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THE OLD AND THE NEW.

With a certain sense of relief we are always ready to send the old year away into the wilderness, bearing the burden of its own offenses and of ours. Its mistakes and its follies we have no wish to remember except as they may have been educative. With the eternal hopefulness of humanity we strain after at least the new opportunity, believing that from another trial we shall pluck more victories and fewer defeats. And even the good gifts that have come to us are dimmed a little in the recollection and suffer by comparison with our covetousness of the undetermined future.

It was, upon the whole, a good year that died last night. On the material side the country prospered greatly during a portion of it, until the adverse forces at work administered their sudden and certain check. The country and the world were free from notable reverses or losses. In political arrangements and readjustments, in business affairs and in the common round of daily life the busy tribe of men went on their accustomed round with little of strange fortune, good or evil, to shake them out of their wonted ways. In the large human calendar there will be little to distinguish 1903 from the other years of the republic.

Utterly arbitrary though the divisions of year from year are felt to be, yet there is always a sense of freshness about beginnings. Something of the spirit of the spring breathes through them, a feeling as of life renewed and wonders yet to unfold. Nor is it unreasonable in the deeper view, since time divisions are of the soul alone. Wherever it so pleases it may begin its calendar, and if to it there comes the belief or the determination of renewals, there is the origin of a new line of life.

We face the world fairly at the threshold of a year that promises to be big with great events for us and for humanity. It finds the nations restless and uneasy; more than ordinarily inclined to changes and risks in their domestic affairs, convinced of the imminence of profound alterations in their relation to one another. It is ushered in with wars and rumors of wars, with careful calculations of offensive and defensive strength. Whatever else the new year may bring us, it comes wearing no chaplets of peace and holding out no olive branches.

It is a year that is necessarily destined to witness immense decisions in our own affairs. Before another New Year shall have come, our business and our political future will have been determined for years. If there are good resolutions to be made today, let not the individual life have a monopoly of them. It is a day to resolve for a higher type of citizenship and a truer fidelity to the republic, that is greater and more precious than us all.

Courage, always courage, facing toward the future, is the demand that life makes. They are happiest who leap to meet the unknown with a lover's delight, fearing no dangers but longing to discover unsuspected charms. For new things are we made and destined; for new thoughts, new endeavors, new ideals, and the new light that beams with each widening of the horizon. The hope that has fashioned the race and inspires it and governs all destinies speaks in the universal greeting this morning, "Happy New Year."

An explanation of much force is suggested to account for the tremendous mortality in the Chicago theater fire and the piling up of dead in huge heaps. A very large proportion of the audience consisted of women, and it would be impossible for them to make a rapid exit in a crowd. The long skirts of the dresses now worn stop progress and must necessarily drag many down to destruction when trampled on in a crowd. It seems probable that a great many of these dreadful deaths may have been due to this cause.

THE GLOBE APPRECIATED.

The Globe has grateful evidence every day of the appreciation of the public. It had special proof yesterday, when its account of the Chicago tragedy was in such demand as to exhaust at an early hour of the morning an edition which had already been made, in expectation of such an event, several thousand larger than the average. The story as published by The Globe, with a striking picture of the Iroquois theater, and a list of the dead specially obtained for our use, since every reader turns instantly to that to search for possible friends and acquaintances, was a piece of newspaper work to be proud of. That the people thought so, too, was proved by the continued demand for copies of The Globe after the entire big edition had been sold and not a paper was to be had at any news stand in the city.

The futility of trying to get rid of one's troubles by taking a drink of whisky with an ounce of carbolic acid for a chaser is shown in the case of the New Yorker who was brought to and given sixty days on the island for disorderly conduct.

THE PITY OF IT.

The greatest danger in the world is the dread of danger. All the evils of the world that threaten humanity put together are not so terrible as the fear of evils. This is true every day of our lives, though it needs a great catastrophe occasionally to drive the moral home. Nine-tenths of the people who die in this world die years before they otherwise would, through sheer apprehension and worry. When this utter panic—a remnant of our inheritance from the brute creation, the same force that we see driving a herd of stampeded cattle—invades hundreds of thousands of human beings at the same time, it becomes cyclonic in its heartlessness and power.

The heart is always wrung most severely by the thought of human distress that might have been spared. The unnecessary evil in the world is the pity of it. Every account of the great theater tragedy in Chicago shows plainly that at the very worst not more than a score or two of lives need have been lost. The building was provided with every safeguard against fire and every appliance to permit an audience to pass out quickly. No human foresight could have guarded more completely against accident. By a unique combination of circumstances—a fire quickly spreading in the inflammable material of the stage, a fire curtain that refused to descend, an explosion of a gas tank and a roaring draft that carried licking tongues of flame straight from the stage to the balconies—the lives of many spectators were threatened instantly. Some of them would have died in any event of heat or suffocation, but all agree that the total number of lives so sacrificed would have been very small.

It was wild, brutal, unreasoning panic, the primeval terror of the wild thing caught in a corner, quivering, blinded by terror and possessed only by the instinct to sell its life as dearly as possible, that drove these hundreds to their doom. This was all the more certain because the great audience was made up mostly of women and children, who yield more easily to fright and for whom a fire has special terrors. Had it been possible for any voice of command to keep all these people in their seats for a few minutes, long enough for an audience to pass out quickly, the death list would not have astonished the world.

We must deal with human nature as we find it, and cannot hope so to eliminate or modify the capacity for unreasoning terror that turns the human into the bestial as to make calamities like this impossible. Something, it seems to us, can be done and ought to be done to instruct this tendency and hold it in check. In every well regulated school building there is a fire drill, so that each pupil, upon hearing an alarm, would be familiar with what was happening and know what he should do. In most great establishments, as on shipboard, all emergencies are thus thoughtfully provided for. It seems to us a duty of every parent to impress upon children from the time they are old enough to enter a theater the absolute necessity of keeping still in case of an alarm of fire, and the fact that life is jeopardized and may pay the penalty if this is not done.

Were a whole people so instructed in this simple principle that the natural impulse upon hearing an alarm of fire would be to keep still instead of to make a frenzied rush for safety, then we should have no more of these heartbreaking stories that come to us from church or theater or even from assemblies in the open air whenever wild fear takes possession of the human breast. Words fail to describe the horrors of the Chicago story or the pity and sympathy of the people. May the lesson not teach us at least to give general and impressive precautionary instructions to the young as to what must peremptorily be done as the only way to save life in such emergencies, though it be not powerful enough to modify or eradicate the capacity for fear which is at the bottom of nearly all human ills and misfortunes?

Mr. Hanna is still changing his plans but he still has that brick for Roosevelt in the show window of the political shop.

THE POLITICAL MARKET.

The Hon. Samuel R. Van Sant found rather a bad market for his pigs. It is true that he no longer has them on his hands on a declining market, but if he had been at all shrewd he would have got rid of the products of his political farm before the market was broken down by the attacks of the unruly plantigrades who walk like men.

Justice Collins, of the supreme court, gives up the woolsack to chase the ephemeral and fleeting glories of the governorship and then retire to that privacy with ease and dignity such as is the portion of a man who has served his country and draws a blank at the finish. Attorney General Douglas goes to the bench and Assistant Attorney General Donahower goes up a step and becomes the legal adviser of the state.

The deal is not one that might comfort the gubernatorial soul. If, when Gov. Van Sant first made up his mind to make Judge Collins his heir, he had gone out and made the arrangement that has now been forced upon him, some credit might have attached to the affair. The whole state knew that Attorney General Douglas was a candidate for the bench, and that his assistant was a candidate for the attorney generalship. It had also been made very clear to the people that Attorney General Douglas had been very active in exploiting the legal affairs in which the governor had engaged. There were those who suspected that Mr. Douglas did not inquire into the motives of the governor, nor the possible consequences of his legal campaign. He was, however, entitled to much consideration at the hands of his chief. Yet, when the opportunity presented itself to the governor to discharge some part of the debt he owed Douglas, he overlooked him and tried to trade the offices at his disposal for support in Hennepin county. He named Douglas and Donahower only after it had been found impossible to reconcile the warring forces in Hennepin, and what might have been a graceful act is cheapened because it was forced.

It is possible that the people of the state may not look at this attempt to traffic in offices that carry with them much dignity with the same indifference that characterizes the Van Sant clique. They may refuse to accept the settlement as evidence of anything else than making the best of a bad bargain. Messrs. Douglas and Donahower owe the governor nothing. To them their advancement can have no other aspect than the culmination of a political mistake.

As for Judge Collins, he is started in his campaign under such a cloud that if he ever emerges from the shadow it will only be to face the long knives of the Minneapolis braves.

That John Boyne Vouhazer, Minnesota farmer, who is declared by a writer in the St. James Gazette to be in line for the Servian throne, is not in the blue book, but if he owns a farm in this state there is no chance of getting him to exchange it for a kingdom of a couple of hundred acres that is in seed to assassins all the time.

King Edward is presenting his courtiers with sticks and his great and good friend, President Roosevelt, is making a specialty of cans. And the recipients of these favors seem to take more kindly to the caning than to the canning.

The case of the late Robert C. Harper, who insisted on getting out of Minneapolis and into St. Paul, even though he had to walk the distance after having passed the century mark, shows that it is never too late to mend.

"The situation in the far East is critical," says the Washington dispatch. Any time that the situation in the far East was anything but critical it is a sure thing that the natives were engaged in dragging out the dead.

There seems to be a disposition in rather high quarters to cast some discredit on the statement that Perry Heath has been communing with the shade of William McKinley.

The disadvantage of having high sounding words of evil import in one's vocabulary has been demonstrated by those persons who love "holocaust" and "cataclysm."

Some magazine writer discourses of the "repose" of St. Louis. Here is a tip for the old town. Why not adopt the hippopotamus for an emblem?

Contemporary Comment

The Wood Case.

We do not pretend to say what are the facts in this most deplorable affair. It has been so obscured by concealments, and reservations, and petty makeshifts of secrecy—as though the honor of a United States officer was something to juggle with in holes and corners—the whole question seems to have been transferred to that baffling twilight in which truth and untruth are indistinguishable. But we are more thoroughly convinced than ever that Gen. Wood should be recalled and this whole abominable controversy sifted to the bottom. Apparently that is what he wishes, and certainly it is what the country has a right to expect.—Washington Post.

Can Roosevelt Be Beaten?

Four vice presidents before President Roosevelt gained the presidential office through the deaths of presidents—Tyler, Fillmore, Johnson and Arthur—but each failed to obtain a presidential nomination. President Roosevelt will be the exception to secure a nomination through his shrewd manipulation of the party machinery, but is there not considerable truth in the remark of a distinguished Republican from a beet-sugar producing state at a recent meeting of the national committee that "everybody is for him and nobody wants him?"—Boston Globe.

Irreverent Boston.

It ought not to be necessary at this late day for the mayor to call the attention of the city council to the fact that Faneuil hall is not a proper place to hold a poultry show, and that such use of it is a profanation. It seems that such a notification has been found to be in order, however, and it is gratifying to observe that the mayor has put it in the form of a veto message that has the right ring for the occasion. Faneuil hall is not a chicken coop!—Boston Herald.

What the Fuss Is About.

Russia wants Manchuria, and Japan wants Korea. Japan would probably be willing to settle matters upon the basis of granting both those desires. Russia, however, proposes that she shall have all of Manchuria for her own, and then have also an equal share of Korea with Japan. With such an example of Muscovite equity before ue, we shall have to speak of the bear's share instead of the lion's share, to describe a great grab.—New York Tribune.

Panama an Issue.

As to this affair being a Roosevelt political coup—that will take care of itself. He is powerless to make it a political campaign issue without the action of the senate. The defeat of the treaty by Democrats would make it a partisan issue, and that is probably the reason why so many Republicans are baiting the Democrats to defeat it. Have Mr. Clayton, or Senator Gorman, or Senator Daniel thought of that?—Atlanta Constitution.

Canada's Railways.

Indeed, Canada is in a position very similar to that of the United States in the '70s and '80s, when we were opening up our wheat and corn lands. About 3,000,000 acres of Canadian grain land are now under cultivation; about 100,000,000 acres more are equally arable. That means railroads. Canada will be the great trunk line builder of the coming decades.—Boston Transcript.

The Difference.

The difference between Paris and Chicago is that in consequence of a bakers' strike in Paris a group of more than five persons is dispersed by the police as a mob, while in Chicago the striking livery drivers mob funerals and smash hearses a whole week before the police officials decide to interfere.—Chicago Chronicle.

New Century Folly.

While the republic of Colombia has no money and no credit, and a depreciated currency worth only about 2 cents on the dollar, it is carrying a chip on its shoulder and wants some one to brush it off so that it will have an excuse to fight.—San Francisco Chronicle.

Now Will You Be Good?

Secretary Shaw says he "would go a thousand miles to see the grave of a man who worked himself death." And then there wouldn't be anything on the tombstone to indicate that the "late deceased" had held public office.—Philadelphia North American.

Boston and the Negro.

It is proved, therefore, by the best evidence obtainable on this subject that Boston's pretended love for the negro is hypocrisy. It is willing to have negroes in office in the South, but it will not stand them at home.—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

The Graft Overworked.

There is just as much money in the country as there ever was, and there must be some good reason why no more big syndicates are being formed.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

TODAY'S WEATHER

Minnesota—Fair Friday, colder in east portion; Saturday fair, fresh north winds.

Upper Michigan—Partly cloudy Friday, snow in north portion, colder; Saturday fair, fresh to brisk winds.

North Dakota—Fair Friday and Saturday.

South Dakota—Partly cloudy and much colder Friday; Saturday fair.

Iowa—Fair, much colder Friday and Saturday.

Montana—Snow, colder Friday; Saturday fair.

Wisconsin—Fair, colder, Friday; Saturday fair, fresh to brisk northwest winds.

St. Paul—Yesterday's observations, taken by the United States weather bureau, St. Paul, W. E. Oliver, observer, for the twenty-four hours ended at 7 o'clock last night. Barometer corrected for temperature and elevation. Highest temperature, 25; lowest temperature, 14; average temperature, 20; daily range, 11; barometer, 29.96; humidity, 88; precipitation, .0; 7 p. m. temperature, 21; 7 p. m. wind, northwest; weather, partly cloudy.

Yesterday's Temperatures—

	*8pm	High		*8pm	High
Alpena	18	20	Kansas City	56	60
Battleford	0	4	Marquette	18	22
Bismarck	4	26	Milwaukee	24	26
Buffalo	22	22	Minnedosa	-8	16
Boston	22	26	Montgomery	58	62
Calgary	12	22	Montreal	10	18
Cheyenne	36	56	Moorhead	4	24
Chicago	32	32	Nashville	50	58
Cincinnati	38	42	New Orleans	54	62
Cleveland	24	24	New York	24	28
Davenport	36	44	Norfolk	36	46
Des Moines	36	54	North Platte	36	58
Detroit	20	20	Omaha	36	50
Duluth	14	22	Philadelphia	30	32
Edmonton	10	12	Pittsburg	26	28
Escanaba	12	18	Qu'Appelle	-4	10
Galveston	58	62	'Frisco	54	56
Grand Rapids	22	22	St. Louis	52	56
Green Bay	16	22	Salt Lake	26	38
Helena	30	24	Ste. Marie	18	18
Huron	18	24	Washington	28	36
Jacksonville	54	66	Winnipeg	-8	10

*Washington time (7 p. m. St. Paul). -Below zero.

Mr. Payne Wants More Room.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 31.—Postmaster General Payne, in his annual report, will call the attention of congress to the necessity of additional postoffice buildings in New York and for an additional building in this city to quarter branches of the postoffice department.

What the Editors Say

In answer to an inquiry, "Who in thunder is running this country, anyway?" the Denver Post timidly suggests Theodore Roosevelt. Strange that there should be so much difference of opinion on so simple a subject. It has long been a popular impression that the chairman of the Republican national committee was the practical monarch of this republic-monarchy, composed in part of citizens and in part of subjects; but the latest bulletin is to the effect that Nelson W. Aldrich, of Rhode Island, is the unrelenting boss. Spooner, of Wisconsin, has his day occasionally. The best thing that could happen, though, would be to let the country just run itself for a while. There is too much governing; too much tinkering; too much centralization. Here is a text for a Democratic platform.—St. Cloud Times.

A few years ago Theodore Roosevelt was known to be a free trader. Then he became a low-tariff man, and only a year ago plugged for a radical revision and reduction of the tariff. That was before he had surrendered altogether to the "stand patters," but now that he has met the enemy and is theirs, you don't get a peep from him in favor of revision or reduction. In fact the tariff is now a closed incident with him, and will be until after he is nominated and elected or defeated, and what position he will then take the Lord only knows.—Montevideo Leader.

In his recent message to congress of 17,000 words, he didn't say a word about the tariff.—Litchfield Independent.

The Democratic party today stands, and has for years stood, for an honest reduction of the tariff on trust-made articles, and it also believes that it is a grave error to have a tariff so high that an enormous surplus is piled up in the federal treasury, only to be loaned out at a measly low rate of interest to the large Eastern grafters and Wall street money mongers every time that their indiscretions threaten to throw the country into a commercial panic. This is the "Iowa idea," and, as we stated on a number of previous occasions, the "Iowa idea" is nothing more or less than a steal from Democratic ideas.—Grand Fork Plaindealer.

"Theodore, I love you," says Secretary Root, "but your chairman I cannot be." Senator Spooner is said to have received such an offer years and years ago, and to have responded, substantially, as follows: "No, Mr. President, I'm not to be caught in that dilemma. If the manager of a presidential campaign loses, he's a fool. If he wins, he's a scoundrel who has corrupted the electorate. Excuse me, please, from accepting either of these honors."—Duluth News-Tribune.

The old maids who want to take advantage of leap year have plenty of material to work on here at Ada. We have as fine an assortment of old bachelors as can be found in the state. Strictly first-class values, well seasoned and provided with cash. Try at once, and don't wait until the best bargains are gone.—Ada Index.

At last reports Judge Collins still retained a deathlike grip on the judgeship, notwithstanding he professes to be so cock-sure of landing the gubernatorial nomination. The judge knows a good thing from a gold brick yet.—Thief River Falls Press.

The Republicans of Minnesota will be wise in remembering the possibilities of a gentleman named John Lind when they are nominating a candidate for governor. It is not a good time to make mistakes.—St. Cloud Journal-Press.

Ninety patients in the Fergus Falls insane asylum were poisoned last week from eating corned beef, and all this happened in a "pure food" state, with a board of control to do the buying.—Clay County Herald.

Since a Duluth man's life was saved by a whisky bottle, the demand for that particular brand of life-preservers in the Zenith City has been unprecedented.—Mankato Free Press.

Among the Merrymakers

Changed the Mood.

Gen. Leonard A. Wood attended in his boyhood a school in Middleborough, Mass., and in Middleborough they will speak of the direct and original mind the boy had.

"I remember one day in school," said a Middleborough man recently, "Wood was called up in the grammar lesson. The teacher said:

"'Leonard, give a sentence and we'll see if we can change it to the imperative mood.'

"'The horse draws the cart,' said Leonard.

"'Very good. The horse draws the cart. Now change the sentence to a neat imperative.'

"'Gee-up,' said young Wood."—New York Tribune.

A Specialist.

Specialism is likely to run to seed. This story will serve to illustrate. A physician just graduated from his medical school was asked about his plans.

"I am to be a specialist on the nose."

"Ah," asked the bright interlocutor, "which nostril shall you treat?"—Richmond, Va., Religious Herald.

For Two Spoons.

"Here's a Christmas secret," said the facetious Mr. Phamley, winking at his marriageable daughter. "I'm going to give your mother a new spoonholder."

"A new spoonholder?" the sweet young girl repeated.

"Yes, a new parlor sofa."—Philadelphia Press.

Sure Sign.

Towne—Jayson bought a horse the other day and——

Browne—And he was horribly stuck, wasn't he?

Towne—Ah, you've seen the horse?

Browne—No, but he told me he was going to buy one from a friend who is in the business—Philadelphia Press.

New on the Other Side.

"Arrah, Pat! have you seen Mike lately?"

"Yis, begorra, I did. I was going along the street yisterday, and I thought I saw him on the other side, and he thought he saw me—but, bedad! when we got near to each other it was neither of us!"—Country Gentleman.

Keeping It Up.

Bimberly—I understand that Windig, the lawyer, is seriously ill.

Gingerly—Yes; I met his physician this morning and he said he was lying at death's door.

"Huh! That's just like a lawyer."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

The Limit.

Brownovich—Is it true that Gayboy's wife is so awfully jealous?

Smithinsky—Well, I guess yes. Why, she won't even leave him alone with his thoughts—Cincinnati Enquirer.

The Sophisticated Wife.

Mr. Newrich (in city)—Mariar, pass them beans.

Mrs. Newrich—Don't be absurd, Frank, them's salted almonds.—Pennsylvania Punch Bowl.

At the Popular Stand.

She's quick at understanding,
Is Sue, with cheeks aglow;
That's why she's standing under,
The merry mistletoe.
—Philadelphia Record.

At St. Paul Theaters

"Ben Hur" is nearing the end of its engagement in this city. It is now in its fifth season, but it must not be inferred that it is all profit with this play. The expenses attendant upon a production of this magnitude are almost prohibitory and make a speculative tour almost an impossibility. A special matinee will be given today at 2 p. m. sharp. The engagement will close with tomorrow's matinee and evening performances.

The attraction at the Metropolitan next week will be the Walter Jones company in George V. Hobart's "The Sleepy King," the musical comedy which was seen here early in the season. An elaborate production is promised in point of costumes, of unique and picturesque design, and brilliant scenery. Edd Redway, the comical German dialect comedian, ably assists Mr. Jones in the fun-making. The piece has undergone many changes since its production in the Northwest.

There are two score and more musical numbers in the "Sleepy King" production. The popular song hits in the piece are: "Gloriana," "The Girl With the Dimpled Face," "Sweet Sixteen," "Captain Kidd," "Listen Ye Winds," "Mamie," "The Octoroon Lady," "Pierpont Morgan and Hetty Green" and "A Good Soft Pillow to Lay My Head On."

The performance has been materially improved in every possible way since its first production here last September. There has been but one change in the cast, that of the prima donna, Miss Catherine Linyard has replaced Miss Rosemary Glosz. Miss Linyard is said to be a beautiful woman, with a highly cultivated and pleasing soprano voice.

A special matinee will be given at the Grand opera house today at 3 p. m. The attraction is a melodrama entitled "Lighthouse by the Sea."

Beginning next Sunday night Mason & Mason, two German dialect comedians, will be seen at the Grand in their musical comedy called "Rudolph & Adolph."

The ladies' matinee at the Star yesterday was well attended and the women in the audience demonstrated their approval of the good things offered by Reilly and Woods' burlesquers. There will be a holiday matinee today.

COULDN'T FOOL WIFE

Foreign Army Officer in Melodramatic Domestic Mixup.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—A piece of pure melodrama in real life is occupying the attention of the metropolitan police.

It concerns a former officer in the army who has had differences with his wife. The woman, who now lives apart from her husband in a Westminster flat, recently brought proceedings against him in the police court.

Some little time ago she received a letter purporting to come from a Lincoln's Inn solicitors' firm, asking for an appointment to discuss questions between the woman and her husband. She wrote fixing a date.

On the day of the appointment there called at Mr. Clarkson's, the theatrical wigmaker, a singular customer. It was the woman's husband. He wished to be made up as a typical family solicitor. He shaved off his mustache, put on an iron gray wig and gold spectacles, and dressed himself in a frock coat, black tie, and old fashioned collar. Then, armed with a black bag, he sallied forth—the beau ideal of the responsible legal man.

This pretended solicitor drove to the woman's flat, where she had invited her legal adviser, a personal friend and her maid to assist at the conference. A discussion arose, and the stage solicitor began to talk about some compromising letters. "What are you going to do about them? What are they worth?" he asked excitedly.

The woman then recognized her husband's voice. Finding himself discovered, he immediately drew a large revolver and fired at his wife's legal adviser, grazing his hand. A terrible struggle ensued, the weapon being ultimately wrenched from the husband's hand. He rushed, hatless, into the street.

HIS PHILANTHROPY OPEN TO SUSPICION

Charles Cook Brings in Homeless Girl, and His Wife Resents It.

HOBOKEN, N. J., Dec. 31.—The tenderness of the heart of Charles Cook, of Hoboken, toward a pretty young woman in distress brought him into Recorder Stanton's court yesterday with his wife as a relentless accuser. Mrs. Cook was at first astonished, and then violently indignant upon awakening yesterday morning to find asleep in the bed she was occupying a young and good looking girl.

She was standing over the girl like an angry tigress when her husband rushed in from the spare room to stay her wrath. The young woman had said, as she quailed under the wild-eyed woman's questioning as to how she got there, that Mr. Cook had brought her home in the night and had told her how to get into bed with his wife. Mrs. Cook hurried off to court, her husband following vainly trying to explain.

"I have always been a man of a philanthropic turn of mind," said Cook to the recorder, "and my heart went out to this young girl when I met her on the street. She was poorly clad and said that she was hungry. There was nothing left for me to do but to take her home with me. I thought she would be a pleasant surprise to my wife when she awoke in the morning, but it has proved otherwise."

"This is a record case," soliloquized the recorder when he heard the whole story," and I never pretended to be a Solomon."

"I can't see that your husband has done anything wrong, but if you think he has you can bring a suit for divorce." With this he dismissed the case.

In the row and the flight from home of the Cooks the young woman of the cheerless streets had disappeared.

INDICTED IN MILWAUKEE.

Present and Former Aldermen Are Suspected of Corrupt Practices.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Dec. 31.—The grand jury which is investigating alleged corruption in Milwaukee city and county governments today returned indictments against the following:

Fred Heiden Jr., former inspector house of correction, two indictments; ex-Ald. Charles S. Havenor, ex-Ald. Charles J. Jungman; ex-Ald. Charles Cooke, Ald. George Meredith, Ald. William Zimmerman, Ald. Valentine Jesion and Supervisor Albert C. Dade. Bench warrants for the arrest of those indicted have been issued.

TRIES TO SET US ON THE RUSSIANS

Berlin Paper Declares the Washington Authorities Are Vacillating.

BERLIN, Dec. 31.—The Frankfurter Zeitung, which has been one of the most steadfast friends of the United States among the German press, expresses mild surprise that the East Asia policy of the United States has lately grown so passive. The interests involved there, the paper says, concern merely not the Philippines, but may have a far-reaching effect on the United States itself. It asks:

"Can the United States afford to see one power acquire a predominant position in the far East, which is utterly hostile to the open door? What has become of Secretary of State Hay's treaty with China guaranteeing an open door? It has been whistled down to such a degree that it is scarcely mentioned nowadays."

According to the Frankfurter Zeitung no other great power outside of Japan has such interests at stake in the far East as the United States, and the paper asks how the present passivity of the United States is unexplainable, adding:

"We can only conclude that the Washington authorities are not yet accustomed to the new role in the world of politics and vacillate between harsh and almost masterly seizure of opportunities and unstable backing and filling."

Skinner's Mission Is Accomplished.

JIBUTIL, French Somaliland, Dec 31.—The United States expedition to Abyssinia under Consul General Skinner, of Marseilles, has successfully carried out the principal features of the mission. A treaty between the United States and the Empire of Ethiopia opening for the first time friendly commercial relations, has been negotiated and signed. Emperor Menelik has also accepted the invitation to participate in the St. Louis expedition.

NO CHANCE FOR WAR

Colombia Will Probably Bow to the Inevitable.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 31.—State department advices of recent date all go to show that the danger of a hostile clash with Colombia is abating, and these, taken in connection with Minister Beaupre's courteous treatment by the Colombian officials on his way home, tend to confirm the official impression here that there is now no danger of failure to reach a satisfactory adjustment of whatever issues may exist between the United States and Colombia. For one thing, it appears that the seaboard states of Colombia have come to realize that in the event of hostilities they would be the first sufferers by contact with a naval force, while the politicians of Bogota, two weeks distant from the sea, would have little at stake.

If the Colombian government follows the advice of Gen. Reyes, all idea of breaking out of hostilities between that country and the United States may be dissipated. Even though the reply of this government to the note of Gen. Reyes may not be of a nature to afford him much comfort, he stated today that he would use all the influence in his power to prevail upon his government to refrain from any hostile demonstration toward the United States. A war with the United States, he declared, would result only in disaster to Colombia. Whether or not he will submit counter propositions to the reply of Mr. Hay, Gen. Reyes is unable to say. He said today, however, that should his original contentions not be sustained the probability is that he will continue the exchange of diplomatic notes with the view to obtaining as many concessions from the United States as possible.

Colombia will not be represented at the New Year reception, nor will President Roosevelt receive the good wishes of the Bogota government on that day. Gen. Reyes has asked to be excused from attending, in view of the present situation, and Dr. Herran, the Colombian charge, who is not at all well, also will be absent. This decision of the Colombian officials is not intended in an aggressive way, but after a careful consideration of the matter they think it the appropriate course to pursue.

COLON, Dec. 31.—Information reached Gov. Melendez last night from Carti, a village near the island of Pines, in Panama territory, that Colombian troops had landed there Dec. 21 and conferred with the Indian chief, Inanuquina, who afterward was taken aboard a vessel and, it is thought, conveyed to Cartagena.

Chief Inanuquina is regarded here as a sympathizer with Colombia, because he was made a colonel in the Colombian army during a visit to Bogota. He is said to have 3,000 or more Indian followers.

NAVAL MILITIA SECURE MORE TIME

Representative Bede Obtains Extension for Minnesota Organization.

Globe Special Washington Service,
1417 G Street.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 31.—At the request of Representative Bede, the navy department has consented to wait three or four days before deciding upon the apportionment of funds for the naval militia in order that the roster of the new battalion at Duluth may be filed at the department.

The time for filing rosters of the naval militia so that they may share in the fund expires at midnight, a fact which the officers of the state adjutant general's office were not aware. Mr. Bede has telegraphed to St. Paul and Duluth to have the rosters hurried on here, so that the Minnesota organization may get money for equipment this year. —W. E. C.

Halibut Will Still Be Bonded.

OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 31.—The order in council permitting the export from Vancouver of halibut from American vessels in bond over Canadian railways to points in the United States expired today. There was some fear on the Pacific coast that this order was not to be renewed. This is not correct. The order extending this privilege for one year is now before the cabinet and will be passed in due course. Meantime the customs department has instructed the collector at Vancouver to continue bonding the fish as at present. The new order provides for the bonding of fish landed from American bottoms at Vaucouver and caught outside the three-mile limit on the British Columbia coast.

Orange Crop Large.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 31.—The department of agriculture announces that the commercial estimates indicate that if favorable weather prevails during the next few months, the orange crops now coming on the market will be the largest ever produced in the United States. A conservative estimate of the Florida crop places it at about 1,600,000 boxes and if present promises are fulfilled there will be shipped from the orange groves of California to Eastern markets between 10,000,000 and 11,000,000 boxes or including about 3,000 cars of lemons from 29,000 to 30,000 car loads of 360 boxes to the car.