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matter accordingly seems only reasonable. The suggestion that a universal postage stamp be adopted is also a practical one. With the rapid increase in business correspondence between this and other countries the inability to purchase here the stamps necessary to be used on return letters becomes a great annoyance and drawback. The need of such a stamp has often been discussed in international postal conventions, but no satisfactory plan for the proper division among the several countries of the proceeds from such stamps has been offered, and the effort to secure the convenience has failed. It seems, however, that Assistant Postmaster General Shallenberger has devised a workable scheme for the issuance of such postage, and there may be a chance of its adoption.

YESTERDAY'S ELECTIONS.

The general result of yesterday's elections can be stated with approximate accuracy, although the details can only be settled by fuller returns than are available at this writing. It was a warm contest on both sides, but neither party got out its full vote. Both parties made some gains and some losses, but the indications are that the Republicans will have a safe majority in the next national House of Representatives. They have lost some congressmen in the East and gained some in the West. Governor Odell is re-elected in New York by a majority which may not exceed 15,000—a small one for that State. There, as elsewhere, the Democrats made a stiff fight, which makes the result all the more gratifying.

No State has done better than Indiana and no county in Indiana better than Marion. The indications are that the Republicans have carried Marion county by not less than 3,000 majority and the State by at least 30,000. These are conservative estimates and are likely to be increased by full returns, rather than diminished. These figures indicate a safe majority in the Legislature and the return of Mr. Fairbanks to the United States Senate. It is believed that complete returns of the election, which are as yet somewhat confused, will show that Indiana stands in the front rank of Republican States. The full returns will probably show local gains and losses on both sides, which cannot be stated at this time, but it is safe to claim the net result of the elections throughout the country as a decided Republican victory, especially for an off year.

INTEREST IN POLITICS.

The campaign which has just closed has emphasized the fact that American political methods have undergone a great change during the last generation. "Times change and we change with them," says an old adage. Times have changed very much since the log cabin and hard cider campaign of 1840, the "Border Ruffian" organizations of 1856 and the "Wide-Awake" clubs of 1890. Those were the days of huge mass meetings, immense processions and great popular demonstrations. It was not an uncommon thing for large delegations on horseback or in wagons to go many miles to participate in a demonstration. The "Border Ruffians," a unique band of horsemen organized in this city in 1856 to represent Democratic methods in Kansas, went to Dayton to attend a great Republican meeting at that place and was invited by Horace Greeley to come to New York. The "Wide-Awake" clubs of 1890 made long excursions. It was not an unusual thing in those days for large delegations to come in wagons or on horseback from every township in the county to attend big rallies in this city. Both parties pursued the same tactics. The real working organization was not nearly as good as it is now, but there was no trouble in getting out the vote. It got itself out. The people took the initiative and apparently much more interest in campaigns and elections than they do now. It would be impossible for the Republican party to get up such mass meetings, processions and parades now as it did forty years ago, and the Democrats, though they never showed as much spirit and enthusiasm as the Republicans, could not equal now their demonstrations of that period.

This change may indicate a waning interest in politics, or it may indicate simply a change in the mental habits of the people. If the former, it is a bad sign. In a republic the interest in politics should never wane, for politics is the applied science of government. Every citizen of a republic is a stockholder in the commonwealth and should take a keen interest in the management of public affairs. A man who does not take sufficient interest in politics to vote, that is, to express an opinion as to how government should be conducted, is hardly entitled to claim the protection or enjoy the blessings of government. Next to having a large body of permanently disfranchised citizens the greatest danger that could befall the country would be to have a large class of citizens who do not care enough about politics to vote. Yet there is reason to believe this class of citizens has greatly increased in recent years. The growth of commercialism, of the money-making spirit, is unfavorable to the maintenance of interest in politics. Thousands of men are so immersed in business that they will not take time to vote, except, perhaps, in some very important election. That this class is very numerous is shown by the great difference between the aggregate vote in different years. The ebb and flow of the popular vote shows the constant tendency of the spirit of commercialism to stifle the interest in politics. Another class of indifferent voters are those whose business requires them to be away from home a great deal. After missing a few elections they become habituated to not voting and accept it as a permanent condition. There may be other reasons for a waning interest in politics, but whatever the cause, it is not a healthy nor a hopeful condition.

However, in estimating the reason for the change in political methods, allowance must be made for the change in mental habits. During the last thirty or forty years the people have advanced greatly in intelligence. They do their own thinking now to a much greater extent than they formerly did, and have better means of informing themselves. Newspapers have largely taken the place of stump orators, and the kind of oratory that pleased people thirty or forty years ago would hardly be tolerated now. It used to be the case that the speaker who could make the people laugh and shout the most was the most popular; now it is the one who gives them most to think about. People do not go as far to attend political meetings as they used to, nor turn out in such numbers, but when they do go they want to hear something to make them think. The people who do their own thinking and who vote accordingly are the salvation of the republic, just as those who vote without thinking or who do not vote at all are its menace. It is to be hoped the change in conducting political campaigns is due to the adaptation of political methods to the improving intelligence of the people, though there is no doubt but the number of persons who do not take any interest in politics, not even interest enough to vote, is steadily increasing. Of all the evil results that may flow from the growth of the spirit of commercialism the worst and the most dangerous is the decline of interest in politics.

It is believed that this difference is not large enough to seriously retard the close of the negotiations.

RECENT ARMY ORDERS.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4.—Col. Frank G. Smith, artillery corps, now in this city, has been ordered to Fort Proble, Mass., to assume command of the artillery district at Portland as the relief of Col. John R. Myrick, artillery corps. First Lieutenant E. P. O'Hern, ordnance department, has been relieved from duty at Watertown, Mass., and ordered to Sandy Hook, N. J. Capt. E. M. McCallum, assistant surgeon, United States volunteers, has been honorably discharged. Capt. Charles G. Woodward, artillery corps, has been relieved from duty at the Elevator, Mass., and ordered to join the Contract Surgeon, Field Artillery. He has been granted one month's leave of absence. First Lieutenant E. M. Reeve, Fifteenth Infantry, has been granted a furlough for three months.

PATENTS GRANT INDIANA INVENTORS.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal. WASHINGTON, Nov. 4.—Indiana inventors were granted patents to-day as follows: Thomas Bemis, Indianapolis, pneumatic dispatch tube system, two patents; Calvin R. Davis, South Bend, grinding or polishing machines; John Dierdorf, Indianapolis, special gun for planes; Hiram Grever, Goshen, Ind., wing; Isiah M. Green, Terre Haute, Vermont tire setter; Harry W. Jenkins, Brazil, Ind., motor; John T. Babb, Indianapolis, motor controller; Edson Potter, Greensburg, Ind., motor; John F. Scott, Evansville, railway car body.

BRITISH THANKS FOR McLEAN.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4.—Through the State Department the British government has formally returned thanks to Captain McLean, formerly commanding the Cincinnati, for the good offices extended by him to a British citizen, one Charles Babb, who had been forcibly impressed into the service of the rebels at Barcelona, Venezuela. Hearing of the capture of Babb, the British subject, Captain McLean went with the Cincinnati from Laguayana to Guana, a sort of twelve mile distant from Barcelona, proceeded inland to the rebel headquarters and secured the release of Babb, whom he brought away with him.

COST OF CENSUS WORK.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4.—The cost of the temporary work of the twelfth census according to the director's annual report was \$1,844,318, or an average cost of 15 cents per capita for the population of the United States. The total cost of field work in connection with the twelfth census was \$1,385,000, or an average cost of 11 cents per capita. A total of 55,375 persons were employed in the census and 2,000,000 bulletins were issued. The director expects to submit later a more effective plan for securing the original information, upon which rests the whole structure of statistical work at each census.

"COLD TEA" MAY BE SOLD.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4.—The production of Theodore L. Page and Warren I. Coffin, charged with the sale of liquor in the Capitol restaurants in violation of the law, was dismissed to-day by the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia. The court held that the law regulating the sale of liquor in the District was not intended to apply to the Capitol.

ANOTHER JOB FOR CONTRACTOR PEARCE.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4.—The secretary of the treasury has awarded to John Pearce, of New York, the contract for the completion of the granite walls, roofing, etc., of the New York custom house at his bid of \$2,000,000. The building is expected to be completed, ready for occupancy, within three years.

NATIONAL CAPITAL NOTES.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4.—The President has accepted the resignation of Second Lieutenant Eugene V. Bissell, First Cavalry. Senator Quesada, the Cuban minister, called upon Secretary Hay to-day to discuss the Cuban treaty. The document itself has not yet been received in Washington, but is expected here probably to-morrow, when it will be taken up and pushed to a conclusion.

CRASHED INTO A SALOON.

SERIOUS TROLLEY LANE ACCIDENT AT KANSAS CITY, MO. KANSAS CITY, Nov. 4.—A heavy trolley car on the Broadway line jumped the track to-day at Fifth and Broadway and crashed into a saloon. Two persons, a woman and a negro, were killed and six others hurt. None of the injured will die. The dead: MRS. MARY ANN CRAY, 47, of the Kan. CHARLES JOHNSON, Kansas City, driver. The injured: MISS MOLLE CRIST, Otta, Kan., cut and bruised; MRS. A. E. CARTMELL, Kansas City, cut and bruised; MISS LIZZIE DOAN, Kansas City, head and shoulders cut, severe shock; MISS ROSE REAVES, Kansas City, scalp, face and shoulders badly cut; FRANK GIBSON, Kansas City, head and shoulders cut; MISS ROSE REAVES, Kansas City, cut and bruised. The motorman lost control of the car at the top of the hill two blocks away and it descended at a terrific speed. At Fifth street, where the track turned, the car continued straight ahead. It struck a wagon driven by Mrs. Cray and pushed it into the street. Mrs. Cray and her daughter, who were walking through into the saloon. The store front was completely demolished and the car badly damaged. Mrs. Cray and her daughter were thrown through the saloon room. Mrs. Cray and her daughter were instantly killed. None of the passengers had time to jump.

WORK OF GEN. GREELY.

ANNUAL REPORT OF GEN. GREELY, CHIEF OF THE SERVICE.

Such Accomplished Under Difficulties in Alaska, Cuba and the Philippine Islands.

MERCHANT MARINE'S GROWTH.

COMMISSIONER OF NAVIGATION CHAMBERLAIN'S REPORT.

Documented Tonnage of the United States Now the Largest in the History of the Country.

CASTRO VINDICATED.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4.—The annual report of Gen. A. W. Greely, chief signal officer of the army, says the corps has actually built and put in working order in Alaska 1,131 miles of land lines and submarine cables within a period of twenty-four months. The accomplishment of such results, he says, would be most creditable to officers and men concerned therein if Alaska was an ordinary country, for this work included not only surveying, construction and installation of the longest line, but also involved the manufacture and inspection of enormous quantities of material, instruments, etc., many hundred tons in weight, and their transportation over distances ranging from 4,000 to 7,000 miles. When one considers, however, the exceedingly difficult physical conditions within the Territory, he says, the work must be considered simply phenomenal, as in all parts of Alaska traversed by this line there are not a dozen miles of wagon road and much of the region is unexplored.

ALLEGED TRIUMPH FOR VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT TROOPS.

NEW YORK, Nov. 4.—The Venezuelan consul general here has received the following telegram from Caracas: "Revolution totally crushed by final victory. Matos a fugitive." The message was signed by Torres Cardenas, secretary to the President.

REBELS ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN ROUTED AND GENERAL RIERA KILLED—MOTOS AND OTHERS IN FLIGHT.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4.—The government reports having gained a decisive victory over the revolutionists last week. Government troops dislodged the rebels from their last stronghold at Pipe, near San Mateo, and six miles from La Victoria. The revolutionary leaders, Mendoza, Matos, Rolando, Crespo, Torres and others, according to government reports, have been scattered and the disbanded rebel army passed through Villa de Cura last Sunday night. The rebel general Riera is reported to have been killed. The victory claimed by the government was celebrated in Caracas yesterday with salvoes of artillery, fireworks and the ringing of church bells. The government reports declare the revolution in Venezuela to be ended by this complete victory and that peace in Venezuela has been secured.

SUBJECT TO EXTORTION.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4.—Upon complaint from United States Consul Agent Ignacio Baz, at Barcelona, Venezuela, that he had been subjected to a forced loan, United States Minister Bowen, at Caracas, has dispatched the United States steamer Marietta from Laguayana to Puerto, the nearest port to Barcelona, to investigate. The consul agent has held his place for twenty-one days as a native of St. Thomas. He has suffered before from extortion during the progress of the rebellion in Venezuela and has been relieved of his duties as a result of the intervention of the State Department.

FOUGHT WITH SWORDS.

PARIS, Nov. 4.—The duel between the Count de Dion and M. Gerault Richard, which was reported in the sixth, de Dion opened the tenth bout by fiercely attacking the point of his sword touching Gerault's on the inner side of the right forearm, causing a slight wound. The seconds immediately stopped the encounter. No reconciliation occurred, the participants leaving the field without these usual formalities.

TEEN LITELY ROUNDS FOR 150 PERSONS, INCLUDING PHOTOGRAPHERS—THE EDITOR SLIGHTLY WOUNDED.

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THE REASON THEREOF.

Teacher—Why did Demosthenes put pebbles into his mouth?

Tommy—Cause he left his tobaccoer plug at home, ma'am.

A DIRE THREAT.

The waiting servant glared viciously at one another.

"Secondly" blazed one.

"Robber!" snarled the other in great heat.

"Liar!"

"Pussy!"

The debate was approaching the unparliamentary stage.

"If you say another word," yelled the first senator, his eyes snapping and his chest heaving with anger, "I shall not be responsible for the consequences to you."

"What will you do?" asked the second, his right hand moving quietly toward his hip pocket.

"Do!" thundered the first. "Why, you contemptible whippersnapper! I'll boom you for the presidency!"

Trembling with mingled fear and wrath, the second senator sank back into his seat and gnashed his teeth in a manner that proved conclusively that he was baffled.

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