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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1913.

Only eleven months left until another New Year!

The winter is kind to the street-cleaning department.

It remains to be seen whether the allies can come back.

The Balkan war cloud is getting even blacker than it is painted.

Moral muckraking is responsible for some morbid conclusions.

The next event of importance to which to look forward is the prognostication of the groundhog.

Crude oil is rising. Perhaps the other kind is too refined to come into the commercial limelight.

To whip or not to whip is the problem which is now lashing passions in the New York public schools.

The suffrage parade promises to be a charming costume display and, therefore, mighty attractive to women.

The Home Rulers have won in Ulster, which certainly is enough to cause the Orangemen to turn green with envy.

The House of Lords did the expected in killing the Home Rule Bill. But the killing is not regarded as at all fatal.

For a man who knows he isn't wanted, Castro displays a remarkable propensity to stay. Is he devoid of sensibilities?

The Connaughts are going back to England. Evidently, the democratic atmosphere around and about Canada does not agree with royalty.

A law to make The Star-spangled Banner the national hymn would come gracefully from Congress to the people on the eve of the great anthem's birthday.

A medical college in Philadelphia has issued an order to its students not to eat peanuts. This reform should be followed up by a prohibition on student circuses.

Why not prevail upon the President-elect to give Maryland's senatorial aspirants each a place in the cabinet and so insure the state political peace and quiet?

With both the Progressives and the Republicans planning banquets for Lincoln's birthday, the immortal words of Honest Abe are in for some pretty distorting.

Warnings about the ice field have been sent to vessels by government experts. But they are not the sort of fields whose crops are going to make ice any cheaper in the summer.

The riceless wedding is the latest. If only the well-wishers would add the rice to the kitchen stores of the young couple, instead of heaping it on their heads, there might be some sense in it.

If the United States, under a Democratic administration, is indisposed to shoulder the obligation of educating and civilizing the Filipinos, rest assured any nation of Europe will be glad to take the job.

One serious threat of Mrs. Pankhurst and her followers in London which concerns the world of art lovers is that of breaking into the museums and destroying valuable works in the art galleries. If this is done, it means a destruction which will be irreparable and a great injustice to the generations to come. Other mischief can be repaired, but if the suffragettes insist on trying this, they stamp themselves as public enemies, regardless of political exigencies.

A man has been found in Los Angeles whose wife censors his news in the public press. This seems to mark the top notch of marital subjugation in this age where daily news is one of the necessaries of life.

If the investigations into vice and crime give in their revelations anything like the real state of things under the surface of our civilized life, a great deal of the missionary work in favor of the heathens is badly needed at home.

King George is to be carefully guarded for fear the militant suffragettes will do him bodily harm. The situation has in it the extreme possibility of the dangerous step from the sublime to the ridiculous—the majesty of kings manhandled by suffragettes.

In an election of tastes held by the senior class of one of the prominent American universities Tennyson won as favorite poet over Shakespeare. This, however, does not settle the status of the poets so much as that of the voters in the case.

Castro will be barred as an undesirable visitor. Naturally, he will leave with a very poor opinion of this land of liberty, which he will not hesitate to express abroad. For the most violent of critics are those undergoing the ordeal of a dose of their own medicine.

A Rochester judge cut down a girl's allowance from her guardian for her trousseau to $600 from the sum she declared necessary. Things are coming to a pretty pass when a dry-as-dust court knows better what is fit for a girl's trousseau than the girl herself.

Twenty-six murderers in Illinois prisons have received clemency from the retiring governor. The abuse of the pardoning power and its influence on the increase of crime will surely be one of the issues taken up in the near future as among the necessary reforms in the protection of life, liberty and property of law-abiding citizens.

The man who was arrested on the charge of not sending his daughter to school, and who pleaded in excuse that he did not believe in educating girls, ought, to make the punishment fit the crime, to be handed over, bound hand and foot, to the tender mercies of the British militant suffragettes to avenge this treason to their sex.

HOME RULE REJECTION.

It seems odd, indeed, to hear the Marquis of Lansdowne in the House of Lords contending that home rule for Ireland would prove a menace to England in time of war. The conferent of a large measure of autonomy upon Ireland does not mean the absolute separation of the island from the empire, and, in fact, the bill reserves to the home government the control of the military. But the conclusion that Ireland would be settled in animosity to the country of which it will remain an integral part, is very much beside the mark.

The defeat of the home rule bill by the upper house was entirely expected, but the real reason for this act was the torylsm that controls that body and not any danger to England from the Irish having a large degree of freedom. Lord Morley pointed out that there is no finality in the rejection of the measure, in view of the fact that the bill still has full opportunity to pass, despite the opposition of the House of Lords.

The rejection by the peers, therefore, does not excite very much interest other than an indication of the feebled ultra-conservatism of the body.

PASSING OF CASTRO.

No better reasons could be advanced for keeping out of the country of the former dictator of Venezuela than those which Secretary Nagel has advanced in his repudiation of the claim of the exile from his own country. This reason is the killing of General Peradez under the orders of Castro, when his country was at peace and no revolutionary movement could be advanced to give real political excuse for the act. Mr. Nagel points out that the immigration officials have a right to query Castro as to his participation in this act, in view of the fact that he is not in court giving evidence and the propounding of leading questions is one of the prime methods by which the fitness of applicants for entrance can be ascertained.

Castro thinks otherwise and, refusing to commit himself, he will not be allowed to remain in the country. He has made his fight and has lost. The killing of Paredez seems to have been a cold-blooded affair, and if such acts could be classified as political and so justified, then burning at the stake and like heinous crimes could be so catalogued and the perpetrators claim admission to this country. This Castro chapter should be a finality as far as the relations of the man with the United States are concerned.

IMPORTANT BANKERS MEET.

One of the most representative gatherings of men engaged in banking enterprises is that which convened yesterday at the board rooms of the Fidelity Trust Company. The field of investment is one of the most important in which bankers can be interested, and this field is an ever-changing surface. The banks find that their sources for investment change with the development of enterprise and the expansion of law, so that forms of investment once safe and productive are no longer so regarded, and others that once were not in favor or that did not actually exist at all come into recognition as both legitimate and safe.

The bankers do a very wide work of indication to the investors in general as to the kinds of investment that are conservatively profitable, and their usefulness to the business community in this regard is hardly less important than their usefulness in investing the fund at their disposal so as to give stability and encouragement to business enterprise.

The men who fared to Baltimore for the gathering came from various parts of the world and their efforts to bring to bear the varied experiences of different banking communities results in a more or less synchronous system of selection of the field of investment enterprise. So that, in a manner, this very fact is made one of the most important ties between the institutions that have laid upon them the responsibility for the progress of business. The safeguarding of such enterprise from rash and ill-advised use of funds. The banks and the trust companies that are represented in the Investment Bankers' Association are the most forward and reliable of this class of institutions.

It is appropriate, indeed, for such a gathering to meet in this city. For Baltimore is passing through an era of advance in its banking enterprise, by consolidation of institutions and enlargement of the opportunities for credit that makes it an object lesson to the country. New York financial journals have recently accorded Baltimore wide praise because of the safety of its banking methods, the wise expansion of its banking enterprise, and for the fact that it sustains a unique position as the banking city for the entire South.

Baltimore has uniformly proven the strength of its banks, and this fact is one of settled conditions more than of favorable incident. The investment men will return to their home greatly pleased with the banking and social atmosphere of this city, and all alike will be benefited through the exchange of views.

WHY ARE THEY UNFIT?

Most persons who have a penchant for framing cabinets have given up the effort to specify the individuals and are content to mark out the general character of the next cabinet group. In the meanwhile the Sphinx was no more conservative about his riddle than is the generally communicative Mr. Wilson anent the men who will do the Aaron and Hur act for him after he shall have entered the White House.

One thing, and one thing only, has dropped from the sealed counsels of the enigmatic man, and this is that no college presidents need apply, or, to be precise, his cabinet will not be made up of college presidents. Such gross repudiation of the men of his customary and usual fellowship admits of grave and profound reasons. What has the incoming president gleaned as to college presidents that makes him unwilling to have any of the leaders of the tribes of the schoolmen of the country with him at the counsel board? It would be irreverent to assert it is because of the weakness of the heads of the educational institutions to wear stovepipes, even though the incoming president did couple his repudiation of college presidents very closely with the assertion that he hated like the mischief, or words to that effect, to wear a silk tile on inauguration day.

If it is not the hat, then it must be the head, of the college president that debars him from being invited to aid in sailing the ship of state through the departmental waters. What is there in the head of the average college president that would make him unsuited for a cabinet position? And here comes the question that trims so closely to the borders of impertinence that it is with trembling temerity put: What is the disqualification of a college president for the post of cabinet officer that does not equally bear upon a college head for the post of president? By what subtle mental alchemy has Mr. Wilson been able to differentiate between himself and all other college presidents? What is the secret of his singular fitness that finds no duplication in the case of any of the other five-thousand-and-odd college heads? Let the psychologists get to work on this problem. We are being treated these days to the psychology of all else, why not then the psychology of the unfitness of college presidents for cabinet officers and the singular exception to the rule in the case of one of them who will preside over the cabinet and the nation.

If the late Prof. William James were among mortals instead of being engaged, according to his friend Mr. Hyslop, in discussing the subject of pink pajamas through slate-writing artists, he might be appealed to to solve this problem with a literary style more attractive than that of fiction. For this man, who fraversed all the paths of conscious responses, declares in one of his works that if the reactions of the 250 pounds of albuminoid substance styled Martin Luther could be gathered up, it would be possible exactly to chart the mental route by which he became the great reformer. So might the problem of the personal exception to a general rule that Mr. Wilson presents be clarified. But, alas! the task is beyond any living psychologist, for the most of them are absorbed in the subject of animal behavior, and who would say the problem comes under such classification?

From end to end of the land the savants will be busily engaged in seeking to solve the knotty conundrum of why the unfitness of others of my kind for a post that is fit for me. As a result of this wholesale disparagement of the men of the cap and gown, there may even be created a college presidents' protective association. Verily no such discrimination has been proposed in the history of the country. It even surpasses the law by which here in Maryland a representative of the "cloth" is ineligible to sit amid that perspicuous group of high-minded statesmen, the members of the legislature. But the sinuosities of the puzzle propounded by the Democratic oracle are so confusing that one finds himself biffing the air at imaginary bats before he has been long centering his gray matter upon it.

Will the man who proposed this bewildering proposition, so illogical in his own career, will he not give some clue to its solution and thus raise from the murk of inexplorable irrationability the subject that is so submerged? If not, a symposium of views from college presidents must be had. Barring any other explanation the question must be referred back to Jeffersonian simplicity, that is made accountable for many variations in presidential practice at this time.

THE SUNDAY AMERICAN.

The Sunday American continues to lead the way. It continues to make steady progress along the best lines of journalism. Each issue adds to the firmness of its hold on the public, to its popularity in this communit. Tomorrow's issue will keep up this progress, will makes its hold even more firm, its popularity even greater.

The Sunday American is one of the great newspapers of the United States. In Baltimore no other Sunday paper can compare with it in any way. In its news, in its special features, its society and sporting records, in every department it has no equal in the city, no paper that can claim to be in its class. The paper is a welcome visitor to practically every home in Baltimore and adjoining territory. It is Baltimore's greatest home paper, because it is the greatest paper in Baltimore and the whole South. No other Sunday paper in this city or in this part of the country can now compare with it in interest, in influence, in circulation, in popularity. It stands in a class by itself, without a rival, without a competitor. By years of careful and painstaking effort, by the employment of the best news agencies and newsgatherers, by a strict adherence to a progressive policy and a firm determination to spare no expense to make the newspaper ideal in every respect, The Sunday American has been placed in a position in this community no other Sunday paper can even approach. The American feels proud of this record, proud of the fact that its efforts have been followed by the commendation of this whole community.

The Sunday American of tomorrow will cover the whole field and cover it well. It will go into the homes of Baltimore and have many times more readers than any other paper. It is not published, either in whole or in part, in New York or any other distant city. Every page of it comes right off the great presses of The American's fine plant and goes direct to its thousands upon thousands of readers. In circulation it keeps on gaining every Sunday. Long ago it passed the 100,000 mark, and adds to the great record every issue.

CITY'S PARK SYSTEM.

Baltimore has the beginnings of one of the most extensive and picturesquely diversified park systems in the world. When the suggestions of the Olmsted plans shall have been realized in full this city will be adorned with a linked-up chain of parks that can be developed and artificially improved until the city shall be surrounded and traversed by veritable gardens of paradise.

Great things have already been accomplished in the way of developing our park system, and the Park Board, as indicated in the report which has recently been submitted to the Mayor, has in contemplation other important plans to be realized during the present year or in the near future. Some of the important betterments which have been realized or which are in the provided-for plans of the immediate future, are in way of linking up the various parks into a connected system, in accord with the Olmsted plans. During last year a parked way connecting Druid Hill Park with Wyman Park and leading across the picturesque valley of Stony Run was opened to public use. During the current year work will be pushed on a 120-foot-wide parked way which will, when ultimately completed, connect Wyman and Clifton Parks. These wide parked avenues connecting the parks will, in time, become a unique and most attractive feature of our park system.

The Park Board, very wisely, is proposing to co-operate with the street planning and other departments of the city in the purpose to realize to the city development ideals outlined in the Olmsted plans. The carrying out of these plans is a large and costly undertaking that will require time for the completed realization.

NOTES AND NOTIONS

BY JOSH WINK.

THE PEST.

There is a man whom no one likes,
Whose usual conduct never strikes
The folks he meets, as nice at all,
And who they sooner would not call;
For they avoid him all they can,
This rough and ready cheerful man,
Who always will good feeling show
By emphasis of some rude blow.

He comes on unexpectedly,
And e'er one can the danger see
To dodge his "Hello!" with some knack,
He slaps one roughly on the back
Until one winces with the pain,
Whereat he's apt to slap again,
Or else, attention to alarm,
He'll give a whack upon the arm.

This thumping nuisance cannot be
Quite popular, as all may see,
At any time; now he's a bore,
And worse, when arms and tempers sore,
We guard the vaccination mark,
And he comes, as a merry lark,
To hit us on the very spot,
We'll not say where we wish his lot!

ITS RIGIDITY.

"Is the law against expectoration so rigidly enforced in this public place?"

"So rigidly that they wouldn't even let me bring my Spitz dog in with me."

IN THE ART GALLERY.

She—I wonder why this Venus of Milo was ever declared to be a model woman?

He—I guess it was because she couldn't go through her husband's pockets.

SNUBBED.

"Ah," he sighed, "you are the first girl I have ever kissed."

"No such thing," she promptly answered. "I knew the minute you did it, that you had been taking a post-graduate course."

HIS SYSTEM.

"I wonder how Atlas could hold up the world on his shoulders?"

"I suppose, being an Atlas, he had his way of doing it, all mapped out."

ARTISTIC PERCEPTION.

"Why do you invite that silly fellow to your afternoon functions?"

"On account of his color harmony with it. He always looks so blue at a pink tea."

NATURAL SUBJECTS.

"I understand Jobbins is going to get up a trust in ducks."

"Well, ducks are naturally inclined themselves to pool their issues."

A CONDITION.

"My dear Miss Wisely, will you share my lot in life?"

"That depends. Is it on a suburban car line?"

THE RIGHT KIND.

"Don't you detest realism in a play?"

"Not if it's the real money they take in at the box office."

CONTRADICTORY EXPECTATION

"Ha, ha!" muttered Polonius as he went to summon Hamlet to his mother's presence, "she is going to be round with him—that's flat." JOSH WINK.

UP AGAINST IT.

"I suppose you're very happy, now that you're elected mayor?"

"Well, I can't say that I am. I thought I would be, but it hasn't worked out that way."

"But you got such a splendid vote. It ought to make you feel happy to think the people have such confidence in you."

"That is cheering, of course. It is fine to know that the majority of the people believe in you. Still, I'm not altogether contented."

"I can't understand it at all. Here you've been elected to the highest honor in the community; you have splendid opportunities to do good work; you may graduate from this position to broader service for the state, and possibly from the state to the nation. You ought to be happy if anyone is."

"I know it. But I'm not. The fact is I am up against it. I have four political managers who did splendid service for me, and each one demands the same job." Detroit Free Press.

THAT FAMILIAR PHRASE.

In the telephone office there was one girl who was always late in the morning.

Time and time again the local manager requested her to be more punctual; but her tardiness still continued, until he was moved to use desperate methods.

"Now, Miss ——," said he as he came to her exchange board one morning, carrying a package in his hands, "I have a little scheme that I hope will induce you to arrive at the office in time. I have bought this fine alarm clock for you. Please promise me that you will make proper use of it."

The young woman promised, and the first night set the alarm at the required hour for rising the next morning.

At the indicated hour the clock set up a tremendous whirring, loud enough to awaken the whole house. But the sleepy little lassie turned over in bed and said in her sweetest tone:

"Line's engaged; call again, please."—Tit-Bits.

LA MARQUISE DE FONTENOY

Count Stephen Tisza Victor in Two Duals—The Stormy Magyar Legislature.

Special to The American.

Imagine Champ Clark, the present Speaker of Congress, or his predecessor, the Hon. Joe Cannon, stripped to the waist, hacking away with a cavalry sabre at a political adversary in similar deshabille, surrounded by a ring of members of the upper and the lower house of the national legislature, as well as by seconds, surgeons, ambulance bearers and all the other appurtenances of a serious, sanguinary duel at Washington, D. C.

It is in this guise that Count Stephen Tisza, former Hungarian premier, and now speaker and president of the Chamber of Deputies at Budapest, has been figuring there in a whole series of duels, from all of which he has emerged the victor, although his adversaries were men about half his age, and he himself was further handicapped by a lameness which causes him to limp, and by a shortness of sight that compels him to wear big horn-rimmed spectacles, suggestive of the Oriental pundit and Chinese sage, and which Woodrow Wilson's inventor, George Harvey, has set in fashion in this country, giving them his name.

The duels of Count Tisza originated with his rulings as speaker. The Magyar legislature is, with the exception of the Ottoman House of Representatives at Constantinople, the most turbulent parliament in the Old World. To such an extent did this turbulence go last year as to render legislation impossible. Count Tisza, who is perhaps the ablest statesman in Hungary, was elected to the office of president for the purpose of putting a stop to the methods of violence and disorder which were rendering the Hungarian Parliament an object of reproach both at home and abroad. The Count fulfilled the task for which he had been selected, and his rulings, while fair, have been characterized by firmness and vigor. In fact, he has shown no toleration for disturbance.

Every attempt has been made to intimidate him, but without avail, and when a legislator beside himself with passion at the strict rulings of the speaker discharged his revolver at him during one of the sessions, the bullets narrowly missing their mark, and the man was tried for attempted murder, he was acquitted by the jury and his act was publicly not only defended, but even commended, by leading members of the opposition in Parliament, some of them statesmen who had formerly held office as cabinet ministers.

When that failed to move Count Tisza, his political adversaries attempted a different maneuver, with the object of rendering his position as speaker untenable. They invoked the aid of those of their number who belong to the principal club at Pesth, which, bearing the name of the National Casino, is practically restricted to the old aristocracy, and as such is the most powerful factor in the social life of the Hungarian capital. The anti-Tisza members thereof were persuaded to institute a sort of boycott against him, and to refuse to respond to his greetings or to shake hands with him.

Now, all over the Continent, with the exception of Switzerland, there is among men of birth and breeding but one response to a deliberate insult of this kind—that is to say, a challenge to fight a duel, preceded by a blow in the face, or without any further preliminaries. For a man to refrain from thus demanding satisfaction is to commit a grave infraction of the laws of honor and to condemn himself to an ostracism necessitating his withdrawal from all his clubs, his surrender of all his offices, and his expulsion from every form of social life.

Accordingly, when Count Tisza one evening, entering the smoking-room of the club, found Count Michael Karolyi, Count Aladar Szechenyi and the Margrave Pallavicini in conversation with one another, and called out to them a friendly "Good evening!" both Pallavicini and Szechenyi acknowledged his salutation, but Karolyi refrained from doing so. Instead, he rose from his seat and turned his back deliberately on Tisza. The latter immediately strode up to him, and, using the familiar pronoun of "thou," exclaimed: "Michael, I said 'Good evening' to you just now, and am astonished not to receive any acknowledgment." Whereupon Karolyi replied: "After what has taken place it is surely superflous that we should waste any time in chatting with one another."

Within half an hour Tisza's second had conveyed a challenge to Karolyi. On the following day an encounter took place between the two in one of the principal fencing schools of the city. There were no less than 32 rounds, during the course of which Tisza took the offensive throughout, repeatedly wounding Karolyi, cutting open his head and slashing him about the arm and body, until he was placed completely hors de combat. On the following day Tisza received a letter from Count Aladar Szechenyi, expressing his regret at having responded to his (Tisza's) greeting two evening before, and stating that he had done so inadvertently. Another duel followed within 24 hours, and here, again, after a strenuous encounter, Tisza placed his adversary, his junior by more than 20 years, completely hors de combat.

A third duel was about to take place, and there were prospects of others following, when the governing board of the club got together and, severely condemning the practice of introducing mere political quarrels into social life, declared that Count Tisza had gallantly safeguarded his honor, that he was relieved in the eyes of the club from the ethical necessity of fighting anyone else who declined to respond to his greeting, and that consequently any member of the club who under the circumstances rendered himself guilty of a piece of discourtesy of this kind toward Tisza would subject himself to being severely disciplined by the club. That put an end to the boycotting movement against Tisza, whose pluck, vigor and skill with his sabre caused a revulsion of public sentiment in his favor.

Tisza fought several successful duels about 10 years ago; one notably with Stephen Rakovsky. In 1898 Baron Banffy, the then premier, fought a duel with one of the parliamentary leaders, Ferdinand Horansky, who had called him a liar. In 1897, Count Casimir Badeni, while premier, had a duel with the Deputy Wolff, and was wounded, but not dangerously, by a pistol shot. Wekerle, when prime minister of the coalition cabinet, fought a duel with sabers with Geza Pelonyi, and Gen. Baron Fejervary, one of the bravest veterans of Emperor Francis Joseph's army, and one of the only surviving half dozen Knights of the Order Maria Theresa, was obliged to fight a number of duel at Pesth, both when minister of war and when premier. In each of these encounters, despite his advanced age, he was considerably over 70 at the time, he worsted his adversary, on one occasion wounding him so dangerously that the man's life was despaired of for a time.

The other day, on the election of Raymond Poincare to the presidency of the French Republic, the very first thing that he did was to send a challenge to fight a duel to ex-Premier Clemenceau. Fortunately, friends intervened, and an encounter between these two men, one white-haired, the other extremely gray, was averted. Yet in France, as in Hungary and everywhere else on the Continent, dueling is strictly forbidden under the most drastic penalties by the law of the land, and needless to add, also by the laws of the various churches.

All these laws, ecclesiastical as well as temporal, are, however, of no avail in the face of the unwritten and far more imperative laws of the social code, and how is it possible to expect people not to give the preference to the latter, when they find the greatest authorities of the state, those entrusted with the execution of the laws, such as premiers, speakers, cabinet ministers and even presidents of republics, setting an example of disregard, which is approved by royalty, since monarchs always deprive officers, military and civil, of their commissions if they refuse to fight duels.

MARQUISE DE FONTENOY.

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The Frontier.

The real line of demarcation between the East and the West is the place where they stop referring to it as a "weapon" and begin to call it a "gun."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Not Much Use at Present.

Somebody has discovered more land at the South Pole that will have to be taken indoors and thawed out before being used.—Chicago News.

MEN AND WOMEN

The original necklace worn in the latter part of the eighteenth century by Eunice Farnsworth, the first white woman resident of Somerset county, Me., is now in the possession of Gertrude Weston, of Skowhegan.

The will of the late Will Carleton, made the day before his death, has been filed for probate in Brooklyn. The property of this popular writer and entertainer amounts to only $5,000, and is left to a nephew.

F. L. Sigel, who "grubstaked" hundreds of prospectors during the last 30 years, died in Denver, Col., leaving an estate valued at $3,000,000. In addition to mining, he was interested in live stock and water-power companies.

N. A. Gobrecht, of Altoona, Pa., has refused an offer of $50 for his copy of a book, now out of print, containing the names of supposedly all the American immigrants who came to these shores before the Revolution. By means of it he has traced many family trees, including his own.

Five bulls-eyes out of six shots with an 8-inch gun at a five-mile range is the record in marksmanship of Lawrence Dague, of Washington, Pa., first class gunner on the new battleship New Hampshire, one of the finest vessels of the dreadnought type in the United States Navy.

A silver potato ring was among the gifts at the recent wedding of the daughter of John Redmond, the Irish parliamentary leader. The potato ring, it is said, was commonly used on the Irish dinner table in the eighteenth century as a support for the big wooden bowl which held the piece de resistance of the family dinner—the potato.

Owing to the large amount of mail received by Samuel Insull the government will establish a postoffice on his country place, Hawthorne, near Libertyville, Ill. Orders have been issued from Washington, and so far as known this will be the first private postoffice in the country. The new postoffice will be for the use of members of the Insull family, guests and servants.

The most talkative man in the House of Commons last year was Chancellor of the Exchequer Lloyd-George. Between the commencement of the session on St. Valentine's Day, 1912, and the Christmas adjournment the Chancellor spoke 331 columns of Hansard, the official report. Mr. Bonar Law, the Unionist leader, spoke 310 columns and stands next on the list. Since a Hansard column contains on an average about 500 words, it is estimated that Mr. Lloyd-George spoke 165,500 words and Mr. Bonar Law 155,000 words.

Probably Not Paid To.

President of France is paid $240,000 a year, and isn't expected to make rear-end speeches from trains for 48,000 miles.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Afraid to Risk It.

But, of course, we all assume that President Wilson will give Mr. Bryan the privilege of declining.—Omaha Bee.

GOSSIP OF THE STAGE

A. E. Thomas is to write a play for Henry Miller.

Booth Tarkington is completing the play intended for William T. Hodge.

Louise Randolph has been engaged for the cast of The Hundredth Man.

Within the Law will have five companies playing it on the road next season.

Klaw & Erlanger will produce an adaptation of a foreign attraction called The Circassian Beauty.

Seymour Hicks, the English actor, has bought the residence in London of the Duke of Sutherland.

Annie Russell is playing a profitable engagement in Boston in her revivals of the old English classics.

Charles Frohman and David Belasco are to make a joint production of Years of Discretion in London.

Donald Brian is doing so well in The Siren that he is not likely to appear in a new opera this season.

The Bridal Path, under the management of E. J. Bowes, is to begin its season in Rochester next week.

It is again announced that Ethel Barrymore will appear in a dramatization of Anne Douglas Sedgwick's novel, Tante.

James T. Powers may be seen in vaudeville. His starring vehicle, The Two Little Brides, may be revived this spring.

Mabel and Edith Taliaferro are to appear together early in May in a play by Cleveland Moffat. They will be under the management of Joseph Brooks.

Roi Cooper Megrue has written a comedy which will be produced by the Liebler Company with Robert Loraine in the leading role. It is to be produced this month in this city at the Academy, unnamed, and a prize of $200 is to be offered for a suitable title.

Joseph Kilgour, who plays the role of the quaint counterfeiter in Ready Money, was originally a Chicago stock broker. During the panic of 1893 he turned to the stage for a temporary living. Since that time he has stuck to it and created nearly 50 roles, among them being Brockton, in The Easiest Way, and Captain Hodgman, in Arizona.

FATHER-LOVE.

[From the New York Times.]

We hear about a mother's love
In story and in song,
How stanch it is through thick and thin,
How tender and how strong,
How sweet and pure and beautiful,
And every word is true.
But what about a father's love?
That claims some credit, too.

It's father delves the darksome mine,
And climbs the girders high,
And swings upon the scaffolding
Between the earth and sky.
It's father bends his aching back,
And bows his graying head,
To bear the burdens of the day,
And earn the children's bread.

For both must work and both must plan,
And do an equal share
To rear the little ones the Lord
Has trusted to their care.
All honor to the mother-love,
The universe it fills,
But when you praise it don't forget
That father pays the bills.

MINNA IRVING.

PUBLIC OPINION

Comment of Leading Newspapers on a Variety of Topics—Congress Behind in Its Work.

[Philadelphia Inquirer.]

People did think that as this Congress would be prevented by a combination of unfavorable circumstances from engaging in any such constructive activities as must naturally involve a protracted discussion and probably provoke tenacious controversies, it would be all the more able and willing to apply itself to the transaction of the routine business which alone seemed to lie within the scope of its competency. If it could not grapple with any of the problems for whose solution the country waits; if it could not immediately fulfil the promise of the dominant party to reduce the cost of living by revising the tariff in such a manner as to flood the home market with the low-priced products of European cheap labor without reducing the opportunity or remuneration of American employment; if it could not at once reform the currency system in the light of modern needs; if the execution of its various other platform pledges had to be deferred, one did think that the Democracy now dominant in the House of Representatives would give a good account of itself in the more commonplace tasks to which it was confined.

It has not done so. So much time has been wasted in all kind of ways that it is now very much behind hand with its necessary work, and if the legislation which is indispensable to the maintenance of the government is to be effected before the close of the session, the proceedings will have to be greatly expedited. Only 27 working days remain, and most of the regular appropriation bills have yet to be passed. There are 15 of them, and of these just one, the legislative, executive and judicial bill, has been sent to the President. Of the other 14, 3 now await the action of the Senate, while the remaining 11 are still before the House.

Life's Unfinished Business.

[Philadelphia Ledger.]

The habit of finishing one task ere setting his hand to another is the ingrained custom of the man who accomplishes a great deal, "without haste and without rest," to cite the phrase of Goethe. It is the fate of the man who cannot concentrate on one fixed issue, one narrowly specialized occupation, to muddle ineffectually in various employments and never to "get through." He is always worried, preoccupied, overwrought and yet futile, because he has not learned the virtues of system and a set program—which does not signify a written schedule by any means.

Indeed, the man who consults a time table at every turn and pulls out his watch to announce his hurry is hardly likely to be any more successful than the one whose life is desultory, whose appointments are fortuitously kept, whose regimen refuses to fit itself to fixed hours and observances. The secret of success, before any other formula or recipe, seems to be to end the work that is begun before more is undertaken. There are many admirable starters, comparatively few praiseworthy finishers. Almost any one can muster the courage—it might be called the effrontery—to make a pleasing first impression, but to continue day after day, year in and year out, to do valuable work, to "deliver the goods," is quite another story.

Lame and Impotent Conclusion.

[Chicago Record-Herald.]

The dropping by the British ministry of its great franchise extension measure is naturally a severe disappointment to the equal suffragists, but it is manifestly absurd to attribute the lame and impotent conclusion to deliberate trickery. The government has as much cause for regret as the embattled women. Its bill was one of the three great measures of the parliamentary year; it was a vital part of its reform program. Its stanchest followers earnestly favored it, as, among other things, it provided for the abolition of that anachronism, plural voting.

True, it is amazing that the old parliamentary hands of the Cabinet—Asquith, Haldane and Birelli—should not have foreseen the unhappy ending of the affair. The ruling of the speaker that a woman suffrage amendment would so radically change the bill that it would have to be reintroduced and treated as a new measure is based on precedents, and these should have been known to the leaders. However, the good faith of the ministry will not be seriously questioned by impartial observers.

The ministry will reintroduce the franchise bill in the next session, and the equal suffragists are promised facilities for a bill of their own. Nothing is lost except a little time.

Not a Houn' Dog Affair.

[New York Times.]

It is reported from Washington that the Inaugural Committee will make a place in the inaugural parade for a pack of foxhounds. It is promised that "their equal cannot be found in all the world," and we are quite ready to believe it; but the Inaugural Committee, if it shall insist upon carrying out this feature, will make a most inartistic blunder. Woodrow Wilson was not the houn' dog candidate, and as he has put his veto on a number of foolish things the committee had designed—the ball in the Pension Building and the reception at the Capitol, for instance—it is to be hoped that he will put his foot down on this latest attempt to play vaudeville at his inauguration. That ought to be made a dignified occasion and not be degraded by the introduction of circus features. There is a place for everything, even for foxhounds; but every dog should be in his place. If the Inaugural Committee insists upon the foxhound division in the parade, we shall insist that the yellow dog should have his day also, and, led by one of the surviving sheep he has not killed in the South, he might very well be labeled as Exhibit A of Schedule K, thus reminding the Populists present that there is such a thing as wool that should be conserved by the new administration.

Alaskan Coal Question.

[Omaha Bee.]

Discussing the Inside History of Alaska, Alfred Holman, editor of the San Francisco Argonaut, dares criticise the policy of withholding coal lands of the peninsula from occupation, which, if thrown open to operation under proper limitations by the government, would, he affirms, have resulted in much needed development for Alaska. As he says, the coal land controversy in Alaska, which has been running six years, stands today where it stood at the beginning and Alaska is no nearer to industrial progress now than it was then.

The country must have discovered that those with extreme views as to the conservation of resources, came short of the needs by failing to offer a constructive policy by which this territory, so rich with natural resources, might be opened up to settlement and development, which both it and the states need.

President Taft attempted to secure the adoption of plans looking to development through the provision of a definite form of government for Alaska, but could not arouse Congress to any co-operation. The result is that positively no progress has been made for Alaska.

Speaker Clark's Proposal.

[Charleston News and Courier.]

Speaker Clark has a pet scheme of his own. It is to change election day from Tuesday to Monday and to provide that all citizens who happen to be away from home on election day shall have the privilege of casting their votes anyhow.

Election day was made a Tuesday for the very good reason that a certain amount of preparation for the taking of ballots is necessary and it was desired to avoid breaking the Sabbath. Mr. Clark's reason for wanting the change is that traveling men might be able to stay at home Sunday and Monday, but could hardly be expected to stay at home Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. What difference would that make if they had the privilege of voting by mail? There is too much desecration of the Sabbath as it is.

Voting by mail is not a new thing. There is a law in Kansas providing for it and it seems to have worked very well. In the war against the South arrangements were made to let the soldiers vote, and nobody ever asserted that they did not vote their full strength and have it counted.

Light and Speed.

Many a young man today burns the midnight gasoline that his old dad burned the midnight oil to pay for.—Florida Times-Union.

Bryan Is French.

M. Briand will head the French Cabinet, under the new administration. We suppose Briand is French for Bryan.—Houston Post.

MUCH IN LITTLE

German pianos are the favorites in Brazil.

E. A. Welton, of Winstead, Ct., 89, is a noted fox hunter.

New York's garbage department nets an annual deficit of $1,000,000.

Cleveland expects to start soon on its new city hall, to be built on the lake front.

Auto accidents proving too numerous are to be rigidly investigated in St. Louis.

Chinese of Tientsin like the old-fashioned native theater better than moving pictures.

A motor-driven dredge is reclaiming two mi