

Women's Suits and Topcoats ON SALE AT LESS THAN COST!

We have a limited number of beautifully tailored suits, odd sizes, broken lots and some of which we discontinued because of the mills being unable to duplicate the cloths, which have accumulated during the season's business and which we intend to dispose of. To insure quick selling, we have marked all of these at less than cost price. And just before the holidays, when prices naturally are high, we place on sale—

FOR TOMORROW ONLY

\$25.00 and \$30.00 Women's Fashionable Suits and Topcoats, in a big variety of shades and makes, at..... **\$14.75**

\$18.00 and \$22.50 Women's Suits and Topcoats in newest styles, well made and made to fit perfect, at..... **\$10.75**

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This \$30 Coat \$14.75.

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AT LESS THAN COST Cravenetted Overcoats, Raincoats and Silk Coats

Of Broken and Discontinued Lots and Odd Sizes We have too many odd sizes, also discontinued lines which we intend to sell out at once. These odd sizes accumulate to such an extent during the course of a season's business that we are glad to sell them at less than cost to make room for new lots. Hence this sale. We have these grouped into two lots and they will not last long for they are greatest bargains of the season.

Women's \$25 to \$30 Coats **\$14.75**

Choice of a lot of handsome Silk Waterproof Coats and

COATS JUST LIKE CUT. Made in this particular style from handsome diagonal Waterproof Cloth in blue, brown, gray, black, green and garnet. Any coat in the lot during this sale \$14.75, and many others in the same style as cut, from cravenetted materials.

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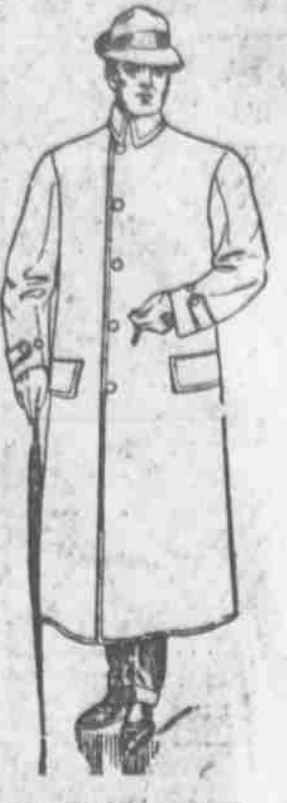
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S. E. Conner 16th and Davenport Sts.—Hotel Loyal Bldg.

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This \$30 Coat \$14.75.

Some Things You Want to Know

The American Congress—Noted Speakership Fights.

When no one political party controls a majority of the votes in the house of representatives the matter of electing a speaker becomes a vital question of national moment. Of course, no such condition is possible when there are but two parties, as is usually the case, both claiming and receiving the loyal support of every subscriber to their respective political creeds. In such cases the question of who will be speaker is decided in the caucus of the majority party, and the minority caucus selects its leader and offers him for the empty honor of the minority candidate for the speakership. Every speaker since the beginning of the civil war has been named in caucus, and there has been no spectacular fight for the chair in the house itself. The party caucuses have been the scene of some pitched battles and they often have been preceded by a season of wire pulling, patronage promising and political chicanery. Usually, however, the majority has chosen the "logical" candidate for speaker, although notable exceptions are the preferences given in 1891 to Charles F. Crisp over Roger Q. Mills and in 1898 to David B. Henderson over Joseph G. Cannon. Mr. Cannon has been four times elected speaker, equalling the highest record for successive elections to that office, held by Andrew Stevenson of Virginia. At each of these four elections Mr. Cannon has had the "logical" choice of the majority of the majority party.

But when there are three parties in the house, or when any party cannot control its own members and disintegrates, and when this disintegration of bi-party lines goes to the extent that no one faction has an absolute majority, then the house itself must select its speaker. For the first time in many years there is a prospect of such a situation in the house. The "insurgent" or anti-Cannon republicans and the Fitzgerald faction of the democrats, hold the balance of power between the two parties in this congress. The regular democrats must depend for every atom of hope upon the "insurgent" republicans, the Cannon or regular republicans must depend for their control of the house upon the continued support of the twenty-three democrats who follow the leadership of Representative Fitzgerald. Representatives for the Sixty-second congress will be chosen at the polls next fall and it is within the realm of probability that the next house will have neither a straight republican nor a regular democratic majority. In that event, the successor to Speaker Cannon will be chosen in an open fight in the house.

The Thirty-first congress met on December 3, 1893, the slavery question had begun to destroy party lines by forming geographical groups. The whigs were in the majority, but the party discipline was lax, the southerners being defiant and the northerners not inclined to yield their views even for the sake of organizing the house. Robert C. Winthrop of Massachusetts, speaker in the preceding congress, was the regular whig nominee. Howell Cobb of Georgia was the democratic candidate. Thirteen "free soil" whigs held the balance of power. Under the leadership of Joshua Klingensmith of these refused to support Winthrop because he had ignored the anti-slavery sentiment in appointing the committee of the Thirtieth congress. They de-

manded from him a pledge that he would constitute the committee on Judiciary, Territories and the District of Columbia to suit them. Winthrop declined. Another faction of "insurgents" was led by Alexander H. Stephens and Robert Toombs of Georgia, seeking to prevent the alignment of the whigs and anti-slavery parties. On the thirty-sixth ballot Winthrop declined to permit the further use of his name. The democrats, believing Cobb could not be elected, formed a coalition with the free soilers to elect William J. Brown of Indiana, and on the fortieth ballot Brown lacked but two votes of election. But it was exposed that Brown had bartered the control of important committees for the free soil support, the democrats left him and pandemonium reigned. The house was the scene of the wildest disorder and there was fear of bloodshed. After three weeks of wrangling the house adopted a resolution providing for a plurality selection and on the sixty-third ballot Howell Cobb was elected.

In the next two congresses the democrats had everything their own way, but when the thirty-fourth congress met in December, 1896, the irrepressible conflict had begun. The whig party was in extreme, the democrats were torn to pieces, and there was an almost complete obliteration of party lines. There were northern whigs and northern democrats, southern democrats and southern whigs, free soilers, know-nothings and a few republicans—the first of that mighty organization which has had practically entire control of the republic for the last fifty years. The anti-Nebraska men, composed of free soilers, republicans, know-nothings and anti-administration democrats, had a safe plurality over the administration democrats, but a third section made up of whigs and southern know-nothings, held the balance of power. On the first ballot five candidates appeared: William A. Richardson of Illinois, democrat, 74 votes; Lewis D. Campbell of Ohio, anti-Nebraska, 51; Humphrey Marshall of Kentucky, democrat and know-nothing, 39; Nathaniel P. Banks of Massachusetts, anti-Nebraska, 21; Henry Fuller of Pennsylvania, national know-nothing, 17; and twenty-nine scattering votes. The "impartial" seventy-four of the administration minority was loyal to Richardson, but the majority was unable to agree upon a candidate. For two months the house was deadlocked. Men slept in the chamber, the sectional strife began to show its ugly features and the whole country was in an uproar. Finally the democrats, in the belief that the southern whigs and Americans would rally to their support of Alben of South Carolina, passed a resolution providing for a plurality election. The slip occurred betwixt cup and lip and on the 13th ballot Banks received 183 votes, Alken 190, with 11 scattering. Precedent required that a plurality election be ratified by resolution. The clerk of the house, John W. Forney, feared that another vote, such as would have to be taken on the resolution, would defeat the question, so he resolved upon the heroic action of declaring Banks elected. Governor Alken immediately acquiesced and escorted Mr. Banks to the chair. Thus ended the two-months struggle. Its chief result was not the election of Banks, but the actual organization of the republican party.

In the next congress the democrats again had a clear majority and elected James L. Orr speaker without difficulty by a vote of 128 to 84 cast for Calista A. Gray, republican. But it was but a temporary truce and when the thirty-sixth congress met on December 8, 1899, the clouds of the great storm of civil war were hanging low. For the first time a new congress met in the hall of the house of representatives now in use. The membership was composed of 109 republicans, 83 administration democrats, 23 southern Americans and 4 northern Americans. No party had a majority. The republicans did not agree upon a candidate at first and on the initial ballot the votes were divided among sixteen candidates. Grow and John Sherman were the leading republican candidates, but Grow withdrew after the first ballot and the republicans rallied to the support of Sherman. Then came the reading in the house of the endorsement of the book by Hinton Rowan Helper, "The Impending Crisis in the South—How to Meet It." Both Sherman's and Grow's names were signed to the document. Sherman explained that his name was placed there only by proxy, but his explanation could not win him the necessary number of votes from the American contingent to bring about his election. The contest was the most bitter ever waged. Members of congress were armed with pistols and bowie knives and everybody feared that any moment might see the new hall disgraced by a pitched battle. Only with the greatest difficulty was even the semblance of peace maintained. Violent threats were made in almost every speech and all hope of a compromise and a plurality election was destroyed by a combination which agreed to prevent such a change in the rules. Finally the republicans brought forward William Pennington, a former governor of New Jersey, who had just been elected to the house and who had no record to make him enemies. He gained a few votes and Briggs of New York promised that when one vote would assure his election he would cast it on the forty-third ballot, on January 31, Henry Winter Davis, a southern American from Maryland, cast his vote for Pennington. The clerk called Davis' name three times and he did not reply. He was walking to and fro at the back of the chamber with his hands behind him. After the roll was completed he asked the clerk to call his name and he voted for Pennington. That gave the New Jersey man 115 votes, only one less than a majority. On the next day, February 1, 1890, Briggs' vote elected Pennington by one majority. But it was Henry Winter Davis, who made history by deserting his political companions and making the election of a speaker possible. Despite the handicap of ignorance of parliamentary forms, Speaker Pennington was an impartial presiding officer. He was in the speaker's chair at the time of the secession of the southern states, at the most critical period of the national history, yet he was the last of the speakers of the house of representatives who refused to use the power of his office for either personal or political purposes.

Since the election of Pennington there has been no contest for speaker in the house, the party candidate of the majority having been elected on the first ballot at the beginning of every congress from the Thirty-seventh to the Sixty-first. If the Sixty-second shall witness the continuation of the factions, now quarreling at Washington there may be something new to tell about electing speakers.

FREDERIC J. HASKIN. Tomorrow—The American Congress—The Reed Rules Controversy.

Regents Want More Serious Athletic Work

Dismiss Informally Plan to Have Department Set Apart as in Michigan University.

To bring the Nebraska university in athletics to a level with Michigan and other universities, is the desire of the Board of Regents of the institution. It is the desire of the members of the board and Chancellor Samuel Avery to employ a permanent coach to take charge of all athletics at the university and to have charge of the teams in the different lines of the work. The board informally discussed the proposition at a meeting held in the city on Thursday, but took no action. At this time, they do not believe it will be possible to employ a coach and pay him a salary from funds that are derived by taxation, but indicated that other plans are being discussed. Chancellor Avery said, after the meeting closed yesterday: "We employ a coach for the foot ball team for three months each year and his salary is much greater in proportion to what his yearly salary would amount to. We wish to employ an athletic coach by the year, but are unable, at this time to say how we will raise the funds to pay him. No person has yet been named for the position."

F. L. Haller, who was elected a member of the Board of Regents, in the place of Harvey Newbranch, at the election last fall, attended the meeting yesterday which was the first one that has been held since his election. Mr. Haller was appointed a member of the property and industrial education committee of which Mr. Newbranch was a member. The organization of the board goes over until January 15. The best, or an improved form of auditing the accounts, was discussed at the meeting and a special committee composed of Regents George Coupland, C. B. Anderson and F. L. Haller was appointed to investigate the different systems and recommend one to the board for adoption. The admission fees were reduced about 25 per cent. This makes the fees of the institution about one-half of the amount of the fees of the University of Wisconsin and a number of other universities.

It is believed that this will tend to increase the enrollment. Dean L. B. Sherman and Chancellor Avery will represent the University of Nebraska at the Association of Universities, which will meet in Madison, Wis., on January 4 and 5.

Appointments made by Chancellor Avery since the last meeting of the board were confirmed, as follows: G. H. Coons, to experimental staff as assistant in agricultural physics; E. F. Schramm, to fellowship in geology; and A. R. Bigelow, as assistant in the library.

New appointments were made as follows: Miss Florence McGee, as assistant registrar, to succeed Miss Alice Ensign, who was appointed adviser to women. The following is the list of those who attended the meeting: Chancellor Avery, Regents C. E. Allen, W. G. Whitmore, George Coupland, V. G. Lyford and Secretary J. S. Dale.

Watches—FRENZEL—15th and Dodge.

LIQUOR DEALERS INDICTED

Fifty Are Held in Kansas City for Failure to Pay Graded Tax to State.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 10.—Fifty indictments were returned by the grand jury against wholesale liquor dealers for a gross violation of a law passed by the last legislature, requiring wholesalers and manufacturers of liquor to pay a graduated tax to the state, the amount of the tax depending upon the amount of liquor sold or distilled. The liquor men have refused to pay this tax with the intention of submitting to indictment and prosecution to test the constitutionality of the law.

Great Sale of Coats Saturday. The Parisian Cloak Co., 113 So. 15th St., offer you the choice of over 500 women's new coats, including black and colored broadcloth, tan coat and novelty coats; there is not one worth less than \$15.00, most of them are regular \$25.00 values, on sale Saturday, at \$10.75. See their ad on page 2.

Our Candy Special for Saturday

Our 40c Black Walnut Taffy, 25c Per Pound Box.

Next week we begin to pack our Christmas candies. Leave your order early so we can give it proper attention.

You will find our candy department the best place in Omaha to buy fresh, home-made candies. Our own manufacture, packed in fancy boxes, as well as Huyler's famous New York candies and Allegretti chocolate creams.

Send us your usual orders.

Myers-Dillon Drug Co. 10th and Farnam St.

A PIANO EVENT OF MERIT

Piano Clubs

Forming Now Join and Secure Your Piano for Christmas

You have the choice of FIFTEEN of the best known makes of pianos in SEVENTY distinct styles.

First Cash Payment

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PER MONTH

Your Selection Held for Christmas Delivery if Desired.

THE BENNETT COMPANY

At the Theaters

"The Fighting Hope" at the Boyd. Blanche Bates and company in "The Fighting Hope," a play by Gordon Craig, under direction of David Belasco. The cast: Burton Temple, president of the Gotham Trust company; Milton Sills, confidential adviser; John W. Cope, Robert Granger, president of the Gotham Trust company; Mrs. Annis, his wife; Blanche Bates, Mrs. Mason, Temple's housekeeper.

Blanche Bates faced a rather critical audience at the Boyd last night; folks who had come out in the cold to the theater because they expected a great deal from the star and her company. For this reason, perhaps, the curtain went down on the first act to a rather indifferent patter of applause. But it went down on the second with an audience sitting up and taking notice, and the curtain calls must have convinced the actress that she had at least enlisted the sympathy of her listeners, if she had not fully convinced them. And that the audience sat after the final curtain while Miss Bates and Mr. Sills were being called out to bow their thanks is as good evidence as can be offered that she had won.

"The Fighting Hope" is so well known in its story form that it seems a waste of effort to outline the story. For fear some may not have chance to read it, a word or two may be permitted. Robert Granger is convicted of a crime in connection with the funds of a trust company of which he is treasurer. His wife believes him innocent, and so do a large number of others who think the real culprit is Burton Temple, president of the company. Mrs. Granger, under guise of a stenographer and secretary, seeks employment with Temple, that she may secure proof of her husband's innocence. This is not so much because of her devotion to him as because she worships her boys and wants to clear their father's name for their sakes. But she finds Temple to be the ideal man of her girlhood dreams, and he naturally falls in love with her. Temple is indicted, and seeks to force his way to accompany him. She learns that he stole for another woman, and turns against him. Then he threatens to expose her and Temple, when the prison guards arrive in search of him. His wife enables

him to escape from the house, and the guards kill him as he runs through the grounds. This naturally leaves the way open for the "happy ending."

Miss Bates is not always convincing, many times she is too plainly acting, but this is mainly during the lighter moments of the play. At the end, when she is called upon for tense, earnest effort, she meets the situation most effectively, and with force enough to carry the point and yet leave the impression that she has not exhausted her powers of expression.

Mr. Sills shows very well the stress under which Burton Temple moved till his name was cleared, and also the nobility of the man who would willingly go to prison for the woman he loves. In the closing scenes of the play he measures up well to Miss Bates' lead. Mr. Cope is finely situated as Craven, confidential adviser to Temple, and confirmed and crusty old bachelor. Miss Wells doesn't quite realize the role of Mrs. Mason, whose stern old New England conscience wouldn't let her do some things, and yet was willing to let her do a lot of others. It is a much better part than she makes it. Mr. Nowell is so good as Granger that one wants to get up over the footlights and kick him.

To say that the piece is perfectly staged and as perfectly presented merely endorses the general verdict of the Belasco work. The audience was large, and evinced much enthusiasm after once the ice had been broken. "Let" is here used figuratively, for the theater was delightfully cozy.

"Montana" at the Krug.

"Montana," a play of the west was presented at the Krug last night, for the first of four performances. It is a little better than the typical melodrama having the mountains and plains for a setting and supposedly western characters for its people. The story is a good one, and mingles comedy and serious work with such liberal skill that the audience is always kept on the tiptoe of expectancy. The company is a good one, and the whole affair is entertaining to a high degree.

ERNEST L. POWERS GUILTY

Member of Mabray Gang is Convicted of Swindling at Denver.

DENVER, Dec. 10.—The jury in the case of Ernest L. Powers, accused of swindling J. C. Bowman by means of an alleged fake race at Council Bluffs, Ia., this afternoon returned a verdict of guilty. Powers, who is a Denver University graduate, is alleged to be a member of the Mabray group of alleged swindlers.

The Yellow Peril. Jaundice-malaria-billousness, vanishes when Dr. King's New Life Pills are taken. Guaranteed. Sec. For sale by Beaton Drug Co.

CHEAPER GAS.

Long evenings consume much GAS. The wise man equips his home and office with latest GAS burners, which consume only about one-half the quantity used by inferior styles.



SPECIAL SALE Saturday Only

- Inverted Gas Burners, complete, that sell in the regular way for \$1.25—our price.....73c
- 35c Inverted Mantles, at..... 20c; three for 50c
- 25c Inverted Mantles, at..... 15c; two for 25c
- 10c Inverted Mantles, at..... three for 25c
- Welsbach Upright Mantles, 4 for 25c | 25c Welsbach Upright Mantles. 20c
- 15c Welsbach Upright Mantles. 10c | 30c Welsbach Upright Mantles. 25c
- 20c Welsbach Upright Mantles. 15c | 35c Junior Burners, complete. 25c

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Buy Christmas Umbrellas Now

Beautiful, Practical Gifts for Each Member of the Family

- Children's Umbrellas 50c to \$2.25
- Women's Umbrellas \$1.00 to \$22.00
- Men's Umbrellas \$1.00 to \$18.00

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