MERCER TALKS OF EUROPE

Popular Nebraska Congressman Recounts What He Saw Across the Water.

THINKS AMERICA A PRETTY GOOD PLACE

Did Not See a Niagara Falls Nor a Yosemite Valley Over There—American Labor in Demand in Russia—Better Paid Here.

Congressman David H. Mercer recently returned from an extended European trip with Mrs. Mercer and, in speaking of his travels, he said: "After congress adjourned, in consequence of the advice of physicians who told me my wife must have ocean travel in order to benefit her health, I determined to take a trip to Europe. I had always said I would never cross the waters until I had visited every state and territory in the United States and, having fulfilled my vow by visiting the southern part of the country, I felt at liberty to see the sights on the continent. Many people do not visit the interesting spots in their own country before they go abroad and consequently are unable to contrast and compare the old world with the new. The trip we took was a sort of a circular one, as we visited Greece, Russia, Finland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Servia, Bulgaria, Austro-Hungary, Bohemia, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, France, Belgium, Holland, England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales and also touched on the island of Korfu, a Grecian possession in the Adriatic.

"Wherever we went we were impressed by the age of things and by the improvements made by long periods of toil. The public roads, street paving, as well as painting and sculpture all denoted the work of centuries, the slow accumulation of time. In Italy, where was formerly the home of painting and sculpture, we noted a stagnation in those lines of art, the people of that land seemingly being willing to rest on the laurels won in the past while, on the other hand, in Russia there was great activity in those branches and some of the best work of modern times is to be seen, comparing favorably with anything of the kind in the world.

"The galleries at St. Petersburg are filled with the best specimens of modern art, many of which were exhibited at the World's fair in Chicago. In Italy marble statuary is as common as cottonwood trees along the banks of the Missouri river in Nebraska, but most of it is very old and has a polish given by age that is not obtainable by artists who are carving in the present time. There seems to be little progress in the arts now, although many artists are at work in the studios and the shops, and the country is full of students whose work compares with the best done by Italians who once led the world in the art of the sculptor.

Dug Out of the Past.

"Italy is like one vast vineyard, for the country is given over almost exclusively to the cultivation of grapes and the making of wines. The land is dotted with ruins of cities; seats of once famous republics which are once more, after the lapse of many ages, regaining something of their former prestige through modern improvements. Naples is one of these cities, situated as it is on a fine bay, and back of it Vesuvius—the continual terror of the inhabitants—forever belching forth great volumes of black smoke and painting the sky a lurid red with its boiling and seething lava. Near here are the ruins of the ill-fated city of Pompeii, once buried out of sight beneath an avalanche of ashes and lava. We saw here the streets of the city restored; the buildings excavated from the past, and were enabled to distinguish the one sort of building from the other; the bakery from the dwelling house; the lawyer's office from the bath. We saw rooms with frescoing on their walls that looked as fresh as though it were done but yesterday and saw ruts in the stone-paved streets where carriages had worn them in the years gone by.

"The streets were narrow like many of the European cities of today and the paving was of irregularly-shaped blocks of stone. Herculaneum was also an interesting spot. It, too, was buried by an eruption of Vesuvius, but has not been excavated, and over its buried streets a modern city has been built.

"Naples is a city fast becoming modernized, with its wide streets, paving, street-cars and large buildings. The country between it and Rome is given up principally to agriculture, and white oxen with long horns seems to be the only beasts of burden used. The soil is reddish in color and quite productive yet. The country is dotted with cities upon mountain-tops, relics of feudal days, which is a great inconvenience in modern times, as it is almost impossible to build railways to the tops of the mountains and it costs too much for the people to remove their houses and buildings down to the foot. Many of the cities are walled, and the sight of them takes you back to the time of the battering ram and the attacks of nomadic tribes.

"Rome, too, is modernizing rapidly with its street-cars, its pavements and its large railway station and handsome public buildings. She still keeps her walls about her, however, and no one is allowed to enter with merchandise for sale until he has been to the tax-gatherer at the gate, who makes an examination and levies a percentage on the cargo. I noticed the tax-gatherers were on the lookout for smuggling, and every farmer who came to the gates was rigidly examined, and if he had sacks of grain or other substances they were run through with a sharp sword to see if any contraband articles were concealed there, the examiner seeming to take a savage delight in tearing things as much as possible in pursuance of his duty.

"The taxes of Rome are very heavy, as may be realized when granulated sugar is worth almost 17 cents per pound. The city is filled with rich churches and cathedrals and they in turn are full of priceless paintings and pieces of sculpture—the relics of the glorious past, representing millions of dollars in wealth.

"Beside Naples and Rome we went to Brindisi and Pisa. In the latter place we climbed to the top of the famous leaning tower once accounted one of the seven wonders of the world. In Florence we saw many beautiful works of art, the Uffico gallery being one of the finest in the world. It is noted for the fact that there is little chaff in the collection of paintings, nearly every canvas being of rare merit.

Venice Disappointing at First.

"Venice, once the queen of the seas, disappointed us at first sight. As we left the railway station and took a gondola up the Grand canal to our hotel, we were forcibly reminded of a Missouri river town during flood time. It recalled to my mind the town of Phelps, in Missouri, during the high water of 1881, when the sidewalks and debris of the streets went floating around on the murky tide. This may seem a harsh criticism, but it struck me that way at first. I found later, however, the longer I stayed the more regret I felt at the idea of departure. Upon closer examination the buildings, which looked so old, were found to be constructed of the finest marble, coated with the blackness of age, it is true, but ornamented by some of the most exquisite carvings of the master minds of the past. Many of the buildings seemed vacant and there were not many signs of progress in the old city. St. Mark's square is perhaps one of the finest squares in the world. On one side is the dignified and beautiful St. Mark's cathedral.

"The ruins of Rome do not compare with those of Athens, with its acropolis, situated as it is on a sightly hill. There is a harmony and fine taste in the architecture of Greece that pleases the modern eye. Greece in many respects reminds one of the so-called desert of the west, as it is very dry. It is rich in figs and olives, the groves of the latter trees being of great age, some trees being 2,000 years old. The gnarled trunks, some of them three and four feet in diameter, are split in five or six sections from which branches droop, laden with a luxuriant growth of fruit. The trees are surrounded with holes in the ground in which water is kept for irrigation purposes to keep them alive. It is absolutely necessary to irrigate in that country and the most primitive methods are in vogue. I saw many men driving mules hitched to beams, which operated rotary pumps. The water was brought to the surface and turned into ditches that cross-sectioned the small patches of land owned by the farmers.

"I was amused in Athens to find that everything mean and bad was laid to the Turk. If I pointed out a ruin or an unsightly object, the Athenians at once said it had been done by the Turks. The city is troubled for a sufficient supply of water, there being such a scarcity the streets are frequently not sprinkled and the inhabitants oftentimes suffer for want of water. An attempt has been made to pipe water from a lake some distance away, but the capital necessary not forthcoming, the scheme proved abortive.

Want American Machinery.

"Russia is of interest, especially to the United States, for the reason that she is being pointed out as a possible rival in the agricultural pursuits on account of her great wheat-raising areas. I met an American returning from Siberia, the great wheat country, and he told me he had just taken an order for $360,000 worth of American mowing machines to be sent to Siberia. He said his house was not able to supply the demand. The American machines are capable of doing anything they are called upon to do and are greatly in demand, not only on account of their lightness, but for the workmanlike manner in which they are put together and the quality of work they do.

"The government is trying to move the population from the thickly settled portions to Siberia and offers inducements, but not with the generosity our own government showed when it passed the homestead law. The bonus there is simply the use of the land free of rent for five years. The country is rich in gold and silver and precious stones. I hardly think she will ever be able to compete successfully, either in the manufacture of machinery or in the raising of wheat and other cereals. Our own land is not yet settled—there are millions of acres that have not been tilled and there are homes for many thousand yet here in this land. Neither Russia nor England has the business facilities of this country. Besides the demand from Russia for our machinery there is also a demand from Germany, Scandinavia and Egypt for American-made locomotives and steel rails. The demand comes for the reason that they are of better grade and again because of the rapidity with which the orders are filled.

"We were much interested by our visit to Finland, with its progressive capital, Helsingfors, and its modern improvements. The trip through Scandinavia was full of extreme interest, with its wild scenery and its many waterfalls. Stockholm and Christiania are beautiful cities, full of modern buildings and progressive enterprises. In Stockholm I noticed the use of the telephone especially, there being two and three in many of the houses and some business houses had five and six. There were two companies, one owned by the government and the other by a syndicate, and competition is great. The rental is nominal. I also noticed that trusts abounded not only here, but over Europe to a great extent, there being many signs reading like 'John Jones & Co., Limited.' In some countries the government owns the railways, but it often happens that the interest is not shown in the enterprise that would be were they under private ownership, and therefore are not as successful as they might be.

"While the railway facilities in the old country did not seem as great as in the United States, yet wagon roads appeared much superior. This is due to the fact the countries are very old and wagon roads were in use long before the railways came into being. The fine roadways were the result of perhaps a thousand years' work and what could we not do in a thousand years here? From Scandinavia, Germany and Great Britain the excuse for emigration is the fact that they are too densely populated. Every inch of available land is tilled and still there is not enough to support the people. On the continent the women labor along with the men in the field or town.

Emperor William Progressive.

"Berlin is more like an American city than many I saw, and is full of fine improvements and progressive ideas. I liked the city ever so much. In this connection I might add I caught sight of Emperor William at Bergen, although I did not have an opportunity to speak to him. From what I was able to learn he seems like a live king and one who is determined to learn all he can from whatsoever source. He visits the shops and the manufacturing establishments and wants to learn everything possible. He desires to make Germany progressive and travels about over Europe in search of ideas for the betterment of his people. I hope the time is not long distant when he will visit America, and I am sure the American people will give him a warm welcome should he come here.

"Labor is much better paid in the United States than abroad. There is so little work that it must be divided among a good many. An American man will do in one day what is given to three or four over there. For instance, in building we draw mortar and bricks to the upper stories with pulleys. Over there they build ladders on the scaffolding and men or women carry it up.

"France, like Italy, is full of vineyards. The middle classes, prosperous and seemingly satisfied, are the salvation of the country. It has been said Paris is France, but France could well live without Paris, but Paris would perish without France. The city is a beautiful one. The women are progressive and do a large portion of the business of the city. If the men were half as quick witted and public spirited there would be less fault to find there. The exposition, now being built, will be great, but the site is not so beautiful nor are the plans so extensive as was that of the World's fair. When I was there the Dreyfus affair seemed likely to bring disaster to the big undertaking.

"Belgium and Holland are interesting countries, full of dairies and windmills. In Holland the people have pumped up seas of water in order to find land to till, and it is even hinted that they are contemplating pumping the Zuyder Zee dry in order to secure more land to cultivate. It may be the problem of transatlantic travel will be solved by these enterprising people. We cannot bridge and dare not tunnel, so it is left for the Hollanders to pump the Atlantic dry and thus make a highway.

"Parts of England, Scotland and Ireland reminded me of a garden with hedges of ivy between the little fields. There was beautiful scenery there and many interesting things to be seen. London is enormous, like the hub of the universe, with its lines of water travel converging from all quarters of the earth. But I am certain that in fifty years this power will have crossed the Atlantic and New York will be the queen of the seas and the center of the world. The people of London live in apartment houses and are jammed into small homes. They lack the home comforts we have in America, more is the pity.

"The conclusion I draw after a trip abroad is that we in the United States have many advantages and comforts denied to the inhabitants of other lands, but we do not know all there is, nor have we all the advantages in the world. There are many lessons to be learned from the old countries. We may learn conservatism there and patience. While I was away I did not find a Niagara Falls, although I saw many beautiful cataracts. I did not find a Yosemite valley nor a Grand canyon. I think we Americans are too prone to visit Europe and rave over the scenery there when we have far superior sights at home which we have never seen."

"IT'S BLATZ THE STAR MILWAUKEE BEER"

"IT'S BLATZ" FOR QUALITY EVERY TIME" AND A CASE OF BLATZ BEER IN YOUR HOUSE WILL BE SURE TO PROVE A HAPPY PROPOSITION ON MANY OCCASIONS.

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1412 Douglas St., Tel. 1081.
VAL BLATZ BREWING CO.,
Milwaukee, Wis.

FUSION MEETING A FIZZLE

Hitchcock and Dunn Give Up Contest and Fail to Appear at Bennington.

A "grand" fusion rally was extensively advertised to take place in Bennington last night and as a result a small crowd gathered to listen to the popocratic orators. G. M. Hitchcock and I. J. Dunn were among the speakers announced, but they did not appear. It was understood among the assembly that Hitchcock and Dunn, having become convinced that the election is lost to the confusionists, concluded that it would be a waste of eloquence to speak at the Bennington meeting. The assembly, if at all disappointed, was consoled by two fusion candidates—Abbott and Swoboda—who made the usual personal appeal for votes.

Jews Vote for the Best Men.

OMAHA, Nov. 5.—To the Editor of The Bee: I have twice noticed in the World-Herald that Jacob Marks declares that all the Hebrews will vote the fusion ticket. Marks doesn't know what he is talking about. His assertion is a stigma upon the Jews and I, for one, and many others indignantly resent it. Everybody knows that the Jews are good citizens of Omaha—and are intelligent people—and nobody carries the vote of these people in his pocket. The only vote that Marks can claim is his own. No man can buy Jewish votes. They vote for the best men. There are no Hebrew political clubs to influence them one way or the other. R. G.

OMAHA GERMANS CELEBRATE

Four Hundred and Sixth Anniversary of Landing in United States Duly Observed.

The 406th anniversary of the landing of the Germans in the United States was celebrated Sunday night at Turner hall on Harney street with appropriate ceremonies. There was a large crowd present and the hall was handsomely decorated with flags and plants. A program of much interest was given. The first thing was a song by the Orpheus club, which was highly appreciated. W. F. Stoecker made the welcome address, which contained a fine poem by A. Rau. Dr. J. Renner made a good speech and Madame Wagner-Thomas sang a solo.

N. Gonner of Dubuque, Ia., made the principal address of the evening, which was an eloquent one. The Orpheus society sang a song later and the whole audience sang "Die Wacht Am Rhein" at the close. A ball, in which the young people entered with gladness, brought the day's festivities to a merry close.

Dr. H. H. Haden, Summit, Ala., says: "I think Kodol Dyspepsia Cure is a splendid medicine. I prescribe it, and my confidence in it grows with continued use." It digests what you eat and quickly cures dyspepsia and indigestion.

HEARD ABOUT TOWN.

Joe Wheeler and Oscar Green, members of the Green-Wheeler Shoe company at Fort Dodge, Ia., are in the city. Mr. Wheeler, while being the junior member of the firm, at the same time devotes his entire attention to work on the road and is one of the most popular traveling men in the west. Business, he says, starts out more promisingly this fall than ever before and the house has so much work to do from its old-time customers that Mr. Wheeler says he is unable to open accounts with new firms. Both Messrs. Green and Wheeler are jubilant over the opening of the Fort Dodge-Omaha extension of the Illinois Central, as it gives the progressive little manufacturing city of Fort Dodge direct communication, through Omaha, with the entire western field.

Personal Paragraphs.

Senator Thurston left for Washington last evening.

J. L. Doody, real estate man of Albion, Ia., visited The Bee building Sunday. He is waiting to welcome the Fifty-first Iowa today.

J. W. Johnson, editor of the Knoxville (Ia.) Journal, visited the Bee building Sunday. Mr. Johnson assists in welcoming the Fifty-first Iowa today.

Iowa Man Relieved of Money.

William Riggles of Murray, Ia., came to town Sunday to see the sights. Late in the evening he perambulated down Dodge street and was met by a couple of hale fellows well met. They suggested a can of beer. He fell in with the idea. After he drank the beer he felt queer and later found he had been relieved of $25 in cash. He told his troubles to the police and they went out to look for the culprits. They had not gone far until they found two men who answered the description given by Riggles and they landed the men in jail. They gave the names of Callahan and Butler, but denied all knowledge of Riggles or his money.

Tin Plate Trust to Get Charter.

PITTSBURG, Pa., Nov. 5.—A charter will be secured in West Virginia tomorrow for the National Tinplate company, with an authorized capital of $3,000,000. The incorporators will be: Judge James A. Beaver, former governor of Pennsylvania; State Senator Nelson E. Whitaker, Wheeling; William Rodgers, Leechburg, Pa.; J. C. McDowell, vice president Philadelphia company, Pittsburg; W. E. Tustin, Pittsburg, and A. B. Daly and Charles Daly, Wheeling.

LOCAL BREVITIES.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank B. Barrett will entertain the Bon Ton Card club this evening at their home, 812 North Thirty-third street.

REORGANIZATION OF THE GULF

Modified Plan for an Entire Reissue of Securities of the Road.

INTENDED TO CREATE UNIFIED SYSTEM

Property is to Be Under a Five-Year Voting Trust Comprising Seven Members—Syndicate to Purchase New Bonds.

NEW YORK, Nov. 5.—A synopsis of the modified form of the reorganization of the Kansas City, Pittsburg & Gulf railroad has been given out by Max Pam, counsel to the so-called Philadelphia reorganization committee.

Under this plan the entire issue of securities is as follows: First mortgage 3 per cent fifty-year gold bonds covering the entire system, including terminals, $30,000,000; new preferred stock, likewise covering the entire system, $21,000,000; new common stock likewise covering the entire system, $30,000,000.

These will be distributed as follows: To the holders of first mortgage bonds of Kansas City, Pittsburg & Gulf Railroad company will give 75 per cent ($750) in first mortgage fifty-year bonds and 50 per cent ($500) par value of new preferred stock and payment in cash of the overdue coupon of April, 1899. To the holders of the stock of the Kansas City, Pittsburg & Gulf railroad there will be given in payment of a $10 assessment on each share one share of new common stock and one-tenth of a share of new preferred stock for each $10 paid. To the holders of the bonds of the Kansas City Suburban Belt company, aggregating $1,000,000, there will be given 135 per cent ($1,330) in new 3 per cent gold bonds and 25 per cent ($250), par value, new preferred stock.

To the holders of the bonds of the new terminal company, the Consolidatde Terminal company and the Kansas City & Independence Air Line company, being part of the Kansas City Belt Line company system, aggregating $3,050,000, there will be given 100 per cent ($1,000) of the new 3 per cent bonds and 25 per cent ($250) new preferred stock.

To the holders of the capital stock of the Kansas City Belt system, including all lines, aggregating $4,050,000, there will be given 25 per cent ($250) new preferred stock and 75 per cent ($750) common stock of the railroad company.

To the holders of the Port Arthur Channel and Dock company, aggregating $1,635,000, there will be given 50 per cent ($500) new 3 per cent bonds, 50 per cent ($500) new common stock.

To the holders of the stock of the Port Arthur Channel and Dock company there will be given 75 per cent common stock.

To Create a Unified System.

The synopsis states that it is intended to create a unified system, ownership and title to the main line with both terminals, and that the mortgage securing the new bonds and the new preferred and common stocks to be issued shall cover the entire unified system. The property is to be under the control of a five-year voting trust, comprising seven members, as follows: John W. Gates, William Edenborn, Herman Sielcken, John Lambert, Samuel R. Shipley, Louis Fitzgerald and James Stillman.

According to Mr. Pam's statement, the plan as modified has been submitted to the New York committee and unanimously approved by it and it has recommended its acceptance by all the security holders. The reorganization is to proceed under the direction of the Philadelphia committee as constituted.

The Mercantile Trust company of this city has been added as the New York depository and the Amsterdamsche bank has been added as the Amsterdam depository. The certificates of depositories will be listed on the New York and Philadelphia exchanges as soon as practicable.

It is also announced that a syndicate has been formed which will purchase $3,000,000 of new bonds and $3,000,000 of new preferred stock, also will underwrite the $10 assessment so as to give the new company ample cash to discharge all its obligations and supply adequate working capital. All securities not used in the reorganization plan as agreed on are to remain in the treasury.

GREAT NORTHERN EARNINGS LARGE

Nearly Three Million Dollars in Excess of Last Year's Report.

ST. PAUL, Nov. 5.—The annual report of the Great Northern railway shows a total trackage in the system of 5,850 miles, an increase of 299 miles since the last report. It was estimated in the report last year that the reduction of wheat rates on account of the opening of the new Fosston & Duluth line would reduce the revenue about $1,000,000. This year's report shows the reduction to be a little over $875,000, the average reduction amounting to 1½ cents per bushel, which went to the profit of the farmer.

There was a general reduction in all rates, but the increase in business was sufficient to carry the total earnings of the fiscal year to nearly $3,000,000 in excess of last year, most of which was used in the betterment of the line.

Nothing, perhaps, better illustrates the growth of the territory traversed by the road than the increase in the amount of mail carried, which exceeds by 50 per cent the total weight of four years ago.

About November 12 the company will open up its new line from St. Paul to Duluth. This will be the shortest route between the Twin Cities and the head of Lake Superior.

FORTUNE FOR DAY LABORER

Victor Matson of Houghton, Mich., Notified that He is Heir to Family Estate in Finland.

HOUGHTON, Mich., Nov. 5.—Victor Matson, a scion of one of the oldest and wealthiest families of Finland and a graduate of a university of his native land, but who has been a day-laborer here for some time, today received a letter from Finland notifying him that by the death of his father he had fallen heir to the entire family estate, valued at 500,000 marks.

An hour later Matson had formally assigned the estate to his wife and as soon as arrangements can be made Matson, with his family, will return to Helsingfors, the capital of Finland, where the estate is situated. Several years ago Matson, then a university student, fell into bad habits and was disowned. He came to America, was married and for a time was prosperous. Gradually, however, he lapsed into his old habits and lost position after position, finally being compelled to labor on the streets for a bare living, while his wife and children became dependent on charity.

When Matson received the letter announcing his inheritance he at once hunted up his destitute family and in the presence of Municipal Judge Curtis first took the pledge and then turned over his inheritance to his wife.

STEAL SHEEP BY THOUSAND

State Senator Phillips and Deputy Sheriff Green of Great Falls, Mont., Bound Over.

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 5.—A special to the Times from Great Falls, Mont., says:

Something of a sensation has been caused by the arrest in Chateau county of State Senator Phillips and Deputy Sheriff Green on the charge of sheep stealing. It is alleged that these men got away with a band of sheep numbering 1,737 belonging to Taylor brothers and others. At the preliminary examination, both men were held in $2,000 bonds.

You never know what form of blood poison will follow constipation. Keep the liver clean by using DeWitt's Little Early Risers and you will avoid trouble. They are famous little pills for constipation and liver and bowel troubles.

...AMUSEMENTS...

Minstrelsy.

Primrose & Dockstader presenting at Boyd's theater a modern minstrel performance in black face.

THE COMPANY.

Interlocutor	James Tenbrooke
Bones	George Primrose Lew Sully
Tambourines	Lew Dockstader Larry Dooley
Vocal Choir	Manuel Romain Will Redmond Harry Ernest James Tenbrooke Charles Kent George Trewellyn Edward Hanson B. S. Carnes John Pieri

Specialty number by Juggling Johnsons.

One of the cleanest, most modern and thoroughly artistic minstrel performances ever given in Omaha is that offered by this veteran duo of exponents of the minstrel's art. There is entertainment to please everybody, from the free and easy-going occupant of the gallery to the church-goer who never attends theatrical performances upon Sunday nights, but who is frequently seen in the week-night audiences. There is nothing said or done at which anyone could take the slightest offense. It is the sort of performance that is bound to elevate minstrelsy.

The first part introduces a beautiful picture in its opening. The stage setting, which represents the interior court of the mastodon senate, is indeed artistic and effective. The audience Sunday night was unusually large, in fact the largest of the season, and thoroughly appreciative. None of the performers were allowed to leave the stage without first being given proper recognition for their efforts to entertain in the shape of demonstrative applause. Lew Dockstader, who is today without a doubt the most capable minstrel upon the stage, makes his usual tremendous hit. He has a batch of new stories, good comic songs and witty sayings. His reference to local affairs of interest in his comic songs and remarks almost convulsed the audience and brought forth an uproar of applause. George Primrose also comes in for his share of attention from the audience and was compelled to answer a half dozen encores to each of his songs.

The real feature of the performance is the closing scene of the first part. It is called the "Choir Boy's Dream" and introduces some remarkable electrical effects. The opening part of the scene shows the exterior of a church and the choir is heard singing inside. The lights in the theater are extinguished and through the doors of the church may be seen the organist seated at his organ and the choir boy standing near. Both are clothed in the vestments of the church and to the accompaniment of the organ the choir boy renders "The Palms," one of the most beautiful sacred songs ever written.

Another feature is the closing act of the performance, which consists of club swinging by the four Johnsons, youths who handle Indian clubs in a dexterous manner, juggling them in all sorts of seemingly impossible positions. The act is finished, refined and decidedly artistic. The engagement closes tonight.

Vaudeville.

Regular weekly change of bill at the Creighton-Orpheum.

THE BILL.

Hungarian Boys Military band, Stephens and Taylor, musical comedians; Hadj Lessik Fatima, gun spinner; Seymour and Dupree, dancing and musical duo; Joseph d'Bell, trapeze performer; Armstrong and Cassidy, comedy sketch team; Francklyn Wallace, tenor.

Of the many strong features offered by the management of this popular amusement resort since opening as a vaudeville theater, the Hungarian Boys' Military band, which leads this week's bill, is without doubt the greatest musical attraction. The band is composed of about forty youths, ranging in years from 6 to 17. They are all of Hungarian birth and have been in this country less than two years. All of the lads are capable musicians, each having been given a thorough musical education by the government of Austro-Hungary. The finish of their performance would do credit to many organizations made up of musicians much more advanced in years and experience. Yesterday's program included three numbers, besides several encores, which were graciously responded to. The first number was a march, "Graf Garaffa," by Komzak, which was rendered with a true military dash and spirit. Following it came Suppe's well known overture "Light Cavalry," a most difficult selection, and it was almost faultlessly rendered by these really wonderful musicians. Several national airs were offered in response to applause and they were followed by a number of well rendered selections from the opera "Robin Hood." The performance was closed with the rendition of "Clorindy," one of the popular ragtime compositions.

The band presents a most striking picture upon the stage. The performers, clad in their natty, gilt-trimmed red uniforms, with black plush capes, edged with white lamb's wool, nickel-plated side arms, high tan boots and white plooned red and black shaccos, look every inch the little soldiers they are. Their musical program will be changed every other night, and those who have been used to attending and enjoying the Bellstedt concerts at the exposition during the summer will find it quite a similar pleasure in listening to the short concert given by these boys nightly.

The band is under the leadership of Prof. Schilzonyi Nicklos of the Hungarian army.

The balance of the week's program is made up of acts that are all entertaining and quite diversified in makeup. There is any amount of good comedy, some acrobatic work, singing and dancing, a good sketch and some clever trapeze performing. At Sunday's matinee performance Joseph D'Bell, who works upon a trapeze suspended twenty feet above the stage floor, lost his hold while performing a difficult feat and fell to the floor backward. His agility saved him, however, for he turned quickly in the air and alighted upon his hands and knees. As it was he suffered only a slight cut on the knee and bruise on his hand. He resumed his act at once, doing his work with wonderful rapidity.

At Sunday night's performance the theater was packed to overflowing, over 300 people being seated upon the stage. The management states that the attendance is the largest enjoyed by the theater at a single performance since its opening.

ARROW BRAND
25¢ CAPOLON
CLUETT, PEABODY & CO. MAKERS

A child fresh from its bath in clean dainty clothes is a suggestion of Ivory Soap. All dainty washable things may be restored to their original freshness without injury, by use of Ivory Soap.

A WORD OF WARNING.—There are many white soaps, each represented to be "just as good as the 'Ivory';" they ARE NOT, but like all counterfeits, lack the peculiar and remarkable qualities of the genuine. Ask for "Ivory" Soap and insist upon getting it.

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LOFTY BUILDINGS IN RUINS

Kansas City Property Valued at Half-Million Dollars Destroyed.

FIRE STARTS IN LARGE DEPARTMENT STORE

Several Five and Six-Story Structures Are Consumed and Firemen Have Narrow Escapes from Falling Walls.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Nov. 5.—Half a million dollars worth of property was destroyed after midnight by fire that started in Jones Bros.' big department store on North Main and Sixth streets and spread to half a block of other buildings on Main and Walnut streets. The aggregate insurance is estimated at $375,000. The heaviest losers are Jones Bros., who estimate their stock, which was totally destroyed, as worth $300,000. The insurance carried by this firm amounted to 82 per cent of the loss. It was the most destructive fire that has ever visited the uptown business district.

The other heavy losses are: Jones building, 551 to 561 Main street, owned by W. C. Lobenstein, New York, $60,000; Jones annex, 557 Main, owned by Majors Investment company, $15,000; Humboldt building, 601 Main, owned by W. C. Lobenstein, $20,000; L. M. Emerich, stock dry goods, 601 Main, $15,000; M. Quinn, groceries, 549 to 531 Main, $25,000; St. James hotel (unoccupied), 510 to 516 Walnut street, $18,000; the Flavel Shoe company, Snodgrass Drug company and the Chandler Commission company suffered minor losses.

Breeze Carries Burning Embers.

The fire started in the building owned by Jones Bros., at 551 to 561 Main street, and its inflammable contents burned with remarkable rapidity. Within twenty minutes the entire six stories were a mass of flames and burning embers were being carried by a stiff breeze in all directions. Twenty minutes later part of the Main street front wall fell with a terrific crash. Within a short time the south wall tottered and fell, crashing into the Humboldt building, a five-story structure across Sixth street, carrying down part of the latter building. In a little more than half an hour after the fire started the Jones stock was entirely destroyed and nothing was left of the building but the foundation. In the meantime the fire had spread south to the Humboldt building, north to the Jones annex and Quinn's grocery, all five-story buildings, and flying embers had caught the old St. James hotel, four stories in height, half a block north on Walnut street, the next street east. The hotel was partially saved, but the walls are bulging out and the building will have to be torn down. Absolutely nothing of the stock of the Emerich Dry Goods company was saved and the building occupied by the Emerich company is a total wreck.

Two stories of the Quinn building were burned and Quinn's stock was ruined. The other losses were caused principally by water and smoke.

Every fire company in the city was called to the scene and help was sent by Kansas City, Kan. Firemen had many narrow escapes from falling walls. Dan Donovan fell thirty feet through a skylight at the St. James hotel and was seriously hurt, but will recover.

Poultry Establishment Scorched.

HASTINGS, Neb., Nov. 5.—(Special Telegram.)—Charles Jacobson & Sons' poultry establishment was damaged by fire last night. The loss is small and is covered by insurance.

Cotton Warehouse Destroyed.

JACKSON, Miss., Nov. 5.—The large cotton warehouse at Crystal Springs burned today, with 700 bales of cotton. Loss, $60,000.

Geo. Noland, Rockland, O., says: "My wife had piles forty years. DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve cured her. It is the best salve in America." It heals everything and cures all skin diseases.

PENSIONS FOR WESTERN VETERANS.

Survivors of the Civil War Remembered by the General Government.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5.—(Special.)—The following western pensions have been granted:

Issue of October 21:

Nebraska: Original, special October 24—Waldren C. Townsend, Stafford, $12. Increase—John N. Brock, Giltner, $8 to $10; Samuel Gilbert, Auburn, $6 to $12.

Iowa: Original—Edward G. Creel, Marshalltown, $8; Samuel H. Wark, Adair, $6. Renewal and reissue—Isaac N. Gardner, Oakland, $6. Increase—Christian Stamm, Alta, $6 to $8.

South Dakota: Original—Charles H. Robertson, Bangor, $8; Arthur J. Parshall, Mitchell, $6. Increase—William H. H. Jones, Huron, $12 to $14.

Colorado: Original—Archibald McGrew, Denver, $6; John C. Baldwin, Trinidad, $6. Restoration and increase—Washington L. Strohm (dead), Colorado Springs, $8 to $12. Increase—Frank M. Pogue, Leadville, $10 to $12. Original widows, etc.—Anna Strohm, Colorado Springs, $8.

Wyoming: Additional—Lindsay Knapp, Basin, $6 to $8.

English Ice Bags

Of rubber coated checked cloth, with large screw cap for ice.

PRICE $1.00

THE ALOE & PENFOLD CO.,
Largest Retail Drug House.
1408 Farnam. OMAHA.
OPPOSITE PAXTON HOTEL

TRY GRAIN-O! TRY GRAIN-O!

Ask your grocer today to show you a package of GRAIN-O, the new food drink that takes the place of coffee. The children may drink it without injury, as well as the adult. All who try it, like it. GRAIN-O has that rich seal brown of Mocha or Java, but it is made from pure grains, and the most delicate stomach receives it without distress. ¼ the price of coffee. 15c and 25c per package. Sold by all grocers.

It's Not so Easy—

To sell a man's shoe for $2.50 that always proves satisfactory—Our shoe experience enables us to buy a genuine welt—bulldog toe and full double and single soled shoe for men that we can sell for $2.50—in black only—Those looking for a good walking shoe—with no nails to hurt the feet—can find nothing better—This is the first time that we have attempted to sell a genuine welt for $2.50—but you can depend upon it being just what we claim for it—can have half soles sewed on instead of nailed—an everyday shoe for everyday man at $2.50.

Drexel Shoe Co.,
Omaha's Up-to-date Shoe House,
1419 FARNAM STREET.

The Framing of Pictures—

Has become an art with us—There are two ways of framing—one is the right way, the other is the wrong way—We have framed so many that we know only the right way—Then we give you the largest assortment of mouldings to select from you ever saw in your life—Right up to date, too—Nothing adds so much to a room as a picture well framed—We invite visitors to our art department.

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Music and Art. 1513 Douglas.