

# GOOD MEN IN POLITICS

## The Minnesota Primary Law Increases their Number.

### People Name the Candidates When they Register.

"The Minnesota primary-election system marks a new era in politics, and is a revolution not even second to the Australian ballot."

Thus said Senator Washburn of Minnesota, after he had watched the results of the new direct, concurrent primary-election law, used for the first time in Hennepin county, Minnesota, on Sept. 18 last.

Ever since the public has been operating under a convention system it has always been urged that if the people would only take an interest in the primaries and the caucuses there would not be so many mistakes in the selection of candidates. If this is true, then the most successful primary reform is one that will bring out the total vote. By the plan of holding a concurrent primary on registration day, Hennepin county brought out more votes at the primary election than it did at the previous general election, the percentage being 110 in favor of the primary law. Therefore, from that standpoint alone, it was a success.

After the law was enacted by the Minnesota legislature and before its actual test the principle found such favor that it was made part of Wisconsin's Republican platform, entered into the party operation of Oregon, is being officially inquired into in In-

gnation of office, in a proportional number of ballots, the theory being that no name should have the advantage of appearing at the top on all the ballots. Should other parties enter the contest the number of tickets would be increased, one ticket for each party going to every voter.

No "Cut-and-Dried" System.

Each voter marks one ballot only, returning both ballots pinned together, as he received them to the judge, who places them in the box. Later the crosses on the marked ballot are credited to the respective candidates and the unmarked ballot is returned to the city clerk. If a voter blunderingly marks both ballots, only the one containing the greater number of marks is counted. As a result of the first primaries held in Minneapolis under the law, a much higher class of men became the duly nominated candidates than ever before. Men who had refused steadily to be drawn into the "leg-pulling" quagmire of old-style primaries and conventions now came to the front and accepted candidacy. A most significant development was the fact that every professional office-seeker whose name appeared on the ballot was rejected—a consummation that never could have been achieved under "machine" rule.

In forty-eight hours everybody knows who is nominated for every office in the county.

Affords Better Nominees.

Perhaps the most significant com-

people into the belief that they were 'direct' primaries.

"One of these senators has a proposed act ready providing that each party committee can order 'direct' primaries on any day, to be operated under its personal supervision. That is the way they will pretend to do away with the 'evil' of the present law, which permits any man to vote either ticket."

There is no doubt, as Mr. Day indicates, that many of the politicians are quietly fighting the present law, but so well did the law take with the masses, that while the politicians have striven to secure an organization to repeal it, the prospective legislators are afraid of the public protest that would follow, and instead of a repeal, the law will in all probability be extended over the entire state.

In regard to the charge of cumbersome made against the law by machine politicians, its author says: "At first it was urged that the law was cumbersome and its machinery impossible of application. It would require a ticket twelve feet long, not over twenty votes could be polled in an hour; the vote could not be counted in a week, and he law was unconstitutional. All these assertions have been tested by actual trial and have been shown to be totally without foundation.

"The ticket was eighteen inches long, the voters voted more rapidly than at general elections and the count was accomplished in a few hours. Certain alleged improvements have been suggested.

"It has been suggested that a voter be forced to make affidavit as to his party and receive but one ballot. That makes a public ballot and would keep

## PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOT "DEMOCRATIC PARTY"

List of Candidates for Nomination to be Voted for in  
12th District, 3d Ward,  
City of Minneapolis, Hennepin County

*Cement J. Minor*  
County Auditor

Electors can vote but ONE of these Tickets, but must return them all folded together, to the Judge at the Ballot Box.

Judge 6th Judicial District	Mayor	City Treasurer	Member of Congress, 5th District	Member of Congress, 10th District	County Auditor	Special Judge of Municipal Court
JAMES C. HAYNES	FRANK G. McHILLAN	JULIUS J. REINHOLD	WILLIAM H. VANDERBURGH	ROBERT R. ODELL	WILLIAM H. WILLIAMS	DAVID W. PARSONS
GEORGE R. ROBINSON	JAMES GRAY	JOHN O. DAVIS	S. A. STOCKWELL			
JOHN W. ARCTANDER	JOSEPH S. McHENRY	JOHN O. DAVIS				
A. B. CHOATE	L. J. FLECHER	HUGH R. SCOTT				
	OTTO S. LANGUM	LANNES A. CONDIT				
	WILLIAM S. JENKINS					

## PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOT "REPUBLICAN PARTY"

List of Candidates for Nomination to be Voted for in  
12th District, 3d Ward,  
City of Minneapolis, Hennepin County

*Cement J. Minor*  
County Auditor

Electors can vote but ONE of these Tickets, but must return them all folded together, to the Judge at the Ballot Box.

Judge 6th Judicial District	Mayor	City Treasurer	Member of Congress, 5th District	Member of Congress, 10th District	County Auditor	Special Judge of Municipal Court
JOHN H. STEELE	JOHN A. SCHLENER	C. S. HULLBERT	OTTO S. LANGUM	HUGH R. SCOTT	LANNES A. CONDIT	WILLIAM S. JENKINS
CHARLES B. ELLIOTT	ALBERT A. AMES	JOSHUA ROGERS				
CHARLES G. LAYBOURN	JAMES ELWIN	J. COLFAX GRANT				
		ANDREW HOLT				

diana and enlisted the services of earnest men who are even now working for its adoption in New York. The Minneapolis object lesson proved the practical nature of the plan and its friends from one end of the country to the other are determined that its full efficacy shall be brought to bear upon the business of government.

**Attraction for Voters.**

The secret of the high merit of the law is that it draws those men who have hitherto held aloof from primaries, conventions and the polls, from disgust at the time dishonored methods there obtaining, to take part in the business of government. Under the law nominations are not made by conventions, but by the people themselves, direct. It destroys the power of political machines and selfish employers to influence their dependents through open threat or secret terror. In the voting booth at the direct primary every voter can vote with security. How he has voted can never be known unless he should himself choose to reveal it.

Both parties hold their primaries on the same day, in the same place and concurrently, where the citizens vote at regular elections. The regular registration officers are behind their tables and men irrespective of party register. This double opportunity is one of the magnets that draws. It is a time-saver. To hold primaries and registration at one time has been found in other states an excellent way of increasing the vote at primaries. Having registered, the citizen—Republican or Democrat—gets two tickets, one containing Republican and the other Democratic nominees who had been placed on the tickets through petitions of not less than 5 per cent of the voters casting ballots for the office in question at the last previous election. There may be a dozen candidates on the same party ticket for one office. The name of each aspirant for the place appears at the top under des-

ignation on the Minneapolis experiment is the general opinion among all classes that the finest aldermanic ticket on both sides that ever faced the voters on election day was nominated.

**Author of the Law Talks.**

Oscar F. G. Day, author of the concurrent primary law, is a newspaper man by profession, being editor of the Minneapolis Tribune. In an article in that paper the day after the primaries, Sept. 19, he said: "Every man who has been even remotely identified with professional politics in the past was defeated. Three of the best aldermanic candidates nominated avowed that they never would have encountered the cumbersome processes and devious strategy of a convention, but would go before the people under the new primary law.

"It has brought out a class of men for candidates that would never run before, and the success of these men will bring out a larger number of their kind at the next primary.

"There were polled on this one primary election 37,320 votes, and without any friction, some district voting almost the limit of 400 votes allowed by law to a precinct.

"Out in the country, where they had never turned out to caucuses, the farmers hitched up their teams and drove to town and nearly the entire country vote was polled.

"By combining registration and primary the expense to the people is not greatly increased and the \$10 which each candidate pays the county auditor helps to meet the bills.

"Two state senators have laws framed to present to the next legislature which they claim are 'modifications and improvements' upon the Minnesota direct primary law. They are copies of other laws, all of them 'fake' in their nature, which were passed in different states to delude

away from the polls hundreds of men who, while not absolutely afraid that their employers would discharge them for being of opposite politics, would rather remain away from the polls and not run any risks.

"It has been suggested that one registration day be for democratic voters, another day for republican.

"The same objection applies to that. Both these plans would cut down the vote and give the party bosses opportunity to get a list of the party voters and whip employers into line."

JOHN TALMAN.

**Christianity Gaining.**

At the recent church congress in England the bishop of Ripon congratulated his audience that, during the century now ending, the adherents of Christianity had increased from 200,000,000 to 500,000,000, and that Christian nations now wield sovereign influence over 800,000,000 out of 1,400,000,000 of the earth's population, but says the Episcopal Recorder, those who believe in the necessity of the new birth of individual souls and their personal union with Christ will find but little ground for encouragement in the statement, as they ask how many of that vast multitude of adherents are true members of Christ.

**Imported Raisins Are High.**

Imported raisins will be high this Christmas, owing to a considerable shortage in the Malaga crop. A great storm on September 15 swept over the famous Malaga district doing great damage not only to the grapes still on the vines, but to those that had been cut and dried. This heavy storm was followed by a succession of cloudy and rainy days, which made it impossible for the grapes to dry properly, and besides rendered worthless a large quantity of grapes that were still on the vines. It is now estimated that the raisin crop is short fully 30 per cent.—Washington letter Brooklyn Eagle.

**Taxing Oxford University.**

For many years the municipal authorities of Oxford, England, have thought the valuation put on their university buildings for taxation purposes too low. A new valuation has just been made, by which the college properties will be assessed on values raised by no less a sum than £21,524 (\$104,745). The university will, of course, resist this attempt to draw from their coffers, and long and expensive litigation may be expected.—Joseph H. Warner, in Chicago Record.

## "Stick" in Soda Water Pays Tax...

The old, old joke about the wink at the soda water fountain has received a new lease of life from the stern and unocular department of internal revenue. A few weeks ago one P. G. Heinz, in the well-known and bustling metropolis of Mankato, Minn., asked the collector if he would have to pay the special tax as a retail liquor dealer if he "put a stick" occasionally

into the soda water which he dispenses from his fountain. The department thought for two weeks and then announced that, if the brandy, gin or rum amounted to 2 per cent of the soda water, the special tax must be paid. But it won't have to be paid if the rum is so small in quantity that it merely gives a "flavor" to the water.

## METHODS OF BURIAL

## BOTH FURNACE AND COFFIN CONDEMNED

A writer in the Quarterly Review makes a powerful attack on "the ethics of cremation." He regards it as an improper corrective to the mischievous practice of interment in vaults and coffins. He says: "Little or no difficulty appears to have attended the ready and efficient disposal of the dead till towards the close of Charles the Second's reign. Not only was the strong coffin—the fops et origo mali—till then unknown, but the plainer sort of men were content to be carried to their graves in the open chests or coffers which were kept in every parish church for the occasion and only employed to convey the body from the house of death to that other 'house which hath been appointed for all living,' after which the chests were returned to their accustomed place, which was usually a niche in the church wall. Arrived at the grave the body, enveloped at one time in coarse linen kept together by bone pins, and afterwards in woollen, was removed from its temporary case and buried." Resolution of the body by the agency of the earth to which we commit it, is affirmed by the writer to be the natural and innocuous method. "Earth is the most potent disinfectant known." The common impression that graveyards pollute the air is emphatically contradicted. "Nothing worse than carbonic acid (carbon dioxide) and water are ever given off from the surface of burial grounds, and these only in quantities so small as to be even less than are naturally present in the superincumbent atmosphere; and, further, that even this little is at once taken up by vegetation and returned to the air, not as a source of peril to the health, but as a necessary increment of atmospheric renewal." The two hundred disused burial grounds in London now used as recreation grounds and health resorts are cited as proof. "The air of the

open cemetery is absolutely inodorous." Sir Seymour Haden reports from experiments carried on for 13 years in the burial of animals that bodies buried four feet deep require more than four years for their complete dissolution; three feet deep, three years; two feet deep, two years; one foot, one year; while bodies not buried, but simply covered with a foot of earth disappeared, all save their bones, in less than a year; but in all cases without injuring the purity of earth or air. The Prussian government has also made a notable contribution to our knowledge on this important part of the subject. In 1872-73 a secret commission was issued by it to ascertain the condition of the dead in the battlefields of the Vosges. Two years, or thereabouts, having elapsed since those battles were fought, it was feared, as many dead bodies were known to have been only superficially buried, that epidemic disease might result. What the commissioners found, however, entirely dissipated any such fears. In cases in which as many as eight hundred bodies, in the hurry incident to rapid military movements, had been thrust into one shallow excavation, these bodies, it was found, had already disappeared, their bones and accoutrements alone being left. But to this disappearance there was a remarkable exception; the bodies of officers, having been buried in mackintoshes (the action of which resembled that of coffins) had not so disappeared." Against the testimony of Sir Henry Thompson, the writer quotes the authority of Koch and Klein to show that the bacilli of anthrax being aerobic, or dependent on air, are, when buried four and a half feet, incapable of reproduction. The rest of the paper is occupied with the argument that cremation, by making exhumation impossible, prevents the detection of murders.

## SAYINGS and DOINGS

**Hawaii's Delegate.**

Robert W. Wilcox, Hawaii's delegate to congress, has been prominent in the politics of the islands since 1880. His father, who is still a resident of Maui, the island upon which Mr. Wilcox was born, used to be a sea captain of Newport, R. I. His mother, who is dead, was a native Hawaiian named Kalua. As a young man the delegate-elect was sent to Italy by the late King Kalakaua to attend the schools of that country. He became a student in a



**English Beauty Coming.**

Mrs. George Keppel, the noted English beauty, who is coming to America with her husband, is the daughter of Sir William Edmonstone and the wife of a younger brother of the Earl of Albemarle. Mrs. Keppel first attracted widespread attention in 1899 when the Prince of Wales showed his especial admiration for her beauty while the Keppels were visiting the Riviera. The Countess of Warwick was relegated to rear in the Prince's favor, and the new social star was shining brilliantly Mrs. George Keppel when a snub from the Duke of Richmond somewhat dimmed her light. The duke postively refused to allow her to be a guest at his house. The Prince at once put Richmond on his blacklist and refused to make his time-honored annual visit to the duke's home. Mr. Keppel, the husband of the beauty, is a wine merchant with a limited income.

**One-Legged Brigade.**

Among the usual spectacles witnessed on the transport Sherman when that vessel recently landed in San Francisco was the march of the "one-legged brigade," as it was called aboard ship. The "brigade" consisted of five soldiers, each of whom had lost a leg. They messed together and slept together, and when the troops landed they marched down the gangplank together.

**Held in "Papa's Wife."**

"Papa's Wife," with Anna Held as the star, is touring the western cities. The medium of Miss Held's appearance is a combination of two French vaudevilles skillfully welded by Harry B. Smith with music by Reginald De Koven. Miss Held is credited with possessing not only the charm of beauty, but has attained no little praise as an actress of real power. Her costumes are described as wonders in

**Picture of Tunnel Work.**

Wherever excavations are being made for the underground rapid transit road a lot of spectators may be found watching the workmen as intently as if they expected to see an engine come out of the hole. The photographers who are busy around each of these excavations are the targets for all sorts of questions. The photographers who are busy around each of these excavations are the targets for all sorts of questions. The photographs are to play an important part in the records of the underground. When the set is completed they will give practically a biograph history of the construction of the road. Each section of the street and the adjoining buildings are photographed before the work is begun. When the excavations have been made frequent photographs are taken showing the progress of the work. These will prove valuable records for the contractors if any damage suits should be brought against them. It has been suggested that when the rapid transit road is completed copies of this big set of photographs be mounted in one large album and preserved as part of the city records. It will be the most complete pictorial history of a big work ever made.—New York Sun.



**Airing Sleeping Rooms.**

Too little attention is given to the proper airing of sleeping rooms and to the ventilating qualities of bed covers. Comfortables that are almost air-tight should never be used, and at the best these cotton stuffed covers are a menace to health. Properly, nothing should be used about a bed which cannot be washed. Bedclothes should be spread upon chairs, singly, in the light and air for at least two hours every morning, and a draught should meanwhile be allowed to sweep through the room. Pillows should receive a good kneading, and be left directly before the open window in the sun and air.

**Tenacious of Life.**

Two instances showing how tenacious of life lobsters and cod are are related in a bulletin of the United States Fish Commission. In the fall of 1889 about twenty lobsters were left in a car in the "basin" at a fish com-

**Anna Held.**

Whether or not the prosperity contingent is said to be the most attractive bevvy of girls on the road this season.

**The Red Man's Prosperity.**

Whether or not the prosperity contingent had anything to do with it, a Winnebago brave, meekly followed by his fawn-eyed squaw, stalked into a large dry goods store yesterday afternoon, and said: "Heap good times; want to buy; have much money." The first purchase was eight yards of red silk and the second a set of Sevres china.—Sioux City Journal.