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TODAY'S WEATHER.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—Forecast: For Minnesota and the Dakotas: Cloudy and threatening, with light snows; easterly For Montana: Cloudy and threatening; warmer; easterly winds.
For Wisconsin: Increasing cloudiness;
probably followed by rain or snow in the
afternoon; warmer; southeasterly winds. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

United States Department of Agriculture. Weather Bureau, Washington, March 4, 6:48 p. m. Locai Time, 8 p. m. 75th Meridian Time.—Observations taken at the same moment of time at all stations. TEMPERATURES.

Place.	Tem.	Place.	Tem
St. Paul	20	Minnedosa	15
Duluth	20	Winnipeg	2
Huron	22	Boston	16-2
Bismarck	20	Buffalo	14-1
Williston	14	Cheyenne	30-3
Havre	2	Chicago	28-2
Helena	12	Cincinnati	36-4
Edmonton	4	Helena	12-1
Battleford	6	Montreal	14-2
Prince Albert	2	New Orleans	70-8
Calgary	8	New York	16-2
Medicine Hat	6	Pittsburg	28-3
Swift Current	4	Winnipeg	20-2
Qu'Appelle	8		

DAILY MEANS.

Barometer, 30.34; thermometer, 25; relative humidity, 67; wind, southeast; weather, cloudy; maximum thermometer, 32; minimum thermometer, 18; daily range, 14; amount of rainfall or melted snow in last twenty-four e-Barometer corrected for temperature levation. -P. F. Lvons, Observer. and elevation.

NEARING ITS END.

It appears, from the decision of the federal court at Seattle yesterday, that the Washington judges are not yet in which they are playing a part which has now become something less than of a great transcontinental railway system, thereby impairing its operation practicable for the present. affairs difficult or impossible, was an gas light company played its trump Two armies have been nearly annihiact difficult of explanation. The ac- card. It offered, in case its bid were lated already, and Rome howls over the tion yesterday, reaffirming this posi- accepted for gas for the whole city, latest and most humiliating defeat. It tion, in the face of an opinion rendered or for electric lighting in the one dis- is with no Cetewayo or Lobengula by the judges of all the circuits in trict and gas in the others, to make that Italy has to deal. If is with no which the property of the Northern the reduction stated to private con- tribe of savages armed with bows and Pacific lies, does not admit of any ex- sumers over the entire city. Con- spears that she has to contest. Of all planation at all that is creditable to sidering the fact that this proposition this court or that its friends would

This decision is surprising for two reasons; first because of the trivial the whole cost of street lighting sevreason alleged for it, and second be- eral thousand dollars, and that upon cause it must of accessity be futile. its acceptance or rejection depended The sole effect will be to keep Mr. the reduced rate for the people, the Burleigh in his receivership for a few council would not have been justified weeks longer, and to gather for the in refusing so great a benefit to the judges whatever of political capital public. The people of St. Paul have they can find in a course so repug- abundant reason to be satisfied with nant to the public interest and so at the arrangement agreed upon. It lasts variance with the traditions of the for but a year in any event; and then, bench. It is a very high price that if more active competition appears, we they will have to pay for an advantage shall be able to make still more favorso trifling and so problematical. The able terms. In the meantime the pubdecision is based, apparently, upon the lic is to be congratulated upon a propargument that it is necessary, for the osition which carries with it a reducprotection of creditors, to have a tion so material in the cost of both separate receiver in each jurisdiction public and private lighting. whenever a corporation becomes insolvent. This is utterly absurd. The court acknowledges the primary jurisdiction assigned to the court of Judge Jenkins at Milwaukee. They gave away any case that they might have had in so doing. But they hold that this applies only to the matter of accounting. When it comes to the matter of operation, each section is entitled to a receiver. It is necessary only to note that if this is true of Washington, it is true of every other state traversed by the Northern Pacific, in all of which it presumably has creditors. The theory of the Washington court would thus call for ten separate receivers, each alone and supreme in his own jurisdiction. This is not only contrary to common sense and to uniform practice, but it would also effectively destroy the possibility of operating the system as a whole, wreck it financially, and make its divided and warring sections an easy prey to any one who might wish to acquire them. It may not be too uncharitable to suspect that some such object as dered in the past by the legislatures could be maneuvered, it is likely that this was floating in the minds of those of this state. It is true that legislators the 46,000 well armed and drilled Italwho rendered the decision. The wonder have been smirched by the scandals ians would be able to cope with the is that, when they had reached their determination, they were not able to assign for their act some reason which lands. And, if a repetition of them contests have taken place it is not a

they would plunge the Northern Pacific. Its management, as now con- then belonging to the state, and all the result is by no means certain. That ducted, in the interest of the stock- that it might hereafter acquire, were such an enterprise should be water- Weekly.

holders and with a marked degree of dedicated to the school fund of the efficiency, will not be disturbed by this state. They are "to be appraised and action of the Seattle court. The new phase of affairs will simply require same officers, and the minimum price moved the nations still are from the a journey to the Pacific coast by the shall be the same, less one-third, as barbaric age. supreme justice assigned to that cir- provided by law for the appraisement cuit. He will hold court there, make and sale of school lands," The same an order removing Mr. Burleigh and amendment provided that "the prinappointing Messrs. McHenry and Bige- cipal of all funds derived from the sale low, and there the contest will end. of swamp lands shall forever be preserv-For even Judges Hanford and Gilbert edinviolate and undiminished,"one-half will scarcely care to carry their con- of the income to go to the common tumacy to the point that would invite school fund and the remaining half to removal by impeachment for cause. It the educational and charitable instituis intimated that, since Judge Field's tions of the state.

CHEAPER LIGHTING.

politie and unwise.

The arrangement with the city proposed by the St. Paul Gas Light company and accepted by the board of aldermen last night is so much to the public advantage that we cannot doubt | European nations, infected Italy, there its ratification by the assembly. The net result will be, as shown by the Globe heretofore, a saving of about \$40,000 in the cost of street lighting; and joined with this is another large saving to private consumers by the reduction of the net price of gas to them from \$1.50 to \$1.30 per thousand feet. This is a great gain in both directions, and must be regarded as a satisfactory outcome of the agitation of the lighting question that has been in progress for some months past.

As the bids submitted showed, the lowest cost to the city for street lighting was to be obtained by accepting quite satisfied to end the little drama the bid of the gas light company for electric lights in district number two, and for gas lighting in the other parts creditable to themselves. Although it of the city. For the most part this has been difficult at any time since was not only a measure of economy, the controversy over the Northern Pa- but was in accord with the wishes of cific receivership began to account for the people. The central business secthe action of this court on grounds tion is the one best adapted to and compatible with the dignity and im- most suited for the arc light system. partiality that are supposed to be the The residence districts are mostly opattributes of every court of such au- posed to it. In at least one other disthority, yet there was some room for trict, including a portion of the busidifference of opinion as to their mo- ness section, a large portion of the should have been suspicious of assumtives in their earliest acts, if none as people would prefer the arc lights; but, ing a control that England was so willto the wisdom of the course which they as this arrangement could have been ing to relinquish. It has not been the ter sacrifice rather than to permit the saw fit to pursue. To set aside a rule secured only at the cost of the whole habit of that country to let go anyof judicial comity for no other purpose city, it was obviously necessary to thing that was good or could be cheap- has inaugurated to go on forever unthan to divide the managing control defer the change until another season, ly held. But Italy rushed impetuously checked.

> was, as a whole, most desirable financially on the city's part, that it could not be thrown aside without raising

THE SWAMP LAND GRANTS.

tlement. The same reasons of good another that the dusky hordes poured public policy that secured the adoption on the forces of Gen. Baratieria a few of the policy of giving these lands to days ago. the states to be used in facilitating | Recently King Menelik was said to internal improvements exist today in be seeking the intervention or Russia greater force than ever. The abolition to secure a treaty of peace with the of sales of public lands and the re- Italians. Russian interests in Abysstriction to settlement under the home- sinia have been cultivated, and the stead act leave these lands inaccessi- similarity of religions has facilitated ble to the public. No man will take friendly relations. It was a Russian land, either wholly or largely swamp, officer who commanded Menelik's for a homestead as long as he can pro- forces when the former defeat was incure dry land, nor can congress use flicted on the Italians. Later advices them as it has so lavishly used other were that the dervishes from the Souand arable lands in the past as a stim- dan had enlisted themselves with the ulant to the construction of railways. Abyssinians against the invader, and The day of land grants has, happily, the tactics employed against the colpassed, and the pity is that it ever ar- umns of Baratieria recall those of the

rived. most shamelessly and recklessly squan- were had on ground where troops growing out of the contests of rival 60,000 Abyssinians and their allies; companies for grants of the swamp but in a country like that where the would at least wear a specious appear- were possible, we can understand that question of numbers, but of position; Without wasting more time on an willing to avail itself of every tech- cooped up in narrow defiles, surroundargument which its authors can scarce- nicality to withhold further provender ed by a superior force, fighting on sely have expected to be taken seri- for the lobbyists and their associates lected ground and against attenuated ously, we turn to the equally singular on the floor of the legislature. But lines. Italian pride is stirred, and futility of their course. The Washing- fifteen years ago the people of this chagrin adds its spur, and it is probton judges must be aware that they state, shocked by the profligacy of able that a strenuous effort will be have no power to perpetuate the anom- their representatives, withdrew the made to subjugate the Abyssinians; alous condition of affairs into which swamp lands from their control. By but the war will be a long and terribly the amendment of 1881 all swamp lands costly one both in money and lives, and Tobacco Chewing Husband Jafter ascending

sold in the same manner and by the

age would make this duty a heavy Surely, with this safeguard, with burden upon him, one of the other every reason for the original policy rejustices will be assigned to that circuit maining and intensified, there should for carrying out the decision of the be no hesitation on the part of the incourt. The supreme court of the United | terior department in following the pol-States is not in the habit of seeing its icy adopted and continued for over mandates disobeyed and its decisions forty years. The ground that the for- no heed to the ridiculous demand of flippantly set aside; and since the agree. | mer acts of grant applied only to lands | the jingoes, and vtaught the Central ment of the four justices had all the to which the United States then had American republics that they cannot weight of a formal decree, we may be title is too technical. The United violate the usages of nations, and desure that it will be carried into effect | States was as much the owner, under | pend for support in a wrong position without delay. It is unfortunate that the French cession, of these lands as the western court should have chosen it is now. At most the Indians reto raise to the point of scandal a linquished only an easement in the judicial contest that ought never to lands, and their fee title was never have arisen. They must bear the re- more seriously regarded than as a sesponsibility. As far as the actual fut- date sort of diplomatic fiction. There ure and management of the road are is no good ground for distinguishing concerned, all practical questions were between the claim of the state to these settled when primary jurisdiction was swamp lands and its claim to the seclocated in the Milwaukee court. The tions 16 and 36 in each township for the influences which are at work to con- school fund, the validity of which has tinue opposition to that decision will been recognized and admitted. The be as unsuccessful as they are im- argument of the attorney general presented by the governor to the Indian bureau is a forcible and conclusive presentation of the claim of the state.

ANOTHER DEFEAT FOR ITALY. When the colonizing fever, that had been burning in the veins of other was very little available ground left in Africa for her to plant her colonists on under the thin veil of a protectorate over the barbarous or semi-civilized natives. The English, Portuguese, French and Belgians had taken first choice and swelled their territorial pos sessions by conquests and protectorates over the native tribes, who, however courageous, had not the intelligence to make their force efficient nor the means to obtain the armament needed to cope with their invaders. England had assumed, after an expensive and not wholly successful war, a paper dominion over Abyssinia, held by a precarious tenure and promising infinite trouble and expense for the future. It was not unwillingly therefore, that, when Italy felt it incumbent to aid in carrying civilization and religion into the dark continent, England secretly consented to endow her with her rights, title and property in that rugged region, rugged in its topography and its people, and transferred

Massowah and its adjacent territory to

the mistress of the Adriatic.

It was a bad selection for Italy. She and to make the best arrangement into what she has found to be the largest undertaking in her history, and the tribes that have composed what is known as Abyssinia, the Shoans are the most capable, intelligent, rugged and warlike. They trace their ancestry to the Bedouin Arabs, though their religion is a medley of the Jewish, the Greek and the Mohammedan faiths. Religion has not restrained them from warfare, as it has not other nations with great pretensions; and their history is one long story of tribal fights. revolutions and resistance of Mohammedan incursions. In addition to this training they inhabit a country that nature into mountain ranges with narrow passes easily held, a rough, rugged country, poorly adapted to the maneuvers of trained troops and well suited to guerrilla warfare. To these mountain fastnesses the Abyssinians have always retreated, whether in their internecine wars or when pressed by a It is not easy to understand the atti- foreign foe, and it has been found imtude of the interior department in re- possible to dislodge them. It was in sisting the claim of the state to the these narrow defiles that the Italian swamp lands in the reservations army met a severe repulse a short time about to be thrown open to set- ago, and it was down the sides of

Mahdi against the English in their It is true that these lands have been | Soudanese expeditions. If the contest an honest administration would be and mere numbers cannot avail when

taken for mere glory by a country whose people are today the most taxridden in Europe shows how little re-

. CUBAN RECOGNITION. If, as is announced, the president and

the cabinet have determined that this government should not, at the present time, recognize the bell gerency of the Cuban insurgents, we thing that it is the first serious error that has appeared in Mr. Cleveland's foreign policy. He has managed the foreign relations of this country with admirable skill and rare foresight. In the Hawaiian matter he saved us from what would have been ablasting disgrace to the nation and a stain upon its name. In the Nicaragua case he paid upon the United States. In the Venezuelan affair he not only cut the ground from under the opposition, but achieved a triumph whose results are thousand feet. The board of aldermen the opposition, but achieved a triumph whose results are thousand feet. The board of aldermen thousand feet in the city of St. Paul will be reduced to June 1 next from \$1.50 to \$1.30 per thousand feet. The board of aldermen the opposition, but achieved a triumph whose results are immeasurable. It is not too much to say that the Venezuelan proclamation F. W. M. Cutcheon, the attorney for gets a few arcs. We get none out our gets a few arcs. We get none out our gets a few arcs. We get none out our gets a few arcs. of Mr. Cleveland established finally the Monroe doctrine beyond possibility of denial, and that it averted what might otherwise have become a collision between Great Britain and the United States. In the case of Cuba, also, he has acted up to this time with proper deliberation. But the day has come when, in the interests of justice, and in response to the overwhelming opinion of our people, the patriots in arms against the Spanish government should be recognized as belligerents.

We admit fully, as is set forth in the statements sent out from Washington, that the existence of a belligerent party in any country is a question of fact. That question seems to us, however, to be settled in the affirmative. The people of Cuba have been for ten years in arms against the tyranny of Spain. If at different times they have yielded for a while to the crushing power of military force, it has never been either a voluntary submission, or a pledge of future acquiescence. They have always demanded their freedom, and for many months now have held their own against all the armies that Spain could send against them. If they can derive aid and comfort from a recognition by the United States, they are entitled to it. As we have said, it is an open question whether a recognition of belligerency would prove to them the boon that it is commonly imagined; but they want it, and the people of the United States want to give it, and it is inherently right and consistent with our own national interests. Under the circumstances as they exist, Spain is not entitled to regard it as a hostile act. Unfriendly she might consider it, but no more. Her friendship we would better sacrifice rather than to permit the carnival of horrors which Gen. Weyler has inaugurated to go on forever unchecked.

It is not because of the declarations in the with our specifications of the specifications for lighting with gas and electricity, accordance with the specifications here-tofore prepared, have examined the same and report as follows:

By the specifications for lighting with gas follows:

The right, however, is reserved to said city to decrease from time to time the number of lamps in service and to discontinue the lighting by gas of the whole or any portion of any street or particular number of streets, or any particular section of the city. The specifications for lighting with gas and electricity, in accordance with the specifications here-tofore prepared, have examined the same are to represent the specifications for lighting with gas and electricity, accordance with the specifications here-tofore prepared, have examined the same are to represent the specifications for lighting with gas and electricity, accordance with the specifications for lighting with gas and electricity.

By the specifications for lighting with gas and electricity, accordance with the specifications for lighting with gas and electricity, accordance with the specifications for lighting with gas and electricity.

By the specifications for lighting with gas and electricity, accordance with the specifications for lighting by gas of the whole or any portion of any street or particular number of streets, or any particular section of the city. The specifications for lighting with gas provide among other things as follows:

By the specifications for lighting with gas and to discontinue the lighting by gas of the whole or any portion of any street or particular number of streets, or any particular

It is not because of the declarations embodied by the two houses in their resolutions that we think the president should take this step. The action of the house of representatives, at least, counts for nothing. Its resolutions by mob law represent only the abdication of its place as a deliberative body, and its title to speak for the people. But independent of all else, simply in view of the situation as it actually exists today, considering how closely our own interests are involved, in behalf of a people struggling against unbearable ills, in the cause of humanity and in the name of and rendering the rehabilitation of its It was in this connection that the one whose success is by no means sure. resolutions that we think the presicause of humanity and in the name of liberty herself, it is due to us, as well as the people of Cuba, that this nation recognize formally a practical situation that actually exists. Not on the ground of mere party expediency, but for the sake of right, and following the pointing of our duty as a nation, we say that the administration should recognize the Cuban revolutionists as belligerents, and that any refusal or delay hereafter must be considered a blunder that falls little short of an offense against freedom

AT THE THEATERS.

A. M. Palmer's company will begin a re turn engagement at the Metropolitan opera house tonight in "Trilby." This return engagement will be the farewell visit of "Trilby" to this city.

The sale of seats for the Salvini engagement will open at the Metropolitan this evening.

"In Old Kentucky" was seen at the Grand yesterday by two of the largest audiences ever in the house. The matinee was the largest in the history of the theater. The attrac tion will undoubtedly play to big audiences during the balance of the week.

FAILURE OF A FLORIST.

Louis G. Venzke Assigns to Charles Conradis.

Louis G. Venzke, the florist, whose place of business is at the corner of West Sixth and St. Peter strets, made an assignment to Charles Conradis yesterday for the benefit of his creditors No estimate of the assets has been filed

WITH INTENT TO AMUSE.

Customer-I want a ribbon for my type Dealer-Yes, sir. Complexion, sir?-Detroit

Wickwire-Sometimes I think it would be

wickwire—Sometimes I think it would be a good idea if a man could be treated like a horse—shot when he gets too old to work.
Yabsley—It is pretty near that way now. When a man gets too old to work he is fired.—Indianapolis Journal. "Dr. Jarley is simply wrapped up in his profession." I should say he was. Why, they do say that when he proposed to Madge Willoughby he never squeezed her hand once, but kept his thumb on her puise all the time."—Har-

Lady at the Door-I believe in my heart you are the same tramp I gave belarge piece of pie to a few days ago! Tramp—No ma'am; good/me mistaken. He's dead.—Yonkers Statesman.

the stairs)-I am all out of breath.
Wife-Then kiss me, please.-New York

GAS FOR \$1.30 NET

THE COMPANY, CONDITIONALLY, AGREES TO REDUCE IT TO PRIVATE CONSUMERS.

TERMS OF THE REDUCTION.

ENTIRE CITY TO BE LIGHTED IN THAT WAY AT \$23 A LAMP.

ELECTRICITY FOR ONE DISTRICT.

The Board of Aldermen, After Hours of Debate, Take Steps to Secure Cheaper Gas.

If the assembly concurs with the city lighting bids last night, the net | said: price of gas to all private consumers in the city of St. Paul will be reduced ton. A few months ago they all wantthe St. Paul Gaslight company. Acting upon this assurance, the board, after a session lasting until 11 c'clear ing upon this assurance, the board, af-

By the first resolution the board accepted the proposal of the St. Paul Gaslight company to light the entire

2 with electricity, beginning May 15, at the price of \$69.50 per arc per year, was contract to be entered into with the gas company.

These two measures, simple as they seem, were not adopted without a long struggle, in which Ald. Murphy, Kar-tak and Wolf constituted the chief opposition, though aided occasionally by the vote of Ald. Lindahl, who appeared to think that the Seventh ward was getting the best of everything. Even on the second resolution Ald. Lindahl first voted no, which would have defeated it—a two-thirds vote being required,—but he changed his vote after a speech by Ald. Markham, which will go on record as the hottest that has ever been delivered in the chamber since the present body came into existence.

Much of the debate was tedious owing to the errors, misunderstandings and confusion that some of the alermen labored under, but the windup atoned for all.

The matter came before the board in the shape of the report from the board of public works, city engineer and corporation attorney, which was expected the previous evening. The report is concise, tabulating the bids as follows:

gineer and the corporation attorney, to whom were referred the bids of the various parties for lighting the city with gas and electricity, in accordance with the specifications here-

be seen that District No. 1 can be lighted with gas for \$3,099 less than with electricity. District No. 2—The lowest bild for lighting with electricity in District No. 2 is that of the St. Paul Gas Light company, which is \$69.50 per electric light per year. There are required for this district eighty-five electric lights, which would make the cost of lighting in that district \$5,907.50. The approximate number of gas lamps for that district as the same has heretofore been lighted is 528, which, same has heretofore been lighted is 528, which, at a cost of \$23 per lamp per year, amounts to \$12,144. It will thus be seen that District No. 2 can be lighted with electricity for \$6,236.50 less than with gas.

District No. 3—The lowest proposal for light-

ing District No. 3 with electricity is that of the St. Paul Gas Light company, which is \$148 per electric light per annum. One hundred and seven lights are necessary for this district, and the cost to light the same at that rate would be \$15,836 per annum. The approximate number of gas lights required to light the district of the same at the s light this district as the same has heretofore been lighted is 612, which would cost, at the rate of \$23 per annum, \$14,076, showing that this district can be lighted with gas for \$1,760

Total \$19,269 00

Fourth—Bid of the gas company, 860
gas lamps at \$23 each..........\$19,780 00

This calculation is made on the basis of 860 gas lights in the fourth district, and it appears from this that it is cheaper by \$511 to light a portion of this district with electricity under the proposal of Edward B. Smith, and the balance with gas.

If contracts are awarded to the lowest bidders as indicated, after the contracts for lighting with electricity in Districts No. 2 and part of District No. 4 take effect, the cost of

St. Paul Gas Light company, District No. 1, \$147.50; District No. 2, \$69.50; District No. 3, \$148; District No. 4, \$130 for all, \$150 for part; all districts, \$125.44. l districts, \$125.44. Smith & Taylor, District No. 2, \$98.

East Side Electic company, District No. 1, 45 District No. 2, \$105; District No. 3, \$150. St. Paul Gas Light company, \$23 per lamp

per annum; \$1.30 per 1,000 feet for lighting public buildings.

After some discussion concerning E. B. Smith's bid, which did not develop any significant point, Ald. Brady offered a resolution that the proposal of the St. Paul Gas Light company to light District No. 2 with electricity be accepted, and that Districts one, three and four be lighted with gas. The resolution was at once laid over at the request of Ald. Brady, who thereupon introduced another one, which provided for the acceptance of the proposal of the St. Paul Gas Light company to light the entire city and its public buildings with gas, the contract to go into effect on April 1. Assistant Corporation Attorney Phillips explained that the spe-cifications did not call for electric lighting to begin until May 15, and that in consequence gas must be used until then. Upon May 15, however, the board of public works had the right to discontinue as many gas lamps as might be desired and to substitute electric lights

therefor. The resolution in no wise suited Ald. Murphy, who at once handed up a reso-tution to accept the total bid of the gas company for lighting the entire city with electricity at the rate of \$125 per arc, which would mean \$71,500, as 570 arcs are required by the specifications. board of aldermen in its action on the Insupport of his resolution Ald. Murphy

"It's funny to see these aldermen ter a session lasting until 11 o'clock, pany must have owned you.' (Laughadopted two resolutions.

| The pany must have gone to sleep, and the pany must have owned you.' (Laughadopted two resolutions) will not prevail. I can safely say that in my district three to one of the resi-

dents are in favor of electricity."
Ald. Murphy then moved that the city with gas, beginning April 1, at whole matter be referred to the comthe price of \$23 per lamp per year.

By the second resolution the bid of city engineer, to prepare proper resocity engineer, to prepare proper resocity engineer. mittee on streets, city attorney and the gas company to light district No. lutions awarding the contract to the lowest bidder.

Ald. Markham spoke in favor of Ald. accepted. Both resolutions instructed it was the first duty of the council to the city attorney to prepare a proper award the contract for gas lighting, and thereafter substitute electricity in the territory where it could obtained the cheapest. By securing competi-tion between gas and electricity the council had forced down the price per gas lamp nearly \$10, and was to be congratulated for accomplishing as good a result as the most sanguine coud expect. Ald. Markham thought that nothing was to be gained by referring the Brady resolution.

The roll call on Ald. Murphy's motion to refer the resolution resulted in three votes for and eight against a reference. The resolution was then adopted by a vote of 8 to 3, Aldermen Murphy, Kartak and Wolf voting in the negative. Ald. Murphy then moved the adop-

tion of his resolution to accept the gross bid of the gas company to light the entire city with electricity, the contract to go into effect on May 15. Ald. Brady offered as a substitute a resolution accepting the proposal of the gas company to light District No. 2

vith electricity.
This nettled Ald. Murphy, who was working hard for electric lighting in his district, and he insisted on moving the adoption of his resolution before the substitute was considered. President Ehrmanntraut ruled against him, and the vote was taken on the substitute resolution. It resulted in six votes for and five against the measure, which was declared lost, a two-thirds

vote being required. Ald. Markham then moved an amendment to Ald. Murphy's resolution, whereby the Fourth district should be stricken out, as the residents of the Seventh ward were opposed to electric lighting. Ald. Murphy called attention to the fact that if any district were stricken out the gas company's bid on lighting the entire city would not obtain, and the cost would be greater. Ald. Markham withdrew the

amendment. franchise, whose bid of \$125 per arc per year was the lowest, was then allowed the privilege of the floor. Mr. Smith, in a calm and dignified manner, argued that as he was the lowest bidder in the Fourth district, he was entitled to the contract. The fact that he could furnish only 80 arc lights out of the 157 required in the Fourth district under the specifications, was understood in the beginning, and should not be

in the beginning, considered now.

Attorney Cutcheon was next granted the floor. In an extended speech, Mr. Cutcheon reviewed the whole situation and stated the continuous of the gas company. The substance position of the gas company. The substance of his remarks was as follows:

The gas company was willing to stand by its bid to light the entire city with electricity at the rate of \$125.44 per arc, light per year, but it did not want to get such a contract. Mr. Cutcheon proceeded to advance arguments against the all-electricity proposition. In the Fourth district he demonstrated that gas lighting would be \$156 cheaper than any combination of gas and electricity, even though the electric lighting contract for that district should be awarded to E. B. Smith, and the rest of the district should be lighted by gas, for the reason that Mr. Smith's arcs would displace only 428 gas lamps, and 432 lamps would have to be lighted by gas. As for lighting the four districts with electricity, Mr. Cutcheon assured the board that 570 arc lights would not do it adequately. The next statement caused the aldermen to prick up their ears. It was this:

"If you decide to put in electricity in place of greatly contract the city you will decrease the position of the gas company.
of his remarks was as follows:

"If you decide to put in electricity in place

"If you decide to put in electricity in place of gas all over the city you will decrease the gas company's output of gas at least one-third. Now I will inform you that the gas company has been contemplating a reduction in the price of gas to private consumers from \$1.50 to \$1.20 per 1,000 feet. Is you decrease cur output of gas in the manner mentioned, then we will be unable to say when we can reduce the price to private consumers. On the other hand, if the gas company's all-gas bid is accepted and all others rejected, or if its bid for all gas lighting and its bid for electric lighting in District No. 2 are accepted, then unless something unforessen happens, I

After consulting with Mr. Ellison, I give the positive assurance that, if the gas company's all-gas bid is accepted, and all other bids reall-gas bid is accepted, and all other bids rejected, or if the gas company's bid for all gas lighting and its bid for electric lighting in District No. 2 are accepted, all other bids being rejected, the city then cutting off gas in District No. 2, the gas company will reduce the net price of gas from \$1.50 per 1,000 feet to \$1.30 per 1,000 feet, meaning upon bills paid prior to the 10th of the month, or, in other words, will reduce the gross price from \$1.75 to \$1.50."

The motion of Ald. Ulmer to refer the Mur-ham, Montgomery, Ehrmanntraut-6. resolution was declared lost.

Thereupon Ald. Brady introduced as an electricity and four separate contracts should be awarded therefor, accepting the lowest bid in each district, the result would be as follows:

District No. 1. \$13.220 00 District No. 2. 5.907 50 District No. 3. 15.836 00 District No. 3. 15.836 00 District No. 4. 20,410 00 Total \$73.473 50 If the bid of the St. Paul Gas Light company for lighting the entire city with electricity were accepted the cost would be \$70.

"There would appear to be a certain number of gentlemen on this floor who, by voting against this resolution, would entail an additional expense of nearly \$7,000 upon this city and at the same time sacrifice the saving of \$32,000 to private consumers, which would result if the proposition of the gas company is met. These gentlemen are going to refuse to accept a reduction of \$7,000 in District No. 2 by voting against a resolution that not only would effect such a saving but give a better light for District No. 2, which comprises the business district. Think of it! What kind of a position is it for a member of this council to assume, just because he thinks he can't get what he wants in some particular district!

"I tell you, gentlemen, your position is whelled."

the result, Ald. Lindahl arose and, after remarking that the whole proceedings resulted in a great victory for the gas company and the Seventh ward, changed his vote to "aye."

This gave the affirmative the necessary two-thirds vote, and the president declared the resolution adopted.

Both resolutions will reach the assembly tonight. If concurred in, the city of St. Paul will be lighted with gas until May 15, and the Second district will be illuminated with electricity, thereafter.

and the Second district will be illuminated with electricity thereafter.

A report was received from the committee on fire department recommending that the January and February pay rolls be passed. Ald. Brady wanted the report referred back to the fire department as there was not a quorum present at the committee meeting. Ald. Markham moved that the report be adopted and the pay rolls be allowed, and added that the ultimate result would be that the council would be obliged to pass the pay rolls as fixed by the fire board. His motion was lost, however, by a vote of 5 to 6.

would be obliged to pass the pay rolls as fixed by the fire board. His motion was lost, however, by a vote of 5 to 6.

It was noticed, however, that Ald. Ulmer, who has been voting with Ald. Brady and his followers in this matter, changed his mind and voted to pass the pay rolls.

The board then recommitted the pay rolls to the committee on fire department.

Ald. Ehrmanntraut introduced an ordinance fixing the salaries of the police department on the same schedule as that submitted by Chief Clark to the conference committee. Ald. Ehrmanntraut said that he introduced the ordinance in the hope that the board would take final action in the matter, as the police pay rolls had been tied up too long.

Ald. Brady moved that the ordinance be referred to the committee on police. The ordinance was so referred by a vote of 8 to 3, Ald. Markham, Montgomery and Ehrmanntraut voting in the negative.

Ald. Lindahl wanted to withdraw his ordinance submitting the Howard charter to the vote of the people from the special joint committee to which it was referred several months ago. He thought the committee had treated him discourteously, and moved that the ordinance be taken from the committee. The motion was lost, however, by a vote of 7 to 4.

On recommendation of Health Commis-

7 to 4.

On recommendation of Health Commissioner Stone the contract for furnishing the health department with a bacteriological apparatus was awarded to Noyes Bros. & Cutler, who were the only bidders. The amount

ACCIDENTS AND RUNAWAYS.

More Than the Usual Number of Such Occurrences.

Andrew Thorne, who works for a farmer named Johnson, living just east of the city, was hurrying across the car tracks at Fifth and Robert streets ast evening at 6 o'clock with a heavily loaded hay rack, when the reach pole broke, throwing Thomas to the pavement. The street crossing was crowded at the time, and the horses started on a run down Robert street, dragging the driver in their wake. Officer Henry Gruber, however, averted a serious accident by jumping at the heads of the frightened animals and bringing them to a standstill.

When Thorne had recovered his feet it was found he had not been injured, and the work of getting the load of hay off the street car tracks was begun. At this stage of the proceedings a stranger, who is said to be a traveling man, began offering advice. He was somewhat under the influence of liquor, and became very insistent that his plan of removing the wagon be adopted. The man finally got into an argument with Officer Gruber and several by-standers, which resulted in his arrest on the charge of being drunk and engaging in disorderly conduct.

An exciting runaway took place on Third street at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon, which culminated in a general smashup at Third and Jackson. one was seriously injured, William Smith, the driver for Cramer's West Side grocery store, sustained a severe shaking up in the collision. The animal causing the trouble belonged to Samuel Bone. Mr. Bone and two friends were driving down Third street when the horse became frightened and started down the hill on a run. Seeing a collision with Cramer's wagon inevitable, Mr. Bone and his two friends jumped in time to save themyond the impending danger and received several cuts about the head. Both wagons were completely demol-

Patrick Flarity, a one-armed man, was knocked down and run over by a delivery wagon driven by Charles Con-nell, at Seventh and Robert streets, at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon. He was shook up, but escaped serious injury.

THROWN FROM HIS WHEEL.

Rev. C. W. Scovel Meets With a Serions Accident.

Rev. C. W. Scovel, the assistant pastor of the House of Hope church, met with a serious accident at Seventh and Cedar streets last evening by being violently thrown from a bicycle against the stone curb. Mr. Scovel was picked up in an unconscious condition and cartime was required to restore him to his eye, penetrating to the bone, was sewed up by Dr. Appleby, when Mr. Scovel was taken in a carriage to his home, at 174 College avenue. Dr. Appleby was of the opinion last evening that Mr. Scovel may have suffered a severe con-

The accident occurred shortly after 7 o'clock, while Mr. Scovel was riding down Seventh street. Just as the foot of the hill between Wabasha and Cedar streets was reached, a cloud of dust completely blinded Mr. Scovel, causing him to lose control of his machine The bicycle suddenly swerved toward the sidewalk and threw its rider. The full extent of Mr. Scovel's injuries will not be known until today, though Dr. Appleby, after a visit to his patient at 11 o'clock last evening, reported him to he resting comfortably, with no posttive indications of more serious conse-

HOULTON WAS ELECTED Superintendent of the St. Cloud Re-

formatory. After six ballots ex-Senator William

H. Houlton, of Elk River, was elected superintendent of the St. Cloud reformatory yesterday morning, by board of managers of the reformatory in session at the Merchant's hotel. There were about fifteen other candidates. Several of these presented petitions. petitor was Capt. Compton, the present assistant bank examiner. Other candidates, with many recommendations, were James Ege, ex-Sheriff of Henne pin county; Alonso Barto, of St. Cloud; Deputy Warden Lemon, of the state prison, and O. M. Hall, of Duluth. Capt. Houlton was born in Maine, and went to Elk River in 1856. He enlisted in a Minnesota regiment and served throughout the rebellion. He has been engaged in banking and milling at Elk River for many years, accumulating a competence. extensive owner of farming lands in the vicinity of his home. He is, of course, a Republican. He has served in the state senate, but has never held a position in any way similar to that which he will hereafter occupy. An ex-member of the state board of charities and corrections said "The appointment was purely a politi-cal one." But Capt. Houlton's predecessors were also men without previous experience in the duties of their office.

Officer Hoefer's Assailants. Joe Igo, Louis Halpin, Michael McMahon and Steven Devorak, supposed to be members

Joe 1go, Louis Fatpin, Michael McManon and Steven Devorak, supposed to be members of the crowd of men who brutally assaulted. Officer Hoefer, at Snventh and Walnut streets, early last Sunday, were arraigned in the municipal court yesterday. They were put lar district!

"I tell you, gentlemen, your position is wholly under \$25 bail each to appear March 7.