

### VOTING MACHINES

City Officials Wonder What They'll Do With Them.

Orders for Only 15, and 23 Are Needed.

USE IN THE SPRING.

Necessity for Redistricting the City Is Apparent.

Also That of Preparing Ballots for Emergencies.

It is about time that the election board of the city of Topeka get busy and make preparations for the coming early spring election. At the present time there are fifteen orders in to the Kansas Voting Machine company for voting machines and the city needs at least ten more. There are 23 precincts in this city and some of them are large enough to keep two voting machines busy the whole day long—if the voters vote steadily all day but it is a well known fact that they don't vote regularly—they vote in streaks and in crowds.

If the voting machines are put in use at the coming election the city will have to be reprecincted—new precincts will have to be instituted and a month's work will be the result. But the election board is postponing action while the time flies on.

Laying aside the work of the election board for a moment—what are the new voting machines adequate for their business in the coming election? There are many reasons why the machines should be tested with care. In the first place they are a new manipulated by an experienced voter when the machines are in perfect working order and when they are manipulated by an inexperienced voter they are capable of turning out about a vote a minute. When the voter is unfamiliar and wishes to scratch his ticket it will take two or three minutes to make out a vote—and the angry mobs waiting outside the booths may be ready to hang him to a nearby tree when he finishes his labors. There are 720 minutes in the election day. At a vote a minute there could be 720 votes during the day on one machine. If five machines it would be possible to register over 10,000 votes. But this is on the basis that there will be a man there to vote every minute throughout the day. This is improbable. In some precincts there are big intervals between votes and again they will crowd around the voting place and clamor for a chance to put down their marks.

Mayor Green said this morning that he was in favor of purchasing more machines. If the machines are to be purchased they will have to be ordered at once. They don't make voting machines as fast as they run off a bunch of paper election ballots. In the present contract the mayor made with the company the machines are to be completed by April 1st. This contract was given many months ago.

In addition—and this is the most serious possibility—any one of the machines is liable under inexperienced hands to lock early in election day and leave the precinct in which it is the only means of voting without any means whatever. In Minneapolis at the late city primaries when voting machines were tried out for the first time, in a dozen of the precincts they were locked early in the day. Had not the election officers been provided with supplying white paper ballots before the day of election by the newspapers, the whole primary would have been illegal and no candidates for city officers nominated on any of the tickets. Therefore it is important that the election board provide for the use of paper ballots in case one of the machines goes bad. At the present time there are no plans for such a course and there will be no plans unless the people demand it. The officers think that the machines are as good as gold and they place all their trust in the mechanism. There have been thousands of pieces of supposed perfect mechanism that have failed at the psychological moment and especially would the voting machines fail under the hands of inexperienced voters. The officers think that the machines are as good as gold and they place all their trust in the mechanism.

Thus it is easily seen that there are not enough voting machines to carry on the election, that the voting precincts have not been determined and that there are no provisions for voting in case the machines fail to do their work.

It is true that the voting machine will save money for the city if they are successful as voters. At the present time the law states that at each precinct there will be five men to act as judges and tellers. They are paid according to the number of ballots cast. They always work up into the middle of the night and at the last election they worked until noon the next day. Their meals are furnished them during



Florence Gear in "Marrying Mary."

ing the work. It is said that the new machines will only require two men and they can finish their work in very little time, only requiring one meal. For instance, under the old law five men are at each precinct. Say they get six dollars each for the time they spend. This equals \$30 not including the meals which cost according to the will of the one who serves them. Under the new law—which has not been passed—a man will receive about two dollars for his work. It can be seen that each machine would save about \$25 if they were used in the same number of precincts. The number of precincts will have to be raised in order that the machines can make the proper progress in those 720 minutes. The city claims that the cost of the machines will be saved in an election or two. That may be true—if everything works in apple pie order. It takes more than money to conduct an election legitimately. Topeka would feel a slight drop of the capital pride if under the new law a complete failure and it is possible that such will be the case unless emergency preparations are made.



Brigadier General O'Relley, surgeon general of the United States army, who has called together a board of distinguished surgeons to consider the advisability of immunizing the military service from typhoid fever.

**The Longest Sentence.**  
The prize for the longest sentence ever written may fairly be awarded to the elder Dumas, who probably holds the further record for fertility of production. In the seventh of the 27 volumes which compose the "Impressions de Voyage," there is a sentence describing Benvenuto Cellini, which fills three pages, or 108 lines, averaging 45 letters apiece. The sentence is broken by 68 commas and 69 semicolons; but as it contains 195 verbs and 122 proper names, the reader is somewhat bewildered before the end is reached.—London Chronicle.

## NOVELTY THEATER

HIGH-CLASS VAUDEVILLE MATINEE 2:30 EVENING 7:45 AND 9:15

Week Beginning Monday, Jan. 25

### POTTS BROTHERS & CO.

In the Society Comedy Playlet "DOUBLE TROUBLE"

- Miss Mabel Meeker  
The Phys. ca Culture Girl
- Herr Soana  
Remarkable Impersonator
- Eddie Ross  
The Dancing Banjoist

### Magnanie's Musical Barbers

In a Great Musical Novelty Act

PRICES ALWAYS THE SAME

PRICES: All Matinees, any seat ..... 10c  
Evening, Lower Floor 20c, Bal. .... 10c  
Children under 12, Saturday Matinee 5c

## MAJESTIC

2nd Week Starting Monday Matinee

### The Wolford Stock Co.

WILL PRESENT

First Half: **Dora Thorne** | Second Half: **Little Minister**

Special Vaudeville Feature **COLLINS & BALLARD**

MOVING PICTURES :: ILLUSTRATED SONGS

PRICES: 10c, 25c, 35c—Mat. Daily 10c, 20c

NOTE—Any Lady Will Be Admitted to 20 Cent Seats for 10 Cents at Matinees

## MAJESTIC



Adelaide Thurston in "The Woman's Hour."

more fame than he. This quality was presented in "Two Men and a Girl," presented here last season by Tim Murphy; it was present in even greater quantity in "A Woman's Hour."

#### "Girls"

Clyde Fitch builded better than he knew when he wrote "Girls," the comedy which the Messrs. Shubert have been presenting at Daly's theater in New York for the past season, and which will be the attraction at the Grand shortly. It was to be supposed that anything from the pen of Mr. Fitch, dealing with the eternal question of femininity and its foibles, would prove to be the work of a master craftsman. But not even the Messrs. Shubert were prepared for the avalanche of unqualified approval with which this play was received. "Girls," in the comedy class is what "The Witching Hour" is in the dramatic class—the biggest hit of the season.

#### Paul Gilmore.

Paul Gilmore's greatest success is his new part, Tony Allen in "The Boys of Company B," in which he is appearing this season. Mr. Gilmore is booked to play at the Grand soon.

#### At the Majestic.

The Wolford Stock company begins its second week's engagement with a matinee Monday afternoon, and the play for the first half of the week is the celebrated drama, "Dora Thorne." This play is a very popular one, and the Wolford company makes it a feature play. Some very magnificent gowns will be worn by the ladies, and new and high grade vaudeville acts will be special features between acts. This combination of stock drama and vaudeville, is a very popular one at the Majestic, and is drawing record

breaking houses. A continuous performance is given and the curtain never drops from the first act to the last, a welcome innovation. "The Little Minister" will be produced Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

#### THEATRICAL NOTES.

Freud Stone, one of the star comedians of "The Red Mill," is an enthusiastic wing shot and an amateur champion at the game.

David Warfield received a hearty welcome when he appeared in "The Music Master" in New York after a tour which extended to the Pacific coast.

Constance Collier, leading lady with William Gillette in "Samson," will next season play in M. Bernstein's new play, "Israel," the role played in Paris by Helene.

Avery Hopgood, the collaborator of Channing Pollock on "Clothes," has written a play for Carlotta Nilsson in which she will appear in Philadelphia the latter part of the month. Little is given out about the play, except that in accordance with the new fashion of short casts, it will have but four characters.

Dustin Farnum is to star in a new play by Edwin Milton Royce called "The Hair Breed," which is a sequel to "The Squaw Man." The hero of the play is the son of the "squaw man," whose Indian wife kills herself when she finds her husband determined to send their son to England to be educated for his position and title. In this hero, his Indian blood and savage love of wandering assert themselves even in spite of his aristocratic training.

Two new productions in Washington this week were "The Eastside Way," by Eugene O'Neill, in which Frances Starr appeared under Belasco's management, and "The Writing on the Wall," by William J. Hurlbut, author of "The Fighting Hope," with Miss Olga Nethersole as the star. The first play received great critical praise, though its story is decidedly unpleasant and gloomy in the ending. The latter play deals with social questions, especially that of slum tenements, and it is said a prominent church corporation in New York is plainly indicated in the strong lines on the tentment ownership. Miss Nethersole scored a great personal triumph.

David Belasco has decided to keep

## GRAND OPERA HOUSE

TONIGHT—"Under Southern Skies"

MONDAY  
Prices 25c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.50

### DAINTY FLORENCE GEAR

IN THE "SMART" MUSICAL PLAY

## MARRYING MARY

DIRECTION OF JULES MURRY

2 Days Starting Wednesday, Jan. 27

SEATS MONDAY 8 A. M.  
PRICES: Floor \$1.50-\$1.00—Gallery 25c  
Balcony \$1.00-75c

THE KIRKE LA SHELLE COMPANY PRESENTS

## THE VIRGINIAN

Dramatized by OWEN WISTER and KIRKE LA SHELLE

With W. S. HART as The Virginian

And FRANK CAMPEAU as Trampas

Carriages 10:45. Free List Suspended.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29th  
ANNUAL ENGAGEMENT

## ADELAIDE HURSTON

In An American Comedy of Modern Life

## THE WOMAN'S HOUR

By FREDERICK PAULDING

Cast of Superior Excellence. Complete Scenic Production. Comedy of Wit—Merit—Strength.

Management FRANCIS X. HOPE

PRICES, Floor \$1.50-\$1; Balcony 75c-50c; Gallery 25c  
Carriages 10:45. Seats Wednesday, Jan. 27.

Bianche Bates in "The Fighting Hope" in New York.

Cohan & Harris will have 19 stars under their management next season, says the New York Telegraph.

The American name given to Paul Potter's adaptation of the French piece, "Loute," is "The Girl from Brest."

Laura Nelson Hall, who originated one of the chief roles in "Girls," is to be in the support of Frances Starr in "The Eastside Way."

Madame Bianche Marchesi, the daughter of the famous Paris teacher, is to visit here in concert, with her own European company.

"The Barrier," Rex Beach's thrilling story, is to be dramatized and produced by Cohan & Harris next season, with George Gebart as the star.

The dwarf and the fat boy among the "freaks" behind the Countess of Lew Fields, who is anxious always to discover new types.



Scene From the Virginian.

occasion was made a gala one by the southerners in New York.

Rose Stahl has been doing a big business in the west in "The Chorus Lady." Edna Wallace Hopper is to join the cast again of "Fifty Miles From Boston." John Drew is to appear next season in a revival of "Much Ado About Nothing." Jane Coker has been transferred to "The Devil" company headed by Edwin Stevens.

Miss Minna Gale, when she returns to the stage, will be in Miss Viola Allen's company.

When "In New York" is produced in that city in February Miss Julia Perry is to have a prominent part.

The tour of Mary Mansfield in "A House of Cards" came to an end, it is said, in Allentown, last week.

"Madame Butterfly," Puccini's beautiful opera, is not being sung by Henry W. Savage's company this season.

Frederick Thompson announces that his wife, Mabel Taliferro, will appear in her new play only in the four principal cities.

William Collier will not go to London in "The Patriot" until next season, but will spend the rest of the season in New York.

Clyde Fitch's new play, "The Happy Marriage," will be given its first production in a New York town the last week of this month.

A new musical play is to be produced in London called "The Little Duke," with Ellaline Terriss in the leading role. The production will be made by Charles Froberman.

A special performance of "The Three Twins" will be given in New York to celebrate the birthday of Robert E. Lee, January 15. A special musical programme of southern melodies was arranged. The

Yonkers Statesman.