

THE DULUTH K OF G

The First Annual Banquet of the
Traveling Salesmen of the Duluth
Wholesale Houses.

A VERY ENJOYABLE AFFAIR

Eloquent Addresses Delivered by Judge
Isaac E. West, Mayor d'Autremont,
P. S. Anneke and Others.

The first annual banquet of the Duluth Knights of the Grip was held at the Spalding last night and was a success in every particular. There are comparatively few people who have a proper idea of the great extent which the wholesale trade of Duluth has attained within the last few years, and to those who have but crude ideas upon this point the gathering last night would have been a splendid object lesson. Around the handsomely decorated tables were seated scores of men who go out of Duluth several times a year throughout the state of Minnesota, into the Dakotas and even as far as Montana pushing the sale of goods wholesaled and manufactured in this city. The menu card was an artistic piece of work and bore, in addition to the list of sumptuous viands provided by the Spalding's chef, the names of the "knights of the grip" of Duluth as well as those of Duluth's representative wholesale houses.

Following is a list of Duluth's "knights of the grip," most of whom were present last evening:

D. R. Searles, A. L. Bellevue, W. H. Wilson, F. L. Elliott, W. B. Warren, A. D. Frost, R. N. Woods, Bert Holcomb, D. H. Loynahan, E. C. Gates, Charles Wright, Charles Oswald, E. C. Forrest, C. F. Phelps, A. B. Lusk, A. C. Randall, James Phaelon, D. A. Dunlap, O. H. Hanson, F. H. Segrist, W. M. Anderson, E. W. de'Lorimer, D. E. Case, C. A. Phelps, A. W. Crozier, C. H. Burt, E. M. Kelley, W. G. Starkey, H. L. Atwood, W. L. Bunte, M. O. Mathewson, L. O'Brien, D. S. McKay, F. G. Kraemer, W. M. Smith, J. E. Wilcuts, J. C. Knowlton, H. G. Mooney, H. O. McMahn, Percy Hirsch, Jas. H. McDonald, J. Mullen, W. L. Gilbert, J. E. Albert, W. H. Close, E. M. Smith, T. L. Spring, T. J. Middleton, J. W. Lester, Thomas Smith, J. A. Edmund, Daniel McGerry, S. B. Morrison, T. L. Thompson, Louis J. Loeb, J. H. J. Nester, R. Tucker, Wm. Miller, F. H. White, L. A. Mathews, F. R. Dix, H. E. Hanson, C. B. Smith, James J. Lunney, Geo. H. South, D. J. Burns, R. H. Redman, Nicholas Decker, W. F. Quayle, C. W. Sutton, J. P. C. Anderson, Fred Johnson, H. S. Hogg, T. C. Arnold, J. E. Howe, P. M. Garrigan, R. J. Keisterston, Geo. F. Deary

The following representative wholesale houses of Duluth were represented at the banquet or contributed to its success:

Wells Stone Mercantile Co., Stone-Ordean Co., Kelly, Robson & Co., Duluth Dry Goods Co., Duluth Shoe Co., F. G. Kraemer, T. B. Hawkes & Co., Chas. B. Atwater, Messick & McCauley, J. B. Sutphin & Co., Fitzsimmons, Warfield Co., Armour Packing Co., Heller & Loeb, Minnesota Packing Co., Duluth and Superior Baking Co., J. J. & E. A. Costello, Oswald & Co., Stephen Produce Co., Chapin-Wells Hardware Co., Eckert, Williams & Co., U. A. Burnham & Co., Britts & James, A. J. Anderson, Gudde Bros., Cuiver Bros., Duluth Roller Mills, Duluth Imperial Mill Co., Smith Fruit Co., Potter, Lucas Co., Long & White, Schiller, Hubbard Co., Twin City Packing Co., Minneapolis Stock Yards, Cutler & Gilbert, A. Fitzer & Co., Smith, Koorse Co., Waller & Harvey, Smith & Coulter.

The other guests were: Mayor d'Autremont, Judge I. E. West of the city; H. D. Morton, Mr. McIntosh, C. D. Marks and F. P. Hansen of Minneapolis; C. H. Saeger, president of the board of trade of Auburn, N. Y.; and W. G. Parks, L. O'Brien, T. E. Parker and J. J. Lunney. After the serving of the banquet the cigars were brought out and the intellectual feast began. E. L. Whittington was master of ceremonies and introduced Judge West the speaker of the evening.

Judge West opened by the statement that every person present was expected either to sing a song, dance a jig, tell a story, or make a speech. Continuing he said: "I am proud of the honor of being selected to congratulate you upon this the first annual banquet of the traveling salesmen of Duluth. If Duluth is to be congratulated on anything which she has in her civic administration it is on having such reputable gentlemen as her traveling salesmen. They are more than traveling salesmen. They are the advance agents of great commercial enterprise. They tell the people all over the country then here has sprung a great commercial city which will rest from Minneapolis and St. Paul that which rightfully belongs to it but has been allowed to be monopolized by them. The travelling salesman has several characteristics which are common and without which they could not hope to be successful. They must be loquacious or they can't properly present their wares; they must be sharp as steel, call it cheeky if you will but they have to compete with the brighter business men in the country."

Judge West then gave a few words of advice to the traveling men telling them that they were greatly responsible for the growth of Duluth's wholesale houses. To the wholesale houses he also spoke at some length. They must pluck from other cities the scepter which belongs to Duluth but has been appropriated by others.

A quartette consisting of Paddy Doran, Frank Burke, F. H. Segrist and Fred Reynolds, probably the best to be found in Duluth, sang an excellent selection and Mayor d'Autremont was next introduced. He said that when he accepted an invitation to come to this banquet he expected to have a jolly good time listening to the traveling men talk for he didn't know where a set of men could be found who could be listened to with more pleasure.

"Now," said he, "you have been out selling your dry goods to keep people warm on the outside and your wet goods to melt them inside and you have come in here to this banquet chuck full of the latest songs and stories and I for one will sit down and listen to you."

Mr. Laverne of Chicago, one of the oldest travelling men in the United States and who has carried a grip since 1848, next spoke a few words. Robert Fitzgerald, of the Duluth Boot and Shoe company, Percy S. Anneke and others made short speeches and told funny stories, and merriment and good feeling held full sway until the small hours of morning were approaching.

Claims Everything in Sight.

PARIS, March 15.—The news that M. Abeille has left a will bequeathing his property to the youngest child of Mrs. Deacon has considerably strengthened Mr. Deacon's case in public opinion, as this is considered a virtual acknowledgement of guilt on the part of M. Abeille. Mr. Deacon has claimed that the youngest child was his own, but those who have seen it aver that its appearance fully sustains the provisions for its support which M. Abeille saw fit to make.