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CITY OF ST. PAUL

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TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1903.

PEANUT POLITICS.

There is always present in the minds of the Republican politicians in St. Paul the lingering knowledge that if a city election is carried by the Democrats it is always possible to deprive them of the fruits of victory by appealing to the legislature.

Representative Gregory, of St. Paul, is just now the champion of these peanut politicians. He has been figuring out the conditions and finds that the fruits of the successive victories of the Democrats at the polls will be the practical control of the administrative branches of the city government for some years.

It did not occur to Mr. Gregory that the people were clamoring for the extension of the elective ballot until it was shown that the majority in the council intended to carry out the expressed will of the voters by electing a Democrat to the office of corporation attorney and practically announcing that a Democratic city clerk would be elected upon the expiration of the term of the present incumbent.

Mr. Gregory makes no argument as to the desirability of such a law as he proposes. He probably has never given the least thought to this phase of the matter. His sole object is to give the Republican politicians another chance before the people.

There is absolutely no demand for such a law as is proposed. There are offices enough on the ballot at present, and there is no justifiable excuse for electing officials whose duties consist in the administration of purely professional or clerical duties.

It is not likely that Mr. Gregory will attain his object in a hurry. He has overlooked the charter provision for the election of these officers. Or perhaps he is in line with the congressman from New York who met an objection from a fellow member that a bill was unconstitutional for the rejoinder:

"What's the difference? Surely you wouldn't let a little thing like the constitution stand between friends like you and me!"

The suggestion that Ex-Gov. Merriam is going to New York to engage in a business which he is quite familiar with looks like an announcement of his candidacy for governor of the Empire state.

WAR IN THE SPRING.

Bigger than a man's hand is the war cloud on the Turkish-Russian horizon. Recent press dispatches from St. Petersburg say there is a strong belief prevalent in the czar's country that war with Turkey will come with the spring.

The cause of war is this: Turkey is having trouble with Macedonia mercenaries and will, it is predicted, chase some of the bands into Bulgarian territory. This will be resented by Russia and war will ensue.

The two powers now glowering angrily at each other last clashed in 1878, and the big bear made short work of Mr. Turkey. Since that time it is claimed the sultan has secured an immense quantity of modern army guns and supplies, and is in much better condition to make a good showing. Just how much foundation there is for these claims cannot, of course, be known until a clash has come.

War between Russia and Turkey would be a source of most intense uneasiness all over Europe. And in the event of the triumph of Russia—which would be inevitable—the terms of the treaty ending hostilities would be of utmost importance to the whole continent. No matter what the cost—even war with Russia itself—England would not allow the annihilation of Turkey; and Germany, France and Italy would be equally opposed to such an outcome. With Russia master of Constantinople and the sea on either side—the Black and the Mediterranean—that power would indeed be master of Europe.

The present czar is a lover of peace and the main spirit of the movement which established The Hague peace tribunal, but a large proportion of his people are warlike in spirit and a great war of conquest would suit them.

For many years the inability of the powers to agree on a division of Turkey has kept that disreputable nation on the map of Europe, and it is more than probable that the same condition will endure for many years to come.

It was a happy thought of Congressman Eddy to have a photograph of himself taken twenty years ago preserved. It is proof that the homeliest man in congress is positively handsome compared with the past.

DELAWARE SENATORS ELECTED.

Addicks, under another name, was elected to the long term in the United States senate by the legislature of the state of Delaware. J. Frank Alee, the gas man's right bower, will fill the seat, unless he should resign as soon as the legislature adjourns, and in that event Addicks himself would be appointed by the governor. Congressman Ball, an anti-Addicks Republican, was assigned to the short term, which will expire in 1905.

The result ends a deadlock about the most shameful in the history of American politics. It makes certain the triumph of Addicks two years hence, if he shall be alive. This pressure was exerted by reason of the fact that the Republican politicians are not so sure of their grip on the senate as they might be. They have a good big majority at present, but they are not certain there will not be a landslide in 1904 which shall sweep their control of both houses away, leaving the Democrats with the president and a house and senate in sympathy with him.

To avoid such a contingency the leaders at Washington got into the Delaware campaign with full energy,

even with desperation, and swished the party lash so vigorously that the legislature bowed its neck. Addicks by any other name will be little better off in public estimation than if she had elected the boss boddler outright.

While Dr. Boyle is settling the question of what songs are fit for a Christian to sing he might also get some of the Christians he knows to promise never to sing at all. This would the morals of the committee be promoted and the interests of music conserved.

MINNESOTA'S BIRTHDAY.

Fifty-four years ago today President Polk affixed his signature to the act which created the territory of Minnesota and provided for the administration of laws by the people who were to be governed.

The tremendous growth in the wealth and population of the territory to which was given the name of Minnesota is scarcely conceivable to the present inhabitants of that magnificent empire which was then made an autonomous body.

The lawmakers at Washington regarded it as a wilderness that might as well be gotten rid of in some manner and it was turned over to the people who were laying the foundations of empire. The new territory was enormous in extent, extending from the western boundary of Wisconsin to the base of the Rockies. Except for a few settlements it was a wilderness, in which the wild animals and wilder natives held sway.

But the optimistic eye of the empire builder was fixed on it. His sanguine mind had already peopled it and made productive its fertile plains.

In the realization of the hopes of the men who did the pioneer work on this outpost of civilization the actuality has run far beyond their expectations. It was not conceivable to them that in the span of one man's life the wilderness would be the center of a civilization of its own; that it would become the granary of the world.

In marking the birthday of Minnesota there should be in the heart of every inhabitant of this state, and the vast territory which at that time was formed into a practically self-governing commonwealth, some feeling of gratitude to the men who helped to redeem the wilderness and make the name of Minnesota to be synonymous with wealth and progress, as it is today.

There are Scotsmen who will withhold their sympathy from Maister Reekie, who was fed strychnine on cold potatoes, until he explains why it is that he has given over banocks and brose and taken to murrphies.

THE EXPIRING CONGRESS.

The Fifty-seventh congress will go out of existence some time tomorrow. It will die unwept, unhonored and unsung.

When it came into being it had before it the possibility of accomplishing much in the way of undoing what its predecessors had done, and it was even thought by some of the sanguine ones that it might initiate and pass needed laws. These hopes have not been realized in any appreciable measure.

Now in its expiring hours the body is confronted by the necessity for passing a great number of bills, and there is no hope of that necessity giving birth to the invention of means to do the work.

The momentous affairs of legislation have been generally neglected in the desire on the part of the senate leaders to push on their own schemes. At no time has that body been free from the threat that unless some pet or partisan measure was given place the business of the senate would be obstructed—and it is worthy of note that in no former session of congress has filibustering been so effective in the upper body. The members have talked much and accomplished little.

If it did not menace the country with the effective strangling of all needed legislation this record of the senate would not be an unmitigated evil. There have been times innumerable when vital interests in these United States would have felt more secure in the assurance that the senate would do nothing but talk.

The house has not been so conversationally industrious as the senate, but it has been engaged very largely in the consideration of private bills, or matters of local importance. And now in its last moments it has to deal with a mass of appropriation bills to the exclusion of all others. It has kept even with the senate in everything except in the amount of talk wasted.

The record of the congress is the record of the Republican party, for that detestable organization has had complete control of all the branches of government. The party has evaded the trust issue, it has dodged the canal bill and has declined to commit itself with regard to the commercial relations of Cuba with the United States.

When the platform builders of the G. O. P. get busy next year they will have to strain themselves a bit to find that in the journal of the Fifty-seventh congress to which they may "point with pride."

The facility with which the national legislator reconciles himself to the sacrifice of his country when there is only time for the passage of the appropriation bills is at once characteristic and remarkable.

The fact that a New York widow worth a million has eloped with a hackman should not cause comment. The union was at least equal in the matter of income.

The floods in Pennsylvania will not have done the worst until the announcement is made that the Delaware peach crop has been destroyed by frost.

How the ears of the colored brother must have burned while President Roosevelt was writing that letter to Clark Howell.

It must be admitted for the Delaware legislator that he is honest in the sense that he stays bought.

If Abdul Hamid remembers his classics at all he'll hear that Macedonia cry and go out and beat his plural wife.

SOME SELECTED OPINIONS.

Influences That Debauch.

From the Detroit Free Press. Fully 90 per cent of all that is dishonest, all that is corrupt and all that is menacing to free institutions in municipal and state government can be traced directly to the influence of these quasipublic corporations upon local politics. They not only debauch city and state governments, but it is their consistent policy to maintain these governments in a state of decency and efficiency. Their influence is cast habitually against all decency—their efficiency and integrity in public affairs. The sentiment in favor of municipal ownership is grounded almost wholly in the belief that the people have no other means of protecting themselves against the rapacity and criminal greed of quasipublic corporations. They are not flying to municipal ownership, but are being driven to it as a last desperate measure.

Training the Men Behind the Guns.

From the Baltimore Sun. If Uncle Sam is to have an efficient navy as well as a large one the men behind the guns ought to be thoroughly trained in the use of their weapons. The North Atlantic battleship squadron, it is stated in Washington dispatches, will be kept at target practice for three months in the Gulf of Mexico prior to its departure on its European cruise. The ships of the Pacific squadron have been instructed to begin a systematic course of practice. The commanders of other warships have been ordered to give gunners every opportunity to improve their marksmanship. It may be taken for granted that the American people will lose no sleep because of the fear that our naval artillerists are deteriorating.

THEATRES

Continued From First Page.

"Our New Minister," the new pastorate drama by the authors of "The Old Homestead" was presented at the Metropolitan opera house last night to an audience more remarkable for its appreciation than for its size. This engagement will close with two performances tomorrow, a popular price matinee in the afternoon and a farewell performance in the evening.

The theme of "The Tempest," which Louis James and Frederick Warde will present next week at the Metropolitan, is mythical, its characters airy. Its locale wonderland and with such a background the scope for scenic investiture and stage contrivance may be readily imagined. To the mind of the idealist and to that of ordinary mortals alike, it presents food for pleasant speculation. The "Tempest" is considered to be the greatest testimonial of Shakespeare's poetic genius and matchless imagination.

A season at the Grand would seem incomplete without a visit of that most popular of all Swedish dialect plays, "The Grand Old Man." It is now in its eleventh season, its drawing powers are apparently as great as ever. Last night's audience was large and drew both play and players very enthusiastically.

One of the most popular and surely the most profitable different today seems to be Clyde Fitch. None of his efforts has found quicker or more cordial approval than "Lovers Lane," which, after a month, is now in its second New York city and an entire summer in Chicago, is to be seen here for the first time at popular prices at the Grand the coming week.

Rice and Barton's excellent reputation for giving one of the best vaudeville and burlesque shows on the road is very well sustained by the Big Gaiety company at the Star this week. The bill is a good one and embraces some of the best talent that is handsomely put on and really funny.

INSURANCE MEASURES.

Minnesota Has Heretofore Been Reasonable in Insurance Legislation. Why Not Let Well Enough Alone?

Among the cheerful insurance measures now before the legislature is one which would require life companies to apply 4 1/2 per cent of the cash value of all policies on which the premium payment has been defaulted to an extension of the life of such policies. This would result in compelling the life organizations to change their present form of policies, as written everywhere, and issue totally different ones in Minnesota. They ought not to mind a little thing like that. Some companies give extensions already upon defaulted policies, but they rather like to do so upon defaulted actual results, and with safety to all their other policy holders who pay premiums regularly.

The insurance measure is the senate bill requiring the companies to furnish elaborate detailed statements to the insurance commissioner of the state, and to the state auditor, of their salaries, cash on hand, real estate deposited with banks and trust companies, and any quantity of miscellaneous information, all of which can be had by the commissioner or any policy holder simply for the asking. But to be forced to get it into the hands of the public would involve heavy extra outlay for clerical help and another expense to the policy holders.

By comparing the statements heretofore submitted to your honorable body, taking into consideration the density of the population, the earning capacity of each road, coupled with the enormous volume of passenger traffic, it is evident that other states through which Minnesota railroads run, the cost of operation which competitive conditions have brought about in our state, still further demands a better passenger service. In outlying districts, the reduced rates by means of mileage books and interchangeable tickets for suburban traffic, which our people enjoy, the rates for which are 1/2 per cent under the maximum rate of the opinion that the maximum rate of 2 cents per mile is not unreasonable when compared with prevailing in other states, and do not at all detract from the revenue. A further reduction from the maximum rate at present charged by the respective companies is being urged.

WILL TRY TO PROVE THAT KNAPP IS INSANE

He Pleads Not Guilty of the Murder of His Wife Hannah.

HAMILTON, Ohio, March 2.—Alfred Knapp was arraigned today in the police court for the murder of Hannah Goddard, and pleaded not guilty. The family of Knapp intends to press the defense of insanity to the last. Fear of electricity, which, along with the pleading of his relatives, was the plea which he put forward, is the only one that he can gain a long respite by fighting even in the face of his own confessions.

Knapp was accorded the privilege of naming the date for a preliminary hearing. Knapp said with a folded during the arraignment and seemed to be the most indifferent person in the court room. He seems to believe that his folks will prove him insane and that the worst fate that awaits him is commitment to an asylum.

A dispatch from New Albany, Ind., says that the body of a woman was found floating in the Ohio river today. President Roosevelt was writing that letter to Clark Howell.

TODAY'S WEATHER.

Minnesota—Snow Tuesday with colder in the west and milder in the east Wednesday fair, fresh southeast winds, becoming light. Thursday—Snow flurries Tuesday and probably Wednesday; light to fresh east winds. Friday—Fair in south, snow and cold in north portion Tuesday; Wednesday fair, fresh east to southeast winds, becoming light.

Table with columns: Location, High, Low, Wind, Clouds. Lists weather forecasts for various cities including St. Paul, Minneapolis, Chicago, New York, etc.

To transfer the 230 men on the shoe contract to the home industry, he said, would involve an investment of \$125 in new machinery, and from \$1,000,000 to \$1,250,000 per year to carry on the business.

He showed how the penitentiary is self-sustained, returning a profit of \$3,000 to the state last year, and testified that Minnesota gets more for its convict labor than any other state. All questions tending to show that the state should receive a larger contract price for its convicts' labor was met with the argument that Minnesota gets more for its convict labor than any other state, and that no article made is worth more than its highest market price.

The labor men present estimated that the labor cost of a well shoe to the prison contractor is 25 cents per pair, and stated that in the outside factories it is 46 cents per pair. Contractor Jordan swore that the labor cost on convict-made well shoes is 49 cents per pair.

Mr. Fryberger wanted the contractor's books laid before the committee for examination. Mr. Jordan insisted that if the contractor was obliged to lay bare the inside workings of his business, the outside manufacturers should be compelled to do the same, and that the committee might not act in the dark.

DORSEY BILL, GOOD LAW.

Attorney General Overturns Judgment of Judiciary Committee.

Attorney General Douglas yesterday turned the laugh on the judiciary committee by declaring in a formal opinion that the Dorsey beet sugar bounty bill is entirely constitutional.

The Dorsey bill provides that claimants for bounties earned under the 1895 law may bring an action against the state in the Ramsey county district court. The bill is designed to clear up once for all the fight for \$20,000 which has dragged through three sessions. The house judiciary committee, composed of twenty-two lawyers, promptly decided that the Dorsey bill should be indefinitely postponed because it was "unconstitutional."

The alleged unconstitutionality was based on the constitutional provision that the sovereign state cannot be sued without its consent. The judiciary committee, with the committee, overturned its vote, got his bill on general orders and then got the house to request an opinion from the attorney general.

AUTHORIZE VOTING MACHINES

House Bill Entering Wedge for General Adoption of Device.

Authority to purchase and use the voting machine and a state standard of excellence for such machines are the features of a bill introduced in the house yesterday by Representative Armstrong, Hennepin.

Mr. Armstrong's bill provides that the governor shall appoint a voting machine commission of three members to serve for four years. At least two members of the commission shall be master mechanics and the machines for sale in Minnesota shall pass their examination and approval.

Manufacturers of voting machines desiring to enter the Minnesota field must notify the commission and pay a examination fee of \$200. From such fees the expenses of the commission are to be met.

DISCUSS CONVICT LABOR.

Cole Would Prevent Electors Who Pay No Tax From Voting on Bonds.

Representative Cole would prevent electors who pay no taxes from voting school and village bonds on the committee on education and public buildings. He yesterday introduced resolutions calling upon the judiciary committee to investigate the constitutionality of his proposal and if it is satisfied that such non-taxpayers may be prohibited from participating in bond elections to draw a bill to that end.

The Cole movement is said to be more particularly designed to protect villages and school districts in the Northern counties, where the floating population is large and where it is claimed entirely irresponsible and disinterested persons are persuaded or permitted to vote on questions touching the pocket books of the communities, which they temporarily favor with their residence.

SEEKS NON-PARTISAN BOARD.

Cole Would Have Railroad Commission Under Primary Law.

A bill designed to make the railroad and warehouse commission a non-partisan board and provide nominations thereto through the primary election system was introduced in the house by Representative Cole, Walker.

Mr. Cole, as chairman of the house committee on transportation, has shown great deal of attention to proposed election legislation, and has introduced several bills of general importance. His railroad and warehouse bill seems to be in line with a popular demand for some change in the present system, and has already received many promises of support.

general election ballot is equally generous. In effect, the system provides that the primary candidates, equal in number to the offices to be filled, receive most votes shall be given first places on the regular ballot marked "majority candidates." The same number of candidates running next on the primary ticket shall have their names printed on the regular ballot and be marked "minority candidates." In no instance is any candidate for railroad and warehouse commissioner to be designated as affiliated with any political party, nor may the name of any party appear on that portion of the ballot devoted to the commission.

OFSTHUN IN A HURRY.

House Committee of the Whole Makes a Time Record.

The house, in committee of the whole, yesterday waded through a general order, which resulted in a record breaking twenty-seven bills in record breaking time.

Only one bill got anything like a comprehensive discussion, and most of them failed even to secure explanations on the part of their respective authors or sponsors. Ofsthun was in a hurry and put the motions for passage of progress bills rapidly as the clerk read the titles to the house.

One measure, Clague's bill providing for the appointment of agents to secure extra dividend figures from manufacturers who failed even to secure explanations on the part of their respective authors or sponsors. Ofsthun was in a hurry and put the motions for passage of progress bills rapidly as the clerk read the titles to the house.

OUT IN AUTOMOBILES.

Chauffeurs Show Legislation How Unnecessary Is Speed Regulation.

The house judiciary committee went for an automobile junket yesterday afternoon, the guests of St. Paul and Minneapolis chauffeurs who are interested in the defeat of the proposed auto speed regulation bill. The legislators were entertained with a two-hour spin through the city, and they then returned to the legislature, before leaving for the ride the committee held a hurried meeting and ordered favorably the proposed remedying defects in the present law for distribution of municipal court fees.

Ready to Answer Questions.

The board of regents of the state university yesterday formally notified the senate that copies of the board's biennial report and the annual report of the state auditor were ready for forwarding to the legislature and expressed its willingness to answer all requests for any available further information.

Conventions for Little Parties.

A petition to the senate asking that the primary election law be amended so as to permit the various parties to nominate by convention was received from Hennepin county yesterday by Senator E. E. Smith and sent to the president's desk.

May Get His Wages.

A bill designed to make it possible for the stenographer employed in the proceedings of the senate to receive from the office of register of deeds in Hennepin county to collect his fees was introduced by Senator Wilson.

LEGISLATIVE GOSSIP.

An invitation requesting the pleasure of the presence of the Minnesota senators and representatives at the annual convention of the National Good Roads Association to be held in St. Louis April 27, 28 and 29 was received by both houses yesterday.

As a number of senators were absent yesterday, the calendar was passed over for the day. The senate sat as a committee on the bill to amend the law relating to the filling of chattel mortgages, which was reported on almost every bill and the session was a short one.

Senator Alley's bill amending the law relating to the service of notice upon persons proposed to be put under guardianship by reason of incompetency secured by law, and the bill to amend the law relating to the filling of chattel mortgages, which was reported on almost every bill and the session was a short one.

Senator Torsen by request introduced a bill amending the present law relating to the filling of chattel mortgages. The new bill provides that in the future all chattel mortgages must be filed with the register of deeds.

FEBRUARY SHOWING IN FEDERAL FINANCE

Public Debt Change, Receipts and Expenditures, Etc.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 2.—The monthly statement of the public debt shows that at the close of business, Feb. 28, 1903, the debt, less the cash in the treasury, amounted to \$307,972,888, which is a decrease, as compared with Jan. 31, of \$5,969,665.

The monthly comparative statement of receipts and expenditures for public debt for February to have been \$1,028,178, and the expenditures, \$37,750,749, leaving a surplus for the month of \$2,749,330, as against \$2,960,449 surplus for February, 1902.

At the close of business Feb. 28 the national debt consisted of \$282,796,845, an increase for the year of \$24,363,973 and a decrease for the month of \$1,174,701. The circulation based on United States bonds was \$338,650,361, an increase for the year of \$18,555,437 and a decrease for the month of \$1,927,578. The circulation based on national bank notes was \$41,138,484, an increase for the year of \$5,758,541 and for the month of \$72,877. The amount of United States bonds held by the public was \$1,164,670,000, an increase for the year of \$1,164,670,000 and for the month of \$2,749,330.

Mrs. Nation Smashes Again.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., March 2.—Carrie Nation has been arrested at the Grand Hotel on a charge of malicious mischief, preferred by a saloonkeeper, in whose place she broke a bottle of whisky last evening. She was released on bail furnished by her manager.

Dentist Driven Out.

DRESDEN, Mich., Feb. 28.—An O'Brien, an American dentist, has been ordered to leave the kingdom on account of his supposed relations with the former king, King Frederick of Prussia. He will leave Dresden Wednesday morning with his wife and four children for America on Thursday.