

About People and Social Incidents.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

Washington, Oct. 26.—The President to-day issued his annual Thanksgiving proclamation, declaring Thursday, November 28, a national holiday. Much of the President's time was taken up by delegations and individuals from Oklahoma, who came to approve or protest against the federal judgment to push candidates for the federal judiciary in that State. Among the protesters was a large delegation of negroes, headed by W. T. Vernon, Register of the Treasury, who object to the instrument on the ground that it disfranchises negroes.

Secretary Metcalf of the Navy Department and Admiral Evans and Brownson had a conference with the President regarding the trip of the battleship fleet to the Pacific. President Roosevelt will be forty-nine years old to-morrow, and nearly all his callers to-day congratulated him on his splendid health on the eve of his annual milestone. He received a large number of felicitations from absent friends and admirers who communicated with him by letter.

Callers at the White House to-day included Secretary Straus and Garfield, Assistant Secretary Bacon, Senators Flint, Long, Warner, Dixon and Curtis, Representatives Dalsell and Kennedy, Delegate Andrews, Newell Saunders, Republican State Committeeman for Tennessee, and the members of the Supreme Council of Scottish Rite Masons who are finishing their annual session in Washington.

Miss Ethel Roosevelt is suffering from a slight throat trouble, and has been every day to the Episcopal Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital for treatment. Mrs. Roosevelt is greatly interested in this institution. Miss Roosevelt is not inconvenienced to any great extent by the trouble, and is able to attend to her studies.

THE CABINET.

Washington, Oct. 26.—Mrs. Root, wife of the Secretary of State, has gone to New York to join Miss Root, who went earlier in the week on a shopping expedition. Miss Root is said to have her wedding trousseau almost complete, and is now merely adding the last touches.

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Baron Demeter Hye will succeed M. Szent-Ivany at the Austro-Hungarian Embassy here, the latter having been promoted to a post at the embassy in Constantinople. He will leave Washington the last of November. The time of the arrival of Baron Hye is not known.

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reveal his identity, however, there is no special irrelevance in doubting whether his proposition will prove particularly helpful. For that matter, it is quite conceivable that he may not have expected it would be taken very seriously.

The man who will stand in line all night to draw his money out of a solvent bank may show determination and endurance, but they are so unfortunately directed as to be worse than wasted.

Mr. Bryan says he will accept another Presidential nomination only in case the best interests of the Democratic party require it. But who is to be selected to act as referee?

Southern Italy will never be able to avert the severe earthquakes with which it is visited every few years, but the consequences might be rendered less unfortunate were a change made in the design of dwelling houses there. In Japan a type of cottage has been devised which is elastic enough to withstand shocks that would ruin masonry. As yet only a limited use has been made of it there, but its merits seem to be sufficient to commend it to favor elsewhere.

Controller Metz was right when he called the city budget a farce. A farce is characterized by violent exaggerations.

When Lieutenant Governor Chanler advised the people of Georgia to help take the tariff out of politics he probably found them ready to meet him half way. The South is a theatre of swearing and political intrigue to the effect that all the houses should be razed and cotton exchanged directly for English manufactures. In other words, it is getting bravely over its oldtime economical parochialism.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

"How the times change!" says a writer in the "Frankfurter Zeitung." "In the days of our fathers no description of a homelike, cosy room was complete without a reference to the ticking clock. It was this gentle sound which emphasized the quiet of the place. People had no nerves. In the days of today the thought of a machine, the ticking of the seconds and striking the hours is a source of worry and distress. Time is going, but they do not wish to be reminded of it continually; no clock is better than the ticking machine. And now to meet the requirements of the nervous people a factory at Schramburg is making a noiseless clock. In an article on the same subject another paper says: 'The ancient organ was made of disreputable and unendurable some of the noise which were once music to us, and soon we will find a way to silence the birds and to muffle the sound of the rustling leaves.'

Little Fred had been invited to a school fellow's birthday party. His mother called out to him, "Be sure and wash your face, Fred." "Oh, all right," answered the lad, and he proceeded to wash his face. "What's that you are saying?" asked his mother. "I said, 'Are you sure that I need to wash my face?' For I don't think I really need to be quite an informal affair."—Dundee Advertiser.

Australia has placed a heavy duty on all magazines containing advertising matter in a proportion of more than one-fifth of the general contents. Mutilated magazines are one of the first fruits of the new tariff. Subscribers to many popular monthlies are writing to the Melbourne papers, indignantly complaining of the condition in which their papers are received. Several of the advertising pages were torn out by rude force. This was done by the agents, with the permission of the Minister of Customs, who has granted the publishers four months' grace to make fresh arrangements. The Melbourne manager of one well known magazine says that it has hitherto been sold in Australia at 12 cents, but if this provision in the new tariff is passed the price in future cannot be less than 30 cents.

"Say, paw," queried little Tommy Toddlie, "what is the home of contention?" "The jawbone, my son," answered the old man, with a side glance at his wife.—Chicago News.

"Spectacular mourning," says Dr. Max Feldner in a Berlin paper, "is an American weakness. The big black bordered mourning advertisements in which we indulge are not to be seen here, but cards are sent to the friends who have cards or send messages of condolence. Much display is made in this way. Black clothes are bought after a death in the family, even by the poorest people, and this makes a death a double blow. Some people have the courage to wear the clothes which they have and to avoid high colors for a while, but the great majority are afraid to do so, and they think they are disrespectful, and good clothes are sold away or dyed. Much of this spectacular mourning is idle show and heartless, and it is nothing unusual to see women who would think it a sin against the dead to wear anything but black indulge in all kinds of pleasures. A woman who is versed in the mourning usages of this country told me that there are three distinct degrees in mourning. The first is the black, the second is the broken hearted and inconsolable, the third is simply 'in mourning.' While the Americans may make more display in the way of mourning garments, I have seen no black bordered business stationery or mourning business cards like we see so often in Europe."

"Ha!," exclaimed the Sultan of Morocco, "Commander of the faithful!" "What is the delay in allowing me the full styles in ulimatums?"—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Instruction in the Japanese language is to be obligatory hereafter in the Nicolai Academy of the Far East. The school, which is to be taught by professors who have learned it in Japan. The imperial authorities have been surprised at the small number of Russian officers who can speak Japanese, while it is said that every officer on the Japanese Headquarters Staff can speak and read Russian.

"Got a wireless message to-day?" "What was it?" "A postal card."—Philadelphia Ledger.

AN UNCOMMON TRIBUTE.

From The Troy Press (Dem.). "Tens of thousands of people, men, women and children, in all ranks of life, have reason to feel profoundly grateful to the three heroes of financial history, the three who have done more for the world than any other individuals. They are John D. Rockefeller, J. Pierpont Morgan, and George D. Brown. They have collectively stepped to the front nobly and stemmed a panic that would have ruined innumerable people had it not been for them. They have saved the world. It took many millions of dollars to do this, but the two multi-millionaires and the Secretary of the Treasury united to furnish the money freely."

ROYAL WOMEN AS NUNS.

From The Dundee Advertiser. "Thirty nuns and a large number of scholars, who have been expelled from their convents in England and have taken up their abode at Oakland, near Chudleigh, in Devon, on a small estate which has been purchased for them. They formed part of the Sisterhood of Oroline, and were at one time a convent of Carthusians, which sheltered fifty nuns and four hundred scholars. They were driven out at the point of the bayonet after having been expelled from their convent. They are now being seized. No doubt they will be sent to England in the same way that the Benedictines were expelled from Belgium just twenty-five years ago, and now have large grounds, their own farm and a very fine school. The nuns of Bavaria have recently joined these Benedictines, another member of a reigning house who wears the veil in this country. The nuns of Dowry, in one time King of Portugal."

PRaise FOR THE UTILITIES BOARDS.

William E. Curtis, in Chicago Record-Herald. "The officials here concerning the operations of the new public service law of the State of New York, and the commission for the State of New York, and the two commissions for greater New York. The law has been in effect only a few months—since July 1—and there have been no tests of its practical utility. The commission for greater New York has been engaged almost entirely in an investigation of the affairs of the street railway lines, and the commission for the State of New York has been quietly at work securing information which will guide it in the performance of its duties. The portions of the update commission is entirely satisfied to everybody concerned."

THE RECOVER.

The banking troubles which have disturbed credit in this city have had the good effect of demonstrating that our local banking institutions as a whole are solvent and are managed with the conservatism. There had been some speculative exploitation of banking funds and some overextension of loaning power on the part of mushroom institutions. But the knife was applied in time to this malignant growth, and though the first shock was violent the after-effects are already beginning to be recognized as purifying and wholesome. Abuses have been exposed and are in process of being remedied, and confidence will soon be firmer than ever because the solidity of the banking fabric has been so thoroughly tested.

"AMERICAN SUNDAYS" ABROAD.

New Jersey Democrats who are denouncing Republicans because they are "Americans" and are clamoring for the abolition of the "American Sunday" and for the opening of liquor saloons on that day after the "liberal foreign" fashion would do well to acquaint themselves with what is going on abroad in those lands whose customs they profess to prefer so greatly to those of America. It was only a few months ago that the French Republic adopted and enforced what was and is practically a strict Sunday law, compelling cessation of work and closing of places of business on that day. Now Spain is following the example in a noteworthy manner, by ordering that all wine shops and other drinking places shall be closed on Sunday. Manifestations of a disposition to do likewise are apparent in other European countries. With the "liberal" foreign countries adopting the "American Sunday" it would seem to be somewhat inopportune for a political party in an American state to make a campaign for a "wide open" Sunday, or even for the "slide door" Sunday, which that party's candidate for Governor is reasonably assumed to favor.

is interested in its scope and is quite different in its conditions and requirements from that in the Great Lakes and the Gulf. It is, of course, even now of sufficient magnitude to deserve separate consideration on its own merits, and if it were demonstrated that its interests would be advanced thereby, the proposed change in its status would be strongly commended to practical men. There is probably no other country in the world so well provided by nature with navigable waters as this, or with waters easily susceptible of being made navigable, and also with facilities for the construction of artificial waterways of great utility. The part which navigation of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers played in our early history, both in political and territorial expansion and in social, industrial and commercial growth, and that which the Hudson River and the Erie and other canals have played in making New York the unapproachably metropolis of the Western Hemisphere, should be convincing reminders of the desirability of maintaining and enlarging upon those systems which have hitherto been so beneficial, which the example of other lands proves to be as useful and as profitable now as they ever were, and of which the urgent need is keenly felt at the present time throughout our entire land.

The Tribune maintained from the beginning that there was never any cause for a real panic. We said that the disturbance was purely local in character and must therefore be temporary. Our prediction has been strikingly verified by the general tranquillity observable in business and banking circles outside this city. The rest of the country was not greatly disturbed, because everywhere there is abounding prosperity and no conditions exist which can compel a serious movement toward liquidation.

In 1893 there was an even more violent stringency in New York, but that stringency extended also throughout the length and breadth of the country. It was due to contraction in business, depression in agriculture, an accumulation of debts by the farmers and other producers and the unsettled condition of our national finances. The Treasury was buying depreciating silver and issuing certificates against it and had no adequate stock of gold to insure parity between the various forms of federal currency. Confidence was overstrained and liquidation was a dire and unavoidable necessity.

Contrast that situation with the situation of last week. Since 1893 the United States has enjoyed a period of prosperity prolonged beyond precedent. Hundreds of millions of wealth have been created. The farmers have lifted their mortgages and hundreds of new sub-centres of capital have been developed. The Middle West and the Far West have in measure cut loose from dependency on the East, and Western money now comes East in liberal quantities for investment. The West, using its own, not borrowed, capital, has largely eschewed wildcat finance, and its credit is not to be shaken by the discovery that some New Yorkers have taken up discarded Western fashions in promoting and stock kiting. It is a curious reversal of roles when the rest of the country has regard New York as the hotbed of dangerous financial schemes and the weakest spot in the nation's system of exchange and credit. We are sure that the mistakes made here can be rectified and will be rectified. In spite of questionable practices on the part of certain reckless and untrustworthy operators, the banking institutions in this city are still eminently sound and entitled to confidence. They are all the more sound because the country at large is relatively unburdened by debt, productively active, contented, confident and exceptionally prosperous.

ACADEMIC HOME RULE.

There seems to be on foot among college faculties a conspiracy to strip undergraduate life of all its ornaments and distinguishing pleasures. Football is being suppressed, classwork stiffened, entrance examinations made so difficult that successful students have to spend their whole freshman year recovering from the shock, hazing discredited and other prosaic indignities inflicted in such a matter of fact way that the luckless student knows only by contemplating his sweater and his books that he is not out in the hard and cruel world of business and conventionality. As if all these were not enough to make him wonder whether college is worth while, the University of Michigan faculty appears with an innovation threatening to take the zest out of that dearest of all traditional pleasures, the Town and Gown war. The German system of a student council is to be adopted at Ann Arbor, we hear. Students who cut capers to the offence of their neighbors will no longer be bundled into a loathsome dungeon in the town lock-up and baled next morning before the magistrate, but conducted by the chief of police to a room on the quiet campus, where sundry solemn professors sit in judgment. Instead of a long and sleepless night made hideous by the songs and jests of fellow sinners in nearby cells there will be a few brief minutes of calm cross-examination at the hands of a most unexciting professor in Greek. And the oldtime plea with freedom will be succeeded by inexpensive but most ignominious suspension or expulsion from college.

Such is the Home Rule of Disorderlies about to be forced upon young gentlemen who have always been perfectly content to be arrested, jailed and tried by rank outsiders. Under the mask of justice and autonomy the student council most heinously stifles the deepest motives that drive young gentlemen of high breeding to steal signs, unbind window shutters, overturn horsecars, build bonfires on some village's front street and pour strange melodies into the unwilling ear of Night. What pleasure will remain in these misdeeds after their natural consequences have been prevented? Why riot when no jail door yawns? Why plunder Philistines when only pedagogues will punish? If other institutions follow the example of the University of Michigan American college life will lose its last trace of vivid "local color" and take on the pallid hue of the mollicodde.

ARE MARINE TURBINES ECONOMICAL?

No revelation in marine engineering is to-day more eagerly desired than one indicating how much coal the Lusitania consumes when driven at the limit of her speed. To enable her to travel 7 per cent faster than the Deutschland she has been equipped with engines developing 50 per cent more horsepower. So much is known. The world has yet to learn whether the new Cunard steamship can generate a horsepower with as little fuel as the swiftest vessel of the Hamburg Line. One of the radical differences between the turbine and the reciprocating engine is that the shafts of the former rotate much more rapidly than those of the latter. For certain classes of service—draining dynamos, for instance—high speed is desirable, but it is unsuited to the work of propelling a ship. Accordingly Mr. Parsons has devoted much effort to such a modification of his famous invention as would better adapt it to use at sea. Yet there are experts who doubt whether the change has been carried far enough. It is a recognized principle in engineering that there is a definite speed at which the largest steam economy can be secured. Not long ago the North German Lloyd Company undertook to find out just what rotative speed would give the highest efficiency with vessels like the biggest in its own service. One of its representatives recently declared, in a letter to the London "Times," that eighty revolutions a minute appeared to be the most satisfactory rate, whereas the Lusitania's shafts make 180 revolutions a minute. It will not do to draw hasty conclusions from the discrepancy here shown. The diameter of the propellers, the pitch of their blades and other factors in the problem need consideration in computing efficiency. Still, the difference is made the subject of much unfavorable comment, and it emphasizes the need of explicit information concerning the Lusitania's fuel requirements.

On the supposition that 180 revolutions a minute is a wasteful speed, and that an adequate reduction cannot reasonably be anticipated, a correspondent of "The Manchester Guardian" makes a novel suggestion. He favors the retention of the turbine, but proposes that electrical machinery be interposed between the engine and the screws. He would hitch the turbine to a dynamo, not to the propeller shafts, and would drive the shafts with motors. The motors could rotate more slowly than the moving parts of the dynamo which supplied them with current. No special skill is required to detect some of the objections to this scheme. Every transformation of energy is attended with loss. The use of electrical machinery would increase the cost of the installation and make an additional demand for space. The author of the project is disposed to believe that the steam economy which it would insure would more than offset the disadvantages. Since he has not seen fit to

which it desires to conquer and seize—though we trust it has higher motives and restraints. It will not have again to go to war to rid itself of menaces and nuisances, for it has now rid itself of all of them that are ever likely to be of importance. So, for reasons of sentiment or of business, for high motives or sordid ones, every nation of which we have knowledge desires a continuance of peace. Even that fact may not be an infallible guarantee of peace, but it must make very strongly toward that end.

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FILIPINO ALLEGIANCE.

Some highly interesting suggestions concerning the loyalty of the Filipinos to the American government were made at the Lake Mohonk conference on Thursday by Mr. Vincent Albert, a native of the Philippines and presumably a representative of intelligent and patriotic sentiment of those islands. Referring to the presence which is made by some persons that Filipino acceptance of office under the American administration does not necessarily imply an end of disloyalty and opposition to that administration, he very directly pointed out that view. "The traitors," he said, "have become the conservative and faithful supporters of the American government when talking office thereunder, as in the case of provincial governors," adding the pregnant reminder that "before assuming office the delegate must 'take an oath of loyalty to the established government'—to wit, of course, the American government. The inevitable conclusion is, therefore, that Filipinos who have accepted office under the existing government, whether as provincial governors, as delegates to the Assembly or in any other capacity, have solemnly sworn allegiance to that government and cannot without forsaking themselves be disloyal to it.

We assume, as Mr. Albert does, that they are sincere in so doing. If they are, they will remain loyal to America and, so far as future changes in insular affairs are concerned, be as Mr. Albert pithily says, evolutionists rather than revolutionists. If they should not do so, if after accepting American rule and swearing allegiance thereto they should enter into disloyal plottings, their duplicity and treason would brand them more strongly than almost anything else could do as unfit for the high responsibilities of sovereignty. That any considerable number of them will thus condemn themselves we do not believe. On the contrary, we confidently accept the estimate and forecast of their spokesman whom we have already quoted, that they have signified their willingness to co-operate with the American authorities in the islands for the promotion of the islands' welfare, that the great majority of the Filipino Radicals who dominate the Assembly are sane and intelligent in their radicalism, and that they have now assumed the attitude which almost unflinchingly is taken by an opposition in any country upon coming into power and being confronted with grave national problems and responsibilities.

WATERWAY UTILIZATION.

Preparations for various waterway improvement conferences in the immediate future indicate that the movement for the greater utilization of inland waterways which has long been commended and urged in these columns is now making progress at a steadily increasing rate of speed. The President has recently spoken on the subject with characteristic energy, and some of the foremost railroad managers in the country have agreeably reversed their traditional policy by declaring strongly in favor of river and canal transportation. The National Rivers and Harbors Congress, always active in the matter, will hold a convention at Washington early in December, largely to urge the yearly making of regular and ample appropriations by the federal government for systematic waterway improvement. Also representatives of the Atlantic Coast states will meet at Philadelphia next month to promote the plan of an inland coast waterway from Boston to Beaufort, a plan which has hitherto been explained and advocated by The Tribune.

Another significant and promising development toward the same general end is reported from Cincinnati, where river steamboat men are forming a national organization, which is to meet at Washington early in December, the chief object being to have river and canal navigation legally differentiated from coast, lake and Gulf navigation, and to have it placed under the supervision and control of the Interstate Commerce Commission. This latter proposition whether it be approved or not, is obviously worthy of serious consideration. The bulk of river commerce

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