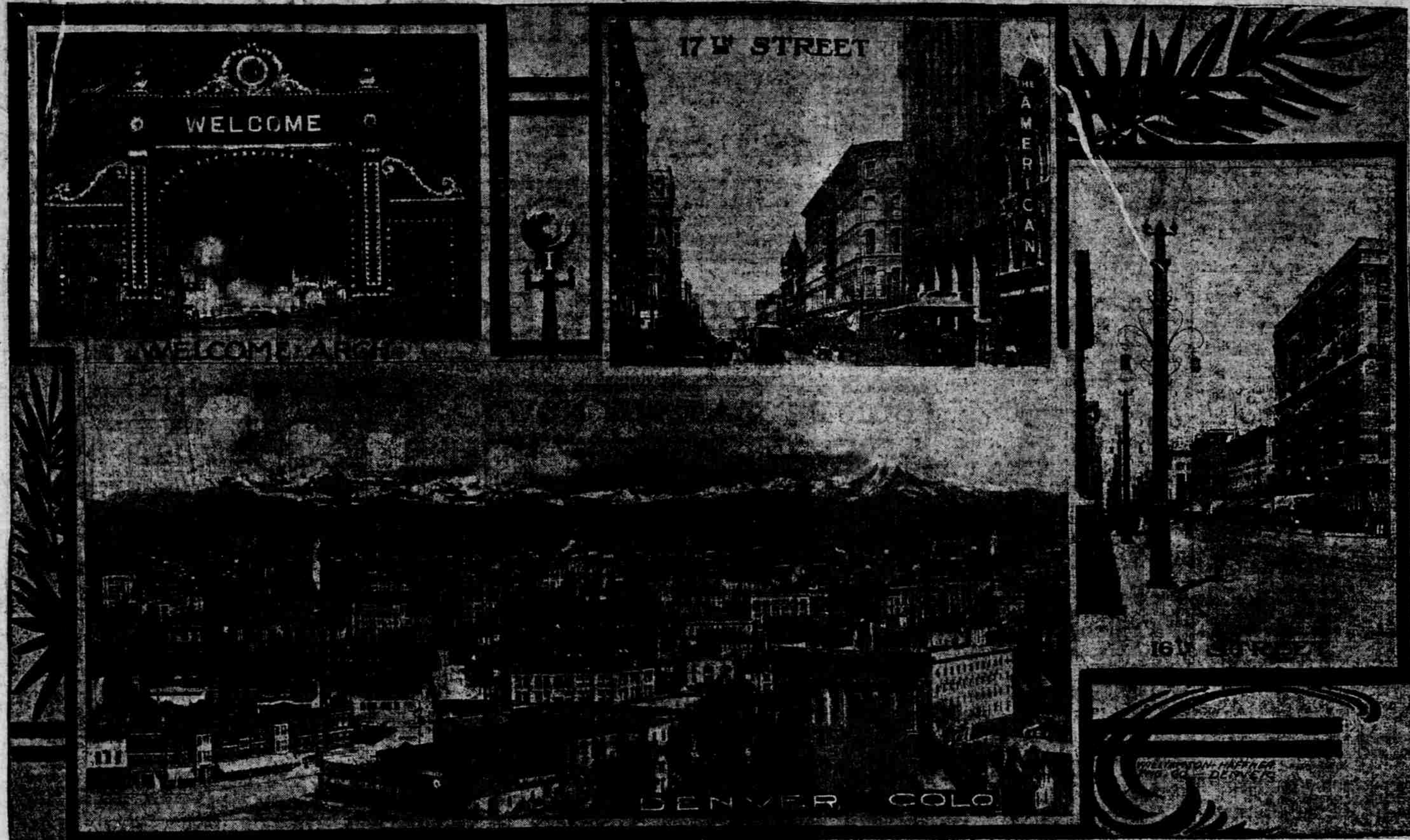


SCENES IN CITY WHERE NEXT DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION WILL BE HELD



CITY IMPROVEMENT HINTS

THE BOOSTERS' CLUB.

Story of a Unique Organization That Is Booming a Town.

Knock and the world knocks with you; Boost and you boost alone. That is not always true, not by a long shot. One booster in a town, if he is a real booster, will draw other boosters to him, and the boosting soon will swell into a chorus. The original booster will have plenty of company. This fact is well illustrated by the story of the Boosters' club of Northfield, Minn., the little city made famous in 1876 by the bank raid and attempted robbery by the Younger brothers and their gang from Missouri. Northfield had one booster at first, and now the town has a whole club of them. These boosters declare that within five years they will boost the population of Northfield from 4,000 to 10,000.

The Boosters' club is an organization of young commercial and professional men, clerks and, in fact, all of the younger activity of the town. No restrictions are placed on eligibility to membership except good character and an age limit. Other requirements, however, to become a booster are set by hard and fast rules. Every one who joins first has to agree to bury the "knocker's hammer" and thenceforth to boost his town and its business interests. "For Northfield first" is the club's motto.

The story of how the organization started is worth relating. It was really the outcome of a practical joke, though the idea had been discussed by several spirited ones before.

On an evening early last spring word was passed around among the young men of the town that there was to be something doing on a certain evening in one of the halls of the town. There was to be a mock trial, with one of the progressive young business men as defendant, for the theft of a piece of furniture from one of the hostesses of the city. At the trial there was a judge, assisted by all of the usual and necessary court officials and an imposing array of legal counsel. About fifty young men applied for admission to the hearing. All that was required was the signing of a paper at the door. After a lengthy trial the question was left with the jury, and a verdict of guilty was brought in. At the close of the evening's amusement the paper, which was signed by every one present, was brought to the front, and, much to the surprise and amusement of all, it was found that the signature had been duplicated with the aid of carbon paper and each man had signed a pledge to abstain from intoxicants for a period of a year. After the court was adjourned the convicted man invited those present to a little lunch, and it was there that the organization was thought of. A suitable name was taken, that of the Boosters' club, and since that time this body of men has been known as such. The club does not pose as a moneyed body and publishes the fact that it is not composed of men who even have large salaries. It boasts of its energy and hustling qualities, and all it asks from the oth-

er class of citizens is co-operation and assistance.

The growth of the club is really marvelous. It does not stop to ask the applicant of his financial standing, religion or politics, but asks that all boost and stop knocking. One of the unique features of its membership is the invitation to all traveling men to join without any initiation fee or deposit. This feature alone is one of great advertising force. The traveling men are taken in as honorary members and have all the privileges of the club rooms. They naturally go out from Northfield and boost for the boys.

In the beginning the club had no funds of any kind, no place in which to hold its meetings, and even had not the respect of the men of the city. On one side it was called the "Boozers' club," and on the other it was known as the "Temperance society." But this the Northern Boosters' club has successfully lived down.

As soon as the officers were elected and committees appointed the latent energy began to show itself. A much needed public benefit, a rest room, was the first object of the organization. The club had no money, but had good agitators. Soon a movement was set going, and all of the organizations began to lend a helping hand. An eye-sore on the west side of the square has been selected as the site for the rest room, and it now remains for the moneyed men of the city to buy the site. The rest room is to be known as the "Haywood Memorial," in memory of the hero of the famous bank raid in Northfield.

In many small towns Memorial day is observed in a half hearted manner, and for years Northfield neglected to co-operate with the G. A. R. in the proper observance of the national Memorial day. Last Memorial day the Boosters showed their hand, and, be it said to their credit, the town did nobly by its defenders. On the evening of May 29 a patriotic concert was given under the auspices of the Boosters, in which the best local talent was represented. An admission was charged to the exercises, the receipts of which were to be used for the defraying of the expenses incurred in the proper observance of the day. To this concert the members of the G. A. R. and W. R. C. were invited as guests of honor, and a crowded house was the reward of the venture. Another enterprise was thus accomplished without money. Another entertainment given by the

Boosters' club was what it termed a "Bally-ho." This was given on the evenings of July 3 and 4. Northfield had planned no celebration, and to keep the crowd at home this entertainment was proposed. It was a huge success. It was a burlesque street fair, with all "fake" attractions, and the Boosters made a top line record as "spellers." A big crowd attended both evenings, and the object of the Boosters—to keep the money in their home town—was successfully accomplished. The club now has a large membership, and all point with pride to the new club rooms. While it is in part a social organization, its slogan is "Boost Northfield."

In the future the club will turn its energies upon the location of small factories in the city. It believes that the small factory is much more desirable than the larger ones and is always willing to assist and lend a helping hand to those seeking a field for such enterprises.

A TOWN BOOMING TRAIN.

Wouldn't \$30,000 Worth of Newspaper Space Have Been Better?

Recently 117 business men of Tulsa, Okla., made a grand tour of the east in a special train, the object being to advertise the attractions and commercial advantages of Tulsa to the general public. The train carried a brass band and a printing outfit, dispensing music everywhere and publishing a daily paper for free distribution along with the music. The paper told of Tulsa's greatness. In half a dozen or more of the big cities, including New York, the Tulsans stopped several days to spread the gospel of publicity. The novelty of the town booming idea attracted considerable attention.

Not every small city, of course, contains enough business men who are willing to contribute their time and money for such a publicity proposition. It is understood that each of the Tulsans paid his own way, the cost to him being about \$250. No doubt most of the men enjoyed the trip and gained ideas for future profit to their own business as well as to their town. But there is another side to the shield, which is pointed out in an editorial on the subject in the Editor and Publisher of New York.

"The committee having in charge the Tulsa advertising expedition estimates that the cost of the trip will be about \$50,000. If this amount had been spent in legitimate and intelligent advertising in the newspapers, how much more good it would have done! Thirty thousand dollars will buy a big lot of space, which if used to advantage would bring to the attention of millions of people Tulsa's natural resources."

APPEARANCE OF TOWNS.

German Plan of Competitive Prizes Suggested to Beautify It.

Americans can get many ideas from their neighbors across the waters, says the Southern Architect, the latest being to beautify their towns by the practical method for improvement by architectural aid.

In America the plan has been to organize "city beautiful" clubs. The clubs have done a wonderful work in

upbuilding the towns and cities in the United States. Taken in conjunction with the German idea, which is most excellent, still greater improvement could be made.

An interesting phase of the German policy is revealed in the prize competition offered recently by the authorities of a Saxon town in Germany. The town council invites architects to submit suitable plans for the front of residential and business edifices. Four substantial prizes are offered for the most successful competitors, and other projects are to be purchased if deemed desirable. These plans will be placed freely at the service of property owners.

It is hoped by this means to combat unfortunate and all too prevalent tendencies on the one hand toward monotonous uniformity, on the other toward the baroque and grotesque.

The idea is certainly one which if intelligently carried out should eventually improve materially the general appearance of the towns where it is introduced.

Vacant Lot Committees.

If you live in a town where there is no improvement society, get a vacant lot committee appointed from your board of trade, woman's club, literary society or some like organization. Visit all vacant lots, find owners, either in person or through correspondence, and labor toward keeping them clear of weeds and rubbish at all seasons of the year. This particular phase of civic betterment is all that some improvement clubs aim to do, and there is nothing in the average town that so badly needs attention and zealous supervision, nothing that adds more to the general appearance of a thickly settled town or village or that will give such good returns for labor or money expended.

Odorless and Neat.

Anything that tends to keep the outside of a house neat and tidy adds to the good appearance of a town. A little wooden house, much like a dog kennel, just holds my garbage can and ash can. Two lids and two doors allow easy access, says a writer in Good Housekeeping. There is no bottom. Instead the whole thing stands on a small brick pavement, which is easily washed off with the hose. Consequently there is never any odor. A neighbor has a wooden bottom to his—also a smell!

The World's Best Climate.

Is not entirely free from disease, on the high elevations fevers prevail, while on the lower levels malaria is encountered to a greater or less extent, according to altitude. To overcome climate affections, insubordination, malaria, jaundice, biliousness, fever and ague, and general debility, the most effective remedy is Electric Bitters, the great alterative and blood purifier; the antidote for every form of bodily weakness, nervousness, and insomnia. Sold under guarantee at all druggists. Price 50 cents.

For stomach troubles, biliousness and constipation try Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. Many remarkable cures have been effected by them. Price, 25 cents. Samples free. For sale by all druggists.

The Theaters

The Illinois.

(Sixteenth Street and Second Avenue.)

COMING ATTRACTIONS.
June 5—Commencement Exercises, High School.

The Elite.

(Eighteenth Street, North of Second Avenue.)

Vaudeville at 8, 9 and 9:15 p. m.

The Family.

(Second Avenue, East of Nineteenth Street.)

Vaudeville at 8, 9 and 9:15 p. m.

Gotch at the Grand.—Frank Gotch, the world's champion wrestler who recently won his international title from George Hackenschmidt, will be at the Grand opera house, Davenport, May 27 and will meet all comers on the mat. He has a standing offer of \$100 for anyone who can succeed in staying off a fall for 15 minutes and there have been few who turned the trick.

Next Week at the Elite.—A comedy of unusual excellence will be given at the Elite next Monday, and for the entire week. The piece is ludicrous in plot and situations, possessing versatility of action which gives much scope for genuine reasonable laughter. Frank Rice will appear as One Lang Von Bumblebeifer, while Arthur McLeod will be seen as Fat Chow Blatery. The clever Thompson sisters will be seen to advantage in songs and dances during the action of the piece. Billy Johnson has skillfully woven musical numbers with a carefully drilled chorus, making a splendid comedy ensemble. It is called "The Laundry Strike."

Relief from Rheumatic Pains.

"I suffered with rheumatism for over two years," says Mr. Roland Curry, a patrolman, of Key West, Fla. "Sometimes it settled in my knees and I was so I could hardly walk, at other times it would be in my feet and hands so I was incapacitated for duty. One night when I was in severe pain and lame from it my wife went to the drug store here and came back with a bottle of Chamberlain's Pain Balm. I was rubbed with it and found the pain had nearly gone during the night. I kept on using it for a little more than two weeks and found that it drove the rheumatism away. I have not had any trouble from that disease for over three months." For sale by all druggists.

Rheumatism Cured in a Day.

Dr. Detchon's Relief for Rheumatism and neuralgia radically cures in one to three days. Its action upon the system is remarkable and mysterious. It removes at once the cause and the disease immediately disappears. The first dose greatly benefits. 75 cents and \$1. Sold by Otto Grotjan, 1501 Second Avenue, Rock Island; Gust Schlegel & Son, 20 West Second Street, Davenport.

AMUSEMENTS.

OPERA GRAND HOUSE

One Night Only.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27.

FRANK GOTCH

Champion Heavyweight Wrestler of the World.

Will Meet All Comers, in Conjunction with the

FAMOUS MUSICAL REVIEW,

THE BROADWAY GAIETY GIRLS

In the Dancing, Francing, Musical Farce.

SUISETTE

One Continuous Grand of Fun, Music, and Girls.

PRICES—25c, 50c, 75c, and \$1. Boxes, \$1.50.

Seats on sale Saturday, 9 a. m., at Klenze's drug store, 111 West Second Street.



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Is the place to get a good shampoo, facial and scalp massage, manicuring or chiropody.

A full line of hair goods, nets, etc. Hair work made to order.

Hair dressing for parties and weddings at the homes if desired. Opposite Harper house.

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One
Week
Starting
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May 25

THE LAUNDRY STRIKE

At the

Elite