

# National Tribune

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR.

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## AN OLD MAN'S LIFE THREAD.

### SOLE BOND OF UNION OF THE DISCORDANT AUSTRIA-HUNGARIAN EMPIRE.

#### Fears That Kaiser Franz-Josef is On His Death-Bed—Will His Historic Realm Fall to Pieces?—Irreconcilable Strife Among the Three Races—Germans, Magyars and Slavs—The Country Only Held Together for Years by Affection for the Aged Emperor-King.

All Europe is thrown into a tumult of anxiety by the news that the aged Emperor-King Franz-Josef is seriously ill. That strange, ill-assorted congeries of hopelessly conflicting races, the dual Empire of Austria-Hungary, has only been held together for the last 41 years by the personality of the man who is now probably on his death-bed.

tant, with never-ending conflicts among the races and their representatives. The Magyars, who took possession of the Hungarian basin, reduced to slaves the Slavs, whom they found there, and have since kept them in a more or less servile condition. The Turks, in their invasion of Europe extended their rule over the Slavs on the Lower Danube.



EMPEROR-KING FRANZ JOSEPH. (Franz Joseph has his dinner served at his desk, and works as he eats.)

After his death—what? This is the question that thrills Europe with anxiety for its answer may be that constantly predicted, most terrible of all political events, a general European war.

#### Some Ancient History.

It will be impossible to comprehend the gravity of the consequences following Franz Joseph's death without a little ancient history and ethnology. The Valley of the Danube forms the great highway thru central Europe by which teeming millions of Asia passed into Europe. The first of these is where the Danube was thronged for centuries with different races and peoples, each of which left a fotsam embayed in these basins. The Goths and Vandals took possession of the upper basin, and are now represented by the distinctly Teutonic character of those people. A Turanian race, akin to the Turks and also, but of much less mental activity and capacity to the Germans and Magyars. The Slavs did not take possession by force of arms, as the other races, but by exceeding prolificacy in breeding. Like our negroes and other races near the equator, the Slavs breed rapidly, but live short lives, and after spreading over Russia they swarmed over ancient Greece, the country along the Danube and up into Poland to take the places of the people there who had been killed or driven off in the incessant wars.

#### Incessant Wars.

Ever since modern history began the wars in this country have been incessant.

and penetrated as far as Vienna in the Bavarian Basin, where the struggle between Christianity and Mohammedanism went on for centuries. The Teutonic peoples imposed their rule upon the Slavs they found in the upper basin of the Danube, and treated them very much as the Magyars had. In fact, we get our word slave from the servile condition of that race. Every people in Europe made slaves of the Slavs, and the bitterness of political animosity in Austria-Hungary to-day is due to the persistent demand of the Slavic element for political and social equality with the Germans and Magyars.

#### Building the Eastern Empire.

For centuries it was the policy of Europe to build up all these little rivaling Principalities and Kingdoms into one great strong Empire to make a bulwark against the terrible Turks at Constantinople, who were constantly threatening an invasion of Europe and the downfall of the Cross before the Crescent. It thus came about that in time scores of separate and independent nationalities of various kinds were aggregated together into what the Germans call Oesterreich, or the Eastern Empire. It officially designated itself the Holy Roman Empire, which Vol-

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taire used to say was neither holy, Roman nor an Empire. It was, in fact, from the discordant aggregation with States Rights carried to extremes and the dominant Germans represented by the house of Hapsburg playing off each little Principality's local prejudices, hatreds and animosities against the others in order to divide and successfully rule them. These basins played an enormous part in this political game, in the great basins were water basins, each shut off from the others by precipitous mountains, with little communication between them. Therefore, neighborhood prejudices, spites and bigotry had the greatest opportunity to develop and continue. Besides Austria proper, which was originally a Grand Duchy, there were the little Kingdoms, Duchies and Principalities of Salzburg, Styria, Bosnia, Herzegovina, Carinthia, Carniola, Tyrol, Vorarlberg, Bohemia, Moravia, Silesia, Galicia, Bukovina, Dalmatia, and so on. All these, which now form Austria proper, have only an area of 303,000 square miles, about the size of Illinois and Indiana. They have, however, a population of 24,000,000. Hungary, which has an area of 123,450 square miles and a population of 18,000,000, is built up in the same way, and in addition to Hungary proper are the Provinces of Croatia, Slavonia and Transylvania.

**Racial Divisions.** The racial differences and antagonisms are everywhere present and constantly increasing. The Germans arrogantly assume to be the superior race, which is contested by the Magyars, and frequently the dispute has taken the shape of actual wars. Both the Germans and the Magyars despise the Slavs. In the late years, and due largely to Russian influence, the Slavs have been asserting themselves quite boldly, especially in the ancient Kingdom of Bohemia. They demand equality before the law, and the same regard for their language and institutions that the Germans and Magyars enjoy. There was a crisis last year when the Magyars insisted their language should be used in giving orders in the army, with a threat to dismember the Empire unless this was done. The Emperor stood firm upon this, and refused to have anything but German used in the army. He said with great justice that if he conceded the right of Hungarian officers to give their commands and issue their orders in Magyar every one of the other constituent divisions of the Empire would insist upon the same thing, which would make the army a babel of languages and absolutely destroy its efficiency. The Hungarians, however, make the Magyar the official language of Hungary. All court proceedings and records are in it, and German is simply tolerated. The Bohemians, who are Slavs and call themselves Czechs, insist upon a similar adoption of their language in their own ancient Kingdom, which demand is sternly opposed by the Germans, who are the landholders and officials. The Germans scorn to learn Czech, and say that if the court proceedings and records were in that language the German property interests in the country would be destroyed.

Of the 24,000,000 in Austria proper less than 10,000,000 speak German, about 6,000,000 speak Czech, something over 2,000,000 Polish, less than 1,000,000 Italian, and the remainder speak various Slavic dialects. In Hungary, of the 18,000,000 population only 7,500,000 speak Magyar, with 2,000,000 speaking German, and the remainder some form of Slavic tongue.

**Building the Empire.** This heterogeneous collection of peoples is held together by what is known as the Crown of St. Stephen. Charles in 796 created a "Markgraviat"—that is a political institution somewhere between a County and a Dukedom, or what used to be called in the Marquisate—among the Germans living on the Upper Danube. The Marquisate married into the families of their neighbors, absorbed their territories, and Austria became a Duchy under Rudolph of Hapsburg in 1282. By marriages the Dukes of Austria acquired dominion over the ancient Kingdoms of Hungary and Bohemia. The Magyars in Hungary had become Christianized as early as the 10th century, and the first Christian King was Stephen, who was crowned in the year 1000, and is known in history as St. Stephen. The Magyars acquired high reputation for their warlike successes and many conquests, and made a history of which the Magyars are intensely proud to this day. They claim superiority to the Germans, whom in ancient times they repeatedly defeated, and who were saved from Turkish rule by the valor of the Hungarian Kings.

Bohemia has a history almost as old as that of Hungary, but by no means so distinguished. Under her own Kings Bohemia was at one time one of the prominent States in Europe, and furnished three Emperors to the Holy Roman Empire. After passing under the rule of the Hapsburgs, who succeeded to the Crown of St. Stephen, Bohemia retained a semi-independence until the outbreak of the Thirty Years War. The Reformation had taken deep hold in Bohemia, and the war began there in a strife between the Protestants and the Roman Catholics. The result of the war was the virtual destruction of Bohemia, the driving out of all the Protestant inhabitants and the granting of their lands to the Roman Catholic adherents of Ferdinand II, Emperor of Austria.

All these things enter into the bitter discussions which have disturbed the Dual Empire. Napoleon's victory at Austerlitz broke up the Holy Roman Empire, and confined the Emperor to what was then called Austria. The Hungarian Magyars resented being eclipsed in this way, and at the time of the German revolution in 1848 they rose under

the very first formal action with reference to the Republican campaign for the Presidency will be taken late this week. That is, the opening of the ball. It will be a little more than 12 months before the ball is over, and the country knows whether the Republicans have been successful again in electing a President.

The formal action is a very little matter. It rests solely with one man, He is Col. Harry S. New, Chairman of the Republican National Committee. But Col. New is coming all the way from Indianapolis to Washington to make the arrangements to issue the formal call for the meeting of the National Committee in this city. Elmer Dover, the Secretary of the Committee, whose headquarters are officially in this city, who spends much of his time on his business duties in New York and elsewhere, has also come to Washington, and will be here with Col. New when the call is issued.

It is not a very difficult matter to determine when the Committee shall meet. The custom has been for it to meet some time in December, usually about the middle of the month, and the members are expected to be in the city. The session generally continues for two days.

The old stages of the Committee say that there are about 100 members, and place for the meeting of the National Convention. They speak as though it were a very simple matter. In fact, however, a vast deal of importance is attached to the meeting here of many people. It is a period for consultation and for exchange of views. While all of this may be of comparatively small importance to the candidates, it is of great significance to the bidders of the cities for the honor of having the Convention is generally spectacular. Delegations of boomers come to hang up fat purses before the candidates, and the party is generally toward the expense of the Convention. They likewise send their best orators and generally their best business men to electrify the Committee with the advantages of their particular candidates. A harbinger of the important political gossip that will be rife at the meeting of the Committee appears in rumors that have been current about the Secretary of the National Committee, Harry S. New, and Secretary Dover. It is very improbable that anything either of those officials could say or do as they meet to issue the call would greatly affect the situation. Yet it is a common broadcast that they were going to consult about the attitude of the National Committee regarding President Roosevelt's nomination in trying to name Taft as his successor.

## THE NEXT REPUBLICAN CONVENTION.

### First Steps Toward It to Be Taken This Week—A Formal Call to Be Issued for the Meeting of the Republican National Committee—What It Will Mean.

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It is claimed that both Chairman New and Secretary Dover are playing the game against the President and against Secretary Taft. The inference is that whether that is true in any particular, as sometimes happens in politics when one wants to find out by indirect means what cannot be ascertained directly the Secretary Taft is not to be trusted. It is in the hope of bringing those two officials into the open.

**Politics in the Committee.** The organization of the Committee may be a tremendous advantage for the candidates. If there are a numerous number of members, it is a tremendous advantage for the candidates. If there are a numerous number of members, it is a tremendous advantage for the candidates. If there are a numerous number of members, it is a tremendous advantage for the candidates.

Everything indicates a number of contests next June from the South. There must be some strong developments in favor of some one candidate—developments that assure his nomination. In regard to what the South may do, or contesting delegations will be coming up from many Southern States. It would be impossible to deal with as 200 delegates were involved. That would be one-fifth of the Convention.

The National Committee is composed of one man from each State and Territory, and a certain number from each. Probably 40 of them at least will go to Washington in December for the preliminary meeting. In many States a Senator or member of the House is on the National Committee. The Republican members of the National Committee are the Republican members of the National Committee, and in the present instance that means the Republican opposition to Roosevelt in the Senate has a strategic advantage in the Convention that arranges for the coming campaign. The President, on the other hand, has 10 or 12, and possibly more, prominent Federal officeholders in the committee. The inference is that those officeholders will champion his plans. A few proxies will be held, because there is always a number of absentees.

What the Committee is in Washington it will monopolize the political interest. The doings of Congress for the time being will sink into comparative insignificance. The Committee always sometimes attaches to its decisions a considerable importance. The decisions of the Committee about the National Convention. The factions sometimes have a test of strength over the date of the Convention or the place for the Convention. Such test is altogether probable in December. It is claimed that the location of the Convention sometimes has much to do with the nomination. This should be accepted with considerable qualification. A big contingent of claqueurs, packed into the galleries of a Convention, can make a lot of noise and cause much inconvenience, but nowadays delegates are too familiar with such methods and the way they are executed to be greatly influenced by the noise of a noisy American Convention candidate as another. The Hearst boomers packed the Democratic Convention at St. Louis in 1904. They made tremendous racket, and eventually became a great nuisance, but did not influence the final nominations.

The showing for Taft at the December meeting of the National Committee will be watched, of course, in a score of little details. The Secretary by that time will have just returned from his globe-encircling tour. The work of his lieutenants in the meantime will be to bring reports about the strength of the Taft movement in their respective States. As he is now undoubtedly the leading candidate, although apparently by no means assured of the nomination, his friends will strive to make the most favorable impression possible for him. If they find they are strong enough they might attempt to run the Convention on their own liking. If they have such strength it might be helpful in bringing over the men who stay on the fence till they see what candidate is most likely to win.

**Gov. Hughes Growing.** A very interesting feature, however, will be the views of the committeemen with reference to Gov. Hughes, of New York. All the information that comes to Washington tells of Gov. Hughes's growing popularity. The Governor took just now he is Taft's most dangerous opponent, if indeed he is an opponent, for the Governor has never indicated yet that he would be a candidate. Many things are in the Governor's favor. The country is approving of him more and more every day. Wherever the Governor goes he makes friends. People like his attitude on public questions. His friends have the right to be proud over into Vermont some weeks ago to speak at a meeting of the Fish and Game Association. The meetings of that Association are in reality political meetings for the politicians of Vermont from far and wide attend. All Vermont is still talking about the excellent impression the Governor made. A few days ago he went down to Jamestown to attend New York State's Exposition. He shook hands with 3,000 people. His speech was declared one of the best, perhaps the best, that has been heard on the Fair Grounds this year.

Matters are in a peculiar state in New York, but it is said that Gov. Hughes is going to have the New York delegation to the Convention. The voters like him in the East. They also like him in the West. His nomination for President would mean almost to a certainty that New York would give him a majority, and that would mean, beyond any reasonable doubt, that the next election would be Republican through the country. The Democrats can hardly win without New York.

The Empire State Legislature meets this Winter, and will be on Gov. Hughes's hands for several months. If he succeeds with that Legislature as he succeeded last Winter, good politicians believe nothing can prevent his nomination for President. The Republicans, of course, are very anxious to win the next election. They will want to nominate the strongest possible ticket.

**The Taft Boom.** But while Gov. Hughes is further demonstrating his capacity for the big office, the Taft boom will progress. Herculean work is being done for it, and apparently this work is telling. The Secretary's trip around the world has thus far been very successful, and by the time he visits the East and the West and lands in New York, if there be no untoward events, his prestige will have been enhanced materially.

The members of the National Committee will have the opinions of the Secretary's boom and of his strength with the voters, all of which will be more or less instructive. The Republican will be right on the threshold of the campaign when the Committee meets, and the election of delegates will begin a few weeks after the Committee has issued the call for the Convention. It may be that the matter for which Chairman New and Secretary Dover will arrange this week promises to be ventful.

## "THE LOUISIANA LOWLANDS, LOW."

### Very Little Heard From the President, and That Not Reliable—Things Expected Quiet in Washington—The Postmaster-General in a Campaign of Education—Our "Non-Contiguous Possessions."

The center of interest in Governmental affairs, as far as the Executive branch is concerned, continues to be in the Louisiana canebreaks. The White House offices are deserted. No statesmen are turning thither to pay respects or to ask for offices. The whole country, however, is waiting for the reports from the President's rifle and for the gushing of the life-blood from an enormous bar.

Therefore, the prominence of the Stamboul date line every morning, the pictures of outdoor life under the Louisiana skies, and the anecdotes, with a fine Southern flavor of old Ben Lilly. May the President bring down a great trophy of the brain family, of course, is the prayer of all the Nation. A rattlesnake and a deer, which have already fallen before his unerring aim, will not suffice.

Possibly the President is having better luck than the dispatches indicate. The bar tracks may be more numerous and fresher than the correspondents have been able to ascertain. They are several miles away. Admission to the hunting grounds is denied to them. They have to depend upon what Assistant Secretary Latta chooses to tell them, and also upon the reports that the few natives thereabouts gather. Mr. Latta is making a trip every day or two to the Presidential camp. He is not, however, a voluminous talker by nature. Usually the President is willing the details of his movements should become known to the public, but he likes to hunt in privacy, and probably will tell



Hard Piloting.

the story in his own way for some magazine.

There is a lot of harmless and good-natured joking about Ben Lilly. The correspondents with the President know that the country expects something. Ben Lilly is a character, and the talk of the little group of people who are waiting for the President to return to his special car is much about him. An incidental digression to Ben Lilly, of course, is entertaining, just as digressions about town characters at Oyster Bay are in the summer time when general news is scarce. Some of the most readable matter sent out of Oyster Bay last Summer consisted of bits of description about the natives linked in some way of course, with the President. Even the corner grocery talk about the President and the President's affairs is interesting in whatever town or hamlet the President happens to be. During the Summer months the President gives less attention to news matters. While it is customary for some newspaper correspondents to see him almost daily when he is in Washington, they do not even weeks pass at Oyster Bay without any such visits. Then Secretary Loeb conveys all the information there is for the press.

There seems to be little of pressing importance for the President's consideration in Washington, and apparently he chose an opportune time for a vacation. He will be away 10 days or two weeks, yet according to present plans. Most of his Cabinet members are away, but are coming back by the end of this week. Secretary of the Treasury Curtis, who has not returned yet from his vacation, will be in Washington in a few days. He is making an occasional visit from his Summer home on Long Island up to New York City, and is in touch with the Treasury and financial affairs. Secretary of the Interior Garfield has just come back to town for good and is buckling down to business. He has collected a vast bulk of material for his report, and is going to take up the matters of Departmental concern covered in these notes as fast as he can get the time.

**A Campaign of Education.** Postmaster-General Meyer has been away speech-making at Boston, and is going to make some more speeches during the month. His aim is to educate the public as far as may be with reference to the extension of the parcel post and the postal savings banks. He wants Congress to authorize legislation for both those improvements this Winter. Other Cabinet officers, now in town, are for the season, and are reporting or preparing annual estimates, or otherwise getting ready for the coming of Congress. There is little Cabinet stumping this Fall, contrary to the usual practice for men in importance, in official campaigns in progress. Attorney-General Bonaparte is lifting up his voice in Maryland occasionally, because Maryland is electing State officials and a Legislature.

One branch of the Government—the judicial branch—has just gone into action in earnest. The court assembled this week for the October term, and will be at work now until some time next May or early June. It is a long-established custom for the court to adjourn early the first day to call upon the President. The absence of the President this year caused a break in the court's practice. It is a very unusual thing for the President to be away from Washington at the time the court comes together for the season.

The presence of the Justices upon the bench has brought a lot of lawyers to Washington. The docket of cases awaiting adjudication is very large. Some of the cases are of great importance, involving constitutional questions raised by the President and Congress during the last two or three years. It will be several weeks before any important decisions are expected. These, however, will come at intervals during the entire Winter. Some of the important Government cases, like that involving the constitutionality of the act of several States in prescribing wicket fares, will probably be advanced. If they took their turn with other cases it might be two or three years before the court reached them.

**Congressmen Drifting In.** The legislative branch of the Government is little in evidence thus far, and will not be till along the middle of November. Congress meets the first Monday in December. Congressmen who have children of school age generally bring them to Washington to attend the local public schools during the year of their vacation. A number have therefore opened their households in Washington already, and the children off to school, and then departed for their home cities and towns. The Territorial dependencies to the east and the west, acquired as the result of the Spanish War, are figuring

considerably in the affairs of the Capital. The Filipino Legislature is starting off at Manila this week. The Bureau of Insular Affairs is watching to see how it gets under way, and will be eager to know what success Secretary Taft, now on the spot, has in keeping the hotheads from doing unseemly things. The cry of independence has gone up from many individuals in the Archipelago, and the agitators in the Legislature want to emphasize a desire for many people that the islands be given a chance to do it alone. A petition for this will probably be forwarded to Congress.

**Porto Rico.** A peculiar state of affairs has come about in Porto Rico. Gov. Regis Post, a friend and neighbor of President Roosevelt, has gotten into hot water with the school teachers and the missionaries. Along in September he addressed a meeting of school teachers and officials. He called them Pharisees, and scolded them for not being in touch with the Porto Ricans. He thought they held aloof from the natives too much. It is claimed that he said in words that were almost profane. It created a tremendous stir. Something like a dozen of the school officials resigned next day. There was another meeting, however, at which Gov. Post attended and apologized. The American teachers showed him that several of their number had married Porto Ricans and were rearing families.

The matter has been brought to Washington. Threats are heard to prevent the confirmation of Gov. Post by the Senate. He was nominated during the Summer, after Congress had adjourned. While he is serving in interim his nomination must go to the Senate when Congress meets. Unless the opposition is placated some Senators are likely to object to his confirmation. He is a young man and probably a little impetuous. For several weeks he has been in Washington and New York.

## GOVERNMENT STATISTICS.

### The Effort to Consolidate All the Figure Gatherers.

The differences between mere enumeration and the taking of commercial statistics, which concern every considerable business community, are being thrashed out vigorously at the Department of Commerce and Labor. The controversy is a tenacious one, which will not drop until the cabinet office of the last few years has taken sides on it, and now there is to be a new test. Secretary Clegg and Metcalf took one view. Secretary Garfield took the opposite view. Now Secretary Straus is inquiring.

Since the Census Bureau was made permanent, following one of the very first crusades President Roosevelt undertook, the long and at times stormy exchanges with Secretary Wilson, of the Department of Agriculture, over crop and other statistics. That war of figures has quieted down, and the Department of Agriculture is still issuing crop reports.

But the Census Bureau wants now to gather into itself the Bureau of Statistics, which issues monthly bulletins of exports and imports, as well as other important statistical information affecting commerce. This Bureau has been in existence 40 years, and for the reliability and thoroughness of its information is said to be very high. It was transferred from the Treasury Department to the Department of Commerce and Labor a few years ago, after protest. The statistics of commerce come almost entirely from customs officials. These include reports on about 2,000 dutiable articles. Mr. Garfield, Secretary of the Interior, while Commissioner of Corporations under the Department of Commerce and Labor, championed the idea that the Bureau of Statistics should be consolidated with the Census Bureau. He has urged this upon Secretary Straus, upon whom a law of Congress conferred discretion with reference to such a consolidation. Mr. Straus is maintaining an open mind, but has named a committee to conduct a hearing and make recommendations to him. The evidence pro and con, including the decisions of Mr. Straus's predecessors against the change, is being collected. Opponents of the consolidation say that men who compile enumerations of typhoid fever cases, marriages, divorces and population are by no means engaged in the kind of work called for in commercial statistics.

If the committee agrees with the view taken by Secretary Garfield, Secretary Straus will probably direct that the consolidation be made. The Bureau of Statistics would then become a division of the Census Bureau.



AUSTRIA-HUNGARY EMPIRE.

(Continued on page two.)