Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—8:15—The Shepherd King.
ALHAMBRA—2—8—Vaudeville.
ASTOR—8:30—The Daughters of Men.
BELASCO—8—The Rose of the Rancho.
BIJOU—8:15—Mrs. Wilson-Andrews.
BROADWAY—8:15—The Parisian Model.
CARNEGIE HALL—2:30—Concert.
CASINO—8—The Blue Moon.
COLONIAL—2—8—Vaudeville.
CRITERION—8:15—The Little Cherub.
DALY'S—8:15—The Belle of Mayfair.
EDEN MUSEE—The World in Wax.
EMPIRE—8:15—His House in Order.
GARDEN—8:20—Madam Butterfly.
GARRICK—8:20—Clarice.
HACKETT—8:30—The Chorus Lady.
HAMMERSTEIN'S VICTORIA—2—8:15—Vaudeville.
HERALD SQUARE—8—The Great Decide and About Town.
HIPPODROME—2—8—Neptune's Daughter and Pioneer Days.
HUDSON—8:15—The Hypocrites.
IRVING PLACE—8:20—Die von Hochsattel.
KNICKERBOCKER—8:15—The Red Mill.
LIBERTY—8:15—The Girl Who Has Everything.
LINCOLN SQUARE—8:15—The Man on the Box.
LYCEUM—8:15—The Lion and the Mouse.
LYRIC—8:15—The New York Idea.
MADISON SQUARE—8:15—The Three of Us.
MAJESTIC—8:15—The Light Eternal.
MANHATTAN—8:15—The Law and the Man.
MANHATTAN OPERA HOUSE—8—Lucia di Lammermoor.
METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE—8—Aida.
NEW AMSTERDAM—8:15—The Spring Chicken.
NEW YORK—8:15—Dockstader's Minstrels.
PRINCESS—2:20—Hedda Gabler—8:20—The Great Divide.
SAVOY—8:15—The Man of the Hour.
ST. NICHOLAS RINK—Ice Skating.
WALLACK'S—8:15—The Rich Mr. Hoggenheimer.
WEST END—8—The County Chairman.

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New-York Daily Tribune.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1906.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

CONGRESS.—Both houses adjourned till January 3, for the holiday recess. == Senate: Mr. Foraker criticised the President's action in the Brownsville case, and Mr. Lodge answered him. == House: The session was brief and only one bill was passed.

FOREIGN.—President Castro of Venezuela is reported to be much worse; in event of his death a struggle for the Presidency between Vice-President Gomez and General Alcantara is expected. == A semi-official note issued by the Vatican set forth that the amended French government bill in regard to the separation of Church and State was as bad as the former regulation; the famous seminary of St. Sulpice, in Paris, was closed by the authorities. == The Education bill was formally withdrawn by the government in the House of Commons by Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the Premier, who took occasion to denounce the obstructive attitude of the House of Lords. == While no statement was made by the British Foreign Office in regard to the appointment of James Bryce as ambassador to the United States, an early official announcement of it is expected.

DOMESTIC.—President Roosevelt asked E. H. Harriman to take steps to stop the break in the bank of the Colorado River which is causing the Salton Sea, and Mr. Harriman replied that he would do so. == The Peary Arctic steamer Roosevelt arrived at Vineyard Haven, Mass., on her way to this port. == Governor Higgins announced at Albany that he had commuted the death sentence of Albert T. Patrick to one of life imprisonment. == It was announced at Albany that Attorney General Mayer had begun action here to dissolve the so-called Ice Trust. == Judge Edgar Aldrich, senior justice of the United States Circuit Court, of the Boston district, announced that he would not stand as a candidate for United States Senator in New Hampshire. == Henry McCrory, brother-in-law of President Corey of the United States Steel Corporation, and one of the "junior partners" of Andrew Carnegie, died at Wilkinsburg, Penn. == In reply to a complaint from an American missionary in Japan on the attitude taken by San Francisco in the Japanese school question, the Board of Education of that city criticises President Roosevelt as a meddler and Secretary Metcalf as distorting facts for political favor. == W. C. Anderson, an absconding assistant paying teller of the First National Bank of Kansas City, was captured in Austin, Tex., with an automobile which he had bought with part of the funds.

CITY.—Stocks were strong. == Hilary A. Herbert, Secretary of the Navy under President Cleveland, defended President Roosevelt's action in the Brownsville affair. == The fourth day of the trial of Colonel Mann was taken up by the examination of M. E. Wooster. == The Standard Oil hearing was closed, the company deciding not to call more witnesses. == Mrs. Florence Maybrick compared prison conditions in England and America, criticising the administration of Sing Sing. == George W. Perkins appeared before the grand jury in the investigation of the New York Life. == A large meteorite, found in Alabama was placed on view in the Museum of Natural History. == The New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad Company completed a purchase by which it gained control of 1,350 miles of trolley lines in Connecticut and Rhode Island. == Patrick Derry, chief of the Bureau of Weights and Measures, announced that he had filed with the Corporation Counsel thirty complaints against the American Ice Company for operating false ice scales. == The executive committee of the Citizens Union adopted a resolution holding that Lewis M. Swasey should not be reappointed State Superintendent of Elections. == The Rev. Dr. Mendenhall received a call to the pastorate of the Westminster Presbyterian Church. == A fire in Pearl street interrupted traffic on the Second and Third avenue lines below Chatham Square.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Rain. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 47 degrees; lowest, 32.

ONCE MORE THE BRIDGE LOOP.

There is a chance that the Brooklyn and Williamsburg bridges may be connected by an elevated road in Manhattan, after all. Mr. Edward C. Dowling, an Assemblyman from Kings County, intends to introduce a bill relating to the subject at the opening of the legislative session next month. It provides that the Mayor shall appoint a commission consisting of five members to adopt plans for such a line and also to contract for its construction, provided that the Board of Estimate has first signified its approval.

At the present time the proposed improvement cannot be undertaken without the joint sanction of the Board of Estimate and the Rapid Transit Commission. Though it took no action which fully committed it, the first of these bodies showed the project some favor last summer, and its votes at that time encourage the hope that it would give its formal consent if asked to do so. The Rapid Transit Commission, on the other hand, after repeated postponements, acted adversely on the proposition, and there is apparently no chance that it will voluntarily change its attitude. The aim of Mr. Dowling's bill is to deprive that commission of any voice in the matter and to make the fate of the loop depend mainly on the Board of Estimate. The belief prevails that Mayor McClellan would be glad to see the plan carried out, but apparently his responsibility is limited to the choice of suitable commissioners to do it. Mr. Dowling's bill makes it mandatory on the Mayor to act within ten days after the Board of Estimate has given its approval.

There is one obvious, though not necessarily fatal, objection to the measure. The multiplication of commissions, municipal or state, is always to be deprecated. Besides, to take even a single affair out of the hands of the body which has been charged with the duty of developing local transportation facilities might be regarded as an undeserved reflection on the good judgment, if not on the character, of its members. Nevertheless, the people of Brooklyn have occasion for impatience at the dilatory policy of the Rapid Transit Commission, and cannot be blamed for wanting to see the requisite authority for giving them prompt relief intrusted to another body. Mr. Dowling's bill expressly provides that the new commission shall cease to exist as soon as its work is done. Perhaps a better way can be found to accomplish the object. The Legislature might possibly relieve the present commission of responsibility by making its co-operation compulsory. The essential thing, however, is to secure some means of relief for long suffering Brooklyn, and to secure it at the earliest possible moment.

Mr. Dowling would not lease the loop to any corporation which operates an elevated road for more than five years. This is a wise restriction. If the conditions then prevailing should make it necessary there could be an extension of the time by legislative enactment, but it should be distinctly understood at the outset that the proposed structure is to be a temporary one. It is not unlikely—though by no means certain—that in time the circulation of Brooklyn elevated trains on this side of the East River can be effected by means of an underground road. If a subway which would serve the purpose should be available when the lease of the loop expired, the new route ought then to be utilized. Whatever may be the decision of the Legislature regarding Mr. Dowling's bill, or any of several reported measures seeking to promote the same end, it is incumbent on the advocates of a subway connection for the bridges not only to push their scheme, but also to do what they can to hasten the reconstruction of the old Brooklyn Bridge. According to Commissioner Stevenson, the first of these improvements would be of little use without the second, and to effect them both within five or six years is, in his judgment, impossible. If he is right, the opponents of the elevated loop are, consciously or unconsciously, acting with a lamentable lack of consideration for a multitude of sufferers.

MR. BRYCE.

It will not be considered invidious by other nations if we remark that the British Embassy to this country, for obvious and natural reasons, is regarded here with peculiar and exceptional interest, as representative of that nation to which America is most closely related in blood, in traditions, in language and literature and in institutions. Neither will it be deemed fulsome to say that that important place has generally been occupied by men whose selection for it was a compliment to this country. They have been of varying types, embodying various phases of British character and capacity, though they have usually belonged to the class of professional diplomats, men trained to the foreign service of their country through years of work at foreign capitals.

In Mr. Bryce—whose appointment is apparently about to be announced—we have a man of a new type, a man of letters rather than a professional diplomat—which does not by any means suggest that he may not prove to be uncommonly competent in diplomatic work, as American men of letters have been many times since the days of Washington Irving. Mr. Bryce has never before held a place in the diplomatic service, his nearest approach thereto having been a few years of duty as Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs. He has been known as a barrister, as a professor of civil law at Oxford for many years, and as the author of several highly important books, among them a history of "The Holy Roman Empire" and a monumental treatise, historical, descriptive and critical, on "The American Commonwealth." For more than a quarter of a century, however, he has been in Parliament, and he has been connected more or less prominently with the government during most of the time when the Liberal party has been in office. In this latter service he has addressed himself efficiently to a considerable range and diversity of legislative and administrative affairs, so that he is to be esteemed as an expert in politics and civics as well as in law and letters.

Mr. Bryce will come to America better known, both personally and in his works and his career, than most of his predecessors were on their arrival, and we may confidently add that he will bring a fuller knowledge of this country than any of them brought. In fact, we are inclined to think that he knows America better than most Americans themselves know it, better even than many of our own legislators and administrators. It has been his notable distinction to be one of the foremost instructors on American institutions, following in the path of Botta and Tocqueville, and certainly not lagging behind them in the timeliness and enduring value of his contributions to our knowledge of ourselves and the world's knowledge of us. These considerations most cordially commend Mr. Bryce to the hospitality of the American people as well as to a favorable reception by the government. He will be as welcome a guest in the country to which he is accredited as he will be a loyal servant of the country from which he comes.

IDEAS IN MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT.

A Chicago reformer suggests to the charter convention of that city a plan which he thinks would do much to remove the scandal attaching to the government of great municipalities. It is simple, the change from the present system being merely this, that, while each ward would nominate its own candidates for the Board of Aldermen, the candidates thus nominated would be voted for or against by the general electorate of the city. By this device the proposer hopes to make it impossible, or, at least, very difficult, for the corruptionist who is all powerful in his own immediate neighborhood to secure enough votes in the city to be elected. That one party may not gain all the seats in the board, he provides that the terms of the aldermen shall be four years, one-fourth of the board retiring each year. Such a method of representation, he believes, would result in the selection of better men, with a broader civic outlook, than those who now aspire to the honors and emoluments of aldermanic office. The critics of the plan look upon its tendency to make the board of one political complexion as a prime defect, and suggest that no ward is entitled to a better representation than it chooses, a consideration which would have more weight if aldermen legislated solely for their respective wards. The fate of the new plan should be watched with interest by other municipalities than Chicago, some of which would, we imagine, be ready to grant that almost any change in the present system of choosing city fathers would be an improvement.

A reform which has proved successful in its application to a number of small cities is that known as "the Houston idea." The inception of it is credited to Judge T. H. Stone, of Houston, Texas, who induced the Legislature of his state to pass a law permitting ward lines to be abolished in cities having a population of ten thousand or more, and the municipal government to be intrusted to a Mayor and a board of four aldermen, the latter to be elected at large from any part of the city. Less than eighteen months ago Houston, a city of about ninety thousand inhabitants, entered upon this system of government, each alderman being charged with the conduct of one or more departments of the administration, having been chosen for his special fitness for that work. Thus, one alderman is Street Cleaning Commissioner, another Water Commissioner, and so on, the Mayor being ex-officio chairman of each of the working commissions. Each of these five officials gives his whole time to the duties of his office, the Mayor receiving $4,500 a year and the aldermen $2,400 each.

Under the new regime the city's entire public indebtedness, amounting to about $500,000, has been wiped out, and the price of gas has been reduced from $1 80 to $1 25 a thousand feet. The streetcar company, operating under a new franchise, pays the city 1 per cent of its gross earnings, and all public service corporations are required to open their books for the inspection of an auditor appointed by the city. Apparently the citizens of the various wards of Houston are not jealous of their local importance in the face of these economies of administration, and their example has been followed by Galveston and Dallas, while most of the other important towns of Texas are considering the adoption of the same system.

PATRICK'S ESCAPE.

The commutation of Patrick's death sentence to imprisonment for life concludes a case which is extraordinary, even in the annals of criminal procedure in this state. The memorandum issued by Governor Higgins makes it clear that he was chiefly influenced by the fact that three of the seven judges of the Court of Appeals believed that serious errors prejudicial to the rights of Patrick had been committed at the trial. Without, therefore, suggesting any doubt as to the guilt of the prisoner, he is persuaded that doubt as to the propriety of the conviction may not unreasonably be entertained. We are not inclined to censure the Governor for his action in this case. He was bound by his own judgment and conscience in determining whether or not to exercise the power of clemency bestowed upon him by the constitution. Yet many will find it difficult to perceive why the extreme penalty should be carried out under the operation of our judicial system in any case if mitigation of the sentence was proper in this instance. Patrick certainly did not lack a stout and skilful defence. The whole history of the case is a record of multifarious obstacles to conviction successively overcome. He enjoyed every possible opportunity which our extremely liberal system bestows upon a prisoner accused of crime, and he had in particular the advantage of his own singularly adroit services, naturally employed with the utmost devotion.

Whatever else may be thought about the case, it is a clear example of the scandal which too often results from the administration of the criminal law in this state. Rice was murdered more than six years ago, and since that day the courts and the public have been almost constantly invited, and indeed compelled, to contemplate the desperate struggles of a murderer to escape. A date for his execution has been appointed a half dozen times, and the protracted procedure has cost the county an immense sum of money. We are compelled to believe that the spectacle thus presented has not been a deterrent to crime, but has rather encouraged the belief that a man committing murder in this state has a large chance of getting off with his life. We do not know that a more important duty belongs to the bench and bar than that of effecting a reform which would put a stop to such displays of incompetence on the part of justice to secure the execution of its own mandates.

If it were certain that Patrick would spend the remainder of his days in prison, the public might soon forget the fact of his existence, and perhaps there would be no great regret on account of the mercy shown him. It is to be feared, however, that before very long we shall begin to hear appeals for his release, and that thus the wretched creature will again come to occupy a place in the thoughts of the community instead of being buried in oblivion. If he ever should get out, what a demand there would be for his services as unofficial counsel to men on trial for their lives and to convicted murderers seeking to escape the death penalty!

THE KAISER AND HIS SHIPS.

The German electoral campaign is to be fought primarily and technically on the colonial, and most particularly the Hottentot, issue. It was on that issue that the Reichstag refused to grant the money asked by the imperial government, and thereby incurred its own dissolution. Beyond doubt, Herr Bebel and his Socialist followers, and the Clericals of the Centre, too, will at the hustings ring the changes upon the known and reputed abuses of colonial administration, upon the alleged corruption and cruelties of which colonial administrators have been guilty, and upon the costliness, tediousness and lack of success of the war with the Hottentots; while the partisans of the government, defending so far as they can the accused officials and their policy, will insist that in any event the integrity of the empire requires that, having set their hands to the colonial plough, they shall not turn back. But in addition to this, the whole military policy of the empire, on sea as well as on land, and perhaps especially on sea, is sure to be scathingly reviewed by the Opposition.

The Emperor has asked this year for a large sum for naval construction, and we may well believe that there is no item in the whole budget upon which his heart is more set. War Lord as he is, it is Sea King that he most of all desires to be. The German navy is in a special sense his own creation. The German army was supreme in Europe long before he came to the throne—indeed, while he was yet in his infancy. But the German navy was reserved for him to create. In his boyhood he used to watch with mingled delight and envy the warships of Great Britain, at Spithead and in Portsmouth Dockyard, and he thus early formed not only the desire but the resolution to give to Germany a navy which should be second to none in the world. "When I came to the throne," he has said, "I attempted to "reproduce on a scale commensurate with the "resources and interests of my own country "that which had made so deep an impression "upon my mind when I saw it in England."

For the first few years of his reign William II was unable to proceed with his naval plans. Burdened with conscription and taxation for the army, Germany refused to burden itself further for a great navy. It held that supreme power on land made sea power unnecessary. The Emperor knew better. He had not studied Captain Mahan's writings in vain. But it was reserved for one of his impulsive acts—one which was regarded by some as a regrettable escapade—to convert the empire to his side. His famous pro-Boer telegram at the time of the Jameson raid was the open-sesame to German naval greatness. It moved the British government to mobilize a reserve fleet, and a fully equipped British warship seemed suddenly to spring from every wave of the Narrow Seas. It was such an object lesson in ever ready sea power as the world had never seen before. There were those who thought it caused the Emperor to stop short in his pro-Boer utterances. Whether it did that or not, it opened the eyes of the German nation to the need of a navy, and thereafter there was no demurring to the Emperor's plans.

The last ten years have seen a steady, rapid and formidable expansion of the German navy, until now it is in close competition with the American for third place among those of the world. It has, moreover, a definite programme, extending over a period of years, which may presently place it ahead of the American and even the French navy, and make it second only to that of Great Britain. By the year 1917, at the present rate and according to present plans, Germany will have no fewer than thirty-eight first class battleships, of which eighteen will be at least equal to the British Dreadnought, and twenty first class armored cruisers. That will be a much more powerful fleet than any now in existence, save only England's, and, with that same one exception, more powerful than any now provided for by any other land. We may be sure that the Emperor and his partisans will spare no pains to secure in the new Reichstag a majority committed to a continuation of his naval plans and to the realization of his naval ambition.

Europe also is suffering from a shortage of cars. At Rouen and Genoa there is great complaint because when ships arrive with freight—and coal, in particular—no "wagons" are available for its transshipment.

Senator Tillman complains that the North is densely ignorant of the facts of the race conflict in the South. That is a stale complaint, which has been heard whenever one part of the country has criticised anything in another part. We are told that the North doesn't understand the Southern situation, that the East doesn't understand the Japanese question on the Pacific Coast, and so on. Yet the South would be grossly offended if anybody raised a question concerning its absolutely perfect knowledge of everything in the North, and San Francisco would never speak to us again if we intimated that it might not know every minute detail of New York's affairs. The chances are—to paraphrase Sam Patch—that some people know some things as well as some other people.

The American consul at Tairen (still often called Dalny) is reported as saying that the Japanese aim at producing in Manchuria and Corea all the wheat and cotton they want. That is a legitimate and praiseworthy aim. America would regret to lose so good a customer, but it could not quarrel with Japan or any other nation for fulfilling the American principle of domestic supplies for domestic demands.

The project of deepening and otherwise improving the channel from New York Harbor to Long Island Sound is heartily to be commended. It ought to be made possible to bring the largest steamships into this harbor through either the southern or the eastern gate at any stage of the tide.

It is gratifying to know that at last the site of the meeting place of the Continental Congress in Trenton, N. J., has been identified, and we hope it will be appropriately marked. Congress did not use the place long, but it was the scene of Lafayette's farewell to that body, and it is well worthy of remembrance as one of the landmarks of our early history and as a reminder of how near the city on the Delaware came to being adopted as the capital of the nation.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

There are three women on the pension rolls of the government who are daughters of Revolutionary soldiers. They are Rhoda Augusta Thompson, of Woodbury, Conn.; Phœbe M. Palmeter, of Tallette, N. Y., each eighty-five years old, and Mrs. Sarah C. Hurlbutt, of Little Marsh, Penn., eighty-eight years old. The widows of soldiers of the War of 1812 who draw pensions from the government number six hundred.

Ragson Tatters—W'at's dat yer swiped outer dat drug store?
Weary Willie—A bottle o' nerve tonic! Ain't dat great?
Ragson Tatters—G'on! W'at good is dat to yer?
Weary Willie—Why, mebbe after we've took a few doses we'll be able ter brace people fur champagne instead o' beer.—Philadelphia Record.

At Christiana, a little town in the Transvaal about seventy miles above Kimberley, an alluvial deposit has been discovered bearing diamonds, and the entire area has been staked out in claims, which are granted by the government, each 50 yards square. The "digging" for diamonds, which are found in the surface deposits, is somewhat similar to placer gold mining. There some three thousand diamond miners, representing every nationality, are living in huts and tents with their families.

Teacher—Is there any connecting link between the animal and the vegetable kingdom?
Bright Pupil—Yes, mum; there's hash.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

Writing to a friend in the country a New York merchant says: "I live in the electric light. I leave my home at 7 o'clock, after dressing and taking my breakfast by electric light. Then I go to the subway, one block distant, and ride to within a block of my office. There I work all day by electric light and go home again by the subway and spend the evening in the glare of the incandescent lamp. The weather conditions make no difference, because my flat and my office belong to the semi-dark kind. Sometimes I wonder what I would do without electric light, and sometimes I ask myself, when I yearn for a little sunlight: Is the new light really a blessing?"

"You are so popular," sighs the swain. "You have so many suitors."
"The idea!" smiles the fair young thing. "Why, I can count them all on the fingers of my left hand. See. The index finger is Mr. Smugforth, the second finger is Mr. Balder, and the third finger—the third finger of my left hand—the third finger, is you."
Next day he got the ring for it.—Chicago Evening Post.

Of Count Julius Andrassy, whose monument was unveiled at Budapest on December 3, J. von Chlumecky writes in the "Neue Presse": "Count Andrassy was a handsome man, and was very particular about his appearance. He had a habit of smoothing with his hand his richly oiled and greased hair. One day an important document had passed the Austrian Council of Ministers, in the contents of which Count Andrassy was interested. Shortly after I met the Austrian President of the Ministry, Prince Auersperg, who said to me:
"'Count Andrassy has read the latest document.'
"'How do you know?' I asked.
"'I have discovered on it the imprints of Count Andrassy's fingers,' Prince Auersperg answered laughing."

Hostess—Were you seasick coming across, dear.
Miss Pert—Oh, no! You see, papa was with us.
Hostess—But what has that to do with your not being seasick?
Miss Pert—Well, you know, papa is a judge, and he overruled the motion.—Boston Transcript.

PROFITABLE FARMING.

From The Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

Twelve years ago W. B. Williams secured a homestead of 160 acres from one of the first settlers in that district (Yakima). At that time such claims were selling at $250 to $500. The land was left in sagebrush until three years ago, when it was cleared and planted. There are at present 80 acres in alfalfa, 35 acres in clover, 22 acres in orchard of pears, apples, peaches and cherries, and one acre in grapes. An offer of $400 an acre has been refused for a portion of this farm.

Hay has been the money producer on that Kennewick place. The total yield for the last season was between 600 and 700 tons. Timothy gave a return of six tons to the acre. That hay is in demand at $18 a ton. Mixed clover and timothy sell at the farm for $15 a ton. Alfalfa is the standard crop, and ranges about $10 or more a ton. It is easy to figure out how that farm is worth $50,000. It was only a desert four years ago. The crops have paid the first cost of the land and water, fencing and improving, and left the land complete to the owner. Next year the orchard will begin showing results.

TREES BY THE ROADSIDE.

From The Syracuse Post-Standard.

The German province of Hanover owns 1,976 miles of highways, on which there are 175,794 fruit trees—pear, cherry, plum and apple—sufficient, if set out eighty to an acre, to form an orchard of more than three hundred square miles. The fruit raised on these trees is a source of income for the province, which sometimes makes $40,000 a year by selling the products of this elongated orchard.

The province maintains a nursery of 403 acres, to supply young trees for roadside use and for promoting the interests of fruit culture. The profit a tree is very small, but the Hanover people do not worry about that. Shade is afforded in summer, the roadbed is free from dust, the presence of trees retards the washing out of the soil from the banks into the roadside ditches, and the attractive appearance of the roadsides stimulates an interest in tree culture and benefits the province in many other ways. They find it worth while.

BOSTON'S SQUIRRELS.

From The Boston Transcript.

If Central Park squirrels have houses built for them this winter, as it is said they will have, perhaps next year Boston Common squirrels will be similarly accommodated. The houses could and should be picturesque things, good for us to look at and comfortable for the dwellers. And the little animals ought to be very happy in them, too. Though they have become so civilized, or so like us, in the years they have spent with us that when building time comes they will probably show a pretty determination to have all their houses front in Beacon street. And what can we do but consent? They are with us probably for all time, and since they are an assumed obligation our duty to them is of the highest.

About People and Social Incidents.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Dec. 20.—The President is expected to go to the Pine Knot cottage, in Virginia, next week with his family, but no positive announcement has been made regarding his trip.

Senator Flint, of California; Director Walcott, of the geological survey, and F. H. Newell, chief of the reclamation service, had a long talk with the President to-day about ways and means for checking the flood of the Colorado River into California, which was caused by a break in the irrigation works across the Mexican border. Later in the day the President sent telegrams bearing on the subject to E. H. Harriman, the Governor of California and the director of the geological survey.

President Roosevelt received a call from Dr. Felix Adler, of New York, chairman of the National Child Labor Committee, and Dr. S. M. Lindsay, secretary of the organization, who came to discuss with him the provisions of the Beveridge-Parsons Child Labor bill. Labor Commissioner Charles P. Neill was present by invitation.

Joseph Rorke, a representative of the machinists in the Brooklyn Navy Yard, who is in Washington endeavoring to secure an increase of pay for his fellow craftsmen, was introduced to the President by Representative Calder.

Other callers at the White House during the day were Senators Fulton, Lodge, Warner, Long, Burkett and Simmons, Representatives McCleary, Lacey and Adamson, Secretary Hitchcock, Assistant Secretary Bacon, of the State Department; Indian Commissioner Francis E. Leupp, and Gifford Pinchot, chief of the bureau of forestry.

Kermit Roosevelt, the second son of President and Mrs. Roosevelt, is expected to arrive at the White House to-morrow to spend the Christmas holidays. He is a student at Groton, Mass., and is being prepared for Harvard. Miss Ethel Roosevelt is also expected to return to the White House to-morrow from a few days' visit to Miss Landon, in New York.

THE CABINET.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Dec. 20.—Secretary and Mrs. Root entertained the President and Mrs. Roosevelt to-night, the dinner opening the season of Cabinet entertainments for them. Invited to dine with the President and Mrs. Roosevelt were the American Ambassador to Great Britain and Mrs. Whitelaw Reid, Senator and Mrs. Lodge, President Hadley of Yale and Mrs. Hadley, President Nicholas Murray Butler of Columbia, Assistant Secretary and Mrs. Robert Bacon, Mrs. Richard H. Townsend, Mrs. E. H. Slater, Miss Boardman, Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Wales, Miss Root, John Cadwalader and Charles McKim, of New York, and Edward Wales Root.

Secretary and Mrs. Root are entertaining President and Mrs. Hadley as house guests.

IN WASHINGTON SOCIETY.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Dec. 20.—Senator and Mrs. Dryden had as dinner guests to-night Secretary and Mrs. Shaw, Senator and Mrs. Gallinger, Senator and Mrs. Burrows, Senator and Mrs. Scott, Senator and Mrs. Bulkeley, Senator Piles, Representative and Mrs. Dalzell, Surgeon General and Mrs. Rixey, Colonel and Mrs. Symons, Mrs. John B. Henderson and Mr. and Mrs. Kusar.

Miss Zadie Gaff gave an informal domino party to-night in honor of Miss Josephine Durand, asking fifty friends to dance.

Mrs. Garret A. Hobart has arrived at the New Willard to remain until January 3, when she will join Senator and Mrs. Alger as a house guest.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Wadsworth gave a musical to-night, when Mrs. Childs sang and Francis McMillen played the violin

Miss Helen Cannon left Washington to-day for Danville, Ill., her home, where she will spend Christmas, returning here in time to hold the usual New Year's reception at the Speaker's house. The Speaker will also spend Christmas at his Illinois home, returning here with Miss Cannon.

NEW YORK SOCIETY.

Mrs. Charles B. Alexander gave a dinner dance last night at her house, in West 58th street, for her daughter, Miss Harriet Alexander, who is one of the debutantes of the season. Among those present at the dinner were Mr. and Mrs. Julian A. Ripley, Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Pruyn, Mr. and Mrs. William Woodward, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hastings, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Earle Stevens, Mr. and Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Renolds, Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney, Mr. and Mrs. William Crocker, Miss Janet Fish, Miss Electra Havemeyer, Miss Laura F. Delano, Miss G. H. Farr, Miss Louise R. Knowlton, Miss Mary E. Newbold, Miss Charlotte Warren, Miss Margaret Roosevelt, Miss Priscilla D. Stanton, Miss K. W. Twesd, Miss Julia Hoyt, Miss Janet A. McCook, Miss Susan A. McCook, Miss Anita L. Peabody, Miss Gwendolyn Burden, Miss Effie Pearson, Miss Constance W. Warren, Miss Cornelia H. Harriman, Miss Grace Tracy, Miss Edith Miller, Miss Eleanor Mortimer, Miss Grace Henry, Miss Harriet Alexander, Miss Alice Borland, Miss Irene Sherman, Miss Anne Gardiner, Miss Bettye Kissel, Miss Harriet Daly, Miss Katharine Brice, Monson Morris, Sherman Day, Edmund Rogers, Courtlandt Nicoll, William Greenough, Lloyd Warren, James De W. Cutting, Lydig Hoyt, Sumner K. Gerard, the Hon. J. J. Astley, Grosvenor Atterbury, Robert L. Gerry, Arthur Choate, Joseph Mirott, William W. Hoffman, Captain T. Bentley Mott, Seton Henry, Lawrence L. Gillespie, Worthington Whitehouse, Bertram de N. Cruger, George Crocker, Courtland P. Dixon, Moncure Robinson, Malcolm D. Whitman, George Baker, Francis L. V. Hoppin, Lispenard Stewart, Charles D. Wetmore, T. Suffern Tailer, William R. Stewart, jr., Robert Howard Russell, Frederic A. Juilliard, Louis Bruguière, Robert Van Courtlandt and Howland Auchincloss.

Worthington Whitehouse led the cotillon with Miss Alexander. The favors included white leather cardcases, paper cutters, fans, cigar cutters, leather and silver trinkets and "Peter Pan" hats for the women.

Mrs. William Douglas Sloane, Mrs. R. Fulton Cutting, Mrs. R. Livingston Beeckman, Mrs. J. J. McCook and Mrs. Charles Coster also gave dinners last night at their respective houses, afterward taking their guests to Mrs. Alexander's dance. Mrs. Sloane's party included Mr. and Mrs. Henry Coleman Drayton, Mr. and Mrs. William Earl Dodge, Miss Margaret Dix, Miss Dorothy Whitney, Miss Gladys Mills, Miss Evelyn Parsons, Miss Dorothea Potter, Miss Mildred Carter, Miss Dorothea Kane, Miss Grace Chapin, Miss Corinne Douglas Robinson, Miss Emily Wells, Miss Katherine Lawrence and Miss Lily Page, as well as Creighton Webb, Malcolm Sloane, William F. Whitehouse, jr., De Lancey Jay, L. Stewart Witherbee, William Stackpole, Ashbel H. Barney, Frank Roche, Buell Hollister, Walter Webb, Townsend Irving and John W. Minturn.

Mrs. Cutting's guests included Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Iselin, Mr. and Mrs. Austen Gray, Mr. and Mrs. Forsyth Wickes, Mr. and Mrs. Cortlandt F. Bishop, Mrs. J. Hammond, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Osgood Field, Miss Lisa Cutting, Miss Ellen W. Delano, Miss Ethel F. Cryder, Miss Caroline Wilmerding, Miss Caroline Drayton, Miss Mabel Gerry, Miss Georgette Borland, Miss Louise Iselin, Miss Lydia L. M. Jones, Miss Dorothy Kane, Miss Mary Harriman, Miss Helen Cuyler, Miss Anna D. Ripley, Miss Pauline French, Miss Helen Rives, Miss Pauline Riggs, Miss Isabella Tilford, Miss Dagmar Wetmore, William H. Appleton, R. B. Cutting, Montgomery Hare, Edward Victor Loew, jr., W. Redmond Cross, Gordon Macdonald, jr., Orme Wilson, jr., Samuel D. Babcock, Gerry Chadwick, Fred Sears, Maurice Roche, Harry Hooker, Julian Gerard, Samuel J. Wagstaff, Newton Rae, Roger Poor, Harry Pelham Robbins, Gerald Morgan, Charles Hanford, Henry R. Taylor, G. Beekman Hoppin, Erskine Hewitt, F. Otis and Roderick Terry.

Mrs. J. J. McCook's party included Miss Katherine Barney, Miss Jean Reid, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Lord, jr., Miss Martha McCook, Miss Caroline McCook and Miss Sybil Douglas, Miss Gertrude Sheldon, Miss Pauline Morton, Miss Deborah Brock, Miss Dorothy Merle Smith, and Vance McCormick, Rex Fincke, Cortlandt Barnes, Sheldon Whitehouse, Albert Gray, Kirkpatrick Brice, Devereaux Milburne, Jay Smith and Bernon Prentice.

Mrs. Beeckman's party was made up of Mr. and Mrs. De Lancey Kountze, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Rogers Winthrop, Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. Bull, Miss Ethel Russell, Miss Dorothy Kissel, Miss Frances Alexander, Miss Mildred Sherman, Miss Beatrice Mills, Colonel John Jacob Astor, Cyril Hatch, Montgomery Waterbury, Chalmers Wood, jr., Bradish Johnson, Phœnix Ingraham, I. Townsend Burden, jr., and Campbell Steward.

Mrs. Coster's guests were Miss Annie Kountze, Miss Rosalind Fish, Miss Sallie Dixon, Miss Ethel Cowdin, Miss Emily Coster, Miss Sylvia Parsons, Miss Gladys Pell, Miss May Tuckerman, Miss Edith Deacon, Miss Dorothy Kissel, Miss Elsie Nicoll, and Bayard Hoppin, William Wright, Charles Lawrence, Gordon Douglas, William Moore, Pendleton Rogers, Herman Kinnicutt, Adrian Iselin, jr., and Percy R. Pyne, 2d.

Another dance last night was that given by Mrs. Charles William Romeyn at Dodworth's for her daughter, Miss Emma Langworthy Romeyn, who is one of the debutantes of the season. Among those present were Miss Eleanor Hoyt, Miss Grace Fargo, Miss Gillian Barr, Miss Beatrice Carpenter, Miss Pauline Boulton, Miss Elsie Morrill, Miss Edith Cook, Miss Julia Freeman, Miss Martha Calhoun, Miss Dorothy Hurry, Miss Dorothy McAlpin, Miss Adelaide McAlpin, Miss Marjory Clinton, Miss Amy Hutton, Miss Ruth Hubbell, Miss May Weatherbee, Miss Marion Stevenson, and William Allen Butler, Kenneth Bulkley, Ludwell Alexander, Rudolph H. Davis, Hugh J. Chisholm, jr., Roderick Beebe, Theodore Bailey, Richard Eggleston, Thomas Dixon, Kenneth Hoyt, Theron Strong, Stuart Preston, Arthur Stout, Livingston Platt, Paul Moore and Hayward McAlpin.

Pelting rain somewhat marred the wedding of Miss Julia Trowbridge to Herbert Lloyd at the Brick Church, Fifth avenue and 37th street, yesterday afternoon. James A. Trowbridge gave away his niece, who was dressed in white satin, lace and tulle, and attended by her sister, Mrs. Douglas L. Elliman, in a frock of white Irish lace and a large black tulle hat trimmed with black feathers, her flowers being red roses. Miss Louise Trowbridge and Miss Anabel Van Nostrand were the bridesmaids. They were dressed in white liberty satin, wore large black tulle hats with black feathers and carried baskets of red roses. Arthur Delano Weekes, jr., Douglas Elliman, Bernon S. Prentice, Milton L. Hitchcock and Harry H. Hollins, jr., were the ushers, and Owen Winston his brother-in-law's best man. After the ceremony Mrs. Elliman gave a small reception for the newly married couple at her house in East 71st street.

Mrs. David Pierce Morgan gives a dance to-night at Sherry's for her two granddaughters, Miss Mildred Carter and Miss Gladys Kissel, both debutantes of the season.

The annual theatrical entertainment of the Junior League will be given on January 29 and 30. The league, composed of the season's debutantes, gives each winter a couple of amateur dramatic performances for the benefit of its favorite charities.

Mrs. Frederic Neilson leaves town to-day to spend the week-end with her daughter, Mrs. Hollis H. Hunnewell, at Wellesley, Mass. She will go to Newport on Monday to stay over Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Reginald C. Vanderbilt at Sandy Point Farm. Mrs. Neilson is booked to sail for Europe on January 5 with Mr. and Mrs. Hunnewell.

Mrs. J. Kensett Olyphant entertained a party of fifty young people at luncheon yesterday in the annex of the Metropolitan Club, in connection with the debut of her daughter, Miss Anne Olyphant.

Mr. and Mrs. John M. Conyngham have arrived from Wilkes-Barre, Penn., to spend the Christmas holidays with Mrs. J. Hood Wright, at her house in Fifth avenue.

Tyrrel William Cavendish, of Crakemarsh, Staffordshire, whose engagement to Miss Julia Siegel, daughter of Henry Siegel, of New York, has just been announced, is a member of that branch of the Cavendish family of which Lord Waterpark is the head, his father, the late Charles Tyrrel Cavendish, having been a grandson of the second Lord Waterpark. He is a first cousin of Harry Cavendish, the explorer.

WANTS FRIEND TO PROTECT HUSBAND.

Mrs. Burgess's Will Provides for Columbia and Barnard.

The will of Mrs. Annie P. Burgess, wife of Dr. Daniel M. Burgess, of No. 160 West 59th street, who died on December 16, which was filed yesterday, provides that her husband shall receive $2,000 at once and $25,000 in addition as soon as it may be convenient for her executors to pay it. In the will Mrs. Burgess goes on to express the wish that the doctor may be guided "by the advice of our dear friend, John W. Vrooman, in all matters pertaining to my estate."

"I especially charge John W. Vrooman, as a Masonic brother of my husband," continues the will, "to advise, counsel and protect him in all matters pertaining to the management of my estate as well as his own." Dr. Maynard is also made residuary legatee, the estate on his death to go to Columbia University, Barnard College and Hamilton College in equal shares.

Columbia University and Barnard College each receives $10,000, under the will, for the foundation of four scholarships, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art is also a legatee, together with St. Luke's Hospital.

DINNER FOR CAMPANINI.

Cleofonte Campanini, the musical director and chief conductor at the Manhattan Opera House, was entertained at dinner at Martin's last night by a number of the Italians of the city. His praises were sounded with the greatest enthusiasm.

KING HAAKON BACK AT HIS CAPITAL.

Christiania, Dec. 20.—King Haakon, Queen Maud and Crown Prince Olaf of Norway returned here to-day from their visits to England and Germany.

PROFESSOR ORR TO LECTURE HERE.

London, Dec. 20.—Professor James Orr, Professor of Apologetics and Theology in Glasgow College of the United Free Church, has consented to give a series of ten lectures in New York City from April 9 to April 19 of next year, under the auspices of the Bible Teachers' Training School, on the doctrine of the virgin birth of Jesus. Professor Orr will be the spokesman for fifteen representative scholars of Europe, each of whom will contribute a paper which will be read at the Orr meetings.

NEW PAPERS AT N. Y. U.

The growth of the various schools of New York University has led the students to decide on a new departure in regard to the weekly paper. Up to the present year "The Triangle" has been supposed to represent the schools at Washington Square, First avenue and 26th street and University Heights. This year the downtown students have started a weekly of their own, entitled "The N. Y. U. Reflector." Thus the old name, "Triangle," has become a misfit. The student organizations have approved of its suspension and of the starting of a new weekly journal under an appropriate name.

KING OSCAR'S PROGRESS TO RECOVERY.

Stockholm, Sweden, Dec. 20.—King Oscar continues to make good progress toward recovery. The bulletin issued by his physicians this morning reads:

The King passed a good night; his temperature was 99.1 last night and is 98.8 this morning. His Majesty's appetite is good and his heart's action is unchanged. There is still some mucus in the trachea.

THE SHAH ABLE TO SIGN PAPERS.

Teheran, Persia, Dec. 20.—The Shah maintained his strength fairly throughout the last twenty-four hours and was able to sign some of the most important orders referring to state business.

CHRISTMAS AT NAVAL Y. M. C. A.

Between 500 and 600 men are expected to take advantage of the hospitality of the naval branch of the Young Men's Christian Association, in Sands street, Brooklyn, on Christmas Day. According to the annual custom, the celebration will begin at dinner time. Half an hour after dinner is over an entertainment will begin. In the evening there will be a concert. An especially large crowd is expected this year, as the Kentucky, the Kearsarge, the Dolphin, the Ohio, the Alabama and other war vessels are in port. All men enlisted in the navy are welcome at the celebration.

HARVARD MEN ENTERTAIN NAVAL CREWS

Boston, Dec. 20.—The Harvard Glee, Mandolin and Banjo clubs entertained the officers and men of the American Navy and Marine Corps from the battleships Georgia, Rhode Island, Missouri, Illinois, New Jersey and Iowa, and from the navy yard and the naval hospital, on board the United States receiving ship Wabash, at the navy yard here, to-night. The Rev. G. Livingston Bayard, chaplain, U. S. N., himself a Harvard man, extended a word of welcome.