Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—2—8:15—Checkers.
AMERICAN THEATRE—2—8:15—The Street Singer.
BELASCO THEATRE—2—8—Sweet Kitty Bellairs.
BERKELEY LYCEUM THEATRE—2:30—8:30—Candida.
BIJOU—2:15—8:15—Mr. Wix.
CASINO—2—8:20—Piff, Paff, Pouf.
CIRCLE THEATRE—2—8—Vaudeville.
CONEY ISLAND—Dreamland—Luna Park.
CRITERION—2—8:15—Business Is Business.
DALY'S THEATRE—2—8:10—The Schoolgirl.
EMPIRE THEATRE—2—8:30—The Duke of Killicrankie.
GARDEN—2—8:20—The College Widow.
GARRICK THEATRE—2—8:15—The Coronet of the Duchess.
HAMMERSTEIN'S VICTORIA THEATRE—2—8—Vaudeville.
HARLEM OPERA HOUSE—2:15—8:15—The Virginian.
HUDSON—2—8—Letty.
KNICKERBOCKER THEATRE—2:15—8:20—A Madcap Princess.
LYCEUM THEATRE—2—8:15—Serio-Comic Governess.
LYRIC THEATRE—2—8:15—Taps.
MAJESTIC—2—8:15—Isle of Spice.
MANHATTAN—2—8—Becky Sharp.
NEW-AMSTERDAM THEATRE—2—8:15—Rogers Brothers in Paris.
NEW-YORK THEATRE—8:30—The Old Homestead.
SAVOY THEATRE—2—8:15—Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch.
WALLACK'S—2:15—8:20—The County Chairman.
WEST END—8:15—An English Daisy.

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New-York Daily Tribune.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1904.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—The Japanese advance on Moukden continued slowly, one army moving on Fu Pass, about six miles northeast of the city; the plan of Marshal Oyama's movements is closely screened by a strong line of outposts; there is a belief in St. Petersburg that General Kuropatkin is likely to abandon Moukden. ==== A Japanese detachment, an official dispatch from Tokio said, attacked and defeated Russian forces at Tie-Ling and San-Lung-Ku, sixty miles northeast of Liao-Yang. ==== It was reported from St. Petersburg that although Russia had admitted only foodstuffs as conditional contraband, the rules in the cases of other articles of dual use would be interpreted with leniency. ==== Two British warships arrived at Las Palmas, and the Russian cruiser Terek, ordered by the Spanish authorities to leave that port, sailed soon after their arrival. ==== The Russian auxiliary cruisers St. Petersburg and Smolensk reached Suez and entered the canal.

DOMESTIC.—President Roosevelt resumed his official duties at the White House and received many callers. ==== The members of the World's Peace Congress arrived in Washington, and visited Mount Vernon, decorating the tomb of Washington. ==== Senator Fairbanks started from Chicago on his Western speechmaking tour. ==== A wagon load of dynamite was struck by an engine near Cumberland, Md.; two men were killed and many hurt. ==== William H. Maxwell, Superintendent of Schools of the city of New-York, delivered an address before the Congress of Arts and Sciences at St. Louis. ==== Two men were killed and several injured in a cotton mill explosion near Raleigh, N. C.

CITY.—Stocks dull and higher. ==== Governor Odell received encouraging reports from various parts of the State. ==== The local Board of Steamboat Inspectors whitewashed itself in a report on the Slocum disaster. ==== The brother of the woman found dead at Amityville, Long Island, last November, declared that she was murdered, and that he knew who the slayer was. ==== Judge Parker again conferred with Democratic leaders at the Hoffman House. ==== The police said the McNally murder mystery was deeper than ever. ==== Three "Yegg men" jumped from a moving freight train when detectives found them robbing ride stealers; one "Yegg man" was captured.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Partly cloudy and warmer; showers at night. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 61 degrees; lowest, 47.

STILL DISTORTING THE FACTS.

The Hon. Henry G. Davis has taken the stump in West Virginia and is filling the valleys of that rugged mountain commonwealth with ringing echoes of his masterly White Sulphur Springs acceptance speech. In that original and stirring performance the Democratic candidate for Vice-President successfully avoided all the issues, "major and minor," of the present canvass. He had no word to say on "tariff taxation" or on "the attitude of the two Presidential candidates toward law"—the questions of paramount interest in this contest, as we are told by leading Democratic authorities. With equally placid benevolence he ignored "imperialism" and the trusts—"minor," but still more or less vital, present day issues. No; the West Virginia statesman had unearthed an issue all his own. His dreams were haunted by the spectre of "Republican extravagance," and on his thrilling and spectacular exposure of the "profligacy" of Republican administration he confidently based his appeal for the election of the Democratic national ticket.

We showed at the time of the notification ceremony at White Sulphur Springs the utter disingenuousness and unfairness of Mr. Davis's argument. But the venerable Democratic candidate seems to think that his misleading and unjustifiable charges, if repeated often enough, may find a lodgement in the minds of unsuspecting West Virginia voters. He said again at Wheeling on Thursday, in what is described as "a great campaign speech, greeted with rousing enthusiasm":

> For the last fiscal year there was a deficit in the revenues of $41,000,000. . . . According to the Treasury statement recently issued, the public debt increased for the month of August over $6,000,000. For the two months of the present fiscal year—that is, from July 1 to September 1—the deficit is between $24,000,000 and $25,000,000, which is at the rate of about $140,000,000 for the year.

There is only one measurably accurate impression to be obtained from this statement. In computing the Treasury deficit for July and August, 1904, Mr. Davis makes an overcount of only about $1,000,000. The real deficit was $23,773,220. But the intimations sought to be conveyed, that there was an excess last year of ordinary expenditures over ordinary receipts of $41,000,000, and that the excess this year of ordinary expenditures over ordinary receipts will reach $140,000,000, are both unwarranted and both discreditable to the intelligence and good faith of the man who makes them. As has been a hundred times pointed out, the deficit of $41,000,000 for the fiscal year 1903-'04 was caused simply and solely by the extraordinary expenditure incurred in purchasing the Panama Canal strip and the Panama Canal plant. The sum thus invested—$50,000,000—cannot be legitimately counted as a current disbursement. Except for that $50,000,000 the Treasury's operations for 1903-'04 would have shown a surplus of $9,000,000. Yet to admit a normal surplus of $9,000,000 last year would leave nothing of Mr. Davis's "profligacy" argument.

It is equally mistaken and misleading to imply, if not to prophesy, that the deficit for the fiscal year 1904-'05 will reach $140,000,000. To multiply the deficit of one month by twelve or of two months by six, in order to find the deficit for the year, is a folly of which no serious student of Treasury operations could be capable. The deficit for July was $17,390,612, indicating by the Davis arithmetical method a deficit for the full year of about $210,000,000. The deficit for July and August together was $23,773,220, indicating a deficit for the full year of about $144,000,000. The deficit for July, August and September, up to September 22, is only $21,323,179, indicating a deficit for the first quarter of about $19,000,000, and by the Davis ready calculator a deficit for the four quarters of about $76,000,000. But what is an apparent error of $64,000,000 to an "expert" on "profligacy," determined to fasten imaginary deficits on a political adversary? Why cannot Democratic statesmen discuss the issues they raise candidly and seriously? Must they always befog and distort the facts before beginning to argue from them?

THE SUPREME TEST.

So far as we are able to follow the tributes paid to Justice-Boss Herrick by his supporters, they suggest the kind of compliment which would be paid to a banker by a person who said he didn't drink and was a good fellow, and the only thing against him was that he misappropriated the funds of the bank; or the kind of compliment which would be paid to a woman by any one who said that she was amiable and accomplished, and the only thing against her was a lack of chastity. The Democratic press with one accord pronounce Justice-Boss Herrick an able and in private life an honest man, and the only thing they know against him is that as a judge his conduct has been unworthy and that he has soiled the ermine by dragging it into the mire of disreputable ward politics. "The Times" speaks of his judicial career as an "impropriety" and a "scandal." "The World" says that from the bench he managed a machine "accused of vote "buying, ballot box stuffing and every crime "known to venal politics," and that he "was "the master of a political organization which "knew no law but the law of success." "The Sun" called him "a disgrace to the judiciary," and charged that nothing but condemnation of him by the press was possible, "unless the press had become as foul as Judge Herrick's court."

These are the opinions of his friends. Except the remarks of "The Sun," they are what his friends say now when they are trying to say the best of him they can. Except that he acted scandalously as a judge, they protest that he is all right. Perhaps he is. But what his financial honesty is to a banker, what her virtue is to a woman, that should strict judicial propriety be to a judge. That is the supreme virtue for his situation in life. The rest is not imperative. A hard drinking judge, or an immoral judge, or a judge who does not pay his debts, may be endured, but the judge whose judicial character is not beyond reproach is unpardonable. There is found the real test of the man. If he fails in his supreme duty, what reason is there to believe that he would be true at the critical point in any other place? Justice-Boss Herrick comes before the public as a candidate for Governor on the record of his performance in judicial office, and by the confession of his own supporters his conduct there has been an "impropriety" and a "scandal." Under the one test of fitness for official trust which the people are able to apply he admittedly fails. What matter his other virtues?

NEW-JERSEY'S STATE ISSUE.

There is this great difference between the political platforms of the two great parties in New-Jersey: The Democrats have committed themselves to a taxation proposition which is impossible—which they couldn't put into effect if they would, and wouldn't if they could; the Republican declaration of faith can and must be fulfilled.

The Democrats say that the roadbeds of the various railroad companies must be taxed at the local rate in each municipality. With over two hundred taxing districts, each having its own style of doing business, one can easily understand, without the aid of diagrams, what a tangle and confusion would result from any attempt to put such a scheme into practice; and, note this, nothing is said about the valuations. They, presumably, would also be at the local standard. What a delightful prospect for bookkeeping "stunts" on, say, the Pennsylvania Railroad line from Jersey City to Camden, or the Lackawanna from Hoboken to Phillipsburg! Different percentages of valuation and different rates of assessment every mile or so!

The Republican position is that everything outside of the "main stem" should be taxed at the local rate. As to the other taxable property involved, the party frankly says that it doesn't know what arrangement would be fairest and most practicable, pending the inquiry now being conducted by the special commission appointed for that purpose; but it does promise the removal of such inequalities as may be disclosed by this investigation.

That is precisely the attitude taken by Charles C. Black before he became the Democratic candidate for Governor. Mr. Black is a member of the Equal Taxation Commission. In a public address last May he spoke of the work before that commission, and urged that the whole subject be thoroughly and exhaustively considered and discussed before definite action was taken. Mr. Black was very emphatic in saying that the commissioners should hear all the parties interested, and he continued:

> Let the proposed statute be thoroughly and exhaustively debated by all the interests involved before it is presented to the legislature; then it should be again thoroughly debated in the legislature. So intricate is this problem of making these two systems of taxation work side by side harmoniously and not injuriously to any interests that it will require the best trained ability of the State.

But Mr. Black the tax expert and Mr. Black the candidate for Governor don't agree. The platform on which Mr. Black is running, and which he has indorsed up to the hilt, openly sneers at the idea of further inquiry, and offers a misfit solution all ready made and guaranteed to wear—until November 8.

REVISED ESTIMATES IN ASIA.

Some revised estimates of Russian strength and Russian prospects in Manchuria have recently been put forward by authorities certainly well informed and either impartial or, more probably, inclined to be favorable to Russia. One is that of the German, Colonel Gaedke, correspondent of the Berlin "Tageblatt." Writing from Liao-Yang just before the great battles, he estimates that by the middle of December from 348 to 360 battalions of Russian infantry are expected to reach Manchuria. He does not say whether that means battalions on a peace or on a war footing, but we may assume the latter. In that case, a battalion means 1,000 men, and the army to be massed in Manchuria before Christmas will be about 350,000 strong. That estimate pretty closely coincides with those we have hitherto made, to the effect that there were 50,000 Russians in Manchuria to start with, and that the railroad was able to carry thither 1,000 a day. From the middle of February to the middle of December, then, 305,000 men would be forwarded, making 355,000 in all, without, of course, allowing for losses. Colonel Gaedke, we note, estimates that there were not more than 22,000 Russians in Southern Manchuria at the outbreak of the war. If by Southern Manchuria he means Port Arthur and the immediate vicinity, that estimate also corresponds with ours of long ago.

But now comes another observer of comparable authority. This is Mr. Naudeau, the French correspondent of the Paris "Journal," writing from Liao-Yang just after the battles. He says frankly that the gallant Russian army has been beaten in the first part of the campaign and has been compelled to retreat rapidly northward, and that the Japanese will soon make a triumphant entry into Moukden. The Russians have, he says, proved to be inferior in effective numbers, in guns and in enthusiasm. Their army will have to be reorganized somewhere in the north, out of reach of the Japanese, and it will take several months to do it. The wastage must be provided for by doubling the number of the army corps, and the morale of the service must be improved by substituting soldiers in active service for the reserves which now form a large part of the army in Manchuria. How largely the Russian army must be reinforced may be estimated from his statement that the Russian general staff calculates the present Japanese strength at from 450,000 to 500,000. That estimate, too, we may add, coincides with those already made in these columns. If it is correct, then the Russians will have to wait until long after the middle of December before they can hope to take the aggressive, for the 355,000 soldiers that Colonel Gaedke looks for by that time as a maximum will not be able to make headway against 500,000 Japanese—or more, for the Japanese force will also keep on increasing.

That is Mr. Naudeau's view of the case. "A Russian offensive," he says, "is no longer possible for some time." He still thinks that if Russia sets her teeth to the task she will win in the end. But to do so she will have to make astounding efforts and sacrifices out of all proportion to the end to be gained. Of course, if she is fighting for national pride, there is nothing more to be said. She must keep on to the bitter end; perhaps until she has built a new navy and another railroad or two across the continent. But this sympathetic French observer justly urges that there are times when national pride should not be blindly heeded, and he thinks the present is one of them. It would, in his opinion, be to the interest of both belligerents—to say nothing of the unfortunate inhabitants of the ravaged provinces—to renounce their national pride and make such mutual concessions as would end the war. In that opinion a large part of the world will heartily agree with him. That either of the belligerents will accept and act upon it is greatly to be doubted. If they do not, then these revised estimates of the situation simply forecast an indefinite prolongation of the war, with all its miseries and irreparable losses.

THE SLOCUM DISASTER.

The opinions which the local board of steamboat inspectors express regarding the Slocum disaster will appear unduly lenient to those who followed the testimony elicited by Coroner Berry. From the theory that Captain Van Schaick did right in selecting North Brother Island as the best place for beaching his steamer there will be comparatively little dissent. Still less will the public hesitate to affirm the verdict concerning the incompetency of the crew. On the other hand, the suggestion that the life-saving equipment was all that it should have been will be received with skepticism, not to say indignation. In view of the source from which this utterance emanates, perhaps it should not occasion surprise, but it will have little effect on popular conviction.

Fortunately, the report of the local board of inspectors does not finally dispose of the case. Seven men are under indictment for manslaughter, because the federal grand jury was satisfied that they had been guilty of criminal neglect in various ways. One of the shortcomings imputed to the officers of the company which owned the Slocum, to Captain Pease and to Captain Van Schaick relates to this very matter of equipment. When these men are tried General Burnett may succeed in convincing a petit jury that Messrs. Dumont and Barrett are mistaken. Moreover, President Roosevelt appointed a special commission last June to investigate the possibilities of reform in the inspection service. It is highly probable that body, too, will reach conclusions not at all in harmony with those of the local board.

It must be remembered that the first measures taken in twenty-five or thirty years to improve the steamboat inspection system of the country were adopted by President Roosevelt over two years ago. Dumont, then in supreme control, was removed to New-York, and a younger, more energetic man appointed in his place. General Uhler has not been able to accomplish all he wanted, and, after the transfer of the service from the Treasury Department to the Department of Commerce and Labor, Secretary Cortelyou unsuccessfully sought further power from Congress. Equipped with the arguments supplied by the Slocum disaster, another effort to that end should be successful next winter. At any rate, the desires and intentions of the administration have long been known and commended.

DEEP HOLES IN THE GROUND.

Mr. Charles A. Parsons, the inventor of the steam turbine, was the president of the engineering section of the British Association for the Advancement of Science this year. No small part of his address—the full text of which has just come to hand—was devoted to what most people would probably consider a highly visionary project. He gave estimates of the probable cost of sinking a hole in the ground ten or twelve miles and of the time that might be consumed in doing so. He also made a number of suggestions concerning the manner in which the work should be executed. Mr. Parsons had been arguing that patents in England did not always last long enough to give a man as much protection as was needed. On that account inventors and scientific experts sometimes hesitate to undertake protracted investigations in which they might otherwise engage. By way of illustration the speaker cited the proposition to study terrestrial temperatures at great depths, and incidentally characterized the inquiry as "highly important." One is at liberty, of course, to construe these expressions as an indication that Mr. Parsons is occasionally carried by his imagination into the realm of the impracticable. With equal or greater justice they may be regarded as the mature opinions of a thoroughly sane thinker.

Professor William Hallock, of Columbia University, pointed out a few years ago that the scheme in question had industrial possibilities. If the coal deposits should ever give out, the internal heat of the earth might perhaps be utilized to generate steam for power. It would probably be necessary to go down ten miles to reach the temperature of boiling water. Other agents than water, however, could be employed, which vaporize more readily. Neither Professor Hallock nor any one else has yet indicated precisely how thermal energy from this source could best be converted into power, but a presumptively inexhaustible store of it would apparently be available if it were tapped in the right manner. Whether the return would be large enough to pay dividends on the investment cannot be foretold easily, but no one is in a position to affirm that the venture could not be made remunerative.

The chief reason given by those who advocate such an investigation is that it promises to throw light on a number of scientific problems. Information might thus be obtained, for instance, relative to the origin of volcanoes. Geologists might also be aided in determining whether the earth is a condensed nebula or an aggregation of small solid celestial bodies that have become fused together. In an address to the Chemistry Section of the American Association for the Advancement of Science last winter Professor Baskerville referred to another question of this kind. The average weight of a cubic foot of the globe as a whole is five and a half times greater than that of a cubic foot of the crust. One of the possible explanations of the fact is that the heavier elements have sunk to the bottom. Within the last few years it has been discovered that several of the heaviest elements—radium, uranium and thorium—possess strange properties. More interest is felt now than ever before in their distribution and abundance. Obviously, it is impossible to go to the centre of the earth to ascertain whether the supposition is correct or not, but important clews might be obtained in the uppermost ten miles of the crust. Moreover, it can hardly be doubted that valuable revelations whose nature is not now even suspected would be made if the project which Mr. Parsons discussed so seriously were ever undertaken.

During the seven years that have just passed there is no duty, domestic or foreign, which we have shirked; no necessary task which we have feared to undertake, or which we have not performed with reasonable efficiency. We have never pleaded impotence. We have never sought refuge in criticism and complaint instead of action. We face the future with our past and our present as guarantors of our promises, and we are content to stand or to fall by the record which we have made and are making.—President Roosevelt.

Gold Democrats have made much of the Parker gold telegram, but it is a noticeable fact that practically all their candidates, including the candidates for the Presidency and the Governorship of New-York, were supporters of Bryan only four short years ago. They are "silver threads among the gold," so to speak.

Mr. Grout says he "will not enter the political arena again." What, never?

Word comes from Moukden that the Chinese "are extensively counterfeiting Russian money." The "Heathen Chinee" is "peculiar" at home as well as in California.

In various parts of the country serious friction crops out again and again over the practice of contractors in paying ignorant Italians partly in food for their work. In such cases the contractors too often are unfair to their men, charging them excessively high prices. In many States this practice is forbidden by law, but the law is rarely enforced with energy and impartiality.

"The most modern of armies" is the way an Associated Press correspondent at the front describes the soldiers of the Mikado. The fact thus described helps greatly to explain the uniform success of the Japanese.

The Hon. "Pat" McCarren seems to be generally "it" when a victim has to be sacrificed on the altar of "harmony."

"The Albany Argus" has been loudly complaining that the advancement of Judge Cullen gives the appointment of a justice in the Second Department to Governor Odell. What does it think of the Democratic State Convention, which, by the nomination of Judge Herrick, gives Governor Odell still more patronage? For there is thus created a Supreme Court vacancy in the Third Department to be filled by appointment.

The Democrats seem to be counting upon apt alliteration's artful aid in the canvass for Governor—Herrick and Harrison, with Hill behind them.

That is welcome action which the associated theatrical managers have taken in pledging themselves to use no more lithographs or photographs in shop windows and not to have placards or bills posted on buildings or barrels. They will continue to advertise in the newspapers as before—and that is by far the most effective means which they can employ in order to obtain the widest possible publicity for their announcements—and they will not abandon the custom of hiring big, conspicuous stands for extensive displays of their posters. But in the coming season they do not intend to deface the curbings, the sidewalks, the walls of ordinary structures and the garbage cans. Assuredly this will be a change for the better.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

There are indications, according to "The Chicago Record-Herald," that the automobile spellbinder will take the place of the rear platform orator in the coming campaign. The "auto" car, indeed, has already made its appearance in State campaigns, supplying a picturesque feature that serves to excite popular interest, especially in regions where it is not a familiar sight. The large gasolene touring car of the tonneau pattern will draw a crowd where the speaker is a failure as an attraction on the hustings. Moreover, the man in the "auto" car can go into regions which the rear platform spellbinder cannot reach. But what will be the effect of the automobile campaign on the rural voter? The question is raised by the rough experiences of Governor La Follette and his secretary, who are making a canvass of Wisconsin in a touring car. As the farmers of the Badger State have waged relentless war on the automobile, the disquieting "chug, chug" of the Governor's car resounding through the dells and cornfields of Wisconsin has filled the country folk with alarm. It is said that Governor La Follette is making an effort to soothe the farmers, some of whom have had disastrous experiences with careless "scorchers." His private secretary is forced to get out forty times a day to hold restless horses while the campaign car passes.

IF.

If I could write like Bob Burdette
Or sling the pen like Twain,
I'd hold my head up high, you bet,
And grow extremely vain,
And maybe now and then I'd get
A letter in some strain
Besides the one: "We much regret
we cannot use the inclosed. The rejection of a manuscript does not necessarily imply that it is lacking in merit. Any one of a number of reasons may render a contribution unsuited to our present uses."

If I could write like Shakespeare wrote
And rhyme like Bobby Burns;
If I could make my verses float
Like Swinburne does by turns,
I wonder if I'd get a note
That sweetly, sadly spurns
My jokelet and my anecdote:
"We cannot use the inclosed. The rejection of a manuscript does not necessarily imply that it is lacking in merit. Any one of a number of reasons may render a contribution unsuited to our present uses."

If I could write like Milton did
And versify like Pope;
If I like Scott could make a bid
For fame with my poor dope,
I wonder if I might not rid
My mail of slips that ope
With that same guff, ibid:
"We cannot use the inclosed. The rejection of a manuscript does not necessarily imply that it is lacking in merit. Any one of a number of reasons may render a contribution unsuited to our present uses."—(Chicago Chronicle.

A new profession is apparently about to be opened in England, as witness the following advertisement in a recent issue of "The London Times":

> EXPERT ADVICE on dress given to clubmen about town, etc. The latest styles notified week by week, and also what to wear for special occasions. Individuality studied. Preliminary interview absolutely necessary. Address ——.

Irrigation plans already outlined in California, Oregon and the Dakotas will involve the expenditure, in round numbers, of $27,000,000, and reclaim a million of acres of land, capable of supporting a population of 500,000. This will be making blades of grass grow by the acre where not a single blade grew before. As the money is to be repaid to the reclamation fund from the sale of the reclaimed lands, the process can be repeated indefinitely, until all the lands known in American geographies of half a century ago as "The Great American Desert" have been conquered to the uses of civilization. As one thoroughly familiar with the Western country, its needs and its people, President Roosevelt has been the foremost champion of irrigation, and for this reason alone, were there not an abundance of others, the great West will be found ranked solidly in the Roosevelt column in the battle of the ballots on November 8.

Getting Back at Him.—Wagsley—Did your wife listen to your excuse for not coming home until 1 o'clock this morning?
Jagsley—Oh, yes; she listened patiently for ten minutes.
"And then what?"
"Then it was my turn to listen for a couple of hours."—(Chicago News.

After Russian naval battles in the East the women of the empire took up the habit of wearing naval cloaks, which seemed to the government a superfluous reminder of calamity, and it has therefore forbidden their use. The country which can prevent its women from wearing or its milliners from fabricating such habits as they like shows that its machinery of despotism is in good working order, whatever may be said about its warships.

Only One.—"How do you keep the moths out of your clothes all summer?" "I wear my suit all the time."—(Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

About People and Social Incidents.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

[FROM THE TRIBUNE BUREAU.]

Washington, Sept. 23.—President Roosevelt returned to his desk in the White House office building at 9:30 o'clock this morning, and from that time until the Cabinet meeting at 11 o'clock was almost constantly shaking the hands of friends who called to congratulate him on his safe return from his summer vacation and the splendid outlook for his election. The first callers were James R. Garfield, Commissioner of Corporations, and Senator Knox, of Pennsylvania. Mr. Knox took luncheon with the President. The Cabinet meeting lasted half an hour, and was devoted to unimportant routine business, only four of the members, Secretaries Wilson, Hitchcock and Morton and Postmaster General Payne, being in the city.

Senator Proctor, of Vermont, called to invite the President to accompany him on a hunting trip to Corbin Park, New-Hampshire. It was at Corbin Park that the President killed a wild boar year before last, and he said that if it were possible for him to revisit the game preserve he would be delighted to make the trip. "No man in the country deserves a vacation more than you, Senator," the President said. "After your magnificent work in Vermont no one will begrudge you a rest." Senator Proctor said that the victory in Vermont was largely due to the excellent work of the younger generation of voters. "We have several thousand young Irishmen," he said, "who turned in this fall and whooped things up in great shape for the President. In fact, I find the young men all over the country are for him, heart and soul, and their work will largely enter into the triumph in November."

Two of the President's early callers were escorted to police headquarters. The first was Matilda Stewart, a colored woman from Baton Rouge, La., who told the officers that she had been sent by the Lord to interest the President in a great excursion and colonization scheme, whereby all the colored people in Memphis were to be taken to the neighborhood of Baton Rouge to work on the cotton plantations. The second caller detained was a man who gave his name as Charles Dick, of Columbus, Ohio. He said that he had been "elected by the legislature and appointed by the Governor to succeed Senator Hanna." After some questioning he admitted that his name had not always been "Dick," but was originally Barth. "But when I was elected to succeed Senator Hanna, of course, it became Dick," he explained.

A party of forty from Los Angeles shook hands with the President. They are on a tour round the country at the expense of one of the daily papers of the California town, and will visit the City of Mexico before returning home in time to vote.

President Roosevelt this afternoon received M. Picard, special commissioner to the St. Louis Exposition from France. The reception took place in the Blue Room, and was marked by the usual exchange of courteous speeches. M. Picard was presented by M. de la Fosse, the French Chargé d'Affaires.

THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS.

[FROM THE TRIBUNE BUREAU.]

Washington, Sept. 23.—The British Ambassador returned to Washington this morning to attend the dinner which the President and Mrs. Roosevelt will give to-morrow in honor of the Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs. Davidson. Lady Durand and her daughter remained in Lenox, where they spent the summer, and where the Ambassador will rejoin them Monday. The Embassy will not be reopened before the middle of October.

The Italian Ambassador and Baroness Mayor des Planches will entertain the members of the Peace Congress before their departure from Washington.

NEW YORK SOCIETY.

Mrs. Mackay's fair at Harbor Hill, her place at Roslyn, in behalf of the Nassau County Hospital, will divide the attention of society this afternoon with the Mineola Fair and Horse Show. As Mrs. Mackay has disposed of some 5,000 tickets the success of her enterprise would seem to be assured. Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont gives a large dance to-night at the Meadow Brook Club, and week end parties are being given in connection therewith at most of the country houses in the district. In one word, the trend of the fashionable set to-day will be in the direction of Long Island.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence H. Mackay have secured the late William C. Whitney's box, No. 30, for the forthcoming opera season. Harry Payne Whitney has declined all offers that have been made to him to purchase the box.

The funeral of John V. L. Pruyn will take place to-day at Grace Church, Broadway and Tenth-st., and both the Union and the Metropolitan clubs, as well as the St. Nicholas and other societies to which he belonged, will be represented. His death, however, will not lead to any further postponement of the marriage of his nephew, Langdon Erving and Miss Rutherfurd, which, as already announced, will be a quiet wedding, the bride being in deep mourning for her mother.

The Duke of Newcastle, who is now in the Adirondacks, goes to Saratoga the day after to-morrow.

Mrs. William P. Douglas and Miss Douglas arrive in town next Wednesday and will go to Tuxedo, where they will remain until the end of November.

Mr. and Mrs. M. Dwight Collier and Miss Georgette Collier are now in Paris and booked to sail for New-York on October 4. On their arrival they will go to Tuxedo for the autumn.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Newbold and Miss Mary Newbold are at their country place at Hyde Park.

SOCIAL NOTES FROM NEWPORT.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Newport, R. I., Sept. 23.—The cold weather of the last two days has been the means of driving many of the Newport cottagers who had intended to stay here until late in the autumn, to the city, and Newport is beginning to have a deserted appearance.

The resort, however, was not without its social entertainments to-day. This afternoon Mrs. Richard T. Wilson entertained at luncheon, and this evening dinners were given by Mrs. William H. Sands, Mrs. James P. Kernochan and Mrs. T. Shaw Safe.

The announcement was made to-day of the rental for another season of the Warren villa, at Narragansett-ave. and Clay-st., to Richard T. Wilson, jr., for the season of 1905.

E. H. Harriman, of New-York, is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Berwind, at the Elms.

This afternoon a number of the cottagers gathered at the villa of Mrs. Lorillard Spencer to listen to a talk on the labor question by Miss Georgianna Roberts.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward D. Morgan and family ended their Newport season to-day and started for their Long Island estate.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. P. Gilbert closed their Newport house to-day and returned to New-York, and William Gammell started for his Providence home.

DEMOCRATS ON THEIR CANDIDATE.

CAN'T AFFORD TO BE PARTICULAR.

From The New-York World.

Men somewhat of the Folk type were at the convention's disposal. We need mention only Edward M. Grout, Edward M. Shepard, William T. Jerome and DeLancey Nicoll. All of them are convincing, forceful, able public speakers. All of them have fought machine power, fought boodlers, fought bribers and have battled for public decency. With due respect to Judge Parker, we think he made a mistake in not selecting one of these gentlemen in place of Judge Herrick. The State of New-York now needs stirring up, needs ringing, stinging, burning words, not more judicial silence.

But if doubt and fear as to Judge Herrick's availability lurk in the minds of conscientious voters, for whose honest scruples "The World" has sincere respect, we can say only that this is the wrong time to indulge hypercritical sensibilities.

A PITIFUL PLEA FOR HERRICK.

From The New-York Press.

Yesterday morning "The World," which had proved beyond the question of any one the gross unfitness of Justice Herrick, not only for the Governorship, but for the judiciary, whose reputation "The World" said he had damaged by dragging his ermine in the mire of ward politics, warmly indorsed his nomination, and said that "his ability, courage and honesty will be questioned by no one." It confesses now that "the main criticism that has been brought against him relates to his political activities while a judge. But this objection will not exist when he resigns from the bench, as he will do in accepting the nomination for Governor"!

If a more impudent attempt to justify the nomination of a shriekingly unfit candidate for the Governorship, or for any other office, anywhere and at any time, has ever been made, we do not recall it. Because Justice Herrick is going to resign from the bench whose reputation he has damaged, the voters are asked to ignore his rotten record as the boss of the corrupt and unscrupulous "Albany machine"!

A "SCANDALOUS" JUDGE FOR GOVERNOR.

From The New-York Globe.

How can a man who so abused his position on the bench of the Supreme Court as to make it a "scandal" be trusted not to abuse in a like way the position of Governor if he were to be put into it? Does it require a less delicate sense of honor to be an upright and non-partisan judge than it does to be an upright and non-partisan Governor? What is the matter with the intellectual and moral processes of "The Times" that it permits itself to indulge in such pitiful imbecilities as this?

MR. DAVIS LIKES THE "ROBBER TARIFF."

From The New-York Mail.

The Old Man Opulent of the Democratic ticket is getting further and further away from the St. Louis declaration that "protection is a robbery of the many to enrich the few." He said in Wheeling yesterday that "incidental protection to our industries is right and proper." So long as the "robbery" is "incidental" rather than deliberate—"robbery" in the second degree—he is for it, rather than "agin" it.

From further remarks of the Hon. H. Gassaway Davis we learn that the tariff needs revision, not because it is too high, but because it is too low. He notes that "during the sixty years of Democratic control the tariff on bituminous coal averaged about $1 80 a ton," while it is now 67 cents, which is at least "not excessive."

This is rank treason, of course. Does the venerable statesman accept the Hancock view that the tariff is "a local issue," a West Virginia issue? Democrats will ask.

WILD CHARGES REFUTED BY RECORD.

From The New-York Globe.

The reply which Governor Odell has made to the wild assertions of the Democratic platform in regard to his management of the affairs of the State is as convincing as it is dignified. He meets every charge of extravagant expenditure with citations from the record, and shows that whatever increase there has been in expenditure has been due to growth in population and in public needs.

In the first place, he shows that in comparing appropriations now with those of the last Democratic administration the Democrats omitted an item of nearly $600,000 in fees from the departments which were formerly deducted from appropriations and are now paid directly into the treasury. In the second place, he shows that the population of the State has increased over 1,200,000 during the period named. In the third place, that a larger number of Supreme Court justices require a considerable increase in expenditure. Then, too, the school population has increased nearly a quarter of a million, requiring larger outlay for teachers. The same thing is true of all the State's charitable and other institutions. Then there are the expenditures for good roads, grade crossings and other items, all made necessary by the growth and development of the State.

The actual increase has been only about $9,000,000 in ten years, while the revenues of the State have increased in the same period from $6,000,000 to $22,000,000. This is certainly a record that it will be difficult to assail successfully before the people of the State.

"THE MAN BEHIND THE PEN."

From Leslie's Weekly.

The President's letter is like its author—bold, decisive, direct, sincere and fearless. It is not needlessly aggressive, and in no way offensive, and the facts, which are so admirably marshalled to sustain its logic, are addressed with convincing power to the great jury of the American people. In our judgment, it is the best political utterance President Roosevelt has ever delivered and the most convincing argument in favor of the Republican party that the campaign has called forth. It furnishes the text for every Republican speaker. It leaves nothing more to be said. It apologizes for nothing, for the party has no apology to make. The President is the champion of, not the apologist for, Republican principles.

WAR VIEWS OF EXPERTS.

Present Conditions Thought to Favor the Russians.

[FROM THE TRIBUNE BUREAU.]

Washington, Sept. 23.—The approach to Moukden by the Japanese appears so far to be characterized by little activity on either side. The Russians are evidently placing few important obstacles in the way of the invading forces, and such encounters as are reported near the Russian base appear to have been of no great importance. The official dispatches are too meagre at present to give the experts any opportunity of estimating the value of the Japanese movement, but it is judged from an apparently authentic report given out at Tokio that the purpose of the Japanese commander is to effect a flank movement, against which the Russians should have made all necessary defence. The opinion of the military observers here is that the Russians will continue to retreat if pressed by the Japanese, as has been the condition since the latter crossed the Yalu; that the Japanese will continue their plan of operations on the flank of their enemy; that, in the end, the Russians will retaliate in kind, and, with an augmented force, such as is probably beginning to arrive in Manchuria, drive the Japanese from their present positions. This can be accomplished, provided the resources of the Japanese have become exhausted and they are no longer able to command the men and means to continue even defensive, to say nothing of offensive, operations.

At Port Arthur, it is said, the Russians will be able to control the situation so long as they possess ammunition. If it could be known just what stock was on hand at that place it would be possible to estimate the duration of the siege. It is evident that the Russians are not in a precarious position, despite the convincing claims to that effect put forth early in the campaign in that quarter. It is probable, also, that the Russians have received supplies since the attack began. It is known in Washington that food shipments have broken through the Japanese line of ships off Port Arthur, and it is suspected that vessels laden with ammunition have also entered the port. The military experts believe now that there is a better chance of Japanese achievement near Moukden in the next week or so than at Port Arthur.

STARTS FOR THE WEST.

Fairbanks Leaves Chicago on Speech-making Tour of Pacific Coast.

Chicago, Sept. 23.—Senator Fairbanks arrived in Chicago to-day on his way to the Pacific Coast. He spent the day in conference with Republican leaders in this city. The itinerary of Senator Fairbanks's Western tour has been extended so as to provide for two days' speechmaking in Iowa and one in Illinois on the return trip. October 11 and 12 will be spent in Iowa, and October 13 in Illinois, closing with a meeting in Chicago on the night of the 13th. Senator Fairbanks will be accompanied throughout the tour by Senator Dolliver, of Iowa, and their train will be in charge of Colonel Daniel M. Ramsdell, sergeant-at-arms of the United States Senate. Fred Fairbanks, son of the Senator, will also accompany his father. The party left Chicago at 10:30 o'clock to-night by the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad.

Secretary Shaw arrived from the West during the day, and left later for Indiana in extension of his campaign tour. He speaks confidently of Republican prospects in the West.

Senator Spooner was also a visitor in the city during the day. He expressed the opinion that the Supreme Court decision on the Wisconsin State ticket, whatever it may be, would have no injurious effect upon the Republican national ticket.

PLANS FOR COLUMBIA'S PARADE.

The programme for the exercises commemorating the 150th anniversary of the founding of King's College, now Columbia University, has been announced. Among those who have been chosen as marshals at the parade are Stewart Lyndon Woodford, honorary grand marshal; Rudolf Tombo, jr., marshal-in-chief; Dr. Henry E. Crampton, Herbert L. Satterlee, James Sheldon Merriam, John V. Lewis, Benjamin Strong, the Rev. Marvin R. Vincent, Henry M. Congdon, Gerald S. O'Loughlin, Professor A. V. W. Jackson, Judge Robert C. Cornell, F. R. Coudert, jr., R. Fulton Cutting, George Ehret, Jr., Robert L. Schuyler and Isaac N. Seligman.