THE ARGUS.

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BY THE J. W. POTTER CO.

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ALLIED PRINTING TRADES UNION LABEL COUNCIL ROCK ISLAND

Saturday, May 29, 1909.

Mr. Cullom will be kept busy watching his new colleague.

Senator Lorimer is a republican with the aid of democrats.

Lorimer's election is a strong argument for the water way, take it as you please.

If Speaker Shurtleff sees any thing he wants, Senator Lorimer should hand it to him.

So Billy Lorimer's election to the United States senate is the result of a secret political agreement with his own party. How amazing!

And then again it was not inappropriate to elect a strawberry blonde United States senator from Illinois at this particular season of the year.

The New York woman who nearly sailed away carelessly leaving behind $100,000 worth of real jewels, had been married only a very few days before.

Persons who are about to emigrate to some other clime through fear that congress will pass an income tax may remove their wraps and linger a while longer.

Hailstones weighing 10 pounds each are reported to have fallen in Texas recently. Of course the ice companies managed to get possession of most of them.

Queen Wilhelmina is buying American shoes for her baby. Are the Dutch standpatters going to submit silently to this outrage against the Holland wooden shoe makers?

The crop reports from Kansas that count are the reports that you hear about the time that a raucous clamor goes up from all over the state for more freight cars to move the wheat to market. A wheat shortage in May has never been looked upon as a very serious matter in the great Sunflower state. The time for the "bears" to hunt their holes is when the Kansas farmers begin to talk about "turning in the cattle on the south quarter" and plowing up the wheat on the 'upland 80" for corn.

Peoria will have to get along without the state fair and may arrange an exposition of its own if it pleases. But the Peorians had Springfield frightened for a while. In the wind-up the bill providing for the removal of the fair lacked only a dozen votes of having the constitutional majority. The fact that Springfield is the capital and near the geographical center, and the further fact that the state has something like a million dollars already invested in buildings and grounds for exposition purposes, combined to make it unwise to remove the fair. But had it been an original measure Peoria would have won in a walk.

Commission Bill Killed.

The bill making it possible for cities to adopt the commission form of government was strangled ruthlessly in the house committee on municipalities this week. The measure, which had the endorsement of almost every individual and body interested in better city goverment in the state, received a summary treatment and died a violent death before it left the hands of the committee.

From reports of the proceedings in the committee room it is evident that the determination was to kill the bill. Men of prominence from almost every city of the state appeared before the committee, urged the fairness and justice of the bill and urged for a submission of its merits to the members of the legislature. But the committee was under instruction. The bill was to be throttled and the command from the powers was obeyed implicitly. Representative King's motion that the committee report favorably on the bill was promptly tabled while Representative Lantz's motion to postpone further action on the bill was adopted with readiness. The bill was dead.

The commission plan of government for cities has been distinctly successful in the various municipalities in which it has been tried. The Illinois bill simply provided a method whereby the cities of the state might, if they desired, adopt the plan which lifts the municipal government out of party politics.

The Courts and Politics.

Of the first four justices of the supreme court of Illinois, one had never been admitted to the bar, two were without any real legal attainments, and the fourth, though a good lawyer, was a better politician. From this starting point Judge O. A. Harker, dean of the law school at the niversity of Illinois, traces the "efforts to divorce judicial elections from politics in Illinois" during the course of an address delivered before the recent meeting of the State Historical society.

Illinois made about as bad a start with its judiciary as it did with its financial system, says the Chicago Evening Post. Under the first state constitution the supreme court—which was incidentally the superior and the circuit court, too—was elected by the general assembly. Thus places upon it came to be about as coldly a matter of political patronage as game warden jobs are now, and thus was possible a bench like that which Dean Harker describes.

This state of affairs was most distasteful to the people, and the constitution of 1848 put an end to it. When we contemplate the awesome record of the present assembly and the influences which have controlled it, we ought to rejoice at this reform, and Dean Harker does not hesitate to call it "the greatest of all efforts which have been made to divorce politics from judicial elections." He finds, moreover, that Illinois has developed strongly and consistently a sentiment in favor of such a separation, and recites the following facts as illustration of this healthful tendency:

"The people have never taken kindly to mixing matters political with matters judicial. Evidence of that may be found in the fact that during the entire period when the constitution of 1848 was in force two of the three supreme court judges were democrats, although for the most of that period the state was largely republican. Under the constitution of 1870, from that date to 1888, although the state was largely republican, five of the seven judges were democrats.

"For a period of 27 years Judge Alfred M. Craig, democrat, was the judge from the Fifth district, although that district was largely republican. In 1883 David J. Baker, a republican, was elected from the First district in the face of an aggregate democratic majority of the counties of the district in the presidential election immediately preceding of over 5,000. His election followed a heated democratic convention in which five or six prominent democrats of southern Illinois sought the nomination. The nomination was sought and made on strictly political lines."

The efforts of the people to keep politics out of the courts have been given expression and leadership by the Illinois bar. It found emphasis in the election of the late Justice Guy C. Scott six years ago, and the indications are that it would have found added emphasis three years from now by his reelection had he been spared.

The Consumer's Burden.

The New York World says that "in the whole tariff system there is no one duty that more forcibly proves the iniquity of the present protectionist policy of taxation than that on sugar. To the American consumer it almost doubles the price of one of the prime necessities of life. It is an 'infamous tax,' as Wayne MacVeagh said, 'because it extorts from the laboring man * * * an actual sum often in excess of the sum the same tax extorts from the richest multi-millionaire.' It taxes poverty in proportion to its needs, and the more poverty pays, the more wealth gains unjust exemption.

"In the last 12 years as Senator Clay showed, for every dollar that the governmnt has collected in sugar duties the sugar trust has exacted more than a dollar in profits from the consumers. The tariff on refined sugar, which the consumer uses, is so high as to be prohibitory. In 1907 only 219 tons were imported, in 1908 only 430 tons. Barely one-fourth of the sugar consumed in the United States is produced by the cane and sugar beet growers, and the sugar trust in recent years has acquired control of a number of the beet-sugar refineries. The tariff not only insures it absolutely against the possibility of foreign competition, but by virtual monopoly of the refining industry and by trade agreement it has extinguished domestic competition.

"Yet the sugar trust has been content with the exclusive benefits conferred upon it by the government at the expense of the millions of consumers. For years it has enjoyed the secret benefits derived at the expense of the government from wholesale weighing frauds committed on the docks of its own refinery. The $2,000,000 refunded to the government represents probably only a small part of the profits of crime.

"Senator Clay did well to insist that it is wrong for the government to double the cost of a daily necessary of life like sugar to the consumer when the same amount of revenue could be easily supplied by an income tax. The cost of living is oppressively high for the poor. The people of this country are entitled to relief not only from an unreasonable tax, but from the exactions of a criminal trust.

"Merely as a revenue measure there is no better substitute for prohibitory sugar duties than an income tax. Senator Depew's objections that New York will pay 33 1-3 per cent of the income tax is a trivial argument. If it should, that shows that 33 1-3 per cent of the big incomes are in New York. They were not made there exclusively, but are drawn from all parts of the country.

"The Payne-Aldrich bill will be judged by the results achieved by equalizing the burdens of taxation. They will not be equalized if congress persists in retaining duties framed in favor of the sugar trust and defers the adoption of an income tax that would compel wealth to bear a fairer share of the load now borne by poverty."

TOO PARTICULAR

Presbyteran Assembly Ousts Missionaries on Strange Ground.

HAD OBJECTED TO TENNIS

Decided to Hold Next Meeting at Atlantic City—No "Charity" for Ministers.

Denver, May 29.—The general assembly of the Presbyterian church today practically dismissed from service Alexander and James Waite, both missionaries in northern China, because they complained when their brother missionaries played tennis and indulged in worldly athletic pastimes with their charges. Atlantic City was selected for next year's assembly.

Do Not Want Charity.

Denver, May 29.—Presbyterian ministers do not want charity. They made this clear in the general assembly yesterday when by an almost unanimous vote the commissioners defeated a resolution prepared by Dr. J. Gray Bolton of Philadelphia providing for a graded pension scheme for superannuated ministers.

The trouble over the pensioning of ministers has been one of long standing, causing friction between the board of ministerial relief and the board for ministerial sustention. Dr. Bolton's resolution carried with it a motion to refer the whole matter of joint action of these boards to a special committee.

Word "Charity" Not Liked.

Dr. Bolton made frequent use of the words "charity" and "humiliation," and to these terms the commissioners as a whole took exception. He was of the opinion that ministers do not want charity after they become unable to perform further service, and therefore they should be given pensions based on the term of service.

Dr. Howard Agnew Johnston of Colorado Springs rebuked those using the term "charity" and said the minister who receives aid when he has given his best efforts to the church is not an object of charity, but rather richly deserving of the support of the church. He said the plan first suggested that the sustention board look to wealthy laymen for contributions to the fund for such relief was the most unbusiness-like proposition he heard expounded from a committee of business men. He was unanimously supported in a resolution that recommended the objects of sustention to the church and urged individual gifts. Here the matter ended.

Removal Rule Adopted.

Dr. Joseph A. Vance of Chicago moved a substitute for a suggestion of the committee on policy. It provided that members removing from one charge to another and failing to signify within 12 months the church with which they wish to be affiliated shall be taken into the jurisdiction of the church designated by the pastor of the church they have left. This resolution was sturdily fought by members of the polity committee on the ground that they had not been able to make a report. However, approval of the resolution was practically unanimous.

FAMOUS PEOPLE

BY FANNIE M. LOTHROP

BLISS CARMAN

Poet, Critic and Editor.

Bliss Carman, poet, critic and editor, one of the foremost of Canada's contemporary littérateurs, was born in Fredericton, N. B., in 1861, and on his father's side is descended from the Carmans who went from Long Island, N. Y., to New Brunswick, while his maternal ancestors fought in the American Revolution. He was educated at the college school of his native town and the University of New Brunswick, from which he graduated in 1881, later taking a two years' post-graduate course at the University of Edinburgh, and afterwards spending two years at Harvard.

There seemed to be a restless, Bohemian strain in his nature that chafed under restraint and convention; for he tried many lines apart from literature, but it had somehow a compelling homing instinct that always brought him back to a bottle of ink and a pen. For a few years he read law, then ventured into the field of civil engineering, then taught school—but it all proved empty and unsatisfying; he had not found his place.

It was not until his post-graduate days that his poetic sense became manifest and under the stimulus of the inspiring appreciation of the editors of the college literary magazine he began to write verses in a timid, furtive sort of a way at first, then he grew bolder and more irrepressible, until the editor's drawer was stacked with enough Carman verses to last for years. When he began to send his poems out to the real magazines where the editors paid for contributions, acceptance was not so sure.

He sent out poem after poem, but they almost invariably returned, with no leaf of promise; but he had supreme confidence that his doves of verse would find resting place in some ark of editorial appreciation. The best ones, which always made the greatest number of trips before acceptance, especially interested him, and he gave them pet names to commemorate their travels, such as "The Flying Dutchman," "Ulysses" and "The Wandering Jew." One manuscript he sent to Australia by way of San Francisco and it came back via the Suez Canal and London, visiting many editors, and this poem he christened "Captain Cook," because it circumnavigated the globe.

Mr. Carman has been on the editorial staff of half a dozen magazines or more and recently retired from the editorship of the "Literary World"; he has written about a dozen books, three jointly with the late Richard Hovey. He has a well-shaped head, a shock of wavy hair and a general premeditated eccentricity of attire that would make him conspicuous in any company.

The Argus Daily Short Story

Widower Judd's Housekeeper—By Anne Heilman.

Mrs. Platt sat on her front porch, busy in braiding a mat. She was one of those women one likes to have about. There was a certain comforting presence in her large figure and comely face. Although the face when at rest was somewhat sad, yet it was one of those beaming faces that seem full of love for the whole world—that is, for all whom she admitted into her world. For those outside of its bounds she had no use. Just now her thoughts were busy with her neighbor, in whose direction she sent her glances.

"Peter's getting his supper early," she mused. "It's pretty lonely for him, but I hope he won't be inveigled into taking Serena Lamb for a housekeeper. I never was one to promote gossip, but all Clifton knows that her reputation for dressing far outdoes her skill in housekeeping. If I thought"— Just then she turned her head and caught sight of Mrs. Lamb walking up the path.

"Too bad to see that nice home going to rack and ruin," Mrs. Lamb began after settling herself in the rocker. "I hear it's fairly swarming with mice. Peter only uses two rooms. Isn't it a wonder he ain't picked out a housekeeper afore this?"

"I've an idea," said Mrs. Platt, endeavoring to speak unconcernedly, "that he'll probably ask you"—

"Me!" interrupted Mrs. Lamb in an astonished tone. "Me! And with such a famous cook as you next door! Trust a man to get a cook when he's free to pick and choose. Sarah wasn't much on the cooking, and I guess he'll want a change."

"David and I spent twenty-five happy years in this house," sighed Mrs. Platt. "It'd come hard for me to leave it."

"And I couldn't possibly leave my place," protested Mrs. Lamb. "And the garden doing so nicely too. You'd oughter see my strawberries, Emeline. Peter says they are the finest he ever saw. I'd bring you over a saucerful, but as Peter was going on so about your getting so stout I thought I wouldn't encourage your appetite any. Well," looking keenly at her friend to assure herself that the blow had struck home, "I must be getting on."

Serena fared forth slowly along the grassy lane. "Emeline don't care shucks for Peter Judd," she shrewdly conjectured. "David Platt's money is more to her than any living man. But she'd take the place for no other reason than to keep me out of it. As if any one would look at her twice when I'm around," and she glowed with a fine satisfaction as she compared herself to Mrs. Platt.

To be sure, Emeline was an umpire on all the arts of housekeeping; her cookery was town talk, while she had never become proficient in the art, but there were other ways of reaching a man's heart. Serena knew, because she had proved it twice.

In fact, neither lady had deceived the other. Each knew the other, from widely different motives, stood ready at a moment's notice to respond to Peter Judd's call for a housekeeper. Each knew that Clifton was wondering which of the two widows who lived on either side of Peter would be called eventually to fill the departed Sarah's place, for the custom prevailed in Clifton when a man was, in the wisdom of Providence, bereaved to hunt out some widow, respected by the community, to undertake the duties of housekeeper, and generally, after a decent period of mourning, the twain became one.

"If Serena makes up her mind to have Peter he'll have to give in," philosophized Mrs. Platt. "She's already married two that didn't in the least want her. She's comfortably off, too, and don't need to leave her home. I wouldn't be so set against it if I didn't know 'twas her that interfered between him and Floretta Young more'n twenty years ago. Peter up and married Sarah out of pure spite, and Floretta took that good for nothing Cy Blakey. If ever two people were cut out for one another, Peter and Floretta were. Well, as he's held out again Serena for over a year he may escape for good. I'll not worry any more."

But she did. The chance and apparently careless remarks that Serena let fall, as if an understanding existed between herself and Peter Judd, fretted Emeline's spirit. In the depths of her honest soul she believed that Peter was a regular caller at the Lamb home. She waited for the announcement of Serena's engagement as for a blow that was sure to fall.

Still, when it came she was not prepared for it. One afternoon she had just taken her accustomed seat on the porch when the gate opened, and Mrs. Lamb swept up the path with an unusual air of importance.

"Land, ain't it hot!" she exclaimed. "Such a muss as I've got into," carefully arranging the folds of her new organdie skirt before sitting down. Her tone rang with triumph. Mrs. Platt felt the change in the atmosphere, and all her world darkened.

"There's all that house of Peter's to be gone over this hot weather. Not a mite of cleaning since Sarah died. Such a looking place! And it must be all rid up by the middle of September. I just ran in to ask if your paint and white-wash brushes were in good order. Peter said as how you mentioned having a supply of 'em when you offered to keep house for him months ago. My, how red your face is, Emeline! You hadn't ought to wear pink. Now, if I do say it, I've a complexion that'll stand any color."

"I didn't exactly offer"— stammered Mrs. Platt, tears of mortification smarting her eyes.

"Oh, well, it is all past and done with," interrupted Serena airily. "I just had to give in. He wouldn't take a 'no.' Well, if you'll lend the brushes I'll be goin'."

Armed with the brushes, Serena departed, every movement of the organdie proclaiming victory.

In the days that followed Mrs. Platt gave much time to sitting on the front porch watching her friend's progress in the housecleaning line. Serena called seldom now, and the time passed slowly.

"I just ran in to ask your opinion of these samples," began Serena one day in September. "We're going to have new carpets for the double parlors. Don't you prefer the green?"

Serena wore her best dress. "I shall need a new one soon," she said complacently, smoothing down its silken folds.

"I suppose the affair 'll come off soon," ventured Mrs Platt after the merits of greens and reds in carpets had been duly canvassed, but Serena only smiled consciously as she gathered up the samples and departed.

"I suppose it'll come off after harvest," mused Mrs. Platt despondently, meaning Peter's wedding.

One afternoon as Mrs. Platt was set-

(Continued on Page Nine.)

Humor and Philosophy

By DUNCAN M. SMITH

IN SELF PROTECTION.

Some men there are
Who shed delight
When from afar
They heave in sight.
Their laugh is clear
And ringing out
And quite sincere,
You cannot doubt.

They lend a hand,
A smile or pelf—
In fact, expand
With cash itself.
They do their part
At every turn
With gracious art
And unconcern.

'Twould really seem
That such as these
Would win esteem
And ever please,
But I have found
It more than hard
To travel round
With one for pard.

The trouble's in
Their talking plant.
Through thick and thin
They rant and rant.
Their tongue runs clear
Without a balk.
They never hear
When you would talk.

Complimentary.

"This picture is priceless," said the maiden lady, exhibiting a time worn painting. "It is by one of the old masters."

"Magnificent!" exclaimed the visitor, who didn't know art from shoe shining, but wanted to say something nice. "Were you acquainted with the artist?"

Spicy.

"My, what a flow of language!"

"What is the matter with the sailorman?"

"It's just the antics of an old salt."

"Sounds to me more like an old pepper."

Practice on Them.

"I hear you have bought a flying machine."

"Yes; I have ordered one sent around."

"I suppose you are going to let your friends ride in it."

"No; my enemies."

Lucky.

Through mountains and forests and meadows that smile
The river runs down to the sea,
Flows down to the ocean
With little commotion
As far as a person can see,
But who is complaining about it, I pray,
Or saying that this is a fault?
Because if it ran from the ocean away
The stream would be flavored with salt.

Uninteresting.

"There goes the professor."

"Professor of what?"

"Live and dead languages."

"Huh; I thought he might be a prize-fighter."

PERT PARAGRAPHS.

There are people who can get every angle of a subject except the right side up view of it.

Sometimes it is easier than it is profitable to be good.

It is easy to drive a man to drink. The only danger is he may run himself to death in his haste to get there.

The man who keeps things from his wife is due to answer present when trouble calls the roll.

It is difficult for a man to understand why, in regard to woman's dress, the less there is to it the more it costs.

When a woman is always saying "Never mind" to her children she should feel no surprise when they don't.

When you can't remember what you want it is better to forget that you want it.

The reason some married men always look dazed is because they are of an inquiring turn of mind and are trying to figure out how it happened.

Most people are willing to work; the trouble arises only with those who are arrogant enough to want to dictate terms.

There is only one man that a woman doesn't know how to reform, and she married him.

It is said that it costs nothing to be polite, but in some instances it has been known to cost a violent effort.