Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—8—Ben-Hur.
ALHAMBRA—2—8—Vaudeville.
ASTOR—8:15—The Ambitious Mrs. Alcott.
BELASCO—8:15—The Rose of the Rancho.
BERKELEY LYCEUM—8:30—The Reckoning.
BIJOU—8:15—Comtesse Coquette.
BROADWAY—8:10—The Parisian Model.
CASINO—8:15—The White Hen.
COLONIAL—2—8—Vaudeville.
CRITERION—8:15—The Tattooed Man.
DALY'S—8:15—The Spring Chicken.
EDEN MUSEE—The World in Wax.
EMPIRE—8:30—His Excellency the Governor.
GARRICK—8:30—Caught in the Rain.
HACKETT—8:30—The Chorus Lady.
HAMMERSTEIN'S VICTORIA—2:15—8:15—Vaudeville.
HERALD SQUARE—8:15—The Orchid.
HIPPODROME—2—8—Neptune's Daughter and Pioneer Days.
HUDSON—8:15—Brewster's Millions.
IRVING PLACE—8:20—Ehrliche Menschen.
KNICKERBOCKER—8:15—The Red Mill.
LIBERTY—8:15—Salomy Jane.
LYCEUM—8:15—The Boys of Company B.
LYRIC—8:15—Shylock.
MADISON SQUARE—8:15—The Three of Us.
MADISON SQUARE GARDEN—2—8—Circus.
MAJESTIC—8:15—The Social Whirl.
MANHATTAN—8:15—The Mills of the Gods.
MANHATTAN OPERA HOUSE—8:15—I Pagliacci and Cavalleria Rusticana.
NEW AMSTERDAM—8:15—The Grand Mogul.
NEW YORK—8:15—The Land of Nod.
PRINCESS—8:20—The Great Divide.
SAVOY—8:15—The Man of the Hour.
WALLACK'S—8:15—A Marriage of Reason.

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New-York Daily Tribune.

FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 1907.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—Lord Cromer's resignation as British agent and consul general in Egypt was announced in London, and Sir Eldon Gorst was appointed to succeed him. ==== An insult by a monarchist member to President Golovin of the Russian Douma was promptly resented by the suspension of the offender; the Premier replied to the President in regard the exclusion of experts. ==== Fifteen lives were lost in a railroad wreck on the Canadian Pacific, near Chapleau, Ont., two cars rolling down an embankment and taking fire. ==== Much satisfaction was expressed in Cuba with the utterances of Secretary Taft in the course of his three days' visit. ==== M. Emile Benoist, a Paris banker, was shot and killed by a discontented customer in the office of a financial newspaper of which M. Benoist was editor. ==== A hearing was given in Paris to Abbe Jonin, charged with inciting to rebellion from the pulpit in connection with the taking of church inventories; he declared he had never transgressed the laws. ==== The wife of Secretary Taft arrived at Porto Rico; Governor and Mrs. Beekman Winthrop will return to this country with the Taft party on the Mayflower.

DOMESTIC.—Henry H. Rogers, in a published interview, took an optimistic view of the country's business conditions, but urged less agitation and more conservative government; special dispatches from Baltimore and Cincinnati reported no depression in trade. ==== Many distinguished guests attended the rededication of the Carnegie Institute at Pittsburg. ==== James S. Whipple, State Forest, Fish and Game Commissioner, announced at Albany that he had denied the application of Timothy L. Woodruff for the opening of a highway across state land to Mr. Woodruff's camp in the Adirondacks. ==== The Senate at Albany unanimously passed the Wainwright Military Inquiry bill. ==== The Kelsey hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee was resumed at Albany. ==== General Eugene Griffin, first vice-president and manager of the sales department of the General Electric Company, died at Schenectady, N. Y. ==== The North Adams express, northbound, was wrecked near Canaan Four Corners, N. Y.; the fireman was killed, but the passengers were unhurt. ==== Robert C. Ogden, of New York, was re-elected president of the Conference for Education in the South at Pinehurst, N. C.

CITY.—Stocks were weak. ==== There was a riot at the Polo Grounds, which broke up the game at the end of the eighth inning. ==== Mayor McClellan continued his fight against Charles F. Murphy by announcing that he would call for an investigation of all city departments. ==== Three more cases of typhoid in the Croton watershed were reported. ==== Bids for the construction of a section of the loop to connect the bridges were received. ==== Further opinions collected by Tribune reporters from merchants, steamship men and real estate dealers confirmed the impression that business in general was booming. ==== Local steamship agents of nearly all the transatlantic lines said the volume of passenger traffic was increasing and showed an encouraging outlook. ==== Counsel for Bensonhurst property owners told the Rapid Transit Commissioners that A. N. Brady, a director of the Brooklyn Rapid Transit system, was the only property owner in Bensonhurst to oppose the Fourth avenue and Fort Hamilton subway in Brooklyn. ==== The plans for the new Grand Central Station were modified to eliminate the inclined passageway which leads from the old station to the suburban trains under the Grand Central Palace. ==== The jury in the case of the executors of Major John Byrne's estate against C. Weidenfeld and I. B. Newcomb awarded the plaintiffs $398,000 and costs, a total of about $400,000.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Fair and warmer. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 53 degrees; lowest, 34.

THE CUBAN PROGRAMME.

Secretary Taft's programme for the rehabilitation of the Cuban republic, which was communicated on Wednesday to Governor Magoon and made public, has been so exactly forecast in these columns that discussion of its details—they are all so clearly set forth as to need no elucidation—would be little more than repetition of what has already been said. But it may be appropriate to call attention to the significance of the utterance as a whole to the various parties in Cuba and to those Americans and other aliens who have more than ordinary interest in that island.

Those Cubans—constituting, we believe, a majority of the informed and thoughtful people of the island—who have faith in their country and are sincerely devoted to the aim of making and maintaining it an independent republic will perceive that there is no wavering nor hint at wavering in the policy of this country or in the good faith of its attitude toward Cuba. As Secretary Taft says, the policy of the President is exactly what it was in May, 1902. Cuba must be turned over to a Cuban government as soon as conditions in the island warrant such a step.

All Cubans will observe, moreover, that the date of such restoration of self-government depends upon themselves and their conduct. Secretary Taft rightly declines to fix an exact date in advance. He requires that the country shall become tranquil, that a census shall be taken so as to ascertain a just basis of electoral representation, that a probationary election for local officers shall be held, and that finally there shall be a fair election for general officers. These things done, and tranquillity continuing, at the end of the constitutional interval the Cuban government will be fully rehabilitated. It is for the Cubans themselves to fulfil the reasonable and necessary conditions.

Again, it will be observed, by those Cubans and—more particularly—by aliens who have been asking for a "protectorate," that, while no new degree of suzerainty is announced, the tutelary *status quo* remains, and will remain. The very facts of Secretary Taft's visit to the island, of his issuing this statement, of Governor Magoon's authoritative presence there, of American intervention last fall and of innumerable other incidents and circumstances unmistakably proclaim the power and the protection of the United States in Cuba and over Cuba. A "protectorate" which was able to act as promptly and efficiently as this did seven months ago is ample and will be ample for all purposes.

THE "HOUSE CLEANING."

Governor Hughes can do nothing without its being exploited in advance as tremendously sensational. There were legal questions regarding his Public Utilities bill that he as a good lawyer wanted to make clear to the people. When it was known that he was going to make a speech regarding the bill we were solemnly assured that he was prepared to "cut loose from his party," to "tell the people who were for him and who were against him and why"—the "why" was especially significant—that he was "fighting mad," and a thousand more thrilling ineptitudes. And when he made the speech it turned out to be as dispassionate as a judge's decision and as impersonal as an encyclopædia article; just an admirably clear, dignified address, which settled the question in the public mind as the Governor intended it should.

So now the reading public is regaled with sensational announcements regarding a proposed "house cleaning." Every officeholder in Albany, one would suppose, was frightened to death by the Moreland bill, giving the Governor authority to inquire into the various state departments after the Legislature adjourns. Now, the Governor has no sensational purpose, but, on the contrary, merely wishes to carry out his campaign pledge to examine into the various state departments. Having the authority to do so, he has already made such an examination into the Department of Buildings. It was conducted without fuss or fury and, so far as we know, escaped general attention. It resulted, we are told, in "some changes." More businesslike methods were introduced in the management of the department, for the Governor has demonstrated that he has an excellent business head and a fine capacity for organization. There was no "graft" found, nor was it expected to find any. Nobody was "house cleaned" out of office, nor was there any notion of such a result. Nothing sensational was done, nor was anything sensational intended. In some respects the Governor pointed out how the conduct of the department could be made more efficient. Similar investigations, with similar unsensational results, will follow in the other departments if the Moreland bill becomes a law, as indeed it ought to; for the Legislature should enable the Governor to carry out his campaign pledge.

The Governor's ideal of government is efficiency, and if with his fine business and legal capacity he can improve the systems in vogue in Albany departments he should have the opportunity and the authority to do so. It will be an exceptional advantage to the state to have a man of Mr. Hughes's capacity for organization examine into the way the business of the state is conducted, just as it has been to the nation to have a man of somewhat similar legal attainments, Mr. Root, examine into and improve the methods and system of the State Department at Washington. Public business and public departments of administration lack the stimulus of competition and so lag behind private business in the thoroughness, moderness and efficiency of their methods and organization. This is a truism. And when a man fresh from private life, a man who has demonstrated an unusual grasp of business organization, turns his mind to the methods prevailing in public departments—not usually the methods devised by the heads of the departments, but the traditional methods of the bureaus, whose mysteries only the permanent clerks thoroughly comprehend—if he has the patience to go into the musty details of departmental work his suggestions for their modernization come like veritable inspirations. What the business world learns perforce in the keen school of competition the bureaucratic world must be taught by some patient organizer like Mr. Hughes or Mr. Root.

One defect of our government, whether it is federal, state or municipal, is its too infrequent overhauling by a superior with a genius for that sort of work. Some clerk who knows how things have been done for the last half century keeps alive in his memory the traditional system of each department, while the world outside has forgotten meanwhile a dozen better successive systems. A "house cleaning" that sweeps out the bureaucratic cobwebs of long ago is a great public benefit, but few men possess that rare combination of patience, energy and organizing talent required for undertaking and accomplishing it on a large scale.

THE POLLUTED HUDSON.

Much attention has recently been called to the pollution of the Hudson River from Albany down by the discharge into it of sewage from the towns and cities along its banks, and it has been justly argued that such pollution was sufficient to render much of the ice cut along that stream of rather worse than doubtful fitness for human consumption in food or drink. Nobody would think of drinking the water without careful filtration or other purification, and if it is not fit to drink before it is frozen it surely is not fit to drink after it has been frozen and melted again.

So much might be said even if the stream came down to Troy and Albany in a state of decent purity. But the State Board of Health now reports that not to be the case. The Hudson is grossly contaminated far above those cities, on those upper reaches which might be supposed to be pure. Above Waterford it is the common drain and sewer for a population of tens of thousands, and also for extensive industrial establishments. Indeed, considering the smaller size of the stream up there, it may be reckoned that the population on its headwaters defiles it fully as much as do the more populous communities further down.

We venture to assume that the State Board of Health means to do something for the correction of these conditions and has not made this report as a mere matter of form. The villages of Saratoga Springs and Round Lake are said now to be disposing of their sewage so as not to pollute the streams flowing into the Hudson, and Ballston is about to do the same. There is no good reason why all villages up there should not do it, and none why manufacturing establishments should not keep their often poisonous waste out of the river. In England the principle has been maintained that factories are in that respect upon a different basis from residential communities, and that, while ordinary house and street drainage may naturally be permitted to flow into the nearest stream, there is no such right for the waste of a factory, which must be otherwise disposed of. If that principle were generally applied here much of the worst pollution of rivers would be abated.

NO BREAK IN PROSPERITY.

The occasional predictions we hear of hard times and unsettled markets seem to come, in the main, from forecasters with an interest of their own to serve in discouraging public optimism. The directors and managers of our great railroad systems are doubtless apprehensive of the results of the two cents a mile legislation which many states are now enacting. They realize that a widespread anti-railroad sentiment has been aroused, whether justly or unjustly, by revelations of unscrupulous management and daring speculation on the part of certain railroad officials. Railroad companies want to take their bearings and see their way clear before they enlarge their operations. They prefer to err on the side of caution and are disposed to magnify any symptoms of a slackening in production and prosperity. The interests engaged in speculation are also fearful that their activities will be limited by stricter regulation of the conduct of great corporate enterprises, and they take a similarly gloomy view of the financial, commercial and industrial situation. The so-called panic of March got on the nerves of the speculators and has prompted them to misinterpret the symptoms of what was really only a temporary indigestion arising from overextension of credit.

The Tribune's special dispatches from great centres of production and distribution like Pittsburg, Chicago, Cincinnati, Baltimore and St. Louis, as well as its summaries of local conditions, indicate clearly that the country is not suffering from a depression in business. It is the testimony of the best judges in these centres that all the business is being done which can be done with existing plants and resources, and that a slight relapse, instead of threatening prosperity, might be distinctly helpful. The steel and iron industry, the coal industry, the car making industry and other industries which are the first to feel a check in business activity are all taxed to supply demands which have accumulated in the last two years and have more than enough orders to occupy them well into 1908. Even if the railroads do cut down their expenditures for improvements, the loss in that direction will be met by delayed demands for material from other purchasers. As an official of the Carnegie Steel Company put it, "The railroads "have crowded out the buying of nearly all "other lines, and many of these have not ex-"panded as rapidly as they wished."

The railroads, in fact, may not be able to scale down to any material extent their plans for betterments. They are not able now to handle the traffic offered to them, and if general business continues to expand and the crops of 1907 equal those of 1905 and 1906 the transportation lines will be forced in their own interest to equip themselves for the greater carrying trade thrust on them. Agricultural prosperity is the real basis of our present national prosperity, and so long as the farmers can raise record crops and get remunerative prices for them other industries will flourish and the railroads will have all the traffic they can handle. There has been, undoubtedly, much overspeculation in the last two or three years. The stringency of credit which it has occasioned has caused some alarm in and out of Wall Street. But it has not handicapped production and exchange, and so long as general business conditions continue sound, as they are to-day, there need be no fear of any sudden shattering of the nation's prosperity.

LORD CROMER.

Something like an epoch in the history of the oldest country in the world is marked by the announcement of Lord Cromer's resignation. The news comes as a surprise, and it is not a welcome surprise. Indeed, many will be inclined to regard it with great disquietude, and will not easily be reassured. It is a comforting and sound philosophy, to be sure, that no man is indispensable. But the world knows by painful experience that some men are so exceptionally valuable that their departure from the scene of their activities is a very great, and sometimes, so far as human ability avails, an irreparable loss. Such a man, it may unhesitatingly be said, is the Earl of Cromer in Egypt. If he is not indispensable, he comes about as near to being so as does any man in any place in the world of our time.

In considering the worth of his services we should not dwell exclusively, nor perhaps even first, upon what they have meant to Great Britain, though it is obvious that in that respect Lord Cromer must always be ranked among the greatest of British empire builders. But we should, above all, consider what he has done for Egypt and the Egyptians. He has made of one of the worst oppressed of Turkish provinces an emancipated and prosperous nation, and he has transformed the fellah—that one-time cross between a pariah and a helot—into a man. From time to time we have reviewed the progress of his work for the rehabilitation of Egypt, industrially, politically, socially and morally, and have advisedly characterized it as one of the greatest, perhaps the greatest, of the kind ever performed in the world. Now, in reviewing the whole fourteen years' story, we have no mind and see no cause to modify that opinion. These fourteen years have been an epoch in Egyptian history. They have been no less notable an epoch in the history of humanity. For no other such land has such a work been done.

It will be no discourtesy to Sir Eldon Gorst to say that the world can scarcely expect more of him than that he shall prove a worthy successor to Lord Cromer. That he will do so there is good ground for confidence. He is in the prime of life, he is endowed with ample information and with the fruits of long experience of Egypt and Egyptian affairs, and he has for a number of years been in close touch and sympathy with Lord Cromer. It is to be anticipated that he will maintain the general policy which has thus far been so splendidly successful, and that the rehabilitation of Egypt, which has been one of the most interesting and beneficent achievements of the age, will suffer no relapse nor diminution.

BISHOP GREER'S DECISION.

Every reputable citizen who is capable of comprehending the proper methods of gaining trustworthy information will heartily commend Bishop Greer's decision in the case of the "slumming" curate whom he has just deposed from the ministry of the Protestant Episcopal Church. The evidence that opinion among New York clergymen is unanimous in approving the Bishop's action indicates a healthy mindedness which in some former instances has seemed to be imperilled by the questionable fascination of "sociological" slumming.

Although details of the evidence upon which Bishop Greer based his decision have not been made public, the real issue is clear without them. At bottom there were only two questions to be answered; the first related to the intentions of the "slummer," the second to his methods. Was he seeking accurate information or was he looking for excitement and sensational revelations? With these motives as alternatives he could not justly escape conviction of gross ignorance, tactless adventure hunting or both. It is impossible to believe that a New York clergyman, unless immoderately stupid, could expect to make even the most trivial "sociological" discovery by pursuing the methods which Mr. Mears pursued. In a city where settlement and slum work has been wisely organized and is efficiently administered a minister lacking the intelligence to employ the only adequate means of inspecting the submerged world surely lacks the intelligence to conduct a church. And if, on the other hand, he enters disorderly houses for the mere sake of adventure he lacks the dignity and judgment that every minister ought to have. Bishop Greer's decision is sound and will be salutary.

No one appeared yesterday before the Mayor to urge a veto of the Bingham Police bill. What has become of Senator McCarren's noble army of persecuted "handbook men" and fearful "autonomists"?

Mr. Bryan's venturing into Wall Street with his olive branch of "gradual" as well as "ultimate" government ownership of the railroads indicates that there is no longer an acre of "enemy's country" left on the travelling map of the greatest of Conservative-Radicals and Radical-Conservatives.

A profound economic mystery has been dispelled. According to a Washington expert, the reason why the price of meat is high is that the American people now demand the best, whereas, he leaves it to be inferred, a few years ago they insisted on having the worst.

The interesting announcement is made that Colonel Norris G. Osborn, for many years editor of "The New Haven Register," has resigned that post, having acquired proprietary control of "The New Haven Journal and Courier," one of the oldest and best known newspapers in New England. To the editorship of "The Journal and Courier," which he is about to assume, Colonel Osborn will bring an unsurpassed knowledge of men and affairs in Connecticut, broad and dispassionate views of national interests, a facile and persuasive style of writing, and the respect and good will of everybody who knows him—which is pretty nearly equivalent to saying of all the reputable citizens of the state, not to mention adjacent commonwealths.

From the persistence with which the sun keeps on developing huge spots fully two years after the schedule time for diminishing their production it begins to look as if it had lost its almanac. Can't Mr. Tesla devise means for transmitting a suitable warning across interplanetary space?

Mr. Wellman has never said anything which betrays more good sense than his remark that "the plan of reaching the Pole with an airship "is too good to be ruined by a premature at-"tempt." Those who hope for the ultimate success of the methods which he has adopted will rejoice to know that he does not intend to start from Spitzbergen until he has made elaborate tests of his vehicle.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

A young woman told a tale of cruel desertion to the officers of an East Side charitable institution a few days ago, and when her case had been disposed of she started to leave the room, wailing: "If I had only believed the cards!" She was asked to explain and said:

'We were engaged in Bohemia and our parents were pleased with the match. It was all agreed what I should receive, and we were happy. Then my father, to find out more about the young man, invited him to play cards with him three times, and when the third card evening was over he said 'No.' 'Only in cards a man shows his true nature,' he said, 'and this man showed me enough to show me that he will not be a good husband.' And then when the match was broken I came to this country to my brother. Then Max came, too, and we were married. But the cards were right and my father knew." And dwelling on that point and sobbing hysterically she left the office.

"Poor Henpeck! Every time he starts to say anything his wife stops him."
"Not always. He has a habit of talking in his sleep, and when he does that she just listens, breathlessly."—Philadelphia Press.

Regarding the public agitation for baths in elementary schools in Austria, a story is going the round of court circles of a recent experience of the Emperor Francis Joseph, writes a "Pall Mall Gazette" correspondent. His majesty was visiting a school in a small country district, when a rather officious local official, anxious to impress the sovereign with the progressive ideas prevailing in the community, called his attention to the fact that the schoolhouse was provided with baths for the pupils.

The Emperor showed the liveliest interest, and immediately asked to see the bath room, whereupon the director of the school looked extremely uncomfortable. The key could not be found for some time, and his majesty began to get impatient. Finally it was produced, and the eager official opened the door. The Emperor stepped into a veritable lumber room filled with a choice collection of broken desks and chairs and waste paper, completely hiding the bath equipment. Stepping quicky out again, the distinguished visitor was overheard to murmur, "Serves me right; why was I so inquisitive?"

"You shouldn't have hit that man who called you a liar?"
"Shouldn't, hey?"
"No, you should have demanded the proof, and if he could not produce it he would have been branded as the falsifier."
"That's all right ethically, but I know he had the proof."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Recent tests of the hardwoods of Western Australia have revealed the extraordinary properties of yate, believed to be the strongest of all known woods. Its average tensile strength is 24,000 pounds to the square inch, equalling that of cast iron. Many specimens are much stronger, and one was tested up to 17½ tons to the square inch, which is equal to the tensile strength of wrought iron. The sawn timber of yate is probably the strongest in the world. The tree grows to a maximum height of 100 feet, and has sometimes a diameter of 2½ or even 3 feet.

A Hackensack man calls his new automobile Margin because it goes so swiftly.—Life.

At the Aero Club the other night one of the members said that the first man to fly was neither Dædulus or Icarus, but, according to the ancient Teutonic legend, Wieland the smith. Wieland got into trouble with King Nidung of North Jutland, so the King ordered severed the Achilles tendons of both of Wieland's heels. Wieland then built a flying cloak, for which his brother Egil provided the feathers. Wieland's faith was somewhat less than that of the usual inventor, since he forced Egil to make the first flight with the cloak. He purposely told him to fly against the wind and to descend with the wind, which made it certain that he would be too smashed up when he landed to fly away with the coat. Egil had a terrible fall when he followed his brother's advice. Wieland, having made sure that the cloak worked all right, put it on and flew away, deserting his brother.

"What's the reason everybody's always quarreling with Butts?"
"He's always quarreling with everybody else."—Detroit Free Press.

ONLY TWO EX-SPEAKERS.

From The Providence Journal.

The death of Galusha A. Grow, who was Speaker of the House of Representatives from 1861 to 1863, leaves only two surviving presidents of the lower branch of Congress—J. Warren Keifer and John G. Carlisle. In all there have been thirty-four Speakers since the establishment of the Republic, including Jonathan Trumbull, Henry Clay, John Bell, James K. Polk, Robert C. Winthrop, Howell Cobb, Nathaniel P. Banks, Schuyler Colfax, James G. Blaine, Samuel J. Randall and Thomas B. Reed. Mr. Keifer was born in 1836, and was Speaker from 1881 to 1883; Mr. Carlisle was born in 1835, and occupied the office from 1883 to 1889. Mr. Reed died in 1902, Mr. Crisp in 1896 and Mr. Henderson in 1906. Could anybody say offhand how many ex-Vice-Presidents are still living? There are three—Levi P. Morton, Adlai E. Stevenson and Theodore Roosevelt.

MARRIAGE EXPENSES.

From The Baltimore Sun.

Careful observation, extending over a period of forty-two years and supplemented py thousands of interviews with storekeepers, hairdressers, modistes, milliners, collectors and others, leads us to believe that the average cost of a bride's trousseau in this country—taking the rich with the poor—is the sum of $66 38. Equally careful observation convinces us that the average cost of a bridegroom's sartorial outfit is slightly less than one-third that amount—or, to be exact, $22 01. Thus we have $88 39 as the cost of the garments worn by bride and bridegroom at the average wedding and in the course of the average honeymoon.

SIGNBOARDS THAT MAR.

From The Pathfinder.

One of America's unæsthetic ways of doing business is the placing of unsightly billboards on almost every city street, at the country crossroads and in the fields. Many of these advertisements are unsightly, and where they take on the human form often suggest degeneration. Take, for example, the huge sign that is used to emphasize the merits of a certain corn plaster. It pictures two tramps of the most uncouth and repelling aspect—clothing worn to tatters, faces bloated, hair unkempt—plodding along a railroad track. It is not particularly suggestive of the benefits of the thing it advertises and certainly it cannot benefit those that look upon it. Such advertisements are especially unfit for the sight of passing children. But even when the signboards bear no revolting depiction, their general appearance mars the beauty of town or country, and some day, let us hope, steps will be taken either to make signs more artistic or to take down the unsightly boards.

HAPPY THOUGHT.

From The New York Telegram.

Actors demand that plots of plays shall not be divulged before productions. Quite right. Liable to knock the box office receipts.

About People and Social Incidents.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, April 11.—The President received to-day a delegation from the Grand Army of the Republic, headed by Colonel R. B. Brown, commander in chief, who came to protest against the recent discharge of Civil War veterans from the Postoffice mail bag repair shop. The President assured his visitors that the veterans would not be discriminated against, and promised to take up the matter with his Cabinet.

Representatives Tawney and Olcott called on the President to give him their impressions of the Panama Canal. They have just returned from a visit to the isthmus and are enthusiastic over the outlook for the completion of the canal within five years.

The President gave a sitting to A. Bensinger, who has a commission to execute a portrait for the Historical Society of Chicago.

Callers at the White House to-day included Representative James, Secretary Metcalf, Assistant Secretary Bacon, John McIlhenny, Civil Service Commissioner, and Admiral Converse, Chief of the Bureau of Navigation.

THE CABINET.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, April 11.—Miss Edith Root has returned to Washington from New York, where she has been visiting.

Secretary and Mrs. Metcalf were hosts at a dinner party of eighteen at their home to-night. They will leave Washington the last of this month for a visit with Mr. and Mrs. George W. Vanderbilt at their Biltmore estate.

THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, April 11.—The Russian Ambassador and Baroness Rosen had dining with them at the embassy to-night the Secretary of State and Mrs. Root, the British Ambassador and Mrs. James Bryce, the Minister from the Netherlands and Mme. Van Swinderen, the Minister from Norway and Mme. Hauge, the Minister from Spain, Justice and Mrs. Oliver Wendell Holmes, the Postmaster General and Mrs. Meyer, Mrs. Richard H. Townsend, Baroness Elizabeth Rosen and Mr. Kroupensky, of the Russian Embassy staff.

The Baroness Rosen and the wife of the Russian Consul General at New York will be among the patronesses for the illustrated lecture on Russia for the benefit of the sufferers of that country, to be given in Mendelssohn Hall, New York, April 19, by Mme. de Meisner, the daughter of the late Rear Admiral Radford. The entire proceds of the lecture will be for the Russian Red Cross and the pictures were taken for Mme. de Meisner during her recent stay in that country.

IN WASHINGTON SOCIETY.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, April 11.—Captain and Mrs. Warren Beach gave a small and early dance to-night, having as their guests younger members of the social set and young married people to the number of more than a hundred.

Assistant Secretary and Mrs. Newberry were hosts for a dinner party of twenty to-night. Other dinners hosts were Mr. and Mrs. Hennen Jennings, who entertained for Mr. and Mrs. Earl Talbot, of New York.

Mrs. Archibald Gracie, of New York, who introduced the custom here of giving a musical and tea with all talent from society's ranks, will entertain in that manner to-morrow afternoon for her mother, Mrs. Otto Wilhelm Schack, of New York, who is now her guest.

NEW YORK SOCIETY.

Miss Marguerite S. Loew, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward V. Loew, was married yesterday afternoon at the home of her parents, in West 57th street, to Robert Cutting Lawrence. The ceremony, which was performed by the Rev. Dr. Ernest M. Stires, was seen by only relatives and a few intimate friends. It was originally intended to have a large church wedding, but owing to illness in the bride's family the wedding plans were changed. The wedding took place in the drawing room, which was decorated with American Beauty roses, lilies, white roses, marguerites and pink roses. It was followed by a reception to which about 400 guests were invited. The bride was attired in a princess gown of white satin, trimmed with point lace, and wore a point lace veil, fastened with diamond pins. Her bouquet consisted of lilies-of-the-valley, white roses and marguerites. Mrs. Howard C. Brokaw, who was her sister's matron of honor, was dressed in white crepe de chine and lace, wore a white hat trimmed with white plumes, and carried a bouquet of lilies-of-the-valley and white roses. The bridesmaids, consisting of Miss Mabel Gerry, Miss Beatrix E. Hollins, Miss Marion Stoddard, Miss Edith Lawrence and Miss Vera Pierrepont Gilbert, were in frocks of blue crepe de chine, trimmed with white lace, their leghorn hats being adorned with blue ostrich feathers and marguerites. Their bouquets were lilies-of-the-valley and white roses. Miss Angelica Gerry, who was to have been one of the bridesmaids, was unable to be present, being confined to her house by a severe cold. Alfred Rutgers Whitney, jr., Joseph Howland Hunt, William C. Langley, L. Jarvis Hunt and Victor Loew, jr., were the ushers, and Joseph D. Lawrence, jr., was his brother's best man. After a short honeymoon trip the newly married couple will return to town for the rest of the season. They will spend the summer at a cottage on the Jersey coast.

Among those invited to the reception were Mr. and Mrs. George F. Baker, Mr. and Mrs. W. Goadby Loew, Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Lawrence, the parents of the bridegroom; Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Gallatin, Mr. and Mrs. Elbridge T. Gerry, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Iselin, Miss Ethel G. Rockefeller, Marcellus Hartley Dodge, Alfred G. Vanderbilt, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Scott Burden and Mr. and Mrs. Cary T. Hutchinson.

Mrs. Charles B. Alexander's house will be the scene this afternoon of a sale held by the association known as the Children of Loving Service in behalf of the Country Home for Convalescent Babies at Sea Cliff, Long Island. Among the young girls who are taking an active part in the affair are Miss Jean and Miss Gladys Roosevelt, Miss Edith, Miss Eleanor and Miss Elfrida Mortimer, Miss Rosina Otis, Miss Joan Tuckerman, Miss Carol Harriman, Miss Olivia and Miss Ruth Cutting and Miss Janetta Alexander.

Mrs. Schuyler Warren, Mrs. Delancey Kane, Miss Georgine Iselin, Mrs. J. Duncan Emmet and Mrs. Geraldyn Redmond were among the patronesses of the bazaar which took place yesterday afternoon and evening at Delmonico's for the benefit of the Xavier Free Publication Society for the Blind, an organization which issues books in point print for the blind and circulates them all over the United States free of charge.

Miss Anna Constable and a number of her friends will give this evening in the chamber music room of Carnegie Hall an entertainment in behalf of the West Side Juvenile Club of much the same character as those which used to take place in years gone by in the Constable Studio, in East 18th street, under the auspices of the old "One Hundred" Club.

The Ladies' Four-in-Hand Club expects to hold its annual parade on Thursday, May 2. It will follow the usual route through Central Park, and will be reviewed by the president, Mrs. Thomas Hastings. Among others expected to take part in the meet are Mrs. Arthur Iselin, Mrs. W. Goadby Loew, Miss Mary Harriman, Miss Angelica Gerry, Miss Louise Gulliver, Miss Gladys and Miss Dorothea Cromwell and Miss Harriet Alexander, a new member of the club.

Mrs. Robert Goelet has arrived at Naples on board her steam yacht Nahma.

Mrs. Oakleigh Thorne, with Miss Charlotte and Miss Margaret Thorne, are booked to sail from Europe for New York on May 1.

Captain Philip M. Lydig, who has been in Canada for the last week, returned to town yesterday.

Mrs. Charles T. Barney and James W. Barney are booked to sail for Europe on April 25.

Mr. and Mrs. Courtlandt Dixon Barnes are spending their honeymoon at Bernardsville, N. J., where they have the house of Mrs. Archibald Alexander.

The last meeting of the season of the Roller Skating Class, of which Mrs. Lindley Hoffman Chapin and Mrs. Howland H. Pell are the patronesses, takes place to-night at the Lenox Lyceum.

EARL GREY WILL SPEAK.

President Diaz Unable to Attend Coming Peace Congress.

A telegram was received yesterday at the office of the National Arbitration and Peace Congress from Earl Grey, Governor General of Canada, in which he promises to make an address on Wednesday evening, April 17, at the public dinner with which the congress is to close. It is hoped that President Roosevelt will also be able to attend the dinner and make an address.

Among the other speakers will be Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor; Baron d'Estournelles de Constant, of the French delegation; W. T. Stead, the London editor, and Sir Robert Cranston, Lord Provost of Edinburgh University, representing Great Britain, and other prominent foreign delegates.

President Porfirio Diaz of the Republic of Mexico sent the following telegram yesterday:

I would acept with pleasure the courteous and honorable invitation which you have been pleased to send me under date of February 27 last to assist at the Congress of Arbitration and Peace, which is to convene in your city from the 14th to the 17th of April next, and to speak at the public banquet which is to terminate so interesting and timely an assembly on the approach of the Peace Conference. However, I cannot obtain permission from the Congress of the nation.

During its next sessions, devoted to fixing the budget and other grave questions, I shall be prevented from having the honor of being associated with the very distinguished persons to whom you refer, who are going to promote the noble and most important cause of peace throughout the civilized world.

James Bryce, British Ambassador to the United States, has been added to the list of speakers at the meeting to be held next Monday evening in Carnegie Hall. James B. Reynolds, of this city, has also promised to make an address at the university meeting in Carnegie Hall on Tuesday evening.

H. J. Hagerman, Governor of New Mexico, who was secretary of the American Embassy at St. Petersburg when the first Hague conference was called by the Czar, has sent a letter to the office of the congress. Governor Hagerman regrets that the suggestion of the congress that the Legislature of New Mexico pass a resolution in sympathy with the movement for international arbitration was received too late to have him act upon it.

Dr. Andrew V. V. Raymond, president of Union College, and Drs. Edward Everett Hale, jr., Sidney G. Ashmore and Frank S. Hoffman have been delegated to represent Union College at the meetings of the congress. Dr. Raymond writes that the faculty and students of his institution will meet while the congress is in session, or soon after, to pass resolutions of sympathy with the objects of the congress.

ASHEVILLE HORSE SHOW TO OPEN.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Asheville, N. C., April 11.—All arrangements are complete for the spring horse show which will open here next Tuesday. George W. Vanderbilt has entered a number of his finest horses, and Mrs. Vanderbilt will take a prominent part and present the prizes. John A. Roebling, of New York, has offered a silver cup as one of the prizes.

WALTER WELLMAN SAILS.

Walter Wellman, the Arctic explorer, who intends to attempt to reach the North Pole in an airship before the end of this year, sailed yesterday on the French liner La Touraine. Mr. Wellman said he was going to Paris to superintend the packing of his airship. He will leave there on May 10 for Rotterdam. From there the airship will be taken to Norway and placed on board his own vessel, the Frithjof. President Bishop of the Aero Club, will leave here for Europe next week and take with him a special banner of the Aero Club, to be presented to Mr. Wellman. Mr. Bishop said that he might go with the expedition as far as Spitzenbergen.

GIFT FOR M'GILL UNIVERSITY.

London, April 11.—Mrs. Grace Redpath, widow of Peter Redpath, of Montreal, who died here recently, left $150,000 to McGill University, Montreal.

MR. OGDEN RE-ELECTED.

Will Still Head Southern Educational Conference.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Pinehurst, N. C., April 11.—Robert C. Ogden, of New York, was re-elected president of the Conference for Education in the South to-day, the following other officers being elected:

Vice-president, J. Gundy Jordan, Georgia; secretary, B. J. Baldwin, Alabama; treasurer, William A. Blair, North Carolina; executive committee—S. C. Mitchell, Virginia (chairman); W. H. Hand, South Carolina; S. A. Mynders, Tennessee; George J. Ramsey, Kentucky; Harry Hodgson, Georgia; Erwin Craighhart, Alabama; Paul H. Saunders, Mississippi; James H. Dillard and John H. Hinemon, Arkansas.

At the last meeting of the conference this evening Professor Edwin Mims, of Trinity College, Durham, N. C., spoke on "Learning from Our Neighbors." He said, in part:

The North has been working at certain things now for a generation, while the South is just beginning. In the North a reaction has already set in against many of these tendencies; the voice of protest has been raised against the extremes to which industrial prosperity and educational expansion have gone.

Can we of the South develop in industry and yet avoid the luxury and heartlessness of much modern society? Can we appropriate the magnificent results which have come from the work of such men as Presidents Eliot, Gilman, White and Angell—men who for a generation have worked for the development of the elective system, the extension of graduate work, the correlation of our educational system and the larger tolerance of thought—and yet listen to the voices of protest that we hear in such attacks on the elective system as those by Dean Briggs, such an analysis of athletic tendencies as that in President Eliot's latest report, such a criticism of academic tendencies as that by Bliss Perry?

Never was there a greater need for a creative, constructive type of leader who, in view of all these results and of the natural individuality of the Southern people, will work out a fine civilization. From this standpoint the South is to-day as America was at the time of Emerson, the land of opportunity.

Representative Richmond Pearson Hobson of Alabama, who also spoke to-night, announced that he had arranged with Secretary Wilson of the Department of Agriculture for experts in soil cultivation and good roads building to accompany him on a thirty days' campaign throughout his Congressional district. He urged national aid for rural education in the South.

"Better Conditions for Southern Farms" was the subject of an address this forenoon by Dr. Seaman A. Knapp, of Lake Charles, La., special agent of the United States Department of Agriculture. Dr. Knapp said:

The large body of freedmen settled throughout the rural districts of the South has tended to lower farm values and depress agriculture. The effect is not the result of color, but is caused by the lower plane of living. We have lived under a slavery where the chains are ingeniously forged and the bands riveted with gold. It is all the same in effect, the impoverishment of the masses.

Dr. Knapp declared that the National Banking law has caused a depressing influence by diverting most of the money of the country into commercial channels. He advocated the establishment of agricultural banks throughout the South to provide money for farmers to harvest their crops and to improve their farms, and said:

The banking capital of our country has stimulated commercialism, and by its concentration in the cities has fostered gambling in stocks. The great fluctuation in the values of farms and farm products lies in the fact that the money of the country has been loaned to the speculative interests. Millions produced by the farms of the nation have, by the process of banking, been transferred to commerce, and no way has been provided under the law by which the money of the people can be used by the people for time investments in providing for ownership of rural homes.

The conference ordered Dr. Knapp's speech printed and circulated in every state in the South.

KING ALFONSO RETURNS TO MADRID.

Madrid, April 11.—King Alfonso returned to Madrid from Cartagena to-day and was met at the railroad station by Queen Victoria, who was in remarkably good spirits.