but who the police say is a crook, was fatally shot today by William F. Murray, a colored man, near Bridge, when he was shot, was trying to force his way into a tenement house on Twenty-seventh street, where Murray is janitor.

DEATHS OF A DAY.

WABASHA, Minn., April 6.—(Special)—Hon. F. J. Coiller, died today, aged seventy-four years. He has resided in Wabasha since 1857, and at various times filled the offices of mayor, recorder, alderman and member of legislature. He was judge of probate for six years. RYALTON, Minn., April 6.—Lawrence Geissel, father of the late Gen. Alfred Geissel, died today, aged eighty-three years. SYRACUSE, N. Y., April 6.—Thomas Molloy, secretary and treasurer of the Onondaga County Agricultural Association, died here today. He has been connected with the salt industry for about thirty-eight years. DENVER, Cal., April 6.—Edmund I. Moffatt, a brilliant lawyer, is dead at St. Luke's hospital, after suffering six weeks from acute consumption, the result of an attack of grip. Three Emperors May Meet. BERLIN, April 6.—Special dispatches from Troup, capital of Austrian Silesia, say there is a probability that the three emperors will meet in the autumn at Skiernowice, a town of Poland, forty-two miles from Warsaw.

FORMER PUBLIC PRINTER HAD.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—A. M. Clapp, formerly public printer, is very ill at his residence in this city and is not expected to recover. Mr. Clapp is about eighty years old and his illness is due to his