

**HUMOR FLOWS IN CONGRESS**

Often Proves an Effective Weapon in Houting Political Opponents.

**SPEAKER CLARK GIVES SAMPLE**

Proctor Knott, by his Duluth speech, stunted the growth of "the Twenty City of the Unsalted Sea" for twenty years and gave himself a fame throughout the English speaking world. Knott declared that after his Duluth and Pennsylvania avenue speeches he never could induce congress to take him seriously, and that those two famous achievements of his as a humorist wrecked his reputation as a lawyer. His own opinion is that the "case" that the genial ex-attorney general of Missouri and ex-governor of Kentucky won as a humorist richly compensated him for whatever reputation he may have lost as a lawyer. In his old age the splendid city of Duluth heaped coals of fire on his head by giving him a magnificent banquet, a compliment that he enjoyed immensely.

People who assert dogmatically that humor does not pay in politics should study the career of "Private John" Allen. In the first place, he joked himself into congress. He was running against the sitting member, an ex-confederate general of ability and renown. They had what the newspapers were pleased to dubs as a "joint discussion." The general led off with a hair-raising, heart-rending account of the hardships he had undergone when he was in the army; he described in particular his suffering on a terribly cold night in the Tennessee mountains. Allen replied in this manner:

"Yes, fellow citizens, I remember well the hardships of army life. I remember with painful distinctness the sufferings on the extremely cold night of which the general speaks so eloquently and pathetically; and what fixed the horrors of that night forever in my memory is the fact that the general slept soundly and snugly tucked up in his blankets in his tent, while I, as a private soldier, was nearly frozen to death mounting guard in front of the general's tent. Now I have a fair proposition, all you fellows who were generals vote for him, and all who were privates vote for me."

The audience shouted with delight, took Allen at his word, sent him to Washington, and kept him there until he voluntarily retired.

John Allen's Methods. If joking never pays and humorists have no influence in congress, mark how plain a tale will put down the "skeinologists." Here is what I saw John Allen do. He was in ten minutes into the house into such a happy frame of mind that, with only two or three dissenting voices, and those were feeble with choked laughter, it voted to give \$500,000 of land to endow a girls' school in Mississippi. Judge Culberson said privately that the land was worth \$20,000; but the judge's fat sides shook with glee as he voted for Allen's school. I shall never forget a sentence or two of that speech, and they are only samples of the whole address.

"Gentlemen," said Allen, "this school is kept up for the benefit of a set of the loveliest female girls that the world ever saw." The proposition was particularly good, and had in it the flavor of an exhortation at an old-fashioned camp meeting. Here it is: "Mr. Speaker, this city has been entertained for the last week or two by the Woman's council, who are earnestly striving for the proper recognition of their sex, and I do not believe there is a member of this house who is base enough to say no to this proposition. If such there be, let him go sit from here scorned by woman, shunned by man and lashed by his own conscience. On one such occasion Allen wished to make a speech on improving the Tombigbee river. Some member peevishly objected, whereupon Allen said, with tears in his voice, "Mr. Speaker, if I cannot secure permission to speak, I ask leave to print a speech in the Congressional Record, scattering the words 'laughter and applause' through it where they will do the most good." It was such a palpable and happy bit at a glaring abuse that it put every one into a good humor. The objector withdrew his objection, and Allen made his speech.

He closed with this astonishing declaration: "And now, Mr. Speaker, having completely answered all the arguments of my opponents, I will retire to the cloakroom to receive the congratulations of admiring friends," a performance that he has been repeating ever since.

Hon. John L. Wilson of the state of Washington, who served in both house and senate sometimes dropped into humor, as Elias Wegz occasionally dropped into poetry. He was a very bright man, energetic, irritable, belligerent and he was no respecter of persons. To puncture solemn and pompous pretence was one of his delights. After being the stormy petrel of the house for six years he settled down into the solemn life of a senator.

One day I asked him, "John, how do you like the senate?" With a wan smile he replied, "There is some sort of soporific influence over there that is absent from the house, but I am getting to like it."—Chambers Clark, in Youth's Companion.

**SALESMAN FINDS HE HAS NO NATURALIZATION PAPERS**

Joseph Steinberg, a salesman well known in Omaha, discovered when he came to District Judge Redick's naturalization court to aid a friend in securing papers which would make him a citizen of the United States, that he himself was an alien. He decided to take out first papers.

Mr. Steinberg came to the United States with his father at the age of 1 year. His father took out first papers, but nine years ago returned to Philadelphia, of Biblical fame. Mr. Steinberg had been ignorant of the fact that his parent by doing so had annihilated both him and his son.

One applicant for naturalization in response to a question, "Who is the head of the state government?" answered, "Dahlmas."

**Fifteen Ships Laden With Meat from U. S. Are Held by Britons for Months**

(Correspondence of the Associated Press.) LONDON, April 28.—With millions of dollars worth of provisions tied up by the British admiralty and virtually no opportunity to ship footstuffs to Norway, Denmark and Sweden, European representatives of American packers have lost all patience and what they call the dilatory tactics of English officials and are no longer disposed to accept in good faith the promises of the British foreign office and admiralty that immediate steps will be taken to facilitate neutral trade with neutral countries.

The refusal of Sir Samuel Evans, judge of the prize court, to grant immediate trial to the Norwegian ships Alfred Nobel, Bjornstjerne Bjornson, Kim and Fridland, which were seized at Kirkwall in November, was the worst blow which neutral ships and shipping have had so far. The hearings was fixed for June 7, on the request of the counsel for the crown, who pleaded for more time to investigate the cases.

**WOULD SEND PUGS TO FRONT**

London Papers Contend Now is No Time for Prize Fights and that Fighters Should Go to War.

**WELLS BACK WITH A REPLY**

(Correspondence of the Associated Press.) LONDON, April 22.—The "Wells-Moran" fight at the London opera house, in which Bombardier Wells, the English champion, added yet another to the grand total of his career, has started a storm of questioning as to why an able bodied man with the military title of "Bombardier" should be taking part in boxing matches instead of being with the British army at the front.

"We do not wish to criticize Wells," remarks the Daily Chronicle, "except to say that, first, his most famous opponent, Carpenter, is now serving with the colors in France, and second, it seems to us improper that he should retain a military title in the wise ring when his public performance proves that he is in a fit state to go into the field."

"Wells" reply came back by return mail. It was as follows: "My duty is clear. I must stay where I am, and I think my reasons are good. Could I see my way clear to go to the front I would be the lightest hearted man in England. I have been in the army, serving several years in India, and I secured my discharge to devote myself to the science of boxing, at which despite a half-dozen defeats, I suppose I may claim to have attained some proficiency. During the war I have boxed several times on behalf of war funds, thereby doing the little bit that lay within my power."

"Two of my brothers are at the front, and a third was the first man killed in his regiment. I alone remain at home to support my wife and children and the other members of the family dependent upon me. If I had no ties, I should be off to the front without delay."

The "Only Prize Fight." In this same connection, several of the newspapers have renewed the agitation that professional boxing be suppressed until the end of the war. "The only prize-fight worth entering at present," writes one editor, "is the gigantic struggle in France."

Lady Handolph Churchill, on learning that a considerable number of women were present at the Wells-Moran fight, wrote the following statement for the newspapers: "I should hope that women had something better to do than to watch sham fighting at this moment."

There is plenty of opinion, however, in favor of continuing the boxing matches. Egger Corri, the referee, sums up this side of the argument in the statement: "Boxing is a stimulant to the fighting spirit; nothing is better calculated to maintain the spirit of British pluck; boxing does not hinder recruiting—it rather encourages it."

**GUNS BOOM AROUND YPRES**

People of Town Tie Themselves to Cellars When German Cannonading Becomes Severe.

**CHILDREN PLAY IN STREETS**

(Correspondence of The Associated Press.) YPRES, April 19.—Ypres is still too accessible to the fire of the heavy German artillery to be freely open to strangers not connected with the serious business in hand, yet if one did not know what the thundering roar was all about he would not think of war. The tranquility of the inhabitants is so reassuring that a visitor may walk around the great market place with no thought that a shell is likely to light upon the very spot.

A green Hammersmith bus drives up and some "Tommy's" get out leisurely, light their pipes and take a turn around the battered market house, whistling "It's a Long Way to Tipperary."

Dogs as Scouts of Burden. An old man guiding a little vegetable cart drawn by three noble Flemish dogs stops and looks admiringly after the phlegmatic boys in khaki, while from a group of children playing in front of the market house, some Flemish girls run up to the soldiers and invite inspection of a series of postcards representing the different phases of the destruction of the architectural jewel of Flanders—"Les Halles d'Ypres."

The superb beauty of the market house has been reduced to two crumbling walls that recall ancient towers along the Rhine. The left wing of the building lies in a heap and the main hall, completely gutted inside, consists of four blank walls through the windows of which daylight is seen from every side.

People Take to Cellars. Outside the melancholy ruin, behind an improvised counter under a little arcade flanked on either side by the debris of recent bombardments and facing the roofless cathedral, a little woman calmly awaits the rare customer for her stock of fruit gathered from no one knows where or how; she reflects the mentality of the people of Flanders—resigned, patient, confident, half-forgotten what fear is like and stubborn in their determination to stick to their firesides as long as one stone remains on top of another. Civilians and soldiers—French and British—are fraternizing in the middle of the market place when the distant thunder strikes up and soon after the first projectile arrives. It misses the market hall, but explodes in the very midst of a throng of the square. Most people for the time take to their cellars.

The little fruit woman hurries out to help pick up the slight victims, then goes calmly back to her fruit stand in the shadow of the principal target for the German artillery. The streets are deserted. The German artillery continues its dull thundering followed by sharper, brighter crackling reports as if the lightning were striking all around, the voices

**SANDBAGS BY THE MILLION FOR TRENCHES AND HOUSES**

(Correspondence of the Associated Press.) LONDON, April 15.—Sandbags by the million is the latest call from the front. They are used not only for parapets to trenches, but to make houses for officers and men of the artillery, as well as for the guns and telephone stations. The infantry trenches require about 100,000 bags for each mile.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN TO HOLD CHURCH AT Y. W. C. A.**

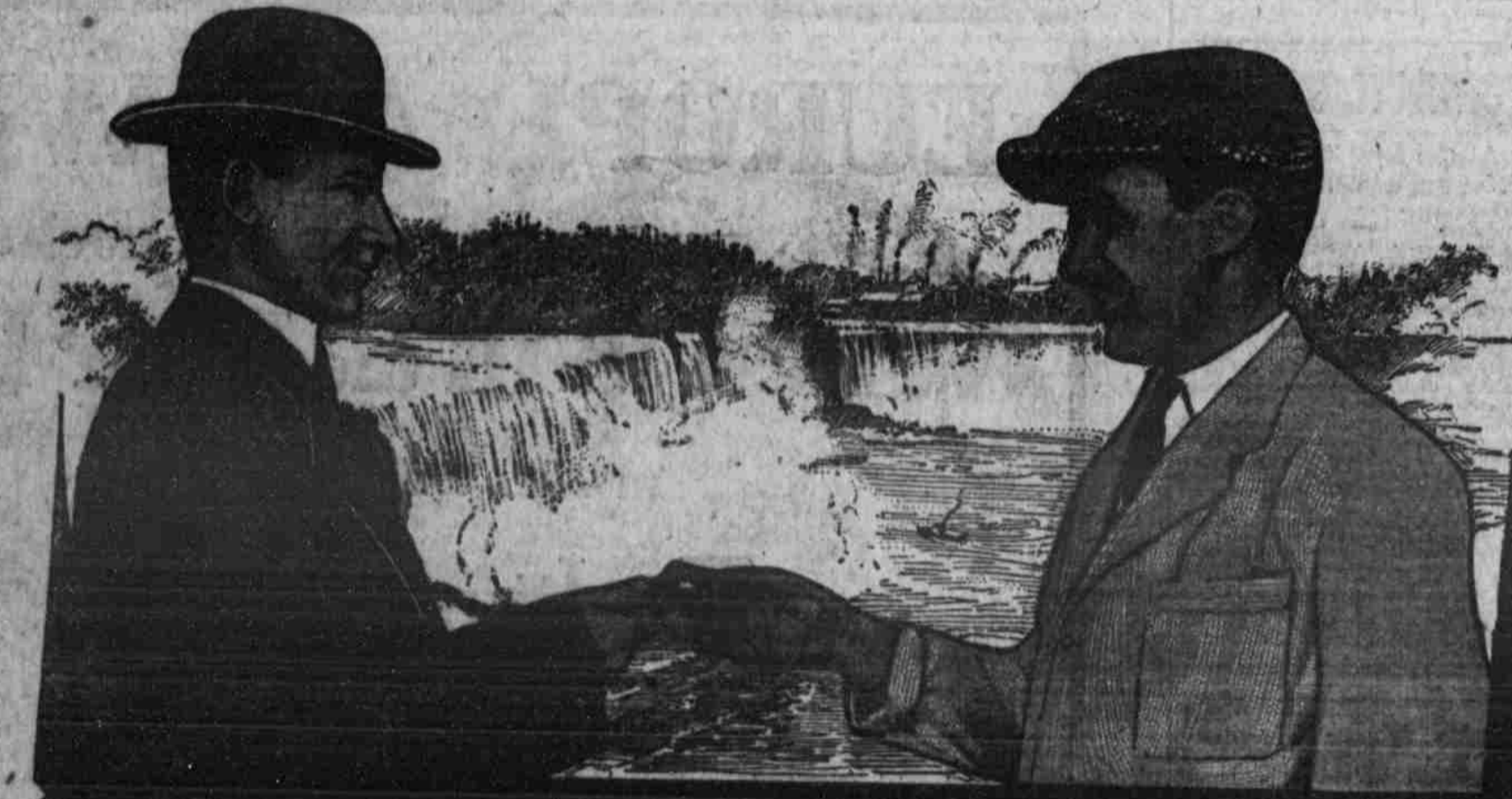
After June 1, when it must vacate its old church property, recently sold to the Grandis interests, the congregation of the First Presbyterian church will hold Sunday morning services at the Young Men's Christian association building, until Billy Sunday and his company open their engagement here in September. The church will discontinue its evening services and Sunday school and Christian Endeavor meeting until its new church at Thirty-fourth and Farnam streets, is ready for occupancy.

**EXPECTS TO MAKE ENOUGH FOR TRIP TO NEW ORLEANS**

Herman Falbaum, 13-year-old Walnut Hill school gardener, living at 423 Charles street, is so ambitious in the school garden club work that he is planning to make enough money for a trip to New Orleans. He is cultivating an entire lot next door to his home, and hopes to clear a snug sum from early vegetables, which he will sell to his parents and neighbors.

**Relief for Gallia.**

(Correspondence of the Associated Press.) PIETROGRAD, April 13.—The Russian government has appropriated \$5,000,000 for the relief of war sufferers in Gallia. The money will be largely used to purchase wheat and horses for the farming population.



**"STAR—A Good Thing To Pass Along"**

**Men Who Chew Are Men Who DO**

IN the big power plants, like those that harness Niagara Falls, and aid the progress of American manufacturing, we find men chewing—and they're chewing STAR.

And here's why men of big minds and big bodies chew and boost STAR: STAR plugs are thick—that means more of the rich, chewable inside for you. A thick STAR plug won't dry out like a thin plug and every STAR plug weighs a full 16 ounce pound. STAR is made clean and kept so.

Try STAR and you'll know why one hundred and twenty-five million 10c. pieces are sold each year.

16 oz. Plugs  
10c. Cuts

**STAR CHEWING TOBACCO**  
LEADING BRAND OF THE WORLD

Lippell & Myers Tobacco Co.



**SPECIAL SALE**  
This Week on High Grade Dining Room Furniture

We have just received another car of handsome Dining Room Furniture Sets from Grand Rapids. All of the new designs and styles are included. Fumed, Waxed and Golden Oak are the finishes. Get our special prices for this week. It will save you money.

**Our Rug Values Are The Talk of the Town**  
HERE ARE A FEW OF OUR MANY BARGAIN OFFERINGS:

9x12 Seamless Brussels Rugs—	\$8.50
at, each.	
9x12 Seamless Velvet Rugs—	\$12.00
at, each.	
9x12 Axminster Rugs—	\$16.00
at, each.	

See our complete line of Wilton and Body Brussels Rugs.

**SAVE 1/3**  
On Your ICE BILL  
By Purchasing One of Our LEONARD GRAND RAPIDS REFRIGERATORS  
22 Styles to Select From, at \$5.75 to \$36

Quality high, prices low; not one day, but every day

**HOME FURNITURE COMPANY**  
24TH AND L STS., SOUTH OMAHA.  
See Our New Daylight Display Room.

Go or Return Great Northern and See America First Low Round Trip Fare

**California's Expositions via Glacier National Park**

Aboard overland trains, from Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Kansas City, an interesting ride westward to the Montana Rocky Mountains and Glacier National Park—enroute, a visit to Glacier National Park—at the trackside—where among the splendid Rockies, between unique hotels and chalets, wonder tours await—a further westward ride unsurpassed in America through Spokane to Portland—over the Cascade Mountains and by way of Puget Sound and Seattle and Tacoma—aboard luxurious new steamships "Great Northern" and "Northern Pacific," a voyage down the Pacific to San Francisco—going or returning, travel this "Great Northern way."

Clip the coupon below and secure the Great Northern's Expositions Folder and see books about Glacier Park, "Hotels and Tours," Appropriate Map Folder and Walking Tours Book.

W. M. BONDRE, D. F. A., 215 Seventh St., Des Moines, Ia.  
E. A. NOBLE, General Passenger Agent, ST. PAUL, MINN.

Send no Expositions Folder and Glacier Park books.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY**

Let The Bee get you a job. "Situations Wanted" ads are free.