OUR WHIST CORNER

The Evening Telegraph, Philadelphia, has inaugurated a second whist tournament for its readers. In the issue of March 28, the leader's hand and the card turned are given in 30 different deals, and the contest is to pick the greatest number of winning leads from the hands given, the card to be led from each hand to be named by each contestant. The tournament is open to all, the only requirement being that a coupon, to be found in each issue of the Telegraph until April 18, accompany each answer. The result is to be determined by the actual play of the hands in one or more of the Philadelphia clubs, the hands other than the leader's to be dealt, under the supervision of Mr. Work, whist editor of the Telegraph. The contestant who names the greatest number of winning leads will receive as a prize any 1896 bicycle that is sold in Philadelphia for $100. The contest is also open to clubs, and if won by a club, the prize is all the necessary hotel expenses for one week of a team of four at the Oriental hotel during the Brooklyn congress. The second prize, if won by an individual, is any 1896 bicycle retailed at $60, and if won by a club, the hotel expenses of a pair at the Brooklyn congress. There is no limit to the number of answers that any individual or club may send, provided that each answer is accompanied by a coupon. It is not necessary that a club act officially; any one, whether a member of the club named or not, may send an answer in the name of a club. There are also prizes for the best statements concerning various points in the hands. The Telegraph of March 28 contains the hands and a full statement of the conditions of the tournament, and all who wish to enter this interesting contest should send for that paper, which, by the way, contains a column of whist matter each day of the year, and a full page on Saturdays. Besides the valuable prizes that any whist player who can find a coupon has a chance to win, the hands are very interesting ones, and participation in the tournament is sure to be very instructive. The novice has just as good a chance as the expert, and he will have the opportunity of comparing his own views with those of the best whist players of today, as the Telegraph will publish the views of all acknowledged experts. This is the second of the Telegraph's tournaments; the first was a grand success, as no doubt this one will be, and further contests may be looked for.

POINT IN TRUMP MANAGEMENT.

The most important and most difficult part of the game of whist is undoubtedly the management of trumps. Among the questions that are very puzzling to the novice and not always easy for the expert, is the choice that continually presents itself to a player between a lead from his long plain suit and a trump lead from hands containing a long suit and length in trumps. As a general rule, we let the decision of this question depend upon the strength of the plain suit rather than the strength of the trump suit. It is clear that with a five-card suit, headed by ace, king, queen, a lead from five trumps, whatever their size, is imperative. On the other hand, we regard it as equally clear that from a five-card suit without an honor, a lead of the plain suit is better than a trump lead. But there are many hands that contain suits that are neither headed by ace, king, queen, nor are they without an honor; we have generally advocated the following rule in these cases: If you can reasonably hope to establish the plain suit with the aid of an honor from your partner's hand, it is well to attempt to exhaust the trumps first, but if the suit is so weak that more assistance from your partner is necessary to its establishment, lead the suit first and wait until it is established, or until you see that it can be established, before leading trumps. This is a rule that leaves most everything to the judgment of the player, as must all rules relating to the management of a hand in general; it is more conservative than most of the authorities, but our experience has been that many more tricks are lost by a too early lead of trumps, even from great strength, than by a more backward policy. It is a very common fallacy of some very good players to argue that the trump should be led because a force will come if it is not led that will weaken the trump hand to such an extent that the lead will be out of the question at a time when the suit is established; the fact that the force will be just as disastrous after the trumps outside of the leader's hand are exhausted or after some progress has been made toward exhausting them, when the commanding cards of the plain suit are still with the adversaries, is forgotton.

It is difficult to argue this or any whist proposition with much force without the aid of practical statistics; nothing will convince the ordinary player of the merits of a particular line of play like experience; for this reason we have devoted this column very largely to the analysis of deals taken from games actually played, and we firmly believe that this is altogether the best way to make an argument. To illustrate what we have said in regard to the advantages of establishing a plain suit before leading trumps, we give the following deal, which was played by some of St. Paul's tournament players in a practice game a few days ago; in this deal the plain suit lead gained three tricks over the trump lead. The hands were:

North—Spades, A, K, Q, 7, 3; hearts, Q, 7; clubs, K, 10, 7, 5, 3; diamonds, 4. East—Spades, 5; hearts, J, 9, 8, 5, 3; clubs, 6; diamonds, A, Q, 10, 8, 5, 3. South—Spades, J, 4, 2; hearts, K, 6, 2; clubs, A, Q, 8, 4, 2; diamonds, K, 6. West—Spades, 10, 9, 8, 6; hearts, A, 10, 4; clubs, J, 9; diamonds, J, 9, 7, 2. Three of hearts trump. Leader, South.

The Play—

Table 1. S.	W.	N.	E.	Table 2. S.	W.	N.	E.
4c	9c	*Kc	6c	4c	9c	*Kc	6c
2s	6s	*Qs	5s	2s	6s	*Qs	5s
4s	8s	As	*3h	4s	8s	As	*3h
*Kd	7d	4d	8d	2h	*Ah	7h	5h
Ac	Jc	3c	*5h	6h	10h	*Qh	8h
2h	*Ah	7h	8h	Js	9s	Ks	*9h
6h	10h	*Qh	9h	*Kd	7d	4d	8d
Js	9s	Ks	*Jh	*Kh	4h	3s	Jh
6d	9d	3s	*Qd	*Qc	Jc	3c	3d
2c	*Jd	5c	5d	*Ac	9d	7c	5d
*Kh	10s	7s	3d	2c	Jd	*10c	10d
Qc	*4h	7c	10d	*8c	2d	5c	Qd
8c	2d	10c	*Ad	6d	10s	7s	*Ad

Score: North and South, 5. | Score: North and South, 8.

COMMENTS.

Table 1—

Trick 4—If East had the original lead, we would think a lead from his five trumps demanded, as his diamond suit can probably be established with very little assistance from his partner; but East has been compelled to use one of his trumps, and the adversaries have shown great strength in spades and clubs; under these circumstances we regard the opening of the diamond suit as the more conservative play, especially as the opponents, if they win the first diamond trick, will be tempted to lead trumps if they have any strength in them, and very likely from weakness, for the protection of the spade and club suit. East leads the fourth best diamond from ace, queen, ten and three others; we regard this as sound in view of East's hand, and the only thing that prevents the low lead from gaining is the play of king second-hand by South.

Trick 5—South does not dare to lead a trump, and continues his club suit, which East trumps.

Trick 6—This situation is a very delicate and interesting one from East's point of view. He can practically absolutely place the number of cards of each suit that each player now holds. South has three clubs left, and so has North, as West can have no more; South has not four trumps or he would have ventured a trump lead at trick 5; he has not more than one spade left, for he did not make the unblocking play; he has not more than one diamond or he would not have played king second hand; he has, therefore, one spade, one diamond and three trumps; West must have two spades, as North had but five and South but three originally, and three diamonds in all probability, as the deuce did not fall at trick 4, and three trumps; North has three spades, three clubs and probably two trumps; East cannot tell the size of the trumps in the different hands, but unless South's trumps are such that he will be able to win the second round and have the commanding trump left to draw a third round a lead of trumps will do no harm and may work very well; the fact that West must have three trumps is the controlling factor, for it will prevent the adversaries from making their suit unless South has the winning trump and is in the lead after two rounds. East, reasoning this out, ventures a trump lead from three remaining.

Trick 7—West returns the trump lead, relying on his partner's judgment in leading trumps at trick 6.

Trick 8—It makes no difference what North leads; South will make king of trumps and that is all; if North leads a club, East will discard, West will trump and lead a diamond and East will be in the lead and force off South's trump on a diamond.

Table 2—

Trick 4—East leads a trump before establishing his diamond suit.

Trick 6—North leads the king of spades to force East; East takes the force; if he had refused it, North would then have led a club, and the result would be the same, for South will lead king of trumps and continue his clubs, forcing off the last trump, and then re-enter with king of diamonds and make the rest of his clubs.

Trick 7—East now opens his diamond suit, leading fourth best; he hopes to find king with West, for the hand is gone if he does not; South feels that it is worth several tricks to get the lead at this point, and plays king second hand.

Tricks 8-13—South draws all the trumps with his king, and North and South make the entire club suit.

FERGUS FALLS VS. ST. PAUL.

DEAL 9.

The Hands—

North—Spades, 10, 9, 6, 2; hearts, Q, 9, 5; clubs, 10, 8, 4; diamonds, A, 9, 4. East—Spades, Q, 8, 7, 5; hearts, K, 10; clubs, K, Q, 6, 4; diamonds, K, 10, 5. South—Spades, K, 4; hearts, J; clubs, A, J, 9, 5, 3, 2; diamonds, 8, 7, 3, 2. West—Spades, A, J, 2; hearts, A, 8, 7, 6, 4, 3, 2; clubs, none; diamonds, Q, J, 6. Six of spades trump. Leader, East.

The Play—

Table 1. Fergus Falls North and South. | Table 2. St. Paul, North and South.

N.	E.	S.	W.	N.	E.	S.	W.
4c	Kc	Ac	*2s	3s	5s	Ks	*As
5h	*Kh	Jh	6h	6s	7s	4s	*Js
8c	*Qc	2c	6d	9s	*Qs	2c	2s
10c	6c	3c	*Js	4c	*Kc	3c	6d
*Ad	5d	2d	Qd	5h	*Kh	Jh	6h
9h	10h	*4s	2h	9h	10h	2d	*Ah
4d	4c	Jc	*As	Qh	*8s	3d	2h
9d	*Kd	3d	Jd	*Ad	5d	7d	Jd
2s	5s	*Ks	4h	*10c	6c	5c	3h
Qh	*8s	9c	3h	8c	7c	*9c	4h
*6	10d	7d	8h	4d	Qc	*Ac	7h
9s	*Qs	5c	7h	9d	10d	*Jc	8h
*10s	7s	8d	Ah	*10s	Kd	8d	Qd

Score: North and South, 5. | Score: North and South, 6.

COMMENTS.

Table 1—

Trick 1—East opens regularly from his four card club suit; East has a fair hand, but not one demanding a trump lead; indeed, when we analyze the hand, its strength appears to be more negative than positive, better for defense than attack.

Trick 2—West's lead of fourth best from ace and six others is somewhat dangerous, but we do not regard it as "absurd."

Tricks 3-4—East continues the clubs, and allows West to make another trump.

Trick 5—West rightly "switches" and leads queen of diamonds.

Trick 6—North's lead of nine of hearts to force South is probably best, though it unguards queen, as South will probably lead a club and give North a discard.

Trick 7—South leads the best club to allow North to overtrump West or give him a discard. West does not hesitate to use his ace of trumps.

Tricks 8-9—East overtakes the jack of diamonds, and leads a trump. He can count South for one trump left, and does not want him to make it on a heart.

Trick 10—North plays well in discarding queen of hearts; if he trumps with nine or ten of trumps North and South get but one of the last four tricks, for East can either overtrump and lead a trump, compelling North to win, and leaving him with a losing trump and a losing heart, or East can undertrump and force North to lead his heart to West or to lead trumps into his tenace.

Table 2—

Trick 1—We do not like the lead of a trump from this hand.

Trick 2—We have had occasion before this to intimate that the old rule that no trumps or sudden death were the only excuses for failure to return partner's trump lead, formed no part of the modern game, as played in this section of the whist world; we think that West, in this hand, should be free to examine his cards, and use his judgment; his being void of clubs, and having no great suit, are, in our opinion, good and sufficient reasons for refusing to return trumps; of course, East may have the entire club suit, but the chances are decidedly against it, and West ought not to be compelled to play contrary to his judgment.

Trick 4—East leads king of clubs; South has ace, jack and three others; all the trumps are gone except the best with North and a losing one with East; we think South plays well in passing king of clubs.

Trick 5—It would be suicidal to lead clubs again, and East leads king of hearts to his partner's discard.

Trick 7—West plays to let East make his trump on a heart; it was well he did so, for had he led a diamond, North would have taken with ace and drawn the trump.

Tricks 9-13—North leads ten of clubs through East, and North and South make four club tricks however East plays. South's refusal to play ace of clubs at trick 4 works very prettily.

DEAL 17.

The Hands—

North—Spades, 8, 6, 3, 2; hearts, A; clubs, Q, J, 9, 8; diamonds, A, K, J, 7. East—Spades, 10, 7; hearts, 9, 8, 4, 3, 2; clubs, A, 6, 2; diamonds, 10, 4, 2. South—Spades, Q, 9, 5; hearts, J, 10, 6; clubs, K, 10, 7, 5, 4, 3; diamonds, 5. West—Spades, A, K, J, 4; hearts, K, Q, 7, 5; clubs, none; diamonds, Q, 9, 8, 6, 3. Six of spades trump. Leader, East.

The Play—

Table 1. Fergus Falls North and South. | Table 2. St. Paul North and South.

N.	E.	S.	W.	N.	E.	S.	W.
*Ah	9h	10h	Kh	*Ah	3h	10h	Kh
2s	7s	Qs	*Ks	*Kd	2d	5d	6d
*Jd	2d	5d	6d	2s	7s	Qs	*Ks
3s	*10s	5s	4s	*Ad	4d	3c	8d
*Kd	10d	6h	3d	7d	10d	*5s	9d
6s	2c	9s	*Js	9c	2c	5c	*4s
8s	4d	3c	*As	3s	10s	9s	*Ks
*Ad	2h	4c	8d	6s	2h	4c	*Js
*Qc	6c	5c	5h	*8s	4h	6h	Qh
Jc	*Ac	7c	7h	Qc	*Ac	7c	5h
8c	3h	Jh	*Qh	Jd	8h	*Jh	7h
7d	4h	10c	*Qd	8c	6c	*Kc	3d
9c	8h	Kc	*9d	*Jc	9h	10c	Qd

Score: North and South, 5 | Score: North and South, 8.

COMMENTS.

Table 1—

Trick 1—East leads the best of his five-card heart suit, nine high. This lead has some advantages and some disadvantages; it informs partner of your strength, or rather weakness in that suit, at once, but it conceals from him length; it also informs the adversaries of your weakness and permits them to finesse against you, but it gives your partner a chance to finesse and perhaps save a high card in his hand by refusing to play it third hand; it may be remarked that this lead must be abandoned if the irregular lead to call for trumps is used. West plays king third hand, instead of queen; this is a false card that would be absolutely unjustifiable were fourth best led from East's hand, and we question its soundness even here.

Trick 2—North would not be justified in leading trumps except that he places queen and jack of hearts with South.

Trick 3—West opens his diamond suit in preference to returning hearts. As West is strong in trumps, and as the position of the hearts is uncertain, we think this play best. North plays jack second hand from ace, king, jack, seven; ordinarily king is the best play second hand on the first round from ace, king, jack, with or without others, but North has four cards above the six led by West, and knows that there is but one card of the suit above that with East or South; jack is probably a justifiable play, nor would we severely criticise the play of the seven.

Trick 5—East returns the diamond, hoping to establish the suit for West. South does not trump, as North must have strength in the suit; but South should not throw a heart, as it leaves his jack unguarded.

Tricks 6-7—North is too persistent with his trump leading, and West exhausts all the trumps.

Trick 8—West plays to establish his diamonds, holding queen of hearts for a re-entry; here is an instance of one of the disadvantages of the lead from the top of a weak suit—it is impossible to show length; but West knew that East's suit might be a five-card suit and surely did not contain less than four cards, and as South had discarded a heart, we believe West should have led queen of hearts and then seven, instead of playing for his diamonds; it is impossible to make the diamonds unless East has a re-entry in clubs, while the hearts can be brought in without such re-entry, and the diamond lead may give the adversaries every trick if they have the entire command of clubs.

Trick 9—East does not think that West has queen of hearts, because of his play of king at trick 1, but he reasons that he may have king of clubs, as it is clear that he must have some re-entry card or he would not have played to clear up his diamond suit; East has, for these reasons, refused to discard the small club away from his ace, and now does not cover queen led, passing for West to win with king if he has it; East loses a trick by this play, but he was not at fault.

Tricks 10-13—East wins the next club lead, and leads a heart, which, much to his surprise, West wins with king; West brings in his two established diamonds.

Table 2—

Trick 1—East leads his fourth best heart, and West plays the king, the same false card played by West at table 1.

Tricks 2-3—North is strong in diamonds and clubs, and has reason to believe that South has strength in the heart suit; he decides to show his diamond suit and then venture a trump. His trumps are so small that we are inclined to doubt the soundness of the trump lead.

Trick 4—West returns the diamond through North; he leads the eight to induce North to believe it is his highest, and not to finesse; North plays ace, and South discards a club, keeping his jack of hearts guarded.

Trick 5—North changes his tactics and forces South on a diamond.

Trick 6—West trumps the club, being overanxious to stop the ruff on diamonds; we think West's better play was to let the trick go to his partner; by trumping he makes it certain that North will be left with the long trump.

Trick 9—We are unable to explain why West did not lead queen of diamonds and then force off the thirteenth trump with the thirteenth diamond. West leads queen of hearts, which North trumps.

Tricks 10-13—North leads clubs, East wins with ace and leads a heart, which South wins with the jack that he has so carefully protected throughout the play, and North and South make two club tricks.

A. W. L. TROPHY.

Des Moines had a very good reason for its failure to play St. Paul last Saturday. On March 27, Mr. Harbach, of the Des Moines team, suffered a heavy loss by fire, and was unable to leave his business. In case Chicago fails next Saturday in its effort to take the trophy away from St. Paul the match with Des Moines will take place on the 18th or 25th.

GORDON TROPHY.

Captain Fiske's team had been winning steadily. It was apparent that no ordinary team could do anything against them. Mr. Whellams decided to make up a team that would have a cinch; so he took three of the captains in the first tournament for the trophy, Messrs. Metcalf, Gordon and How, and challenged the holders; the members of the challenging team did not want to win the trophy, but they wanted to show the difference between a team composed of fairly good players and one composed of stars; they expected to give the trophy back after winning it, as they didn't want the interest in the Gordon trophy games to wane because the cup was held by a team against whom it was useless to play. But they decided to win it once and then give it back. The game took place last Tuesday night. When the score was figured at the end of the first third of the match, it was discovered that Captain Fiske's team were just fourteen points ahead; this lead was increased to twenty-one points by the time the thirty-six deals were finished, and Captain Whellams and his men are still wondering what happened. We can tell them something about it—the champions played whist and the challengers did not. The fact must not be forgotten that continual study and practice will, in time, develop the moderate player into an expert, if he has the stuff in him, and the Gordon trophy games have done much toward improving the whist in the club. Messrs. Stoltze, Potter, Ward and Saunders have challenged Captain Fiske's team, and the match will be played next Saturday evening.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT TOURNEY.

The game last Wednesday night was started promptly at five minutes past 8, the recent announcement of the whist committee having the desired effect. Seven tables participated, J. H. and O. H. Briggs making the high score with nine points above the average.

—George L. Bunn.

Vim, vigor, vitality, for the spring months is found in Hamm's famous Bock Beer. Telephone 935-2 for a case.

EASTERN RACING.

The Season Will Be Opened in Two Weeks at Washington.

NEW YORK, April 4.—The racing season in the East will be opened two weeks from today, and, with an intermission of ten days, will be continued until late in the fall. The first meeting is at Washington, under the new management, and judging from the list of entries for the stakes and the people interested, there should be better sport than has ever been seen at the capital. Morris Park will be opened May 2, followed by Gravesend, Cooney Island, Brighton Beach, Cooney Island again, Gravesend and Morris Park to close the season.

"77"
For Spring Colds.
The most tantalizing of all are the colds of Spring, Influenza with its running rivulets, requiring the ever-ready handkerchief in hand, and so dangerous, after the long siege of winter, the system is in just the condition for La Grippe, and the slightest carelessness, in dress or exposure, may bring on the chill, pain in the head, or back-ache, the first symptoms of Grip or Pneumonia.
"77" is a shield between you and danger. When taken in time, it never fails to ward off the disease, and is a positive cure for Colds, Grip, Influenza, Catarrh, Pains in the Head or Chest, Cough, Sore Throat, General Prostration and Fever.
Sold by druggists, or sent prepaid upon receipt of price, 25 cents, or five for $1.00. May be assorted. Humphreys' Medicine Co., 111 William St., New York.

FIX RESPONSIBILITY

THE PURPOSE OF THE CHANGES PROPOSED BY THE HOWARD CHARTER.

MAYOR'S DUTIES ARE DEFINED.

AND HIS POWERS MORE NARROWLY LIMITED THAN IN THE OLD CHARTER.

ONLY A "CHIEF EXECUTIVE,"

Who Is Held Accountable for the Proper Execution of the City's Laws.

The central purpose of the Howard charter is to enlarge the powers of the common council. In furthering this purpose the office of mayor is made to surrender a share of its powers. In St. Paul's present system the scope of the mayor's duties is not large; under the proposed charter it would be more narrowly confined. The Howard act confers upon the mayor, who is sonorously styled chief executive, substantially these powers and duties: A qualified veto upon the council's legislation; to appoint, control and remove the police; to appoint the commissioner of health, the superintendent of the workhouse, the school board and the park board; to sign city contracts and warrants (jointly with other officers); to request reports from city officers; and to make an annual report to the council on the general condition of the city.

The mayor of St. Paul now has all the powers just enumerated, or their equivalent, and in addition appoints a board of public works, a fire board and a water board. All the duties of these three boards would, under the Howard charter, go to the council.

It is true that these duties of the mayor are important; but it is doubtful whether they afford him anything like the influence in city affairs with which he is credited in common belief. Many a vote is cast in a mayoralty contest under the conviction that the issue of the contest directly involves far greater results in city affairs than can possibly be concerned in it. In every general city election the candidates for mayor are the principal subjects for discussion, both as to their personal fitness for office and as to their associations and tendencies in city affairs. Yet when this candidate or that is elected, he and his suporters soon find that he can but slightly modify or control the city's administration. Schemes for personal gain and promoters of public good alike have learned this lesson; but the great body of voters, untaught as to actual details of their own local government, cling to the tradition of the mayor's eminent importance, only wondering sometimes why it seems to make so little difference who is mayor.

If it is an advantage to make the mayor's office of little account, the Howard charter is better in this respect than the present charter of St. Paul; but if that is a disadvantage, then, although the present charter may not be satisfactory, the Howard charter is still worse.

Seth Low, recently mayor of Brooklyn, is recognized as one of the best equipped reformers of our day, in both the theory and the practice of city government. He advocates placing large power in the mayor's hands. In business, he argues, it is settled that executive work must be committed to one man; but city charters, with few exceptions, run counter to that plan, and so obstruct good government. In Brooklyn the departments of police, fire, health, buildings and public works are now directly under the mayor's control, and "not a single voice has been raised suggesting a return to old methods." The present Brooklyn charter is, in this respect, a model, according to Mr. Low.

The drift of opinion among students of municipal government seems to be in the line of the Brooklyn experience. Among those whose opportunities for observation give weight to their words, ex-Mayor Hart, of Boston, urges that executive duties be removed from legislative duties; ex-Mayor Davidson, of Baltimore, holds that the mayor should have entire authority over executive subordinates; and ex-Mayor Bishop, of Buffalo, that heads of executive departments should be appointed by the mayor.

What is the reason for this opinion? An obvious reason is this: To fix responsibility for the executive branch of city government on a single official head, whereby the people can directly and effectively assert their control. Philadelphia formerly had thirty-two separate executive departments, all independent of each other and of any head save councils. Responsibility was reduced to a minimum; and Philadelphia's city government became a shining mark of corruption. By concentration of responsibility upon the shoulders of the mayor the issue of good government is simplified and brought within the reach of every voter for his effective action.

The most efficient executive is that which recognizes the ordinary business system—a single brain, a single will, having ultimate control, appointing subordinates and responsibly controlling their line of conduct. That is the system of national government. Any other must involve more or less confusion and inefficiency. The great Boston fire is said to have owed its vast destructiveness to the separate responsibility of fourteen assistant fire chiefs, not to a common head, but to the source of their appointment.

"Boss" Croker is not ranked as a reformer, but as an organizer he is most successful, and the friends of reform may sometimes learn from its enemies. Speaking of New York, he said: "It is easy enough to find fault with any government; but the theorists can say what they please. You can't get good government in a city like this without system and direct responsibility. This city is just like any other big corporation. If you have no organization—if individuals are not held responsible by some central power, you make no progress. Concentration of management is the key to success. Well, what does that mean? In business, it means consolidation; in politics, it means organization, or a machine, or whatever you wish to call it. You divide the management, and you divide the responsibility; and divided responsibility means bad government."

St. Paul has suffered enough from bad government, resulting from divided responsibility. The provisions of the Howard charter regarding the mayoralty indicate that a change to it from St. Paul's present system would aggravate and not remedy the evil.

Concentration of responsibgility upon the mayor does not involve giving that officer autocratic power. In last week's paper it was shown, for example, that appointments of employes in city government should be on the merit basis. The exercise of executive power should be guarded by the charter, and can be more effectually so guarded when the responsibility is largely concentrated. As far as the mayor's office is concerned, the Howard charter gives to it certain powers without prudent restriction, and yet on the whole leaves it in worse condition than under the present system with respect to responsible authority.

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Rheumatism, Dyspepsia, Kidney Troubles, Blood Diseases and All Nervous Complaints and Throat and Lung Affections Positively Cured by Munyon's Improved Homœopathic Remedies.
Ask Your Druggist for Munyon's Guide to Health, Buy a 25-Cent Remedy and Cure Yourself.
Mrs. Silas C. Broome, of 747 Third avenue Northeast, Minneapolis, Minn., writes: "If you had seen me a few weeks ago, crawling painfully from one room to another, the victim of rheumatic pains that made me cry out frequently and made it impossible for me to go to sleep, you would think it strange that today, when I am able to walk about the house easily and swiftly, I entertain a high opinion of Munyon's Rheumatism Cure, for 'tis the use of that remedy that has brought about the change. I sleep well now, have a good appetite, have no pain and think that I am entirely cured of rheumatism."
Munyon's Rheumatism Cure seldom fails to relieve in one to three hours, and cures in a few days. Price 25c.
Munyon's Dyspepsia Cure positively cures all forms of indigestion and stomach trouble. Price, 25 cents.
Munyon's Cold Cure prevents pneumonia and breaks up a cold in a few hours. Price, 25 cents.
Munyon's Cough Cure stops coughs, night sweats, allays soreness, and speedily heals the lungs. Price, 25 cents.
Munyon's Kidney Cure speedily cures pains in the back, loins or groins and all forms of kidney disease. Price, 25 cents.
Munyon's Headache Cure stops headache in three minutes. Price, 25 cents.
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Munyon's Female Remedies are a boon to all women.
Munyon's Asthma Cure with Herbs, $1.
Munyon's Catarrh Remedies never fail. The Catarrh Cure—price 25c—eradicates the disease from the system, and the Catarrh Tablets—price 25c—cleanse and heal the parts.
Munyon's Vitalizer restores lost powers to weak men. Price $1.
Munyon's Remedies at all druggists, mostly 25 cents a vial.
Personal letters to Prof. Munyon, 1505 Arch street, Philadelphia, Pa., answered with free medical advice for any disease.

Genuine Spring Lamb, New 1896 Green Peas,
Served for Easter Dinner at the Delicatessen, 323-325 Robert street.

STILLWATER NEWS.

Easter Services in Prison City Churches—Week's Social.

Easter services will be held in all Stillwater churches today, and nearly all of them are handsomely decorated with cut flowers and potted plants. The choirs of the several churches have prepared unusually good musical programmes, and the services will be in keeping with the day. Rev. C. A. Cressy, of the First Methodist church, will preach a sermon in the prison chapel at 9 a. m., taking for his subject: "There Are No Soft Snaps."

Nearly all the snow that fell the first of the week has disappeared from the streets of this city, but there is considerable snow on the ground in the country, and farmers say they will be unable to begin their spring work for a week or ten days yet.

Gov. D. M. Clough and wife and Mr. and Mrs. Barrows, of Minneapolis, were guests at the prison yesterday. They made a tour of the institution, and were highly pleased with their visit.

C. E. Mosier has sold his half interest in the Mosier block, on the corner of Main and Chestnut streets, to J. J. Eichten. The consideration is not made public.

David Tozer and wife left Friday evening for Los Angeles, Cal. They will spend several months in the West, and will visit many California cities.

The social committee of the Stillwater Elks is making preparations for a dance to be given in the near future.

The Red Men of this city will give a grand ball at Music hall tomorrow evening.

Rev. A. D. Stowe has returned from a short trip to Muncie, Ind.

R. M. Anderson is at home from Lake City, where he participated in the ice boat races. His yacht, the Irene, has been laid up.

Misses Emily and Jessie Dodd, of New York, are guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Orris E. Lee.

Mrs. W. Lenox, of Minneapolis, was a guest of her son, Dr. F. A. Lenox, the past week.

Mrs. H. C. Fogle and daughter, Faith, leave in a few days on an extended trip to California.

The Moore & Livingstone company closed a successful week's engagement at the Grand opera house last evening.

Bishop M. N. Gilbert will preach at the prison at 3 o'clock this afternoon.

Mrs. Margaret Townshend and daughter leave soon for a trip to Europe. They expect to be absent several years.

Convention of Educators.

NORTHFIELD, Minn., April 4.—In response to circulars sent out by the board of education of this city to hold a meeting of the school boards of the state here, letters have been received from nearly every graded school district in the state, showing their willingness to be represented in the meeting and the discussion of the various topics that may come up, and to help to form a permanent association of school boards. Much interest has been taken in the matter in this city. Addresses are expected from President Northrop, of the state university; President Hunt, of the Northfield board; Prof. Felland, of St. Olaf's, and others.

Strawberries Are Ripe.
You can get them at the Delicatessen with your dinner. 322 to 325 Robert street.

Road to the Reserve.

RED LAKE FALLS, Minn., April 4.—Fifty men are now at work completing the road leading direct from this city to the Red Lake reservation lands to be opened May 15. This road is the shortest and latest one leading to the lands, and hundreds of homeseekers are traversing it daily. Goods and chattels are arriving every day, and the prairie is white with schooners. The oldest inhabitant is surprised at this early rush, and wonders what is coming when the opening day actually arrives.

Debates Called Off.

ATLANTA, Ga., April 4.—The series of joint debates between Secretary Hoke Smith and Charles F. Crisp is off, for the present, at least, Crisp having requested their postponement on account of his physical condition.

Quay, Then McKinley.

POTTSVILLE, Pa., April 4.—J. F. Finney and Joseph McConnell were elected delegates to the national convention at St. Louis. The delegates favor Senator Quay for president and McKinley is indorsed as second choice.

What's the Difference Between a CASH HOUSE and an INSTALLMENT HOUSE?
50%
We buy and sell for cash, and can therefore sell 50 per cent cheaper than the installment houses. We quote a few of our ordinary prices below, to give an idea of the bargains that we can offer:
A High-Back Dining Chair, installment price 95c; our cash price, 50c
Wool Top Mattresses, installment price $2.50; our cash price, $1.90
Woven Wire Springs, installment price $2.50; our cash price, $1.15
Newspapers are too expensive to quote prices such as ours, but come and be convinced that we can save you money on every article of Furniture or Household Goods. For Monday, wash day, just what you want, No. 8 Copper Bottom Boiler, 65c. American China Handled Cups and Saucers, 35c per set; unhandled, 25c set.
We Carry a Full Line of Crockery, Graniteware & Tinware
Everything goes at correspondingly low prices. Let us have your Pianos, Sewing Machines and Furniture of all kinds to sell on commission. NO STORAGE CHARGED.
CALL AND SEE OUR BABY CARRIAGES AT $5.50—SOLD ALL OVER TOWN FROM $8.00 TO $9.00.
THE COMMISSION FURNITURE AND CARPET COMPANY,
140 and 142 E. SIXTH STREET, *OPPOSITE HOTEL RYAN.*

TROOPS IN DANGER

A POSSIBILITY THE ANGLO-EGYPTIAN ADVANCE MAY BE CUT OFF.

CHAMBERLAIN IS TRIFLING.

THE GENERAL PUBLIC DOES NOT ACCEPT HIS STATEMENT AS SINCERE.

THE CAMPAIGN IN THE SOUDAN.

In Less Than a Month the English Column Will Be Ready for an Advance.

LONDON, April 4.—All official and semi-official statements to the contrary, it is generally admitted that the situation in South Africa is unsatisfactory. Even the reassuring statement made by Mr. Chamberlain has not changed public opinion on the subject, and today he is openly accused of trifling with the situation and pretending that the scanty forces there are able to cope with the rebellion of the Matabeles and its possible outcome. It seems beyond question that Buluwayo and Gwelo are the only two stations in Matabeleland which are in a defensive condition, and there is a strong possibility that communication with these two towns will shortly be entirely cut off. Mr. Chamberlain's disinclination to have strong reinforcements of British troops sent to South Africa is said to arise from his desire to do nothing which may give color to the French and German charge that the sending of reinforcements to South Africa is to coerce the Boers.

Then, again, the scope of the Soudan expedition appears to be widening, and there is considerable fear in many quarters that the government does not realize the extent of the undertaking. Experts in dervish warfare say the Anglo-Egyptian force is inadequate to cope with the situation, and there is acute danger that communication with the advance guard of the Egyptian troops will be cut off and that the latter will be annihilated before it is possible for the support of British troops to arrive. It is urged that reinforcements of at least 10,000 troops should be promptly sent to Africa from India alone, and it is pointed out that, according to reliable information, the Khalifas are pouring in from the Dongola district, with the evident intention of getting behind the advancing force. Should the march be continued and the troops from India be promptly landed at Suakin they will break up Osman Digna's force and threaten the rear of the dervishes.

ANGLO-EGYPTIAN ADVANCE.

In less than a month the whole column of the Anglo-Egyptian army which will push up the Nile will be concentrated thirty-five miles from Wady-Halfa, ready to march upon Akasheh. The rapid progress to the front shows that the transport arrangements are working well. Men, arms, ammunition and stores are being conveyed over a very difficult route without the slightest hitch. Gen. H. H. Kitchener, the sirdar of the Egyptian forces, will remain at Akasheh until he succeeds in collecting his complete force there. In the interval the camel corps and cavalry will push forward to the nearest dervish post at Suarda. The dervishes are already reconnoitering near Akasheh.

Dr. Lillian Hamilton, the English woman physician to the ameer of Afghanistan, has a three-column letter in the Times, detailing a long conversation which she had with the ameer on the criticism aroused in England on his campaign to subjugate Kafiristan. The ameer contends that the Durand treaty of 1893, which gave Great Britain rights over the Chitral district, also gave him full rights over Kafiristan and he is fully determined to stand by the treaties regardless of the consequences. The fears of possible Russian aggression were the immediate motives for his action. The Russians were within a few days' march of Kafiristan, could have occupied it easily, and thus would have been within two days' march of Cabul and within gunshot of other vital positions in Afghanistan.

Princess Maud of Wales, while riding a bicycle in Regent street early in the week on her way to visit her old nurse, "skidded" and fell. A policeman promptly helped the princess into a hansom cab, placed her damaged wheel on the roof of the vehicle, and "Harry" returned to Marlborough house decidedly discomfited.

The report printed in a New York newspaper that a British expedition has left Georgetown, British Guiana, to establish stations west of the Schomburgk line, is officially pronounced to be unfounded. It is added that the report probably originated in the fact that the colonial government has sent a surveying party into the country between Puruni and the lower Cuyuni in order to ascertain the possibility of making a road or railway to open up the gold fields.

Advices received here from Monte Carlo show that there is a hitch in regard to renewing the gambling concession. According to the terms of the present contract the Prince of Monaco receives $250,000 yearly for the exclusive right to maintain a gambling establishment within the borders of his dominions (the area of the principality of Monaco is six square miles), in addition to $100,000, which are the expenses of the principality, whose population is about 12,000. The prince now demands $500,000 for the expenses of the principality alone, in addition to the large sums which the Casino spends annually in the maintenance of roads and buildings.

Style is stamped in every line of the Gordon Hat. Ask your hatter for it.

Planning a Suffrage Campaign.

HURON, S. D., April 4.—Mrs. Annie B. Simmons, of this city, president of the South Dakota Equal Suffrage association, was interviewed last evening by several well-known advocates of equal suffrage, relative to calling a state convention, planning compaign work and the establishing of a paper to advocate the cause of woman's suffrage. Among those present were Mrs. Lyman, of Fort Pierre, and Mrs. Kate Folger, corresponding secretary. It is evident that the women are planning for an aggressive and vigorous campaign. No place or date was fixed for the convention, but it is probable that it will be held some time in June in this city.

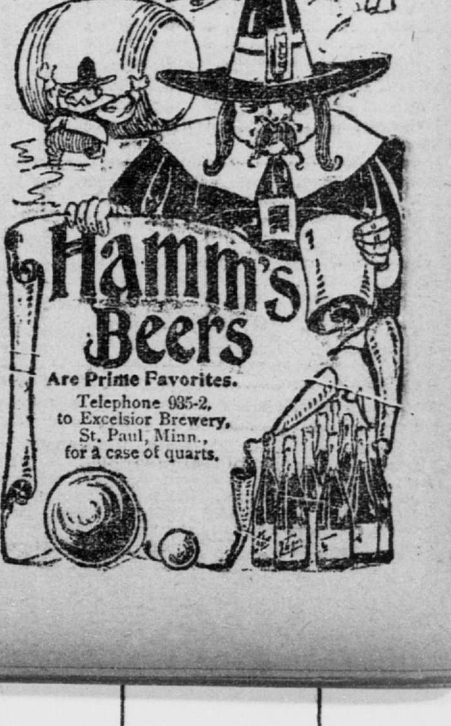
FIELDING GOES OVER.

Another Serious Blow to the Salvation Army in America.

CHICAGO, April 4.—Edward Fielding, brigadier general in command of the Northwest division of the Savation Army, and with the exception of Booth-Tucker, the most prominent officer in the forces in America, has resigned his commission, and will join the forces of Ballington Booth. The majority of his staff officers go with him, and the blow is conceded to be the most severe which has been suffered by the Salvation Army since the recall of Commander and Mrs. Ballington Booth. Brig. Fielding's wide personal influence will now be exerted in behalf of the new organization, and it is predicted that the news of his resignation will cause a heavy defection in the ranks of the army.

DON'T NEGLECT
A COMMON CASE OF PILES.
It May Lead to Serious Results.
When people generally understand that all such fatal diseases as fistula, ulcer of the rectum, fissure, etc., almost invariably begin in a simple case of Piles, they will learn the wisdom of taking prompt treatment for the first appearance of trouble in this quarter. The Pyramid Pile Cure will certainly cure every form of piles, itching, bleeding, protruding or blind piles, and hundreds of lives have been saved by using this cheap but effective remedy right at the start, because at such a time a single package will effect a cure, while in the old chronic, deep-seated cases, several packages are sometimes necessary before a lasting cure is effected.
Physicians are using the Pyramid Pile Cure in preference to surgical operations and with uniform success. The remedy is prepared by the Pyramid Drug Co., of Albion, Mich., and for sale by druggists everywhere.
This firm receive hundreds of testimonial letters from cured patients and publish a fresh list every week. This week we take pleasure in presenting the following: From Mr. M. A. Wilson, Peabody, Kansas: Your Pyramid Pile Cure received, and I have received more benefit from two applications than from all other medicines I have ever tried. I have been troubled with piles for 30 years. They would come down every day and have to be worked back, but have not been down since the first application of the Pyramid. I am a convert to the merits of the Pyramid Pile Cure.
From C. D. Edgerton, Atty. at law, Northfield, Vermont: Send me two packages of your Pyramid Pile Cure. My father, who has had piles for 40 years, says your remedy is the best he has found and he has tried everything. From W. H. Goodman, Greenville, Texas: Gentlemen: I have had wonderful relief from the Pyramid Pile Cure. I would not be without it. From Ira Shockey, Long, W. Va. The Pyramid Pile Cure has cured me. I have been waiting to see the result before writing and I can honestly say I am well of the piles and feel under many obligations to you.
Fresh letters will appear from all parts of the United States, all testifying to the wonderful effects which invariably result where this splendid remedy is used. It is the cheapest, safest and most effectual pile remedy ever placed before the people, and if you are subject to piles in any form this remedy will remove them.
It is on sale at all drug stores at 50 cts. Each package also contains a treatise on the cause and cure of piles, which will interest and benefit any one so afflicted.

MINNESOTA U FOOTBALL.

Three Big Games to Be Played on Home Grounds.

Manager Putnam, of the football team of the state university, has arranged for a series of three big games to be held next fall in Minneapolis with Purdue, Madison and Ann Arbor. It looks as though there would not be any game with Chicago university, as the latter institution insists on playing on Marshall field, and the Minnesota U is as strenuously insisting that the game be at Minneapolis. The Minnesota team will, however, make a trip, meeting Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri and Illinois universities on their own grounds.