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SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 1913.

Are we to have a mollycoddle Mexican policy?

Goucher's need is the philanthropist's opportunity.

Winter, on its return trip, met with a cool reception.

The extra session will, indeed, be an extraordinary one.

Blossoms on the bonnets herald Easter's approach.

Job hunters should send their aspirations by parcel post.

The shouting now is all over and the real work is beginning.

Purified politics at Washington must be breathed, not discussed.

Turkey finds the fire no more comfortable than the frying pan.

Presidential advice is the surest way of splitting Maryland Democracy wide open.

Perhaps Congress will make amends to the suffragists by giving them the ballot.

Winter is just as cold as ever, but it seems to have lost much of its staying power.

Vincent Astor is giving an example to the rich young man who begin their careers by sowing wild oats, in raising tame ones.

The final denial of clemency to the convicted Allens will probably go a long way toward preventing mountain law justice in the future.

Wall Street has strenuous objections to being "shaved." By this time, it should have plenty of practice on the art commonly known as saving its face.

The King of Italy has lost his vote. But as he retains his permanent job and the salary attached thereto, the former loss may be sustained with an equanimity unfrequent in such cases.

Secretary Bryan outlines his foreign policy by quoting from an ancient speech. Perhaps a pretty good line could be obtained on the administration program by delving into the Nebraskan's manuscript barrel.

It is said the Kaiser intends to make an airship ascension. He will then be in sympathetic touch with the rest of the empire which is said to be up in the air over the new "sacrificial" tax announced by imperial authority. Perhaps there will even be times when the clouds will insure him a convenient retreat.

The militant women of Illinois are determined that if Congressman Mann stays at home at the next election, he will be able to use the old excuse of Adam that the woman was to blame, with exceeding great truth. Hence, they have lost no time in camping on his trail and making plans to secure his scalp. Poor Mann!

The declaration of Governor Sulzer, of New York, that the "ruffians" who molested and insulted women in Washington should have been thrashed and that he would like to have had the chance of doing some of it himself, will be echoed by every man with genuine respect for womanhood. In fact, the woman directly involved have found their strongest and most indignant champions in the men.

The new Russian stamps have been called in because they could not be cancelled without stamping on the Czar's face. If the latter is so sensitive, he should take pattern by the way in which George Washington smiles serenely on under the daily and hourly mutilation of his classic countenance, confident in the knowledge that while he is intact in the hearts of the nation he cares not what becomes of his features on its letters.

Pupils of the public schools in a Pennsylvania town were taken in divisions to see moving pictures of the Panama Canal as a way of impressing upon them their geographical studies. There does not seem much doubt that moving pictures will play a large part in the conduct of the schools in the future. Their illustrations will supplement books to a large extent, since to the childish mind, especially, things seen are mightier than things heard.

Several cases of brutality towards children suggests the whipping post as a fitting punishment and strong deterrent of this particular and despicable form of cruelty. Men of violent passions in their own families often escape the just punishment of their brutality because their imprisonment would cut off the support of their families. A taste of the lash would not interfere with this support, and nine times out of ten a man once feeling it, would never be brought to the post again.

Queen Alexandra is celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of her landing in England. She was never conspicuous in public affairs, nor has she made a marked impression in her time for great achievements in any direction, but she has accomplished what many greater people have failed to do—the affection she won on her coming to England from the people of her adopted country, she has kept unimpaired for 50 years, for there is probably no more popular person in Great Britain than the still lovely and gracious widow of Edward VII.

KAISER IN THE AIR.

Nothing derogatory is meant by the dispatches that say that the German Emperor will soon be up in the air, for literally the Kaiser is contemplating taking his first air flight in a Zeppelin ship. As this type of craft has been officially adopted for the use of the German Army, and as the Kaiser is head of the entire military establishment, it is not remarkable that he should feel called upon to experience an air flight, so that he might, as he has always striven to do, enter into the actual experiences of the men over whom he holds supreme military command.

It may be expected, therefore, that the next Germanophobia story will be that of a mysterious airship, in the dead of night, soaring over the British coast, and the card of the Emperor of the Germans being found significantly along the trail of the ship the next morning. All kinds of scare cries have arisen over fancied air encroachments of the German flyers, and Parliament has passed stringent laws to fight these shadowy appearances, so that the proposal of the Emperor himself to join the flyers will cause the uneasy Britons to dream of the argus eye of the supreme bogy looking uneasy down malevolently upon them from the skies of night.

END OF PARLIAMENT.

After one of the longest sessions in its history the British Parliament has adjourned with important measures to its credit and modifications of the constitution, that unwritten document that is, amoeba like, consantly changing its form in nonessential respects. The basis of the British constitution remains unaltered and the elaborations that take place conform to the body of the measures that mark the progress of Briton into the full range of democracy.

The hard working session has such measures as the fruits of its labors, as the home rule bill, the Welsh disestablishment and the modification of the Lords' veto power, through which modification the peers were rendered unable to throttle the home rule bill that has been advanced one of its three possible stages toward final enactment.

Of the most interest and important of measures is that for the flogging of procurers. This mode of dealing with certain aspects of the white slave question may be approved to other countries. For the kind of miscreants who are so employed have high respect for their hides. The adjournment of Parliament finds the country much farther advanced in the direction of modified socialism than was the case before its convening.

THE BURDEN OF BRYAN.

Mr. Bryan has indicated his steering course at the head of the State Department, in terms of platform rhetoric. His citation from an ancient speech to show the quality of his ideals revamped a very creditable piece of composition, but accomplished nothing more. It did, however, disclose the burden of Mr. Bryan. This will be to repress the tendencies so habitual and so developed, to talk, to use the orotund style of deliverance upon public questions and to get down to the level of unromantic diplomatic vocabulary.

Like the man who was ambitious to become a financial expert and sought to set forth his statements of the market, interlarded with Burke and Byron, until one could not tell whether he was talking of money or moonshine, the new Secretary of State is apt to fall into the fatal mistake of employing his customary platform language in an office where such use would be fatal to effect.

The country is quite satisfied that it has lofty ideals, lofty destinies, lofty character, and perhaps it is toplofty in its self-estimation. So that if the men who are now in the lead of public affairs will kindly spare further evidence of rhetoric abilities and simply buckle down to real work as though they felt the rub of yoke on their necks the country will be very much obliged.

MEXICO'S CONSTITUTION.

Despite the flattering disposition on the part of the women of the Mexican leaders to have the constitution of the country revised so as to be identical with that of the United States, there seems to be little likelihood that such constitutional advance can be made by more than a section of the Mexican people. The claim of states rights by the northern states and the contention that the time of autocratic rule has passed is creditable to the sentiments that inspire it, but, unfortunately, it is very difficult to bring about the triumph of democratic forms under conditions of bloodshed and revolution.

The framing of the constitution to make it identical with that of this country would be not only a tribute to the American instrument, but it would also be an indication of the disposition of Mexico ultimately to seek connection with the larger republic. For, with identical constitutions, usages would tend to become similar, and the two countries would grow together. The ideal, however, is far from practical realization, and it is doubtful whether the first step will be taken in that direction for many years to come.

Mexico has first the condition of anarchy still existing in some states to deal with and peace to secure before it can handle theories of wide constitutional change.

THE DYNAMITE CATASTROPHE.

Since the dynamite explosion at Hoboken, with its wide damage and destruction, there has not occurred so serious a calamity from a similar cause as that which occurred yesterday off Sparrows Point and brought death to many persons and did material damage of great extent. The real proportions of the catastrophe may not be as wide as was at first expected, but there will be no discounting the appalling nature of the accident, even after all the facts have been derived. With a detonation that was perceptible in the business center the outburst of flames and gases blew the vessel that was taking on the explosive to atoms. Like a vast tidal wave the waters about Wagners Point surged, and the smashing of vessels at anchor against the bulkhead and the tossing of ships afloat upon the mammoth waves were sensational parts of the scene whose setting defies all description.

The battering of the collier Jason, that was bombarded by fragments of the blown-up Alum Chine, was equal to the deadly work of a shore battery or the broadside of a battleship. This craft, ready for its trial trip, was the storm center of the bullets from mammoth size to slight projectiles that were flung wide by the roaring explosion. That parts of the wreckage fell at great distances shows the extent of the catastrophe, while the alarm felt in places as far away as Annapolis gives indication of the tremendous shock that passed through the water and was communicated to the shore.

Tons of dynamite entered into the pyrotechnic effects, lives paid for the sensation, damage of many thousands of dollars will have to be adjusted. Not the least of the odd features of the occurrence was the fact that the float that was conveying the deadly explosive had been adrift the day before and was run down and secured by tugs. The immediate cause of the catastrophe may never be known, but the lessons to be learned are the old lesson of carefulness in the handling of such stuff.

Some time ago, upon full ventilation being given by The Star to the extent to which dynamite was loaded on ships at Canton, the practice of loading the stuff at this point was abandoned. The shipment of the deadly explosive from this point to Panama is a regular traffic, as Baltimore is so well situated for the purpose. This community, however, would not consent to be endangered any longer once the facts as to the extent and the circumstances of peril attending the handling of dynamite at the Canton wharves was made known. So a great reform was secured. Had the explosion of dynamite occurred upon land instead of water no one could possibly estimate the amount of damage done and the city of Baltimore would doubtless have been visited by another serious conflagration; for such an explosion upon shore, within any such range of the business center, would have surely caused fires, destroyed gas mains and water mains and placed the city at the mercy of the combined forces of destruction. That this outlook is not overdrawn is testified to by the facts in relation to New York that were brought out incident to the Hoboken explosion. Only the fortunate circumstance that the loading was upon water and that the concussion was conveyed through that unstable medium prevented a horror so pailing as to forbid description.

Everyone is agreed that perils attend the necessities of modern times and that the loading of dynamite upon ships is called for. Nevertheless, the explosion will carry the lesson of the importance of making such loading and unloading at points as far removed from cities as facilities may afford. From every other point where the deadly explosive is handled in bulk will arise strong demand for the observation of the closest precautions and the taking away from the vicinity of the cities as far as possible the transferance of the stuff whose deadly work has wrought so much of damage and death.

ROMANOFF CENTENARY.

President Wilson has performed his first act of international amnesty in extending his congratulations to the Czar of Russia upon the occasion that is being elaborately celebrated in the land of the Bear. This is the three hundredth anniversary of the accession of Michael Feodorovitch, the Romanoff, to the throne. The history of the Romanoff dynasty has been a thorny one, and the iron hand has held to the lever of Russia, but there have been sovereigns of exceptional benevolence, and the progress of the country from its initial stage of barbarism to its present point of highly organized civilization has been one of the most striking of revolutions of a people.

Yet the real Romanoff rule ended a hundred and fifty years ago, and only conventionally can the czars who have reigned since be so regarded, for they are of a different origin and family. The family claim is that they are Holstieners, rather than Romanoffs.

No tradition of civilization is more interesting than that which describes the entrance of Christianity into Russia, the sending of embassies to various Christian countries to make a study of the practice of the faith, and the report of the commissioners favorable to the elaborate and beautiful religious system of the Greek Christianity. Today the foundation of Russia's social life is religion, and this has been the factor of development in the growth of the people.

THE SUNDAY AMERICAN.

The Sunday American coutinues 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 community. 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.

HOME RULE FOR CITIES.

A charter bill, drafted by the New York Municipal Government Association and which has been approved by an executive committee representing a conference of mayors from cities and towns in New York state, has been introduced at Albany. It is a comprehensive measure, under which big towns and small cities throughout the state may remodel their governmental systems whenever a majority of the voters desire a different plan of government. This measure is, in some respects, similar to the law passed by the New Jersey legislature two years ago, under which about a half-dozen big towns in Jersey have adopted the commission form of government.

But the proposed general law for New York state differs from the city charter statute of New Jersey in that a far wider option in formulating municipal governments is provided for in the Albany bill. It is accurately termed an optional city charter bill, for, under its provisions, a town or city may adopt any one of six different plans of government. Whatever plan may be adopted must be chosen by a referendum vote. In the main, it is a government-by-commission measure, but, under it, a modified form of councilmanic government may be selected, if the voters prefer that form.

The largest council contemplated consists of nine members, and the members under one proviso are all to be elected at large, but under another plan the council may be composed with respect to wards. In short, the bill opens the way for a great variety of municipal governments. The general aim of the measure, however, is for the consideration of power and responsibility in municipal government, in fewer hands.

NOTES AND NOTIONS

BY JOSH WINK.

THE STAR'S PROTEST.

Well for the thought which banished far
From city centers, crowded high
With busy trade and homes and lives,
Which else in ruins now might lie,
The demon of explosive death
Where more his energies penned in,
The carnage and the wreckage vast
Were stayed, where else both might have been.

Where dozens died, in that first case
Its thousands had the demon slain;
And on the ground in fragments torn,
A city's business heart had lain,
A homeless throng of victims massed
Not one without his missing kin,
And a disaster without par
With such scope, easily might have been.

But timely was the warning voice
Raised over all the clamor loud,
Until its truth and power forced
Attention from the heedless crowd.
And as with stricken eyes they look
The horror of that wrack within,
They shudder forth a thankful cry,
"It was not—but it might have been!"

THE OTHER PLACE.

"I have a regular old family knocker on my front door."

"We've got one inside."

HER MISTAKE.

"The way that woman makes up her face, makes her look so loud."

"Then why doesn't she use noiseless powder?"

NOT A BAD CASE.

"So that is your avuncular relation."

"He was, but the new doctor we got, cured him."

ITS KIND.

"I understand they are going to put up a plant for the making of aviators' supplies."

"Then I suppose it will be an air plant."

CYNICAL.

"Talking about the companionship of marriage——"

"Yes?"

"Isn't it odd that two are company until they are made one?"

HER PROVING ACTS.

"That woman is so contrary."

"What she been doing now?"

"Drawing a cork by pushing it in."

HER STYLE.

"I am going to get a cottage shape hat," said the Country Girl. "What kind of a hat are you going to have?"

"I think I'll select a flat," replied the City Girl, "and trim it in a suite style."

NOT A LONE CLASS.

"Drowning men catch at straws."

"So do thirsty ones."

THEIR PLACE.

"Where do snake editors work, pa?"

"I guess it's on the reptile press, my son."

AN ADVANTAGE.

"There is one reproach members of an aviation corps will be free from."

"What's that?"

"No one will blame them if they fly in battle."

JOSH WINK.

EXCEPTION TO THE RULE.

"There is one Democrat in the United States who doesn't want an office under the Wilson administration," remarked Col. T. B. Henry, of Charleston, S. C., at the Shoreham. "I heard of him in Senator Tillman's office. The South Carolina statesman found in his mail a letter from Anderson, S. C., which read:

"'Dear Senator—I write this note to let you know that I do not want anything at all. Yours respectfully,

"'JOHN A. MAJOR.

"'P. S.—I mean appointive office.'

"Senator Tillman was glad to get this letter, he told me, and he replied:

"'Dear Mr. Major—You don't know how delighted I am to tell you I have just what you want. Will hand it to you when I see you. It is a great luxury to receive such a letter.'"—Washington Post.

AMBIDEXTROUS CONSOLATION.

Nicholas Longworth at a dinner in Cincinnati said of a defeated candidate for Congress:

"Well, after all, it's a great consolation for a man's conscience to tell him, when he is left, that he is right."—Boston Herald.

LA MARQUISE DE FONTENOY

An American Divorcee and the Titled Co-respondent—Expenses of Ambassadors.

Inasmuch as a period of six months intervenes between the issue of a decree of divorce by the English courts and its being made absolute and complete, the news sent out from Louisville, Ky., to the effect that Mrs. William Harrison, formerly Miss Ethel Davis, daughter of the late Major A. H. Davis, of that city, had become the wife of Sir Schomberg McDonnell, is, to say the least, somewhat premature. For Mrs. Harrison, who is asserted to own some $3,000,000 worth of stock in the Louisville Street Car Company, was only divorced by Colonel Harrison in October last, and consequently another month at least will have to elapse before she can go through any valid form of marriage with Sir Schomberg McDonnell, who was the co-respondent in the case. Neither Sir Schomberg nor Mrs. Harrison offered any defence, and she was in consequence thereof deprived of the custody of her children, which was awarded to Colonel Harrison.

The divorce attracted a considerable amount of attention by reason of the prominence of Sir Schomberg in London society, and especially at court. As permanent secretary of the department of government works, in which office he succeeded Lord Esher, he was in constant touch with the royal family, since by virtue of his office he had charge of all their palaces, parks, etc., and all alterations, repairs and questions of maintenance had to be referred to him.

Previously he had been the principal private secretary of the late Lord Salisbury, and as such used occasionally to visit his old friends, Lord and Lady Minto, at Ottawa, taking in Washington on the way. It is now known that it was thanks to his advice that Lord Salisbury kept on Lord Pauncefote as British Ambassador at Washington, long after the date when he should have retired, indeed, until his, that is Lord Pauncefote's death.

Sir Schomberg was frequently mentioned in the cable dispatches from England as a suitor for the hand of Mrs. Ogden Geelet and also of other wealthy American heiresses and widows. But even now, although he is about to marry a very wealthy American divorcee, namely, the principal individual owner of stock in the Louisville Street Railway, he cannot be considered a fortune hunter, having inherited some years ago an extensive estate and a considerable fortune, through the death of old Mrs. Dugald Stuart, of Loch Carron, widow of Dugald Stuart, and daughter-in-law of Sir John Stuart, a celebrated lawyer who was vice chancellor of England. Sir Schomberg's estate thus acquired embraces a great deer forest in Argyllshire of some 10,000 acres, which is one of the oldest game preserves in Scotland, having been formed for royal use by King James IV.

It was "Pem" McDonnell's connection as co-respondent, with the Harrison divorce case last fall, which compelled him to resign his office as secretary of the Government Board of Works, and to disappear from the immediate entourage of the King and Queen. For, as they have shown in the case of Lord Hamilton of Dalzell, who was one of their principal Lords in waiting, and in other instances, they will not have anybody connected with their court who has figured in a divorce suit.

For the same reason, while the ex-Mrs. Harrison will become Lady McDonnell on marrying Sir Schomberg, she need not expect to be admitted to presentation at court as such, at any rate during the present reign. Of course, one can say that presentation at court is not a sine qua non to life in London. But there is no doubt whatsoever that the knowledge that a person is barred from Court ends sooner or later by affecting his or her position, not only in society, but also in public estimation, since people are apt to take the ground that if a person's conduct is such as to cause the sovereigns to bar him or her from their presence, social intercourse with that person is apt to be harmful rather than advantageous. It is one thing to have the right to go to Court and to hold aloof therefrom, but it is quite another thing to be barred from Court, which entails absence from all entertainments in London society, at which royalty may happen to be present, as well as excluded from all British Embassies abroad.

Sir Schomberg McDonnell owes his title to the fact that he is a Knight Grand Cross of the Victorian Order, and a Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath. He saw active service during the Boer War, and is a younger brother of the Earl of Antrim. As secretary of the Orrice of Works he had charge of all the structural preparations in Westminster and elsewhere for the coronation of Edward VII, and of King George, and also took a leading part in the construction of the Order of the Thistle chapel in St. Gile's Cathedral at Edinburgh. It is probable that after his marriage Sir Schonberg McDonnell and his American wife will spend a good deal of their time at the beautiful villa and park which she inherited from her father, the late Major Davis, and where many of his countrymen from this side of the water have enjoyed his kindly hospitality.

Just now, when President Wilson is considering the selection of Democrats of light and leading, who are to represent the United States abroad for the next four years, as ambassadors and ministers plenipotentiary, the problem of choosing men endowed with private means, and who are not wholly dependent upon the meager salaries and allowances paid by this country for diplomatic missions, again comes to the fore. The expenses of these missions are of the most varied character, and difficult to record, or to explain to legislative committees at Washington. One can easily tabulate the house rent, the cost of lying, of carriages, automobiles, servants, etc. But how is one to explain the "vails" or tips which one is required to give on all sorts of occasions?

Thus, when the ambassador presents his credentials he is escorted to the palace of the chief of the state by an escort of cavalry. Time-honored usage and the international comity of nations requires that he should "tip" the members of his escort to the tune of several hundred dollars. The same unwritten laws demand that on such occasions as these a still larger lump sum should be given for distribution among the servants of the palace. These vails, which the military escort and the palace servants regard as perquisites, are survivals from ancient times.

When the ambasador happens to be on an extraordinary mission, such as, for instance, the coronation, the wedding or the funeral of a sovereign, or the celebration of a golden jubilee and, owing to the tax on the accommodation of the royal and imperial abodes, is lodged with his suite in the mansion of one of the great dignitaries of the court, or of some rich noble who has placed his residence at the disposal of the crown for the purpose, the special ambassador is required to give his vails or tips twice over—that is to say, to the servants of the house where he stays and also to those of the royal palace where he would have stayed if there had been any room. In these instances the vails amount to thousands of dollars.

Moreover, it is customary on such occasions for the special ambassador to make very handsome gifts in the form of works of art or jewelry to the noble owner of the residence in which he has been quartered, and also to the noble's wife. How is it possible to explain such matters as these to the satisfaction of legislative committeemen who may hail from rural districts, where everything connected with courts, palaces, official pomp and ceremonial is regarded as so much flummery, out of keeping with democratic simplicity and true republican doctrines?

MARQUISE DE FONTENOY.

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Always Keen for Trouble.

Castro's enthusiastic welcome to Havana shows that those Cubans are not at all particular over whom they make a fuss.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

Better Than the Usual Lemon.

Mr. Bryan's fourth battle brought him a portfolio and probably the seat of MacGregor at the cabinet table.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

MEN AND WOMEN

M. Toselli, the pianist who married the Crown Princess of Saxony, is about to publish his memoirs.

Governor Baldwin, of Connecticut, has issued the annual fast day proclamation for Friday, March 21.

Miss Helen Morton, of Chicago, has temporarily quit society to study agriculture in the University of Wisconson.

W. D. A. Ryan has been appointed engineer in charge of illumination for the Panama-Pacific Exposition at San Francisco.

Miss Anne Morgan, daughter of J. Pierpont Morgan, has offered a prize for the best amateur performance in New York of Constance Mackay's play, The House of the Heart.

Rev. Adam Dan, pastor of a Danish Lutheran church in Chicago, has had knighthood in the Order of the Dannebrog conferred on him by King Christian, in recognition of his poems.

William Averell Harriman, son of the late E. H. Harriman, entered the financial world when he was elected a director of the Harriman National Bank. Young Harriman became 21 years of age last November.

Mrs. F. C. Doyle, of Plymouth, was married in Chicago, Ill., to Ed H. Rife, millionaire sheepman and ranch owner of Rock Springs, Wyo. Both are 65. The wedding was the culmination of a romance begun 50 years ago.

Lewisburg (Pa.) has a remarkable old lady in Mrs. J. O. Vandine, who is 84 years old and is as active as many women 30 years her junior. She has excellent health, has fine eyesight and can thread a needle without the aid of glasses. She reads the daily papers and is well informed on the happenings of the day.

Mrs. Edward Orton, Jr., of Columbus, O., is a candidate for the office of one of the two historians general of the Daughters of the American Revolution on the administration ticket. She is vice president general and state regent at the present time. Mrs. John Miller Horton is the candidate for president on the administration ticket. The congress will be held in April at Washington.

The Horrid Truth.

The horrid truth of the matter seems to be that the government is not going to be run as a side show for Washington society.—Springfield Republican.

Let Out Cole Blease.

Man wants but little here below, but please, oh, please, no more Cole Blease.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

GOSSIP OF THE STAGE

It is said that Nat C. Goodwin will build a theater in Los Angeles and one in San Francisco.

Frank Keenan will leave the Faversham Company and have a Shakespearean company of his own.

The Shuberts will have two companies on the road next season to present Edward Sheldon's Romance.

Ida Vernon, the veteran actress, who was once leading lady to Edwin Booth, is writing a book of reminiscences.

The book on the white slave trade, My Little Sister, by Elizabeth Robins, which has attracted so much attention, will be dramatized, Charles Frohman having obtained the dramatic rights.

Bought and Paid For, the George Broadhurst play, which has made such a success in New York, and is now running in London, is in the list of the coming attractions at the Auditorium.

Sir Charles Wyndham, perhaps the greatest living authority on old English comedy, says that George Giddings, now playing in Annie Russell's company, is the best Tony Lumpkin the stage has ever seen.

It is a mistaken statement that the Harry Clarke reported to be married to Nora Bayes is a son of the late Creston Clarke. The son of Mr. Clarke's wife, Adelaide Prince, by a former marriage, took the name of his stepfather, but the actor himself had no children.

Ada Lewis says that when she was "discovered" by Ned Harrigan in San Francisco, she was getting $3 a week, and when he offered her $20 she began to think he was crazy. Her first part with him was that of a woman with millions, and when she took it she had just $4 in cash on hand.

Else Alder, who is called the Fritzi Scheff of Berlin, is to come to this country as star of a musical comedy next season, under the management of Klaw & Erlanger. The current issue of the Dramatic Mirror has the first picture of the bright-faced little prima donna to appear in any American paper.

William Faversham, who is now starring in his own production of Julius Caesar, announced this week in Chicago that he intends to establish a traveling school of dramatic art and training. The school will be put in operation next season and will be an integral part of Mr. Faversham's regular dramatic organization. The object of the school will be to give worthy aspirants a course of stage training along new lines, Mr. Faversham himself conducting many of the classes, while especially engaged instructors will have charge of the others. Thirty pupils will be taken, and as part of their training these students will take part in the ensemble scenes of the plays produced.

PITY AND ENVY.

[From the Chicago Record-Herald.]

If you could know this day must be your last,
That ere tomorrow all your work must cease,
Could you keep pressing on as in the past,
Or would you halt to plan for future peace?
Would there be any wrong of other days
That you would, trembling, hasten to set right,
And would you, heedless of the public's praise,
Behold with fear the coming of to-night?
If so, however great the thing you do,
However rich you are, I pity you.

If you could know that after this fair day
The mask of death must lie upon your face
Would there be no dark stains to clear away,
No misdirected steps you would retrace?
The guerdon that you seek, would it retain
The value that you place upon it now?
And would you bravely press ahead to gain
At last the precious laurels for your brow?
If so, however small the thing you do,
However poor you are, I envy you.

S. E. KISER.

PUBLIC OPINION

Comment of Leading Newspapers on a Variety of Topics—Enlarging the Supreme Court.

[Washington Post.]

There is no man in the country so narrow-minded as to believe that Mr. Wilson would express such a desire merely that he might be empowered to place two men on the bench. But if the President is convinced that there is need for two more justices, he certainly would not hesitate to approve the Gore bill merely on the ground that his motives might be questioned.

The Supreme Court has more work than can be disposed of with dispatch. Decisions are unduly delayed. This is not due to any negligence on the part of the justices, nor to any voluntary delay on their part, but to the simple fact that they have more work than they can handle.

Members of the Supreme Court cannot be expected to urge legislation for their own benefit, but in a matter of this kind it would be well if President Wilson would confer with the Chief Justice to determine whether or not the business of the court would not be greatly facilitated if two justices were added.

A prompt disposition of appeals is essential to the dispensation of justice. England is far ahead of us in this respect. If two more justices will facilitate matters, the Gore bill should be passed.

The National Guard.

[Chicago Journal.]

The Mexican crisis which calls attention to the military inefficiency of this nation should rouse Congress and the new administration to improve the national guard.

There is too much tendency to act as if a regular army were the only fighting force worth having. It is the best fighting machine, but not the only one. All observers agree that Switzerland has trained her militia to form an admirable reserve, ready to act as a second battle line in case of war.

No reason has been shown why this country cannot do as well as Switzerland. There is plenty of good stuff in the national guard, if it is rightly organized and managed.

The regular army must not be neglected. It must be freed from the curse of political promotions. It must be gathered in sufficient masses to give officers practice in handling large bodies of men. The regular soldiers should be enlisted for short terms with the colors, and required to spend some years in a reserve.

But while attending to these reforms, do not lose sight of the militia. The average national guardsman is a good, pluck fellow, who has made many sacrifices to the service. He deserves some attention, too.

Taft No Squealer.

[Omaha Bee.]

The bigness of the man is reflected in President Taft's speech to the Washington newspaper correspondents. "I am not a squealer or a 'kicker.' He has proved that, as every unprejudiced critic must admit. Moreover, he is too big a man to allow defeat for office with whatever of personal disappointment it involves make him a soured scold. Reviewing briefly his official record of 24 years, the President said:

"Now, gentlemen, after that record, still in health, do you suppose I regret anything; that I have an occasion for kicking and squealing? What kind of a man would I be if I did, with the measure all on my side? Now, I am looking to see if I can't repay the country and fortune for the good things given me, and if I can't work in the cause of good government."

How refreshing from a man who has endured the calumny that he has, especially at a time when the country has had so much squealing and kicking from other sources. The American citizen is sportsman enough to admire a good loser. He must, therefore, admire William Howard Taft, who is man enough to admit his shortcomings and the right of the people to prefer another in his place, who goes into private life smiling instead of scolding.

Flight Is Fastest.

[Cleveland Leader.]

Nature has long put the air first in the speed of living creatures. Next to the birds came the land animals. The fishes trailed behind.

It has come to that already with man's speed records. Tuesday a French aviator named Guillaux drove a flying machine 118 miles in an hour, from Savigny-sur-Brave to Paris, and thereby beat the best record eve rmade by an automobile in this country or Europe by about six miles. No railroad train ever came anywhere near the sustained speed of the "birdman," who averaged almost two miles a minute for 60 minutes.

The fastest racing boats, it is needless to say, are far behind the record of the automobiles and the railroad trains. Their feats are wonderful, in view of the conditions they have to contend against, but their limit, so far, is less than a mile a minute, for any distance, however short.

So the air becomes the field for man's swiftest travel. Flight leads in human devices for fast movement from place to place, just as it does with the birds, the beasts and the fishes. But it is still an open question whether or not the record flight of 118 miles an hour surpasses the fastest flying ever done by a bird.

The Auto Eye.

[Pittsburgh Dispatch.]

The lay press is so often held up to scorn by the professional organs for a disposition to popularize medical news that it is with relief we find the staid Journal of the American Medical Association trying to write a human-interest article on auto ailments. It announces in the current issue the discovery of "the auto eye," which it describes as a spasm of the ciliary muscles (which govern accommodations for distance). To this those who have errors of refraction are, it observes, especialy prone. Speeding over an unknown country, through devious roads, the sight being constantly and rapidly attracted to objects now near and now in the distance, makes an abnormal strain on the visual mechanism. Wind and dust, coupled with high speed, induce any degrees of conjunctival inflammation, from a hyperemia (whatever that may be) to a contagious lesion, but the wearing of goggles largely obviates this.

"Auto leg" is another ailment gravely announced, a cramp due to sitting in one position for hours while the veins and muscles are under the strain from consecutive shocks and joltings over bad roads.

Railway Mail Pay.

[New York Times.]

The Postoffice Appropriation Bill contains a clause providing that railways, in consideration of the carriage of postal parcels, my receive not exceeding 5 per cent. addition to their other payments from the government. This illustrates the advantage the government has in its business relations. It decides what it is willing to pay, and makes a law providing that payment shall be lawful. This is the method by which the payment for the carriage of the mails was arranged before the parcel post was established. The railways were complaining bitterly, but the only effect is to obtain a grudging addition of 5 per cent.

The railways would not have considered themselves paid if the remuneration for their services had been increased without the imposition of additional services. But the extra work was imposed as the payment is settled, not by a bargain, but by a statute. As the government is taking in from $20,000,000 to $30,000,000 by the postal parcel business, it stands to make a pretty penny by the difference between the receipts and the $2,000,000 of the 5 per cent. allowance to the carriers.

Defining Democracy.

Vice President Marshall asserts that democracy is not a belief, but a nattitude of mind. At any rate, it isn't a stained-glass attitude.—New York Evening Sun.

Passing of Democracy.

Sailors in the American Navy are now obliged to wear pajamas, and yet some persons affect to think there is still a democracy.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

MUCH IN LITTLE

Colorado's ore product for 1912 was valued at more than $4,270,000.

St. Louis is demanding a subway to handle urban passenger traffic.

Camden (N. J.) social clubs illegally selling liquors are being raided.

There are 813,756 more native than foreign-born residents in New York.

The Philadelphia Housekeepers' League will become an incorporated body.

Newark (N. J.) street railway will build a $4,000,000 terminal station shortly.

Evangelist Dow, of Louisville, Ky., says he approves applause during religious services.

The Prince of Wales practices on Scotch bagpipes daily for the benefit of his lungs.

Mrs. Anna Kasham, Chicago, demands divorce because her husband has a wooden leg.

The annual rain and snowfall of the United States is estimated to weigh six trillion tons.

Ninety tons of fresh water mussels recently were taken from a London water main supplied by the River Thames.

Though only one-tenth of an inch in diameter, a new steel wire for aeroplane guys has a tensile strength of 350,000 pounds to the square inch.

A small fan, revolved by a motor or clockwork, features a new respiratory helmet to draw air expelled by a man's lungs away from his face.

A native farmers' association has been established at Wakkerstroom, Transvaal, an exceedingly hopeful indication of a progressive tendency among Kaffir agriculturists which may mean much in regard to requirements of up-to-date implements.

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