

Cabinet of King Ak-Sar-Ben Made Up of Men of Affairs

PRESIDENT ALWAYS THERE WITH THE GLAD HAND



CHARLES H. PICKENS.

WERE the boys that do the work," sometimes sing the working crew of Ak-Sar-Ben out at the den. And they are the boys who do the work, when it comes to putting on the initiation and the show, for which too much credit cannot be given them. But when it comes to an all-year task, a task which never ends, though it is sometimes lighter and sometimes heavier, it is the board of governors who do the work.

The working crew at the den has to get out

HAVING ONCE BEEN KING HE KNOWS HOW IT IS HIMSELF



ARTHUR C. SMITH.

once a week during the initiation season, and oftener than that when holding rehearsals just before the opening of the season, but the governors get out once a week also, save perhaps for a short time in the winter; most of them get out twice a week during the initiation season, for they attend both the weekly meeting of governors on Monday noons and the initiations on Monday nights; then long about carnival time they work day and night.

Add to all of these meetings that they must attend in the course of a year the details of the big task of planning the parades, which includes the raising of \$10,000 to \$15,000 by subscription, treating with the railroads for special rates for Ak-Sar-Ben, taking care of the den, planning the ball, selecting the king and queen and making preparations for their coronation, arranging for the carnival, seeing that the city is properly lighted and decorated for the festival and taking care of unlimited detail in the way of printing, music, floats, supplies and other things—all this keeps the members of the board of governors pretty busy from one year's end to another.

Go into the office of any one of them just prior to or during the annual festival and you have to have the air of a plutocrat or the president of the United States to get an audience with him, because he is so busy. Men in his own office will tell you that he hasn't had time to say good morning to them for days; in fact, he wasn't down yesterday at all, and perhaps won't be today.

The members of the board of governors who guided the details of Ak-Sar-Ben during the years of 1910 and 1911 are C. H. Pickens, E. Buckingham, M. J. Penfold, Joseph Barker, C. E. Black, Emil Brandeis, Charles D. Beaton, C. R. Courtney, Gould Dietz, J. C. Root, A. C. Smith and Will L. Yetter. So well have these men proved themselves fitted for the work allotted them by King Ak-Sar-Ben that every committee stood in 1911 just as it did in 1910, except that E. Buckingham displaced Joseph Barker as chairman of the ball committee, on account of the fact that Mr. Barker was seri-

ously ill for a long time and had to ease up on the work.

As far as committees are concerned, one will find in looking over the list that all governors are honored equally. There are just twelve committees. Each governor is chairman of one committee and serves on two other committees.

Of course there are four who have a little more honor in another way than the others, for there are just four officers, as follows: President, C. H. Pickens; vice president, E. Buckingham; secretary, H. J. Penfold; treasurer, Joseph Barker.

HE'S THE LIVE WIRE AND THE STEAM ENGINE OF THE CARNIVAL



EMIL BRANDEIS.

Charles H. Pickens, president of the organization, naturally rides at the head of the procession in the big parades. Mr. Pickens has been a member of the board of governors for many years, and if he ever wants to slough out of the job of president it is safe to say that his fellows will insist on his remaining on the board as a common, everyday member, if he possibly can be induced to do so. His services and advice will be valuable in whatever capacity he may serve. It is Mr. Pickens' duty to preside at all meetings of the board of governors, to head all Ak-Sar-Ben parades mounted on a white horse and dressed in a white suit, to sit

WHAT "JOE" DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT ETIQUETTE ISN'T CATALOGUED



JOSEPH BARKER.

at the right hand of William H. Taft, Theodore Roosevelt and other noted Americans when they are guests at the den, and then fill up reporters with hot air interviews on the prosperity of the Kingdom of Quivvers. As chairman of the light committee it also falls to his lot to negotiate with the city fathers for the illumination of Ak-Sar-Ben's capital city and also to see that the den is brilliantly lighted for the annual ball and coronation.

In private life Mr. Pickens is general manager of the Paxton & Gallagher company. He knows all about the ups and downs of the sugar and coffee markets, keeps posted on the condition of crops in the west, especially in Nebraska, and keeps in his desk a goodly supply of a very choice brand of cigars, wrapped in tin foil, but bearing no label. Every visitor who gets one of those cigars wants another, but unless he has the nerve to ask what brand it is he can't find out where to buy it, for the reason, as said before, that it has no brand.

Ask the average Omahan who is vice president of the United States and he cannot tell you. Ask

HE ALSO WAS KING ONCE, BUT REMAINS A PRINCE FOREVER



WILL L. YETTER.

the average Omahan who is vice president of Ak-Sar-Ben and he will call the name of E. Buckingham. His name is Everett, but he changed it to E. a long time ago, when he found that Everett Buckingham was too long a name to get into the newspapers. He chopped off all of the Everetts but the first letter, and now he breaks into public print every day or two. Being vice president, Mr.

HE HAS RECENTLY RESIGNED AND THE BOARD LOSES MUCH DIGNITY



JOSEPH CULLEN ROOT.

Buckingham is supposed to talk at board meetings when the president cannot think of anything to say. As chairman of the ball committee he will have a chance to shine brightly. Buckingham has a port and a presence that admirably qualify him for the management of the king's annual terpelchorean frolic. The chairman of the ball committee

THERE AND OVER WHEN IT COMES TO QUIET WORK FOR SAMSON.



CHARLES E. COURTNEY.

tee is supposed to be final authority on the etiquette of the great affair, from the decorations of the den up to the style of coiffure that the ladies should wear, and Buckingham is said not only to have studied up on all the etiquette books that have been written, but to have originated some new ideas of his own. He is also assistant to Charlie Beaton on the parade committee and helps Mr. Pickens with the lighting.

Aside from his high position in the Knights of Ak-Sar-Ben, Mr. Buckingham is general manager of the Union stock yards, a director of the publicity bureau of the Commercial club of Omaha and a member of the Omaha Field club, where he plays a fair game of golf, does some dancing and much eating.

Handsome of face and figure, a very Apollo, Henry J. Penfold, secretary of the knights, is the most gallant of them all. Somebody once offered a reward to anyone who might see Penfold without a carnation in his buttonhole, with a speck on his collar or with one whisker out of place. Nobody ever claimed the reward. Just as safely might a reward have been offered to any persons seeing Mr. Penfold lose his temper. His position is the most difficult of all the members of the board; he is a sort of buffer between the organization and the public. Disgruntled citizens blame him for everything that happens during the Ak-Sar-Ben season that they don't happen to like, and yet he

"BUCK" IS THE BOY TO WHOM THE CROWDS GATHER NATURALLY



EVERETT BUCKINGHAM.

manages to preserve a peaceful temper and serene expression of countenance through it all.

Besides taking in and paying out money, keeping track of new members, sending out letters to members and the public, looking after all printing and advertising, supplying the newspapers with news copy and running Samson's office the year round, Mr. Penfold serves as a sort of assistant to the chairman of every committee on the board. Mr. Penfold has been with Ak-Sar-Ben since it started and has been secretary most of the time. He now threatens to go to California to raise

STOPS SELLING SODA WATER LONG ENOUGH TO HELP SAMSON WIN



CHARLES D. BEATON.

lemons, but the knights hope that he may be prevailed upon to stay in Omaha.

On Joseph Barker fell the arduous duties in connection with the ball last year that devolve upon E. Buckingham this year. And, by the way, the ball was a great success. Not only did Mr. Barker, assisted by Messrs. Buckingham and Dietz, perfect every detail of arrangement to such a degree that nothing was left to be desired when the ball came to pass, but he managed to keep the secret of the identity of the queen so well that it is said that not even his wife's friends learned who was to have the royal honor. Mr. Barker's serious illness last winter was a source of much apprehension to his many friends among the knights of the realm.

This year Mr. Barker is chairman of the music committee, is second man on the ball committee and is a member of the finance committee. In his

INTERRUPTS GLOBE GIRDLING BY SUMMERS WITH AK-SAR-BEN



GOULD DIETZ.

private capacity he is secretary of the H. E. Palmer & Son company, one of the largest insurance firms of the city. He is a familiar figure on the local streets, and when he sights a victim proves one of the handiest men with the fountain pen and insurance blank in the entire United States.

C. E. Black, familiarly known as "Hattie," because he sells hats and other articles of male apparel in a shop on Sixteenth street, is the "goat" this year for all the kicks of the knights on the doings at the den. For he is chairman of the ritual committee and is supposed to be responsible for everything that happens during the initiation, whether he is or not. Had the grand mufti chided on some of the big words of the ritual or had some unlucky initiate had his pants torn off on the bump-the-bumps, Mr. Black says he probably would have been sued for damages. Black is supposed to be a musical critic, so he is the second man on the music committee. His distinguished bearing is also supposed to lend weight to negotiations with men of weighty affairs, so he is a member of the railway committee, which finds it necessary to talk long and often with general managers and vice presidents and presidents of railroads in regard to making proper arrangements to transport the great crowds to the capital city from all parts of the Kingdom of Quivver.

In his own den "Hattie" Black is perfectly harmless and continually wears a smile that is childlike and bland, to lure the casual customer into exchanging some of his coin of the realm for purple shirts, amethyst stickpins and \$2.50 hats. He knows a few things about advertising and attributes his great success in his business to the liberal use of printer's ink.

Emil Brandeis works with Messrs. Yetter and Black on the railway committee, and with Messrs. Courtney and Penfold on the committee on purchases. Being an authority on amusements, for he and his brothers have built two theaters and are recognized masters of the art of entertaining the public in the Pompeian room of their big store, Mr. Brandeis is chairman of the Ak-Sar-Ben amusements committee. It is for him to say, with the approval of Messrs. Penfold and Courtney, also members of the committee, what shows shall be allowed on the carnival grounds and what other amusements, outside of the annual parades, shall be offered to sojourners in the land of Ak-Sar-Ben. It is among Mr. Brandeis' duties to investigate the fat girl, the wild man, the Turkish theater and

(Continued on Page Ten.)

IF ANYTHING NEEDS FIXING "HATTY'S" THE MAN TO SEE



CHARLES E. BLACK.