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Fifth and St. Peter Streets.

CITY NEWS

The joint court house committee meets today at 4 o'clock.

City Treasurer Bremer yesterday received \$25,000 for liquor licenses.

The board of county commissioners will meet today in committee of the whole.

Senator Moses E. Clapp and Congressman Fred C. Stevens will leave for Washington tomorrow.

The Hamline Six O'Clock club will meet at the Methodist church next Monday, Rev. J. W. Martin will read a paper on "The City Poor."

Gettysburg Women's Relief corps will hold a public installation of officers this afternoon at 3 o'clock at South Washaba street and Fairfield avenue.

Michael Cline, who is employed in the shops of the Schurmerer Wagon company, had a finger on his right hand so badly smashed yesterday that it was necessary to amputate it. A heavy piece of iron fell on the hand.

F. E. Murray, whose home is in Elk River, was brought to the city hospital for treatment yesterday. He is suffering with a sprained back, and his friends thought best to send him to the city for medical attendance.

The house occupied by Anton Proskosch, 255 Gaultier street, was destroyed by fire early yesterday morning. The cause of the fire is unknown. The loss on the building and contents was about \$600. There was no insurance.

The horses attached to a wagon belonging to the A. D. T. company ran away on Fourth street yesterday. They ran down the street to the court house, where they were stopped by one of the horses falling down. No damage was done.

The board of public works, at its meeting yesterday, directed Secretary Bromson to advertise for bids for a sewer on Stryker avenue. The board will visit Indian Mounds park at 10 o'clock this morning for the purpose of looking over lots which the park boards wants condemned.

A three-year-old son of George Hamilton, who lives on the Dodd road, near the city limits, coasted down a hill into a barb wire fence Wednesday afternoon. The wire caught him fairly in the face and cut him seriously. He was taken to

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Granulated Sugar 20 pounds..... \$1.00
Turnips A fine carload of Rutabagas, per cask..... 10c

New Sugar Corn, per can..... 7c
3-lb cans Tomatoes, per can..... 10c
3-lb cans Bartlett Pears, per can..... 10c
3-lb cans Taho Pears, per can..... 10c
3-lb cans White Ox Heart Cherries, per can..... 10c
3-lb cans Black Tartarian Cherries, per can..... 10c
Only one kind of Raisins..... 10c
10-lb bulk Buckwheat..... 30c
Large Grape Fruit, each..... 10c
3 quart size Cranberries..... 35c
10 bars Diamond Soap for..... 35c
Diamond Soap, worth \$3.50 box; our price..... 30c
New Nutmegs, per ounce..... \$3.10
Imported Swiss Cheese, best, per lb..... 20c
Fancy Pork Sausage—Our Healthful Recipe—pig sausages are actually better than any sausage on the market. Just try them, per lb..... 15c
Shelled Walnut Meats, per lb..... 25c
3-lb packages Corn Starch..... 4c
3-lb bottles Catsup..... 10c
3-lb bottles Washing Soda..... 10c
3-lb bottles Borax..... 10c
3-lb bottles Borax..... 10c
3-lb bottles Borax..... 10c

PEERLESS MEAT MARKET.
Fresh Salmon Steak, per lb..... 15c
Fresh Halibut Steaks, per lb..... 12 1/2c
Fresh Codfish Steaks, per lb..... 10c
Fresh Flounders, per lb..... 10c
Fresh Crappies, per lb..... 10c
Fresh Trout, per lb..... 10c
Fresh Whitefish, per lb..... 10c to 12c
Fresh Herring, 7 lbs for..... 25c
Live Lobsters, per lb..... 25c
Boiled Lobsters, per lb..... 25c

F. R. VERXA & CO.
SEVENTH AND CEDAR STS.

a physician, who dressed his injuries. More than a dozen stitches were necessary to close his wounds.

The annual service of the Sheltering Arms Episcopal church will be held at the Church of St. John the Evangelist Sunday evening at 7:30.

Otto W. Rohland yesterday filed his application with the county auditor to have his name appear on the primary election ballot as a Democratic candidate for alderman from the Fifth ward.

Paladin Commandery No. 21, Knights Templar, met at the Masonic Temple in the Lowry building last evening, and administered the Templar's degree to candidates.

A man giving the name of John Swanson was intoxicated and fell through a plate glass window at Fifth and Jackson streets last evening. He was taken to the central station and will answer to the charge of drunkenness in the police court.

The members of the board of public works yesterday inspected the land which the park board proposes to annex to Indian Mound park. The land surrounds the park, and the public works people will report to the park board the value of the land to be taken.

The second term of the night school at the Y. M. C. A. began last evening, with an enrollment of 26. This is thirty more students than were enrolled for last year. Classes in telegraphy and electricity were started last evening, and it is in these branches that the largest gain is made.

M. J. Hanson, the man arrested for holding up Miss Ross Gugler, on Cromwell street, was arraigned in court yesterday morning. He demands an interpreter, but the police say that he spoke fairly good English when arrested. The case was continued until this morning in order to allow him to consult with the Danish consul.

McDONALD OUT OF IT

EDWIN WEISENBERGER IS ELECTED DEMOCRATIC WARD CHAIRMAN IN THE SIXTH

RECORDS OF MALCONTENTS

Ald. Moriarty Explains Recent Maneuvers of McDonald and His Followers—Are Disappointed Office-seekers.

At a meeting of the Democratic ward committee of the Sixth ward last evening, at which nine of the thirteen precincts of the ward were regularly represented, Edwin Weisenberger was elected ward chairman to succeed Charles McDonald. Therefore Mr. Weisenberger will succeed to the seat in the city and county committee, from which Mr. McDonald was recently removed by decision of that body.

The meeting of last evening was held at 37 South Washaba street, and those who constituted its official body were A. J. Weisenberger, chairman of the ward, and the following: C. H. Bonn, chairman of the Fifth precinct; W. C. Kammerer, chairman of the Tenth precinct; A. Rowland, proxy for F. W. Baer, chairman of the Thirteenth precinct; E. McDonough, chairman of the Fourth precinct; H. J. Peters, chairman of the Sixth precinct; L. Voyer, chairman of the Eleventh precinct; Mc. Moriarty, chairman of the Twelfth precinct; Rossman, chairman of the Third precinct; J. J. Hurley, proxy for John Melady, chairman of the Ninth precinct. There were also in attendance a large number of representative Democrats of the ward, who, although having no vote, were still interested in the proceedings, and who approved the action taken. The precinct chairmen who were not present at the meeting were F. A. Kammann, First precinct; M. F. McNally, Second precinct; M. J. Moran, Eighth precinct, and H. Blissenbach, Twelfth precinct.

Mr. Weisenberger, who was elected ward chairman, is one of the most active young Democrats of the Sixth, and although he has not formerly been a member of the organization, the selection by the committee meets with popular approval.

At the close of the meeting last evening a number of the precinct chairmen and other Democrats who were present had a few severe comments to make upon the action of the few malcontents, who, as they expressed it, "have been trying to do a little mischief in the party by feeding false information to a Republican newspaper." These gentlemen are not so numerous, but they could be mentioned by name, and each case in its proper place. Ald. Moriarty, speaking of the situation, said:

Moriarty's Hot Shot.

"There is no rupture in the Democratic organization of the Sixth ward, and no dissension that is worthy of mention. There are a few so-called Democrats over here, who, for personal and purely selfish reasons, are discontented and would be willing, if they had the power, to sacrifice the welfare of the party to their own personal vengeance. Charles McDonald, for instance, he used to be one of our most enthusiastic Democrats, and would be still if I had been able to get him an appointment as a member of the board of public works. But I could not do that, and now he is out to get even at no matter what cost to the party. Fortunately his power in that direction is but slight. McDonald's supporters are not so numerous, but they could be mentioned by name, and each case in its proper place. Ald. Moriarty, speaking of the situation, said:

Working at Tax Revision.

The state tax revision commission has not been able to finish its report by Jan. 1, as was hoped by its members, and it is not likely that the work will be completed for several days. The report will be printed and copies sent to the members of the legislature, who will be allowed thirty days to look it over before the next session is called to take action upon it.

Swift and Sure

Are the terms applicable to the Northern Electric Light and Power Co. electric lighted and power plants, E. McClellan parlor cars and cafe observation cars.

THEY CANNOT AGREE

OPINIONS DIFFER ON PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO NATIONAL BANKING LAW

TO ALLOW REAL ESTATE LOANS

Congressman McCleary Has Written to Over Two Thousand Bank Presidents Asking for Their Views.

Congressman McCleary's proposed amendment to the national banking laws which will allow national banks to loan money on real estate, as viewed differently by the bankers of this city. Some of the heads of banking institutions favor the amendment, others are opposed to it, and still others favor a compromise. The reason for the amendment as given by Congressman McCleary is to make the banks in rural communities more useful, where real estate is practically the only security that is given.

Congressman McCleary's letter to the bankers as follows:

Dear Sir—It has been suggested to me by several gentlemen interested in national banks and desirous of rendering them as useful as possible in rural communities in which they are located, that it would be well to amend the national banking act so as to permit national banks in the smaller places, where the clientele of the banks is largely rural, to loan a portion of their resources on real estate security. If the proposition seems wise to those who have practical knowledge of such matters, I may introduce a bill after the holiday adjournment for the amendment. With that in view I desire the benefit of your judgment in the matter, and I would appreciate an early return of the following questions:

First—Do you believe that such an amendment would be of public interest? If so, why? If not, why not?

Second—If your first answer be affirmative, would you be in favor of such a law that would not make such loans? If so, would you be in favor of such a law that would not make such loans? If so, would you be in favor of such a law that would not make such loans?

Third—Just what percentage and of what would you specify in the amendment to the national banking act, as to the percentage of the capital of the bank or as to a certain percentage of the national funds? Suggestions running from 25 per cent to 40 per cent of the capital of the bank have been made.

Fourth—Would you limit the operation of the amendment to farm loans or would you include town property? Why?

Fifth—Would you limit the operation of the amendment to first mortgages only, or would you permit such loans as meet the approval of the board of directors? Why?

Sixth—Would you require that all loans under the amendment should have the approval of the directors before being made? Why?

Seventh—Do you have any other suggestions as to the safe operation of the amendment if it should be made?

Eight—Would you care to have me quote you on the above points in any remarks that I may make on the subject? Respectfully yours,

—J. T. McCleary.

A canvass of the bank presidents of the city yesterday revealed the fact that there was no unanimity on the proposed amendment to the national banking law. The following are samples of the opinions expressed:

President of the National German-American bank, "I should be heartily in favor of this amendment, as I believe that it would do just what is expected. It would make the rural banks more useful, and it would be a safeguard. Under the present banking law, which prohibits national banks from loaning on real estate, the rural banks are frequently at a loss to find a safe investment, and in many cases have to accept questionable paper in order that they may get their money out on time, and there are plenty of good farms in the neighborhood which would be as safe an investment as it is possible to discover.

LINE IS HARD TO DRAW.

"As to drawing the line between those national banks that should be allowed to loan money on real estate, and those that should be prohibited from so doing, it would take a great deal of time and study to answer correctly. That will have to be worked out, and I am not prepared to say anything about it at the present time. I should think that the capitalization of the bank should be the proper basis for the classification.

"As to the percentage of the national stock I should be in favor of being loaned on real estate. I do not know exactly, but I think that 40 per cent is entirely too small. I would provide, however, that the aggregate of such loans should not exceed the capitalization of the bank in question.

"I would favor the loaning of the bank's funds exclusively on farm property. It is always good and always capable of earning something, and its value is comparatively stable. On the other hand, city property is likely to be idle a good deal of the time, and, therefore, it is susceptible to violent fluctuations. I would also confine such loans to first mortgages.

"The reason for prohibiting national banks from loaning money on real estate is that it is not considered a quick asset, that is one that can be turned quickly into cash should the occasion arise. I think that in a rural community all first-class farms are fairly well secured, and cash can generally always be found for them. Taking all this into consideration, I think that the amendment would be a helpful one.

Kenneth Clark, president of the Merchants National bank, "I am opposed to the amendment and cannot see that there is any call for one of its nature. In the first place there are in every community real estate offices and other concerns of a like nature that make a business of loaning money on real estate, and any farmer that needs a benefit in need of ready cash can, if he has the security, get what he desires from them. This being the case I do not see where an amendment of the national banking law to allow national banks to loan money on real estate is going to be of any great help to the community.

"It may be harmful.

"I am not sure that it would be beneficial, but I think it might be harmful. Real estate is a slow asset, and in the time of a panic or financial flurry it might be impossible to raise the money on it. This is one of the reasons why national banks are not now permitted to loan money on real estate, and I think it is a good thing that it is not.

A. C. Anderson, cashier of the St. Paul National, "I would be in favor of the amendment, if it was confined to banks in the smaller cities. I think that it would be beneficial there, but not in the large cities like St. Paul. The national banks in the cities are organized for the purpose of carrying on the commerce of the country, and real estate is not a part of their business. In the rural districts, however, I can see where the amendment might be of considerable good. Take, for instance, a small bank with a capitalization of \$25,000. If the bank has a depositor become afraid of a list of the bank's real estate assets would convince him, in all probability, that he was wrong. Brown's farm was worth \$10,000, and that if the bank had \$5,000 loaned on it that it was a perfectly safe investment, no matter what happened in the financial market.

"As to whether the banks should be allowed to loan money on only farm property I am not positive. I think, however, that village real estate is pretty safe, and the banks in small communities are thoroughly conversant with all values of property in their localities. The other questions asked by Congressman McCleary are of a nature that I do not care to discuss. I would not care to express an opinion on them. Broadly speaking, I would be in favor of the amendment, provided it was limited to banks in the smaller towns. Of course, nothing but first mortgages should be considered."

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FROM THE WAY TO PEKIN

SURGEON J. W. DIEDENHOFER TELLS OF TERRIBLE SIGHTS IN BRIEF CAMPAIGN

WOMEN POISONED THEMSELVES

Natives Were in Mortal Terror of White Troops—The Russians Displayed Horrible Cruelty Throughout.

Surgeon John W. Diedenhofer has just returned to St. Paul after an absence of over three years in China and the Philippines. He served in the regular hospital corps for two years and a half in the Philippines, and was transferred to China in Chief Surgeon W. B. Banister's special relief corps, where six months of the most thrilling and adventurous period of his life was spent.

Surgeon Diedenhofer was under fire a number of times, having taken part in fifteen battles and skirmishes, the most of which were fought in the Philippines. He was in the Philippines from 1901 to 1903, and in the Philippines from 1903 to 1904.

On entering Pekin the American soldiers were surprised at the large number of Chinese women lying dead in the streets and houses, with no outward mark of violence on their bodies. They had poisoned themselves, so great a terror had they of the foreign soldiers. Many thousands were committed to suicide as soon as they heard the soldiers had entered Pekin. As an instance Mr. Diedenhofer told how soon after entering the city he saw his company was marching down one of the principal streets, and he saw several Chinese women running on the top of a high wall. Catching sight of the soldiers they stopped and threw themselves off and were dashed to pieces on the road over 100 feet below.

The roads to Pekin were strewn with the bodies of the Chinese who had been killed by the Boxers, and on posts and trees in all directions could be seen heads hanging by their ligaments.

The Russians, he says, show no mercy, and always kill their bayonet victims, and their guns ready to kill. Mr. Diedenhofer told of two scenes he had witnessed of Russian brutality. Shortly after the capture of Pekin the troops rode past a small creek, when a Chinese man was seen to leap out of the weeds and run in great fright from the soldiers. In his terror he almost ran into a big Russian, who, in his haste, had just knocked him over with the butt end of the gun, ran him through with his bayonet, then placing his foot on the man's forehead, he fired, and the man was killed.

Mr. Diedenhofer made a large collection of letters and has in his collection a Boxer's and an imperial soldier's pigtail, three rifles and several swords.

TAX ON BANK PROFITS

COLLECTOR BAUMBACH SENDS OUT A REMINDER.

On Dec. 12 the United States department of internal revenue made a new ruling on the tax on bank profits. The new ruling is that the profits of banks are to be taxed on the basis of the net income after deducting the expenses of the banks, and accordingly Collector Fred von Baumbach has sent the following letter to the national banks in his district:

I call your especial attention to the fact that the new ruling on the tax on bank profits and surplus is now in effect. The new ruling is that the profits of banks are to be taxed on the basis of the net income after deducting the expenses of the banks, and accordingly Collector Fred von Baumbach has sent the following letter to the national banks in his district:

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