The St. Paul Globe

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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.—Anonymous communications not noticed. Rejected manuscripts will not be returned unless accompanied by postage.

BRANCH OFFICES.

New York .....10 Spruce St.
Chicago Room 609, No. 87 Washington St.

WEATHER FOR TODAY.

Minnesota—Fair in northern, showers in southern portion Sunday; Monday fair; brisk east to northeast winds.

The Dakotas—Showers Sunday; Monday fair; variable winds.

Montana—Showers Sunday; Monday fair; variable winds.

Wisconsin—Showers Sunday and probably Monday; increased east and northeast winds.

Iowa—Rain Sunday; probably fair Monday; easterly winds.

ST. PAUL.

Yesterday's observations, taken by the United States weather bureau, St. Paul, P. F. Lyons observer, for the twenty-four hours ended at 7 o'clock last night. —Barometer corrected for temperature and elevation.

Highest temperature	66
Lowest temperature	45
Average temperature	56
Daily range	21
Barometer	30.16
Humidity	48
Precipitation	0
7 p. m., temperature	64

7 p. m., wind east; weather partly cloudy.

RIVER AT 8 A. M.

Station	Danger Line.	Guage Reading.	Change in 24 hours.
St. Paul	14	5.9	—0.1
La Crosse	10	6.9	—0.2
Davenport	15	8.6	—0.4
St. Louis	30	17.9	—0.8

The river will change but little in the vicinty of St. Paul from now to Sunday night.

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES.

	High*8 pm			High*8pm	
Bismarck	66	64	Helena	46	44
Buffalo	50	46	New York	62	54
Boston	54	52	Omaha	54	40
Chicago	48	44	Philadelphia	62	56
Cincinnati	[illegible]	60	Pittsburg	65	54
Cleveland	54	52	S. Francisco	56	52
Denver	58	54	St. Louis	56	54
Detroit	58	52	Washington	66	60
Duluth	62	52	Winnipeg	70	66

*Washington time (7 p. m. St. Paul).

But let it be remembered that Paul Kruger isn't at the peace congress.

Of course we are all ready to disarm, but who'll do it first?—Concert of powers.

Corsets are going into a trust, too. They'll be squeezed all right enough eventually.

Brooklyn has a ball player named Casey. He is hitting things besides "high balls," too.

George Gould is declared to be the most overworked man in New York city. Who is working him?

After we get through with Dewey we may conclude to be real generous and buy Spain a home.

True, our army swore terribly at embalmed beef, but what would they have done to "renovated" butter?

That ten-year-old musical prodigy from South Dakota, Vernon H. Alger, is seriously handicapped by his name.

Eighty-seven trunks in a bunch have been sent from New York to London. The Bradley-Martins went with them.

Dear Thirteenth Minnesota, you'll have to hustle now if you get home to help us celebrate the Fourth of July in the best possible shape.

The fact that one William T. Stead is loitering in the vicinity of The Hague peace commission indicates that the whole affair may terminate in a row.

It is stated that the Filipino peace commissioners were driven through Manila by carriage to the Ayuntamiente. That settles it. The war must be about over.

Former Senator William Alfred Peffer, of Kansas, has returned to the Republican party. As though the Republican party din't have troubles enough already.

Has Kansas gone out of the Union with New Jersey? A Chicago dispatch says: "Rains throughout Kansas and Southeastern Europe removed apprehension of drought."

The question of alimony is driving some men to drink and others to bankruptcy. Robert Mantell has filed a petition in bankruptcy to get rid of a $10,000 alimony judgment.

The announcement that Andrew Carnegie has $150,000,000 to give away before he dies suggests the possibility that he is preparing to sow his wild oats in the sunset of life.

There is but one vacant building lot left on Commonwealth avenue, in the eligible residence district of Boston, and it has risen to a fabulous price. Here is a case in which money talks louder than blue blood.

The suggestion of the St. Louis Globe-Democrat that Gen. Funston be presented with a vine-embowered cottage, with a little river meandering peacefully through the grounds, is an excellent one. Push it along.

Business is business, but that St. Louis syndicate that charged people 50 cents apiece for a glimpse at the United States cruiser Nashville was altogether too thrifty. When did United States property become capital for a bunch of skin-game sharpers?

The Boston Post says: "What is needed in Cuba, on the part of the representatives of the United States, is tact and discretion." But how can there be tact and discretion among military men subject to orders from Washington? A stream cannot rise higher than its source. If there be no tact and discretion in Washington, there can be no semblance of them in Cuba.

FOR PUBLIC PLAYGROUNDS.

The Civic league takes the initiative of planting the public playground among the features of our civic life. Elsewhere these have begun in a like manner, by individual, then organized effort, and, having demonstrated their right to exist, have become incorporated as public functions, figuring annually in the budget. St. Paul lags, but not superfluous on the stage. It is proposed to make a beginning on the lots at the corner of Jackson and Ninth, the owner of which has given the use without charge. A shed for shelter from rain and from sun for the little ones, swings, teeters, bars, sandpiles and other implements of play will be provided. A custodian will be put in charge to preserve order, and volunteers will assist and direct. The Central high and Mechanic Arts schools have donated to the movement the proceeds that may come from the concert to be given Monday evening of next week, and various other methods of raising the eternally needful in any movement will be used.

We need not make an argument for this good cause. It is like an axiom, it demonstrates itself. Children play in the streets because they can't play elsewhere, and the education they get there is a prolific source of the disorders that necessitate a police force. Give them places for their sports where sympathetic but wise supervision will be provided; where the environment will elevate instead of degrade, and there is not only a present good but one that will reach out far into the future. St. Paul people have never been slow to respond to such appeals, if they have waited for someone or somebody to make the start. Now that it is made, and under such excellent auspices, its success is one of the certainties of the season. The sale of tickets for the schools' entertainment will be the means of showing and the test of interest.

A MILITARY SATRAPY.

A Washington dispatch, apparently inspired, says that, on the report of his commissioner paramount to Porto Rico, the president is of the opinion that a military government must be maintained in Porto Rico for two or three years. The island is now, by virtue of the treaty of Paris and by general assent, an integral portion of these United States, as much a territory of it as is Arizona or New Mexico. There is no state of war existing in the island. Its people are submissive to their new masters; in fact our advent was hailed by Porto Ricans with delight, and the flag of this country on many occasions greeted our troops as they entered its cities or villages. Congress was in session when the treaty that transferred the island to this country was ratified by the senate, and congress adjourned without making any provision for civil government. And now we are told that the president contemplates the maintenance of a military government there for a period beyond his present term of office.

In October, 1803, the senate ratified the treaty that transferred Louisiana from France to the United States. On March 26 following congress enacted a law erecting the portion south of the 33d parallel, the present northern boundary of the state, into a territory and provided for its government by civil authorities. The inhabitants within the District of Orleans, as the territory was named, were mostly Spaniards, of the same race that now forms the bulk of the population of Porto Rico, minus whatever progress a century may have produced among the people of the island. The same congress enacted a law for the civil government of the city of New Orleans. Certainly the Spaniards of New Orleans, then notoriously hostile to the Amerigos, were not more capable of self-government than are the Porto Ricans of today.

The difference in the treatment accorded the peoples annexed by two administrations, separated by nearly a century, is the difference in the concepts of government held by their heads and backed by their parties. Jefferson was a Democrat and an individualist, believing in the principles of government he wrote into the Declaration of Independence; McKinley is, unconsciously, perhaps, a collectivist with the Hamiltonian distrust of the capacity of the people for self-government. That is the basis of his great policy of protection, and it is the basis of the present decision to maintain a military satrapy in Porto Rico, a policy permitted by his congress in its avoidance of the duty of providing a form of civil government for the island.

The first Republican president did not hold the same ideas of government evidently held by the latest, and, let us pray, the last. "No man," he wrote, "is good enough to govern another man without that man's consent. When the white man governs himself that is self-government; but when he governs himself and also another man that is more than self-government—that is despotism. * * * Those who deny freedom to others deserve it not for themselves, and under a just God cannot long retain it." It will not do to reply that Lincoln was referring to the negro unless it is also asserted that the average Porto Rican is, morally and intellectually, on the same plane with the Southern plantation negro. If Jefferson deemed the Spanish of Louisiana a century ago fit for self-government, the Spaniards in Porto Rico today are fitter. If we start military government there, how long will it be, in this growing industrial ferment, before we will have military government at home?

EUTHANASIA, THE HAPPY DEATH.

The ancients, less impregnated with fear of what comes after death than are the "rod and candy" children of later days and civilizations, gave to such a death as that which came to Roswell P. Flower, and that comes so frequently to others, the name of euthanasia, the happy death. They had no future to peer into that was made gloomy with doubt of whether it were to be a life of idle bliss or one of equally idle misery; but they had full knowledge of the miseries attending the prolonged decay, the wearisome care to others, of death by slow disease, and they deemed him fortunate to whom the end came suddenly with no note of warning.

One needs that philosophy which comes with experience of life to overcome that dread of death which is so strong in youth, with its exuberant vitality and buoyant hopefulness, when to live seems the only fit condition and its ending a catastrophe, and when the voiceless mysteries are asked why we should not go on living forever. One needs to have experienced the failure of the aspirations and ambitions of youth, to have had life's illusions dispelled, to have felt the "slings and arrows of outrageous fortune," to have suffered the "ills that flesh is heir to," before one can look upon death with indifference if not with welcome as rest after prolonged and futile struggle. One learns to see the infinite wisdom in this gradual loosening of earth ties that makes one realize, with Lowell, that:

"Death is beautiful, as feet of friend,
Coming with welcome at our journey's end."

To the surviving relatives and friends there is always more or less of shock when death comes into the circle and selects its subject, and more of shock when the blow comes quickly. The sudden severance of ties is more painful than when lingering disease has gradually wonted us to the inevitable, but after all the principal concern is with the one whose time has come. The unavoidable must be met, and he must go down alone into the mystery, only greater from its consciousness than was the entrance from that other mystery through birth, and why should not one deem himself, and be deemed by those whom he leaves, as most fortunate if the weeks and months of slow wasting away be spared him and them, and he step from full life into the fullness of that other life which we all feel, if we do not know, lies beyond?

THE CASE OF TAYLOR CRUM.

Taylor Crum came down from North Dakota and applied to the board of examiners for admission to practice law in this state. Crum had been practicing in North Dakota for several years, and had experienced that deterioration of good nature inevitable to the dwellers in that country of perpetual wind and alkali water. These worked rather harder on him than on other members of the Dakota bar, for, whereas they swore at the court only after adjournment and when within the seclusion of the nearest dispensary of—well, drugs—Crum, on one occasion, swore at the court right to the face of the dignified gentleman who composed, in his own person, the court. For this, we understand, he was disbarred, in proceedings duly and formally had. The supreme court of that state, if news dispatches are veracious, lifted the ban of the decree.

Whether this be true or not, Crum decided to shake the Dakotan mud from his feet and cross the raging Red and hang out his shingle in the city of Moorhead. Whereupon he sought a permit from our state board of examiners. We are told, in the papers, that the board denied his application. This is probably merely a reporter's rendition of their action, for, of course, the board could only transmit to the supreme court its recommendations, and it probably recommended the rejection of the application. But it is the grounds of the action of the board, if accurately narrated by the versatile gatherer of official doings, that strike the lay mind as rather uncommon. The objection presented to the board by sundry lawyers opposing Crum's proposed invasion of the Minnesota bar was that he is a man of irascible temper. That was what was the matter with him in Dakota, and it led him into an open and emphatic expression of his contempt of court. That was a mistake; he should have reserved his expression until he was outside the court house, as all other lawyers do, and, if one can believe the yarns they spin in private, a thing they are very frequently amply justified in doing. We are inclined to believe that in Crum's case the same causes that produced irritability in him affected the judge also, and that the latter was guilty of contributory negligence.

But is the possession of an irascible temper a disqualification in an applicant for admission to the bar? If so, where, in the statutes, is it writ? Certain it is that it is nowhere to be found in the common law, else England's courts would not have been adorned by that long line of eminent judges whose tempers were always on edge. E. G. Ryan rose through the bar of Wisconsin to its supreme bench, and his temper at the bar and on the bench was always as pungent as red pepper. We find specifications in our statutes of an attorney's duties, and we find explicit statement of the causes for which he can be suspended, but nowhere is it writ that it is his duty to be sweet-tempered, nor is a bad temper set down among the causes for suspension. Besides, how does our learned board know but that Crum's removal to the balmy air, the sweet waters and the salubrious climate of Moorhead—so markedly different from conditions in Fargo—would mollify Crum's temper and make him as gentle and lamblike as are all Minnesota lawyers, as everyone knows. We submit these considerations to the honorable supreme court when it comes to sit on Crum; and, in his own behalf, we appeal to their own memories of differences with the bench when they were at the bar, where their only satisfaction was swearing at the court, when round the corner.

A FOREIGN VIEW.

The development of the trust conspiracy in the United States is being watched among foreign observers with scarcely less interest than attaches to it among our own people.

In few of the European countries has the trust evil reached any such proportions as should cause any great immediate concern. Trusts have manifested themselves in Russia, Germany and England to a greater or less extent, and in the last named country American example seems of late to have worked very strongly on the minds of the industrial classes. The downfall of the Hooley speculative craze operated for a time to discourage the movement in England; but the conditions are becoming more favorable every day, thanks largely to the accepted results of the movement among us.

The voice of warning is heard in England, however, very clearly, and our case in this respect is being put forward to do duty as "a horrible example."

Writing recently in Justice, M. H. Hyndman has this to say regarding our present position:

"There is practically no free market in anything except, perhaps, bread and meat. The middle class of America is being completely crushed out as an independent class. Distributors and shopkeepers, wholesale and retail, are nothing more than the commission agents of the trusts. No respectable merchant or storekeeper can call his soul his own in 'his own' business. He must buy and sell all his commodities at the price which the trusts dictate."

There may be something of the ring of British exaggeration regarding undesirable social or political conditions in America observable in this extract. But it is fair to point out that it is merely preliminary to the general proposition, that in Great Britain, as in the United States, the grip of the trusts on the people's industries is becoming formidable.

That universally recognized and usually conservative exponent of British public sentiment, the Saturday Review, takes up the same subject and treats it in even a more radical way than that adopted by Mr. Hyndman. After declaring that the British public are, unfortunately for themselves, very badly informed of the baneful effects of the domination of trusts on American industrial life, the Saturday Review proceeds in this fashion:

"It is to them (the trusts), in a great measure, that the recent growth of the imperial spirit is due; they have had it manufactured by the press and thrust upon the people, just as they thrust the war with Spain upon President McKinley. They will be our rivals in the far East even as they are our unscrupulous rivals in Canada. Mr. Choate, in his speech before the chambers of commerce, recognized the fact that America and England were trade rivals, but he pleaded for a 'generous and loyal' rivalry. The phrase is not particularly enlightening as applied to a scramble for more trade on the part of two rival countries, and any kind of generosity or loyalty, except to its own members, is the very last thing we should expect from an American trust."

Now, this kind of comment may be regarded as characteristically British. But it is made by a responsible paper, and one which is not prone to allow its prejudices or prepossessions to run away with its judgment in the discussion of serious public questions.

From whatever light we regard the subject of the trusts, the prospect is bad. The incentive toward socialistic doctrines which their operations have produced is not properly estimated but by the more thoughtful observers. The trend of their operations is distinctively socialistic. If the agencies and instrumentalities of production are to be controlled by the trusts, why not by the state? The inquiry is inevitable, and, worse still, it is a logical inquiry. Perhaps there can be no doubt that ere long the true remedy will be forthcoming; but it is not to be lost sight of that at the present rate of progress of trust combinations the remedy, if much longer delayed, must be a peculiarly drastic one if it is to be effective.

A GOOD SUGGESTION.

Of all the contributions thus far to the literature of the trusts and their regulation there has been none more practical in its character that that made during a session of the industrial commission by James W. Lee, of Pittsburg.

Mr. Lee is a lawyer and apparently has had much professional experience in opposition to what may be regarded as the oldest and most powerful of the trusts, the Standard Oil company. His testimony, therefore, relating to the oil combinations may be disregarded as that of a prejudiced witness. The expression of his general views on the subject are nevertheless worthy of serious consideration.

It has long been regarded as true that the most highly criminal feature of trust administration is the practice which prevails among such organizations of deliberately accomplishing the ruin of those competitors in business whom they are not able to bring into their organizations. Hundreds, perhaps thousands, of men in various commercial and manufacturing enterprises have been ruined by the destructive competition of the trusts.

Since these organizations have obtained control in so many industries, the need of destroying competitors by forcing prices down to such figures as to involve ultimate ruin, and then restoring them after the offensive competitor has been annihilated, has not been so great. But the practice is carried on now, as it always has been since the general advent of the trusts. This is the evil which cries most loudly for a remedy at the hands of the criminal authorities of the country. The offense is readily admissible of proof. Where a trust is engaged in selling its commodities at less than cost the law can very readily, on complaint of a competitor, create the presumption that such sales are made for the accomplishment of the complainant's or others' ruin.

With such a law in operation in every state in the Union and honestly enforced, as enforced it would necessarily be in case of individual complaints being made, at least that evil would soon be abated.

Mr. Lee urged on the commission the necessity of limiting the capitalization of corporations. This remedy, while it might not be as effective as the other, would accomplish much good. Such a limitation must be established sooner or later if the trust monstrosity is to be destroyed. It is a serious and difficult subject, however, what maximum amount of capital should be allowed by law. And, moreover, if the various industries of the country are to keep on being absorbed by the trusts for a year or two longer without adequate remedy, such a remedy as this, to be at all effective, must involve the destruction of the existing trusts.

Indeed, the only really hopeful circumstance relating to the search for a remedy against the trusts up to the present is that the light of public scrutiny and condemnation is being turned with such intensity on those creations as renders the discovery of an effective remedy sooner or or later inevitable.

PUBLIC BATHS.

With the approach of the very warm weather increased interest is being manifested in several communities on the subject of public baths.

There is no reason why every American city and large town should not have its public bath. On the score of expense there is no substantial barrier in the way. On the score of public and private hygiene there is a very convincing reason why the public bath should be universal.

From time to time we read of the death from drowning of boys who, having no more available place, engage in bathing in waters of whose safety they know nothing whatever. No city can be better situated for the establishment of public baths at a minimum of expense than St. Paul. And yet there is nothing of the kind here which is worthy of the name. Cleanliness is next to godliness in the individual as in the community. Considering the limited opportunities which the poorer people have for the enjoyment of comfortable and frequent bathing, the need of public baths does not call for demonstration.

Brookline, Mass., is not a community of any great proportions. It could not reasonably be expected to set an example to its sister communities in any direction touching the public welfare. And yet Brookline stands unique and exceptional among American communities in relation to the maintenance of places for public bathing. There they have public baths which are resorted to by all classes of the people throughout the year. The rich send their boys and girls there to be educated in swimming. The Brookline Swimming club has a weekly rendezvous at the public bath, which is attended by all, young and old, rich and poor, without any thought of social disadvantage or prejudice.

The site of Brookline's public bath is in the center of the town population, adjoining the public playground and the high school building. It is established on ground owned by the city, and its construction and furnishing has cost the sum of $43,000. It is of brick, faced with stone, and is 124 feet long and 82 feet wide. It contains shower baths, a plunge bath and a natatorium, or swimming pool, which is 80 feet long by 26 feet wide. In addition to all this it includes a number of private baths.

Now, let it be remembered that this admirable institution is almost self-maintaining. It is always so during the summer season, and it is believed before long that it will become so all the year around.

Why should not St. Paul, and, indeed, every other city and town in the country of any proportions, have such a public institution? There is nothing else that will conduce in greater measure to the public health at so small a measure of expense. Public health and public enjoyment alike demand it. The cost need not be great. What we need is a permanent beginning. If we had more baths we would have fewer police, fewer health inspectors, fewer prisoners in the police station and generally less for our criminal and health authorities to do.

It is a sad commentary on our civilization that the average citizen, rich or poor, the officeholders alone excepted, never comes in touch with our municipal authorities, only in connection with our system of public parks, except in some disagreeable relationship. The gain to good citizenship from the maintenance of public bathing places would be even greater than it is through the maintenance of our public park systems.

MUNICIPAL SOCIALISM.

We run to the close of the century at a rapid pace. Projects plied a decade ago are now endured; those then endured are now embraced. Ten years ago socialism was a term of reproach, indignantly repelled by those to whom it was applied; today men discuss socialistic measures with calmness. Then it was synonymous with anarchism and nihilism; today its synonym is progress. Hardly more than a decade ago any proposition to extend municipal activities beyond policing or giving water supply was protested against as trenching on the domain of private enterprise; today we find propositions to own and operate light plants, street railways and telephones discussed without question of the propriety of municipal occupation of these utilities.

On the surface conditions seem to justify the socialistic theory of the assumption by the municipality of the control of all means of production and distribution, taking from each citizen according to his ability, and giving to each according to his need. Where is the line of plain demarcation at which public exercise of these powers shall stop? Where this side of Bellamyism does the logic end? Thus ask those who still see with apprehension this encroachment of the city or the state upon the individual. If light be supplied, why not heat, or food, or raiment? If free baths, why not free laundries? If free text books, why not free shoes? Finally, why not regulation and direction of everything? But a closer scrutiny detects individualistic forces at work that promise to preserve the proper mean between private and public enterprises. Under many of these propositions for extension of municipal functions the real motive is an individualism that insists upon being served instead of serving some franchised corporation. In several states we find the demand that cities be given home rule, the right to make, amend or unmake their organic law, admitted by the state, and this is but the insistence of individualism on its rights. Public opinion is constraining legislatures to cease interference with localities or individuals by special acts, and to enact only laws of general application.

With this free play of these two opposing tendencies the ideal socialism will never be attained, but to see that the extension of municipal functions will go on is but to run out into the future line of direction of present extensions. Political parties in cities are putting into their platforms demands for the municipalization of all public utilities, and winning elections. Reservation of the right of purchase by the city is being put into grants of franchises. Public gymnasia fitly follow public libraries. A Democratic mayor of Boston substitutes direct employment for the contract system; installs a printing and electric construction plant, operated by city employes; builds public baths and makes them practically free; opens play grounds for the city's children; inaugurates indoor winter concerts, with an admission fee so low that wage earners fill the halls; and he sees still other directions in which the city can better the condition of its citizens, to be attained in the future. San Francisco adopts a home-framed home rule charter, after a long struggle, that contains an article on "Acquisition of Public Utilities" which declares it to be the purpose of the people of that city "that its public utilities shall be gradually acquired and ultimately owned by the city and county." Detroit is negotiating with the street railway companies for the purchase of their systems. These are but instances of a general movement. Timid persons may see it with fear, and interested persons may oppose, but it is the set of the current, and nothing can check, divert or restrain it. The problem is its wise guidance.

A JUST DECISION.

The decision of the supreme court in reviewing the Stocking divorce case seems to be one which on its face is worthy of the highest commendation. Without regard to the bearing of the decision on the relation of the parties to the action, the dictum of the court as to what course of conduct on the part of a husband toward his wife will justify her leaving him without enabling him afterwards to secure a divorce on the ground of desertion points clearly to a just protection of the rights of the wife.

The language of the court is that,

"Any rule which will permit the husband to enter upon a course of conduct toward a wife which is humiliating, insulting and degrading, and thereby drive her from him (unless she be a stolid and spiritless animal with no wants or aspirations above physical comfort) and at the expiration of the year come into court and claim a divorce on the ground of her willful desertion, if his misconduct does not legally entitle her to one, tends directly to the degradation of womanhood and enables him to take advantage of his own wrong doing."

The last legislature extended the period of abandonment necessary to securing a divorce from one year to two. The extension was directly in the line of the reform of our divorce system. The further limitation established by the supreme court on the right to secure a divorce on this ground will be heartily concurred in. The conduct of one of the parties to a marriage toward the other may be utterly insufferable. It may result in a separation, for the protection of the injured party, without rendering that party liable to have a divorce obtained against him or her on the ground of desertion. This is the effect of the decision of the supreme court in the Stocking case.

The claim of the party applying for the divorce on the ground of desertion was that the ill-treatment which caused the separation must have been such as to justify a divorce on the ground of cruel and inhuman treatment, if the separation is not legally to be regarded as desertion. This view the trial court seems to have sustained. Such decision is accordingly overruled by the supreme court.

It would be hard, indeed, if a wife were compelled to endure a husband's brutality until it should reach such a point that she is able to establish that she is entitled to a divorce on account of it, before she is permitted to live separately, except at the expense of having her marriage dissolved. Women are often ill-treated by brutal husbands under such circumstances as render it almost impossible for them to establish such ill-treatment in court. A man may in the privacy of their home be brutal toward his wife, and even apparently affectionate in the presence of other parties, thus rendering it practically impossible for her to invoke the intervention of the court.

While the general tendency of the decisions of our courts has been in the line of the supreme court decision in this case, rather than in that of the contention of the trial court, it is in the interest of sound public policy to have the law as clearly stated as it has been in this decision.

AIR-DRIVEN STREET CARS.

One of the most interesting and valuable applications of science to every-day uses recently made is the adoption of compressed air as the means of propelling street cars. The principle has gone into practical operation both in New York and Chicago.

The new power is found to possess many advantages over the present electric trolley system, which, in the Eastern cities, has always been regarded with much public disfavor. Among the advantages of the new system of propulsion is the one that it is impossible for the motorman either to stop or start the cars with a jerk. They run with great smoothness and are not attended by the now familiar buzzing noise which attends the electric cars as they acquire speed. They can be operated on any tracks, thus avoiding the necessity of tearing up the streets on which they are set in operation. They can be run at any rate of speed thought desirable, and their movement is infinitely easier than is that of the present vehicles. They are heated from a hot water tank under the car, which furnishes the heat necessary to the expansion of the compressed air.

The description which is furnished of the new cars and of the application of the new principle in locomotion is very interesting. The car is operated by levers in a manner similar to the electric cars. There are three levers. One is at the right of the box which contains the moving parts of the machinery and opens the air valves. Another on the left furnishes additional power when needed. The third is that by which the motorman controls the speed. They are fitted with hand brakes, but in case of necessity the motorman can stop the car quickly by pushing the power lever. The compressed air is supplied to each car in quantities which admit of a distance of sixteen miles being covered by each supply. The air reservoirs, or "bottles," as they are technically called, extend the entire length of the car and are placed under the seats. They are composed of a new metal, the secret of which is preserved, and which can resist a pressure of 13,000 pounds to the square inch, the applied pressure being but 2,500 pounds.

In New York the cars are supplied from an auxiliary compressor, but there is now in process of construction an immense four-stage compressor which will probably be the most powerful machine of its kind in the world. It will be of 1,500 horse power, with a fly-wheel weighing sixty tons and measuring twenty-two feet in diameter. At the first stage sixty-four cubic feet of air are taken in at each stroke and are reduced by a pressure of 50 pounds. This air at 50 pounds pressure is afterwards raised to 150 pounds by a second compressor, and the original bulk reduced to eighteen cubic feet. This in turn is reduced in bulk to five cubic feet and the pressure raised to 539 pounds. A fourth compressor reduces the bulk to one and a half cubic feet and increases the pressure to 2,000 pounds. The whole operation requires four seconds of time, and each car is charged in about two minutes.

The application of the principle of compressed air had before been quite limited. Its possibilities, in view of its new application, may, without exaggeration, be regarded as limitless. The cost of its production will doubtless determine how general its use will become comparatively with steam and electricity. With the problem of cost satisfactorily solved, compressed air may be regarded as one of the great coming forces of our time in industrial life.

A GUM-CHEWING HERO.

They were sitting about the fireplace one cool Sunday evening. That is what the five girls called it—a fireplace. It was one of those tiny affairs in which you may burn two or three sticks of very fine wood. It was very ornamental and likewise very useless, and gave out about as much warmth as the gasoline stove out in the little box of a room which the girls called the kitchen.

They were bachelor girls and they "kept house" together, or played at keeping house.

They did have pleasant times, too, for they were all young enough not to have gotten rid of their illusions, and they had day-dreams of a time in the misty future when they should do great things. Yet, for the present, despite all their hard work, they were happy—and it is happy people that the world needs. Every evening they usually gathered about the fire if it was chilly, or on the piazza if the weather was warm, and had a good talk concerning their dreams, their visions, their great ambitions, or their impressions by the way.

Somehow the talk got around to shattered ideals this evening, and one of the girls said: "When I see or meet people for the first time I always set about weaving little romances around them and endowing them with all the angelic qualities to suit myself. Afterwards, when I come to know them better, I often lose my ideals thus formed, or else, as sometimes happens, forget all about my imaginations in my admiration of the real."

"Yes," chimed in another girl, "and it's usually such a little thing that makes you see the clay feet of your idol, too—at least I find it that way."

"Well, I should say so!" said the girl who was sitting on the rug, and who had been wishing that they could afford a fire large enough for them to see pictures in it. "And that reminds me of one of my own experiences."

She paused for encouragement, for it was an unwritten law among the girls that no one of them should inflict a personal experience upon the others without full consent of the afflicted.

"Well, go on," they commanded.

"Down town, where I work," she said, "there is a man who holds quite an important position in the world—I mean, of course, that part of the world with which I come in contact. He is not old, and perhaps not handsome, but he is, what is better, very distinguished looking"—only a girl knows just exactly what is meant by that. "Even in a business way, I am scarcely acquainted with him, but that fact did not deter me from setting him up on a high pedestal in my mind. I made up an interesting story to fit him, in which he played the double role of demi-god and hero. When he spoke to me, if he said anything beyond an ordinary greeting, I was seized with dire confusion at the honor which was heaped upon me, and then I would hope that he would not talk to me at all—if you can understand that upside-down sort of statement. But one day this very modern god of mine came down to earth, and you could never guess the means that brought him hither. I passed through his office on this eventful day and he sat at his desk. He gave me a careless nod, which I returned, and then dropped my eyes, and then—oh, girls, what think you I beheld? A package of gum! Yes, three or four sticks of ordinary chewing gum. And since that time my her is but human, and he fails to fit the story I have made for him."

"There! I just thought of it," said the stenographer, springing to her feet. "I bought some gum for us girls last night, and forgot it. It's in my jacket pocket and there's a piece for each of us."

* * *

They had been friends for some time, and she enjoyed his calls as much as he did, which is saying much for their mutual enjoyment.

The day after she got her pretty new suit she invented an excuse for wanting to see him, and wrote him a dainty little note, asking him to call that evening. Then she spent three hours in the afternoon getting ready, and came down to dinner a vision of loveliness fully conscious of the exquisite waves in her hair and the excellent fit of her gown. Her younger brothers and sisters would persist in their efforts to monopolize her, but at last she coaxed them, with the promise of candy, to leave her to herself.

Yes; it was almost time for him to come. She sat and watched the clock and then listened; there were so many footsteps on the pavement, but she was sure she knew his walk. Now, he was coming. She sat in an assumed attitude of easy expectancy; but the footsteps went by. She went to the mirror and changed the position of her lace-pin. She picked up a book and tried to read. He was never so late before. Every moment she became more impatient and indignant. How strange it was! After all, perhaps he didn't care to come! Her face flushed hotly, and soon two big tears rolled down upon the lovely gown. She went to her room, and cried a half hour, and then got up and stared at herself defiantly in the glass. How silly she had become! What did she care whether he came or not. So, it was all over now, they could never be friends again, for she would not forgive him. The tears started afresh. She opened a drawer to get out another handkerchief, and there was the little note which she had forgotten to post; and the tragedy in her life had changed to comedy.

—Beth.

EPISTLES TO ST PAUL.

An Eighth ward constituent of County Auditor Billy Johnson drifted into the auditor's office yesterday afternoon and observed to Maj. Libbey: "Is there a man named Billy Johnson who works around here?"

"There is a fellow of that name that hangs around the office, but I never saw him do any work," responded the major.

"That's the man," replied the visitor. "I guess I'll wait for him. I never saw him work either."

* * *

R. E. Ferry, of 91 South Wabasha, was born and raised in Otsego, N. Y., and during his boyhood days was contemporaneous with Judge R. R. Nelson and Judge Corey, both of whom were Otsego boys.

"During the eighteen years that I have lived in St. Paul I have never met either Judge Nelson or Judge Corey," said Mr. Ferry yesterday. "I often think of the old days though, fifty years ago, when we were boys together in old Otsego. I was a trifle older than either of the others, but I remember some of the boyish pranks in which we indulged together. Judge Nelson's father, Judge Samuel Nelson, was a justice of the supreme court of the United States, and I have a distinct recollection of having seen him at the old folks' dances that used to be given in Toddsville. He was the courtliest of the whole lot of old people who used to enjoy those dances and the sprightliest, with the possible exception of Maj. Lewis, proprietor of the Eagle hotel.

"It was a sight that will never be seen again when those old people used to get together and enjoy the "Money Musk" and all the other old country dances. There was a peculiar flavor of enjoyment about the whole affair that one does not find nowadays. My recollections were recalled by the recent visit of Senator Sam Edick, of Cooperstown, whom both of the judges will probably remember well."

All "Copperheads."

Clarkfield Advocate.

It appears that every soldier returning from the Philippines is a "copperhead" and "auntie," or something of the kind. All say they have fought because they had to; not because they wanted to or felt that it was their duty.

DEFECTIVE PAGE

INTENTIONAL DUPLICATE EXPOSURE