Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—2—8:15—The Music Master.
ALHAMBRA—2—8—Vaudeville.
ASTOR—2:30—8:30—The Straight Road.
BELASCO—2—8:15—The Rose of the Rancho.
BIJOU—2—8:15—A Doll's House.
BROADWAY—2:10—8:10—The Parisian Model.
CASINO—2—8:15—Princess Beggar.
COLONIAL—2—8—Vaudeville.
CRITERION—2:20—8:30—The Aero Club.
DALY'S—2:15—8:15—The Belle of Mayfair.
EDEN MUSEE—The World in Wax.
EMPIRE—2:20—8:20—Captain Brassbound's Conversion.
GARDEN—2—8:15—The Little Michus.
GARRICK—2:20—8:30—Caught in the Rain.
HACKETT—8:30—The Chorus Lady.
HAMMERSTEIN'S VICTORIA—8:15—Vaudeville.
HERALD SQUARE—2—8:15—The Road to Yesterday.
HIPPODROME—2—8—Neptune's Daughter and Pioneer Days.
HUDSON—2:15—8:15—The Hypocrites.
IRVING PLACE—2—8:20—Der Blinde Passagier.
KNICKERBOCKER—2:15—8:15—The Red Mill.
LIBERTY—2:15—8:15—Salomy Jane.
LINCOLN SQUARE—2:15—8:15—The Belle of London Town.
LYCEUM—2:15—8:15—The Lion and the Mouse.
LYRIC—2—8—Jeanne d'Arc.
MADISON SQUARE—2:15—8—The Three of Us.
MAJESTIC—2—8:15—Brown of Harvard.
MANHATTAN—2—8:15—Les Misérables.
MANHATTAN OPERA HOUSE—2—Il Barbiere di Seviglia—8:15—The Huguenots.
METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE—2—Carmen—8—La Traviata.
NEW AMSTERDAM—2:15—8:15—Brewster's Millions.
NEW YORK—2—8:15—The Vanderbilt Cup.
PRINCESS—2:20—8:20—The Great Divide.
SAVOY—2:15—8:15—The Man of the Hour.
WALLACK'S—2:15—8:15—The Rich Mr. Hoggenheimer.
WEBER'S—2—8:15—Dream City and The Magic Knight.

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New-York Daily Tribune.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1907.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

CONGRESS.—Senate: Exercises in memory of Senator Gorman, of Maryland, were held, and several bills of minor importance were passed. ═══ House: Debate on the River and Harbor bill continued.

FOREIGN.—Russia will issue a 4 per cent internal loan of $25,000,000 to relieve the distress caused by the famine; it will be taken by the state savings bangs. ═══ The Socialists in the reballot at Bremen, lost a seat; the complete returns show that the Clericals made the largest gain. ═══ The separation situation in France has been complicated by the action of certain mayors in signing contracts for worship sent to them by the parish priests. ═══ Slippery pavements caused over a hundred cases of broken limbs in Berlin; eight persons were killed by a snowslide in Bavaria. ═══ Much satisfaction was expressed in Japan with the report that a solution of the school question in San Francisco was in sight. ═══ Sir Alfred Jones and his party reached Bristol on board the Port Kingston; the members of the party protested against the charges of unkind treatment of Americans.

DOMESTIC.—The action of Rear Admiral Charles H. Davis in giving relief to the sufferers from earthquake and fire at Kingston, Jamaica, was warmly commended by President Roosevelt. ═══ Sensational reports of the likelihood of war with Japan were ridiculed by Washington officials. ═══ Attorney General Jackson at Albany received offers from the Manhattan Railway, Brush Electric Illuminating and United Electric Light and Power companies, of this city, to pay their franchise taxes if a reduction of 11 per cent from the assessed valuation of their property is made. ═══ Governor Hughes at Albany expressed deep regret at the death of Assemblyman Stanley. ═══ A reduction of fares went into effect on the Boston & Maine and Maine Central railroads. ═══ A fire in Troy, N. Y., caused a loss of $150,000; five horses were burned to death. ═══ The fourteenth ballot for a United States Senator to succeed George Peabody Wetmore, of Rhode Island, resulted in no choice. ═══ A Pullman car porter on "The Owl Train" on the Pennsylvania Railroad discovered a bomb loaded with dynamite in a berth in the sleeper Gallitzin.

CITY.—Stocks were weak. ═══ It was announced that Mrs. Russell Sage would give $1,000,000 to the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute at Troy. ═══ The Broadway Business Men's Association met and formed plans to fight the use of the "cut and cover" system in the construction of the Lexington avenue subway. ═══ Aldermen Clifford and Cronin were arrested for perjury in connection with the Clifford bribery case. ═══ The Thaw jury was completed and the trial adjourned to Monday. ═══ Controller Metz received bids above par for $26,000,000 worth of fifty-year 4 per cent city bonds. ═══ Borough President Coler introduced a resolution at the meeting of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment asking whether night and day shifts could not be used on the Manhattan Bridge. ═══ The trial of Dr. James S. Simpson, accused of killing his father-in-law, was adjourned at Riverhead, Long Island, till Monday, on account of the illness of a juror. ═══ It was announced that M. H. Dalberg, assistant city tax commissioner, might serve on the Mutual Board of Election Inspectors, despite his resignation.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Rain or snow. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 38 degrees; lowest, 31.

"USURPATION."

Senator Rayner may have derived some oratorical satisfaction from painting in pitch black colors last Thursday the obsolescence of constitutionalism and the coming of executive absolutism. It is a theme on which high rhetoric can be advantageously lavished. But, the rhetoric being discounted, what remains to chill the heart and terrify the imagination? The Maryland Senator seemed disposed to impute to President Roosevelt an entirely new and revolutionary view of the functions of the Executive in our scheme of government. He accused the President of going beyond his rights in bringing influence to bear upon Congress "to accomplish the legislation he desires, or to prevent legislation." But what historical or critical support can be found for the contention that efforts such as President Roosevelt has made to influence legislation are either new or revolutionary? If Mr. Rayner "views them with alarm," then every incursion he allows himself into American history must fill him with anguish and trepidation.

It is interesting to know where Mr. Rayner draws the line between Executive advice to Congress which is legitimate and Executive pressure upon it which is usurpatory. The Maryland statesman is not quite so Draconian as his colleague from Texas, the Hon. Joseph W. Bailey. Mr. Bailey has described himself as one of the "very small class" of Representatives and Senators who never permit themselves to be influenced by private or non-official communication with the White House. If not never, at least hardly ever. Mr. Rayner is less inflexible. He will not condemn the President to a "splendid isolation," unbroken, as regards the legislative branch, except by formal written exchanges. He unbends enough to admit that the President "has the right, if he chooses to "do so, to advise with members in reference to "legislation and to make any suggestions that "he may deem proper." "This is not," the Senator says, "a constitutional prerogative, and its "propriety has been questioned and assailed, "but I am willing within proper bounds to regard it as an incident of his executive func- "tions." What the President ought not to do, the Maryland statesman asserts, is to "use public patronage to compel obedience to his views" or to "interfere with legislation and force Con- "gress either to adopt his recommendations or, "if it rejects them, to bring about a breach "between the legislative and executive depart- "ments." There, in Mr. Rayner's opinion, constitutionalism lapses and "usurpation" begins.

It is curious how points of view change and old friends take on new faces. Mr. Rayner was a Representative in Congress during the first half of President Cleveland's second term. He was an ardent supporter of Mr. Cleveland in the latter's effort to secure the repeal of the purchasing clauses of the so-called Sherman silver coinage act of 1890. That President Cleveland not only used the public patronage but every other weapon which came into his hand to drive the Democratic party in Congress to swallow the unpalatable repeal policy will not be disputed. It will also be admitted that he "interfered" most strenuously in both the coinage and the tariff legislation of the 53d Congress, and that if he did not succeed in forcing the Democratic leaders to accept his recommendations he certainly brought about "a "breach between the executive and legislative "departments." Yet we do not remember that Mr. Rayner ever rose in his place in the House of Representatives to denounce Mr. Cleveland's policy as "revolution" and "usurpation."

In matters of this sort it makes all the difference whose ox is gored. Mr. Rayner's nerves are more unstrung now than they were in 1893 and 1894. But the attack will pass. "Usurpation" may be as blessed a word for oratorical purposes as Mesopotamia. But as Mr. Rayner used it on Thursday it has no real content. It is only a desiccated and empty rhetorical symbol.

ALARMS AND PREPARATIONS.

Talk of war with Japan is forthcoming on slight provocation. Most of it is injudicious and ill founded, as, for example, the statement that all Japan is eager for war. We believe that Japan does not desire war with any nation, and would be particularly reluctant to begin one with the United States. But Japan, having won and obtained recognition as a member of the community of enlightened nations, undoubtedly expects to be treated as such, and will resent ill treatment, as any other self-respecting nation would do.

There is, however, something more pertinent and urgent than discussions of possible war, namely, that judicious preparation which is at once the surest warrant of success in war, if war should come, and the most efficient guarantee of continued peace. The world has recently seen an appalling example of unpreparedness and its disastrous results, which no sane nation could wish to have repeated in its own case. There can be little doubt that it was her knowledge of Russia's unreadiness for the war which she was herself provoking which stiffened Japanese diplomacy and emboldened the island empire to accept the virtual challenge which was presented to her by her colossal neighbor. So, if this country were unhappily to be drawn or driven into an acrimonious controversy with Japan, we should be sorely handicapped and Japan would be correspondingly strengthened by the notorious fact of the inefficiency of our Pacific Coast and insular defences. Of course, it may be said that no matter how much we suffered at first we should win in the end and exact indemnity for all our losses. But how much better to be prepared at the outset, so that we should not lose at all!

It is now twenty years since we secured the provisional cession of Pearl Harbor from Hawaii, though for many years before we had earnestly desired it. We were in a hurry for it. We needed it. We were ready to maintain our title to it against all the world. Yet what have we done with that priceless possession? Neglected it and left it practically undefended, the easy prey of any sloopload of filibusters that might happen along. It is a scathing commentary upon some of our governmental methods. It is folly to talk about going to war with the naval mistress of the Pacific, with our own Pacific possessions unguarded. The part of wisdom would be to put our coasts and islands in a state of readiness for war, and then do all we could, in honor and justice and courtesy, to keep the peace.

THE PENNSYLVANIA TUNNEL.

The application of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company for permission to open 32d and 33d streets, between Madison and Seventh avenues, was a disagreeable surprise to the public. The boring of the tubes had advanced for months under ground, and it was generally expected that this great work would be completed without any tearing up of the streets. The unexpected difficulties encountered by the contractors are sand and underground streams, but it seems that the borings of the railroad's engineers to ascertain the structure of the underground territory through which the tunnel was to pass must have been carelessly made to miss entirely a strip of sand about four hundred feet long, beginning a little east of Fifth avenue and extending to a little west of that highway and underlying both 32d and 33d streets. That strip of sand is a tremendous obstacle to the building of the tunnel, leaving out of consideration the similar unexpected engineering difficulty encountered west of Sixth avenue.

The statement of Mr. Philbin, counsel for the contracting company, and the affidavits of the engineers whom he quoted show that the fate of the great work depends upon the solution of the engineering problems presented by that belt of sand. The engineers agree, and we are not prepared to dispute their conclusions, that it will be impossible to finish the tunnel without excavating from the surface downward. How great a difficulty this excavation will be may be gathered from the statement of counsel that it will extend the width of the streets up to six feet from the building line on each side. The railroad bed will be sixty feet below the surface. Thus the buildings along the streets will stand within six feet of a hole sixty feet deep. It is said by the engineers that only with a cut and cover system of excavation can the buildings be protected from being undermined by the caving of sand into the tunnels. It is proposed to shore up the foundations of the buildings and the statement issued by the United Engineering and Contracting Company, building the tunnels, suggests that in many cases, at least, something more than shoring up will be needed. "In this way" (that is, by excavating from the surface of the roadway), says the statement, "the building foundations "may be carried down until solid bedrock is "reached." Apparently in some cases it may be necessary to carry the foundations down sixty feet to the level of the tunnel roadbed or a little further. That gives some notion of the tremendous difficulties presented by an engineering oversight which failed to discover a belt of sand four hundred or more feet wide.

It is hard to refrain from expressing impatience with such an oversight. At the same time no one can accuse the railroad of desiring to excavate from the street surface downward in order to save expense. Apparently such an excavation is the only way of proceeding with the tunnel. To attempt to support with timbers the walls of a bore in loose sand and running water would be to endanger the great buildings standing almost directly over it. The open cut, with the shoring up of buildings and the extension of their foundations downward, will, moreover, cost vastly more than tunnelling. And, again, such an excavation will evidently delay the completion of the road by many months.

The opening of the streets will be a great hardship to property owners and to the public. When lower Broadway was open only at night during the construction of the rapid transit tunnel no particular trouble was caused, because lower Broadway is almost untravelled after nightfall. But 33d street is, if anything, busier by night than in the daytime. At 11 o'clock, when it is proposed to remove the covers from the cut, the theatres are discharging their hungry throngs upon the streets. There are no hours in the twenty-four when 33d street is as quiet as lower Broadway is after 8 o'clock in the evening. The abutting property owners, however, have a keen interest in the completion of the tunnel, and we do not doubt that the rest of the city will acquiesce in the tearing up of the streets if that is the only way the work can be finished. Everything must be done, however, to make the open excavation as little of a nuisance as possible.

THE UNCIVILIZABLE SNOW.

Civilization is a great thing. Its reforming touch transforms the barbarians of Eastern Europe into East Side barbers and persuades the Japanese to patronize German cannon factories and London tailor shops. According to some close observers, it has also influenced our own race. Such potency has led many enthusiasts to declare that there are no limits to the efficiency of the civilizing process. Everything coming under its influence is, they say, improved and beautified.

This is a vainglorious mistake. A few things are so constituted by a perverse nature that they must remain forever unconquered by civilization. The chief of these is the snow. Even more conspicuously than the poor Indian, the snow becomes dross under the would-be refining touch of the intelligent, aspiring world. The reasons for this are not far to seek; the snow itself is a bad character, as any one may easily discover by a brief observation of a few million snowflakes. Snowflakes are as clannish as Scotchmen. They establish a social settlement on your rubbers and on your sidewalk; if you try to remove them one flake at a time you will fail. They insist upon being treated *en masse*. No single flake has ever yet shown itself willing to listen to argument; it persists in blindly adhering to whatever plan of action or inaction its colleagues adopt.

Again, snowflakes misrepresent things more violently than a jewelry importer or a country photographer. In their graceful descent they delude the poet into believing them to be trifles light as air, but after he has wielded the family snow shovel a few minutes he learns that little things may be big liars. Then, too, these same snowflakes inveigle other poets into singing the glories of the winter landscape. But when the flakes descend in regiments from the laden branches of the trees upon their panegyrists and hurry the latter off hoarsely to the doctor, another lie is nailed.

The thanklessness of snowflakes is notorious. The Street Cleaning Department struggles heroically to rescue them from horses' hoofs and the heels of hurrying pedestrians, but the miserable ingrates cling stubbornly to sidewalk and pavement. They heap themselves up along the curb like Alps. Furthermore, they show despicable fickleness. Is it not well known that they often melt away and take refuge in the sewers just as the snow contractors have completed preparations for getting ready to begin removing them tenderly in the municipal slush ambulances? Of course, the contractors save a dime or two as a result of this cowardly trick; but it is very rude of the snow, for all that. No, the snow is not a child of civilization; it is not even a ward. It is useful to civilization only as a reminder that there are some things to which we may not aspire.

BELGIUM AND THE CONGO.

It seems to be expected that Belgium will annex the Congo. Entire willingness that she should do so is manifested in other nations. Indeed, there is a strong desire that she should do so as a means of assuring to the African state a better administration than it has under the personal rule of King Leopold—or, perhaps we should say, of assuring the world that it has a better administration than some of its critics now declare. This general state of mind denotes, however, a significant change from that which existed when the Congo State was formed and a striking reversal of the understanding which was then dominant.

There can be no doubt that the original plan was for the Congo State never to be identified with any other, but to remain for all time neutral and independent. It was with that idea in mind that the United States regarded the creation of that state with benevolent favor. "The objects of the society," said President Arthur, in speaking of it, "are philanthropic. It does "not aim at permanent political control. . . . "It may become advisable for us to co-operate "in promoting the rights of trade and residence "in the Congo Valley, free from the interfer- "ence or political control of any one nation." Two years later the sovereign of the Congo State officially declared that "in conformity "with the general act of the conference at Ber- "lin, the Independent State of the Congo hereby "declares itself perpetually neutral."

Yet nearly seventeen years ago, on the occasion of Belgium's lending the Congo $5,000,000, it was agreed that ten years and six months thereafter, to wit, at the beginning of 1901, Belgium might, if she pleased, annex the Independent (and "perpetually neutral") State of the Congo, with all the property, rights and advantages attached to the sovereignty thereof; and the Belgian Parliament is now considering the ways and means of fulfilling that agreement and making that annexation actual and effective. Of course, it is not to be overlooked that Belgium herself is in the same status as the Congo, and is "an independent and perpetually neutral state," and it may be argued that to annex one neutral state to another does not impair nor alter its neutrality. Yet practically, in the matter of tariffs and political control, Belgium is no more "neutral" than any other European state, and her annexation of the Congo will certainly bring the latter under the "political control of one nation," which was precisely the thing America aimed to prevent.

The advantages of replacing the present arbitrary personal despotism with a responsible representative government are, however, so manifest that probably not a single voice will be raised against this radical reversal of the status of the Congo. If it is annexed by Belgium, it will belong to that country, and that country will be responsible for it. We can scarcely expect it to sustain to Belgium such a relation as Canada, or Cape Colony, or even Rhodesia, does to Great Britain, or Algeria to France. It is not sufficiently civilized for that. It will have a status more like that of British Nigeria, or perhaps the French Congo or the German Cameroons. But even that will probably be an improvement upon the present system.

MR. WELLMAN'S PREPARATIONS.

In a letter from Paris to "The Chicago Record-Herald" Mr. Wellman mentions a recent test of his polar airship, which was made to ascertain how thoroughly the gas reservoir would retain its contents. The pressure which he intends to use in actual navigation was maintained for forty-eight hours, and at the end of that time he found that the quantity of gas which had escaped was "almost nil." The expression is rather vague. Had he given precise measurements he would have enabled others to form their own opinions about the fitness of the craft for its mission. Mr. Wellman has repeatedly said that he did not expect a leakage exceeding 1½ or 2 per cent a day, and believed that the lightening of his load by the consumption of gasolene would fully offset this. It would have given satisfaction to those who are watching his preparations critically to learn how fully his hopes were corroborated by his recent experiment.

Mr. Wellman contemplates making a number of changes in his airship. He will cut it in two in the middle and lengthen it sixteen feet, thus increasing its lifting power by 2,300 pounds. A new steel car is building to replace the one which was to have been used last year. Being longer than that, it will doubtless be heavier. If the additional buoyancy to be provided more than compensates for the extra weight, the margin will probably not be large, but in any case it cannot come amiss.

The truth is, the more carefully Mr. Wellman's project is considered the more obvious it becomes that he has not made an excessive calculation for adverse conditions. If all goes well, he ought to make the journey from Spitzbergen to the pole and back in eight or ten days. If he is hindered by winds blowing across his course or a diminution in the lightness of his gas in consequence of an unforeseen fall in temperature, an interval three times as long might prove insufficient, and at most Mr. Wellman has counted on keeping aloft not more than twenty days. None of the improvements which he can possibly make in the next four or five months in the power of his engines, the efficiency of his propeller and the tightness of his gas reservoir are likely to be wasted. In so novel an undertaking an even greater "factor of safety" than he has allowed might have been judicious.

The lawyer who asked the jurors out in Cincinnati whether they knew Mr. Jerome, after the manner in which similar mysterious questions were put in a case in New York regarding the Cincinnati lawyer himself, came very near committing leze something or other.

Valuable information concerning certain ancient mysteries of politics has at last been gained. A New Jersey alderman is under arrest on the charge of having stolen four coils of copper wire. We have always been innocent enough to suppose that the wire pulling indulged in by aldermen was an allegorical practice, not a metallurgical one. But now that the facts are known the mysterious and tremendous rise in the price of copper and the dizzy boom of copper stocks may readily be accounted for. The New Jersey disclosure will give a more conservative appearance to the bull market.

The House of Representatives has voted to abolish all the pension disbursing agencies but one—that maintained at Washington. It was a sensible move. Why not go ahead now and abolish useless custom houses, at which the cost of collecting a dollar ranges from $7 to $1,263?

The quarrel between the Boston police and District Attorney Moran regarding Sunday law enforcement continues. The lower courts having held the prisoners industriously collected by the police for petty violations of the Sunday laws, Mr. Moran has nolle prossed the cases against them. The Police Commissioner retorts to this that "the police must continue to be guided by the decisions of the lower courts." Frosting cake is one of the few occupations declared unnecessary by the District Attorney. Since November he has had a great prejudice against frost of any kind.

When the Brooklyn judge comes to decide whether the moving pictures displayed in the borough shall be allowed to move on Sunday, he will probably answer two questions of great public interest. First, how far and for what reasons may a moving picture move on a day of rest? And, secondly, does a moving picture move? This last question ought to give opportunity for a display of much philosophical acumen.

Brooklyn's theatrical standards are now sought to be raised by certain stale egg collectors. But that kind of criticism is at once too drastic and too haphazard. Bad eggs never help to cure defects in theatrical taste or art.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

At a well known delicatessen establishment in the Harlem district, this sign is conspicuously displayed:

FRISCHE STOPFGANSLEBER.
$5.00.

In explaining the word "Stopfgans" the proprietor said: "These are livers from geese which have been actually stuffed. We get them from Pennsylvania, where many farmers make a business of stuffing ground corn and bran down the throats of geese twice a day. The creatures are then confined to narrow quarters where they have little or no exercise, and after a short time they develop enlargement of the liver. When they get so that they can no longer waddle they are killed and the abnormal livers are sent here for sale. We get $5 for the ordinary big liver, but extra large ones bring as much as $8 and $10. They are fried in goose grease and become a popular course at big dinners, although every goose fattened that way has a clearly defined case of torpid and enlarged liver."

"The 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' show at the op'ry house last night was considerable better than when it was here a year ago," grimly said the landlord of the Pruntytown tavern.
"How so?" inquired the picture enlarger.
"Oh, they had one more dog and three less actors."—Puck.

A monument to commemorate the man who invented and manufactured the first sidehill plough will soon be erected in Peru, Me., according to plans recently formulated. The plough was first designed and then cast at a little furnace on the top of a mountain in Peru, seventy-five years ago, by a man named Warren. The invention proved a success, and lately one of the inventor's sons, a wealthy resident of Philadelphia, visited his birthplace and made plans for raising a suitable memorial to his father.

Mrs. Finehealth (at hotel entrance)—No, I have no money to spare for you. I don't see why an able bodied man like you should go about begging.
Lazy Tramp—I s'pose, mum, it's fer about the same reason that a healthy woman like you boards at a hotel, instead of keepin' house.—Illustrated Bits.

It is somewhat difficult for an American physician to open a practice in Peru. Before the doctor can be admitted he must take an examination, in Spanish, before a board in the usual medical and surgical subjects. The fee for this examination is $500 in gold, being the same fee as that paid by a medical student during his seven years' course of instruction in the national colleges. The license, when obtained, is good for practice in Ecuador, Bolivia and Spain.

Mrs. Slummer—My poor woman, does your husband always drink like this?
Mrs. Hogan—No, mum. Sometimes I gets out of work.—Life.

Harry L. Paddock, United States Consul at Amoy, China, writes: "The Chinese farmer is up before daybreak and at work in his sterile fields—fields whose productivity has been exhausted except under high fertilization. He returns to his little shanty after nightfall. To the view of the foreigner he never rests, and for this never ending labor he raises a crop of rice or corn that does not support his family for the year. His clothing consists of a loin cloth in summer and a coarse cotton suit in the winter. Farmers, like all laborers and artisans of China, work hard to live. Laborers earn 10 cents a day; masons, 15 cents; artisans, 10 to 20 cents; clerks, 40 to 50 cents."

"Where is the best place to study the intricacies of finance?"
"Nowadays," answered Mr. Dustin Stax, "I should say in the grand jury."—Washington Star.

INDIA AND OPIUM.

From The Springfield Union.

It is gratifying to hear that while India would lose the sale of one hundred thousand chests of opium by the enforcement of the Chinese decree against opium, there is a widespread feeling of sympathy in that country with the purpose of the decree. Consul General Michael, writing from Calcutta, remarks that so long as there is a demand for the drug the poppies will be cultivated in India and a portion of the product will find its way into China for consumption. He adds: "Indians do not take to opium. They are satisfied with the bubble pipe and the betel nut."

CATS, DOGS AND GUINEA PIGS.

From The Philadelphia Record.

Cats and dogs as prime favorites among children are rapidly being supplanted by guinea pigs as pets, according to animal dealers. Statistics recently compiled by a primary school teacher put the erstwhile prize winners in second place, while canaries and rabbits are on the increase, and some few children show a fondness for white mice. One of the tots who was asked to name her pet unhesitatingly told of a new baby at her home, which had completely won her heart.

About People and Social Incidents.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Feb. 1.—The President to-day designated Senator Warren, of Wyoming, as a member of the committee to attend the meetings of the American Livestock and National Wool Growers' association in Washington on February 11. Senator Warren will explain to the delegates the attitude of the government on the subject of control of grazing lands. Before the Cabinet met the President received a call from Delegate Maguire, of Oklahoma, and talked with him about the new state constitution now being framed by the convention in the territory.

The Cabinet met at 11 a. m. and remained in session until 12:45 p. m. Senators Lodge and Representative Dalzell called at the President's office before the meeting and took up matters of interest to constituents.

Mrs. Roosevelt entertained several hundred guests at the White House from 4 to 6 p. m. She wore in receiving a gown of brown and gold brocade, and was assisted in entertaining by Mrs. Cowles, Mrs. Nicholas Longworth, Mrs. Bromwell, Mrs. Key, Mrs. Bulmer, Mrs. Douglas Robinson, Mrs. Longworth, sr., Mrs. Timmons and Miss Hagner. Pink and white azaleas formed the decorations of the tea table in the dining room. The Marine Band furnished music.

Mrs. Longworth, sr., who has spent some days with her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Longworth, is now a guest at the White House.

IN WASHINGTON SOCIETY.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Feb. 1.—The Benedicts, one of the most popular dancing organizations of Washington, gave a cotillon to-night. Larz Anderson, William Corcoran Eustis, Chandler Hale, George Howard, Alexander B. Legare, Hugh S. Legare, Henry May, Colonel Edward De V. Morrell, Guy Norman and Nathaniel Simpkins, forming the society, were hosts, and Mrs. Alexander B. Legare, Mrs. Guy Norman and Mrs. Nathaniel Simpkins received for them. Dancing began at 10 o'clock, and after the midnight supper the cotillon, with many novel features, was led by Colonel Morrell. The favors were unusually attractive, including pearl necklaces, fans and other conceits for the women and wicker covered English flasks with silver labels and like treasures for the men. There were 175 guests, the party including diplomats, young married people and some of the younger set.

The Speaker and Miss Cannon entertained at dinner to-night the German Ambassador and Baroness Van Sternburg, the Secretary of the Navy and Mrs. Metcalf, Senator and Mrs. Hale, Senator and Mrs. Bulkeley, Senator Warren, Representative and Mrs. Dwight, Representative and Mrs. Sibley, Mr. and Mrs. Spalding, Mr. and Mrs. Shonts, Mr. and Mrs. Busbey, Mrs. Stanley Mathews, Miss Nugent and Mr. Watson.

Colonel and Mrs. Bromwell and Senator and Mrs. Wetmore were among the dinner hosts of the evening.

NEW YORK SOCIETY.

St. Thomas's Church will be the scene this afternoon of the wedding of Miss Pauline Morton to J. Hopkins Smith, jr. The ceremony will be followed by a reception given by the parents of the bride, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Morton, at their house in Park avenue. Yesterday Mr. and Mrs. Morton entertained the entire bridal party at luncheon, among the guests being Mr. and Mrs. John R. Morton, of Chicago, the uncle and aunt of the bride; Miss May Canby, of Chicago, who is to be the maid of honor; Miss Lily Page and Miss Martha McCook, of New York; Miss Katherine Elkins, of Washington; Miss Jean Oliver, of Pittsburg; Miss Florence Howland, of Boston, and Miss Emily Ames, of Chicago, as well as St. John Smith, who is to act as best man this afternoon, and John W. Minturn, Morris Kellog, Lathrop and Edward Motley and Burnett Wendell, of Boston; Frederick Hale, of Washington, and Lowell R. Burch and Charles Schweppe, of Chicago, who are to be the ushers. After the luncheon there was a rehearsal of the wedding at St. Thomas's.

A theatre party was given by Louis Frith last evening in honor of Miss Helen and Miss Louise Frith, the guests being chaperoned by Mrs. Charles A. Peabody. After witnessing the performance of "Caught in the Rain," they were taken to his house, in West 37th street, for supper and an informal dance. Among the guests were Miss Ethel Kingsland, Miss Helen Trotter, Miss Katherine Fairfax, Miss Charlotte Delafield, Miss Anne Pellew, Miss Antoinette Heckscher, Miss Jennie Remsen Thompson, Miss Natalie Chauncey, Miss Grace Moore, Miss Nathalie Bailey, Miss Mercedes de Florez, Miss Nannie Duval, Miss Ethelberta Russell, Miss Anne T. Gardiner, Miss Hester Davis, Miss Julia Cooper, Miss Rachel V. R. Kennedy, Miss Pauline Riggs, Edward Fairfax, Stephen Van Rensselaer, Robert Le Roy, Beverley R. Robinson, Hugh Milliken, Charles D. Miller, Pierrepont Davis, Albert Gallatin, Robert Sedgwick, jr., George Hull, Lewis G. Morris, Lamont Dominick, Frank B. Porter, Lytle Hull, T. Chelsey Richardson, jr., Harold Vanderpoel and Raymond A. Campreebe.

Peter H. B. Frelinghuysen gave his farewell bachelor dinner last night at the Union Club, where his guests included Franklin D. Roosevelt, Guy Roosevelt, Frederick T. Frelinghuysen, Horace Havemeyer, Leland Garretson, Everett Dominick, Harold Vernam, Argyle Parsons, Orson D. Munn, Alexander D. B. Pratt, Charles Bradley, William Wood, Morgan Smith and Josiah and Alfred Macy. Mr. Frelinghuysen's marriage to Miss Adaline Havemeyer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Havemeyer, will take place next Thursday at St. Thomas's Church.

Mrs. W. Pierson Hamilton gave a dinner last night at her house, in East 36th street.

The Saturday Evening Dancing Class will meet to-night at Delmonico's.

The Saturday Evening Badminton Club will hold its first meeting of the season at the Leslie, West 83d street, on February 13, instead of to-day at the 12th Regiment armory, as was originally intended.

Pierre Lorillard Barbey, who is to be married to Miss Florence Flower, daughter of Mrs. James de Laval Flower, on Tuesday next at St. Thomas's Church, will give his farewell bachelor dinner to-night at the clubhouse at Tuxedo. A special car, leaving at 2:30, after a rehearsal of the wedding, will convey Mr. Barbey and his guests to Tuxedo.

Mrs. George Ogilvy Haig has arrived from England to visit her mother, Mrs. Astor.

Miss Sophie Vernon Olyphant, who is now at Hot Springs, Va., will return to town at the end of next week.

Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt, jr., have arrived at Athens, in the course of their cruise in the Mediterranean on board the steam yacht Valiant, which has been lent to them by W. K. Vanderbilt, sr.

ARION BALL PLANS.

"Fairyland in the Tropics" Theme of Garden Decorations.

Those in charge of the Arion ball, which will take place in the Madison Square Garden on Friday, February 8, announce that "Fairyland in the Tropics" will be the underlying theme of both the decorations for the hall and for the parade of floats. Southern palms, rubber trees, orange trees, Florida moss, Cape smilax, palm leaves, Southern pines, pink roses and small electric lights will constitute the decorations. The scheme of the decorations was originated by Henry F. Dabelstein and are being executed under his direction and supervision.

According to the programme, the ball will begin at 9 o'clock with a promenade concert executed by J. G. Frank's orchestra. Dancing will then begin, only those in costume being permitted on the floor.

The "grand barefoot ballet" is scheduled to begin at 11:30 o'clock. The members of the committee, preceded by heralds, will march thirty abreast to the Madison avenue end of the Garden, separating there. One half will station themselves at the Fourth avenue end, thus clearing the floor for the ballet.

At the end of the ballet it is arranged to have a blare of trumpets announce the grand parade of floats, of which there will be six, each representing a precious stone and depicting scenes from the land of the stone's origin. The floats, preceded by the attendants, will move twice around the promenade in the following order: Float No. 1, in charge of F. von Briesen and C. J. Koch, bearing an Egyptian priestess with a banner inscribed "Emerald;" float No. 2, in charge of W. Hollweg and A. Mitzel, bearing "Princess Ruby" on a dais, with musicians and snake charmers at her feet and dancing Nautsch girls in front; float No. 3, in charge of C. F. Spiess and J. C. Schramm, bearing a standard bearer with a banner inscribed "Topaz" and representing a mountain wilderness of Brazil, with giant toadstools and cacti, with Amazons seeking the jewel and, below them, an alligator emerging from a cave; float No. 4, in charge of C. F. Zolbel and H. Mesinger, carrying a standard bearer with a banner inscribed "Turquoise" and a Persian arbor inclosing "Princess Turquoise" on her throne, surrounded by the royal Pacha, court women and slaves; float No. 5, in charge of H. Stemme and M. Sandor, bearing a banner inscribed "Diamond," the "Queen of Diamonds," surrounded by her court and representing the outlines of a Boer wagon ornamented with diamonds and chrysanthemums, and float No. 6, in charge of Robert Schwartz and F. C. L. Nierschlag, carrying a court jester with a banner inscribed "The Brightest Jewel, Humor," and carrying also "Arion," the "Prince of Humor," seated in a large sea shell on the back of a dolphin and accompanied by sea nymphs, the "Prince" and "Princess Carnival" and a group of musicians.

AMBASSADOR TOWER ENTERTAINS.

Crown Prince Among the Guests at Fancy Dress Ball.

Berlin, Feb. 1.—Ambassador and Mrs. Charlemagne Tower gave a fancy dress ball at their Berlin residence to-night. Crown Prince Frederick William and the Crown Princess and many high officials of the court were present. Among the Americans who attended the ball were Robert S. McCormick, Ambassador of the United States to France; Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt and Miss Gladys Vanderbilt, Mrs. John T. Drexel, Mr. and Mrs. Harry S. Lehr and George von L. Meyer, the retiring ambassador of the United States to Russia. Mr. Meyer wore the uniform of a Cossack general.

THE MARLBOROUGH CASE SETTLED.

A Statement by the Family—King Edward Receives the Duke.

London, Feb. 1.—An authoritative statement embodying what the family desires to say on the case of the Duke and Duchess of Marlborough was given out to-night. It is as follows:

The differences between the Duke and the Duchess of Marlborough have been settled privately. The children will arrive at Sunderland House to-day, and the Duchess and her children will proceed to the Continent early next week.

In well informed quarters this statement is interpreted as meaning that the duke and duchess have arranged privately a settlement of terms under which each will have the care of the children for a part of the year, and other details. In other words, the children will now pass six months of the year with each parent. It is understood that the duchess will continue to make Sunderland House her London home, while the duke will have town headquarters at a West End hotel, where he has been since October last.

King Edward has been made acquainted with the full terms of the settlement through the duke himself, who had an audience with his majesty at Buckingham Palace to-day.

The duchess has not been well lately, and as she thinks well of the cure at Mont-Doré, France, she will, after a short stay in Paris, go to the Riviera with her sons. It is said that the duchess will have an audience with Queen Alexandra while in Paris next week.

BANKING REFORM.

Deposit of Customs Receipts in Banks—Treasury Checks.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The Republican party is notably a party of achievement. But we Republicans must admit that apparently little banking reform will be accomplished in the remaining four weeks of this Congress, unless a new programme is adopted.

Secretary Shaw, at the Missouri dinner last night, after declaring the inadequacy of pending financial legislation, said: "We are confronted several times a year with conditions admittedly dangerous. Let a plan be devised which will effectually protect against this danger and all will be well."

In his annual message, where this danger was discussed, President Roosevelt did not "press any especial plan." However, he recommended that "the law should be amended so as specifically to provide that the funds derived from customs duties may be treated by the Secretary of the Treasury as he treats funds obtained under the internal revenue laws."

At present receipts from customs cannot be deposited in banks. For years Secretary after Secretary has recommended the repeal of this prohibition. Practically every member of Congress, in both houses, would approve of its repeal, if the matter came up by itself.

Generally, the measure is urged upon Congress in company with another proposition of a very different nature, namely, the requirement of interest on public deposits in banks. If a Congressman is the president or principal director of a national bank holding $250,000 of government funds, should he be expected to vote for exacting 2 per cent interest on the deposit, and thus taxing the bank $5,000 annually, unless public considerations imperatively demanded the sacrifice? The question of interest is legitimately a debatable one. There is no time for debate at this session. Besides, the question really has nothing to do with authorizing the deposit of customs receipts in banks.

The rest of the banking reform possible this winter can be carried out by the Secretary himself. At present the Treasury draws no checks on bank deposits. It has $161,000,000 in banks; but before any public money once deposited is used by the government it has to be transferred in coin or currency by the bank to the Treasury, and then the Treasurer draws checks or warrants against it in payment of current expenses, etc. He draws checks on the Treasury, never on banks. Now, the Treasury has such large bank deposits and withdrawals, at times so many millions, that it makes a great deal of difference whether the money is checked against in the bank or after a transfer of the actual coin or currency to the Treasury. How much of the dangerous conditions referred to by the Secretary has been due to this evil practice cannot be known until the Treasury relieves the situation by drawing checks on government funds in banks. The Secretary is fully empowered by law to require the use of bank checks in payment of current expenses and for other purposes.

In short, the whole legislative programme for the remainder of this session should be: Let Congress simply authorize the deposit of customs receipts in banks.

Meanwhile, let Mr. Shaw distinguish himself by being the first Secretary of the Treasury in over fifty years to introduce checks drawn by the Treasury on public deposits in banks.

JAMES C. HALLOCK.
No. 24 Seventh avenue, Brooklyn, Feb. 1, 1907.

AMERICAN EXHIBITS IN NEW ZEALAND.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: We are interested in the article which appeared in your last Sunday's paper entitled "A Market Overlooked." In the quotation from the American Consular Agent at Christchurch we notice that he states that no American manufacturer is represented at the New Zealand Exposition except the Standard Oil Company. We can hardly understand how such a statement could be made by our consular agent. We have a very full and complete exhibit of our harvesting machines at that exposition, which is being looked after by our agents for New Zealand, the New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Company, Limited, who have their main office at Wellington and branch offices at Christchurch and other important points in New Zealand. We have been doing business in Australasia for upward of thirty years and were among the first American manufacturers to establish connections in the colonies. We have to-day representatives in New Zealand, all the states of Australia, Tasmania, etc. We feel that, in view of our exhibit at the exposition and in view of the statement made in the consular agent's report to which you refer, you will be interested in what we have to say regarding our exhibit and our relations to the trade in Australasia. Respectfully, DANFORTH GEER,
Vice-President of the Walter A. Wood Mowing and Reaping Machine Company.
Hoosick Falls, N. Y., January 30, 1907.

AMBASSADOR GRISCOM AT PARIS.

Paris, Feb. 1.—Lloyd C. Griscom, former Ambassador to Tokio, and the successor of Henry White as Ambassador to Italy, and Mrs. Griscom have arrived here on their way to Rome. They have arranged to take over the lease of the Del Drago palace at Rome, now occupied by Mr. White. The latter has not yet selected the house which he will occupy here. Mr. Griscom will assume his new post about March 4, when Mr. White assumes his post here.

Mr. McCormick, the retiring ambassador here, and Mrs. McCormick will start for the United States at the end of the month. The American Club, of this city, intends to make the dinner to be given on Washington's Birthday a farewell demonstration in honor of Mr. and Mrs. McCormick.