Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—8:15—The Squaw Man.
ALHAMBRA—2—8—Vaudeville.
ASTOR—8:20—Paid in Full.
BELASCO—8:15—The Warrens of Virginia.
BLANEY'S—2:15—8:15—A Bachelor's Honeymoon.
BROADWAY—8:15—A Waltz Dream.
CARNEGIE HALL—8:15—Concert.
CASINO—8:15—Nearly a Hero.
COLONIAL—2—8—Vaudeville.
CRITERION—8:15—Miss Hook of Holland.
DALY'S—8:15—Girls.
DEWEY—2—8—Vaudeville.
EDEN MUSEE—The World in Wax.
EMPIRE—8:20—Father and the Boys.
GARDEN—8:15—Marta of the Lowlands.
GERMAN—8:20—Alt Heidelberg.
HACKETT—8:15—The Witching Hour.
HAMMERSTEIN'S—2—8:15—Vaudeville.
HERALD SQUARE—8:15—The Girl Behind the Counter.
HIPPODROME—2—8—Battle of Port Arthur, Ballet and Circus.
HUDSON—8:20—The Honor of the Family.
KNICKERBOCKER—8:15—The Talk of New York.
LENOX LYCEUM—1 to 6 and 7 to 10:30 p. m.—Pure Food Exposition.
LIBERTY—8:20—Polly of the Circus.
LYCEUM—8:30—The Thief.
LYRIC—8—If I Were King.
MADISON SQUARE GARDEN—2:15—8:15—Circus.
MAJESTIC—8:15—Bandanna Land.
NEW AMSTERDAM—8:15—The Merry Widow.
NEW CIRCLE—2:15—8:15—Lonesome Town.
NEW YORK—8:20—The Soul Kiss.
SAVOY—8:20—The Servant in the House.
STUYVESANT—8:15—The Music Master.
WALLACK'S—8:20—A Knight for a Day.
WEBER MUSIC HALL—8:15—Burlesque of The Merry Widow.

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New-York Daily Tribune.

TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 1908.

This newspaper is owned and published by The Tribune Association, a New York corporation; office and principal place of business, Tribune Building, No. 154 Nassau street, New York; Ogden Mills, president; Nathaniel Tuttle, secretary and treasurer. The address of the officers is the office of this newspaper.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

CONGRESS.—Senate: Only business of minor importance was transacted. ═══ House: The Aldrich bill was received and referred to the Committee on Banking and Currency; the agricultural appropriation bill was under consideration, a sharp attack being made on the forest service.

FOREIGN.—The House of Commons passed by a two to one vote a resolution offered by John E. Redmond favoring self-government in Ireland of purely Irish affairs. ═══ Reports from London were that the vitality of Premier Campbell-Bannerman was giving way before the inroads of disease. ═══ It was said in Berlin that the only reason the Emperor had for objecting to the appointment of David Jayne Hill as Ambassador to Germany was a fear that his lack of means would make it difficult for him to support American prestige at that court. ═══ Many arrests were made in Port-au-Prince, and several officers accused of being implicated in the recent conspiracy, including General Larraque, sought refuge in consulates. ═══ Dr. H. M. MacCracken, Chancellor of New York University, addressed a large audience at Copenhagen on "American Ideals." ═══ Porto Rico Republicans elected delegates to the Chicago convention and refused to instruct them. ═══ The Emperor of Japan bestowed upon the late Durham White Stevens the decoration of the Grand Rising Sun and his family is to receive $100,000. ═══ Winnipeg, Manitoba, decided to cut out the company controlling its lighting, power and street railways.

DOMESTIC.—Another demand for the removal from office of Borough President Bermel of Queens was filed with Governor Hughes at Albany. ═══ Two boys were killed by the collapse of the walls of a half burned church at Provincetown, Mass. ═══ It was learned at Albany that Judge Charles Andrews had resigned as commissioner to take testimony for the Governor in the matter of charges against District Attorney Jerome. ═══ Chester E. Gillette was executed in the electric chair at Auburn state prison for the murder of Miss Grace Brown; his spiritual advisers say that he confessed the crime. ═══ The Indiana Railroad Commission issued an order cutting the rates of express companies doing business in the state from 10 to 12 per cent. ═══ William J. Bryan and Judson Harmon were the guests of honor and principal speakers at a dollar dinner of the Young Men's Democratic Club of Missouri, at Kansas City. ═══ It was reported in Hanna, Wyo., that the condition of the five bodies blown from the Union Pacific Coal Company's mine precludes the possibility of finding any of the remaining fifty-seven victims alive.

CITY.—Stocks closed lower. ═══ The mystery of the Union Square bomb outrage still baffled the police. ═══ It was evident that "Pat" McCarren had the fight of his life on his hands. ═══ Representative Herbert Parsons offered a reward of $250 for evidence leading to the arrest and conviction of any one guilty of fraud at the Republican primaries. ═══ General Stewart L. Woodford and Frank Brookfield both denied responsibility for the statement sent out by Hughes Republicans of the 27th District last week. ═══ President Parsons and William Halpin exchanged broadsides preparatory to the primary battle to-day. ═══ The Corporation Counsel's office refused to indorse the contracts for the Fourth avenue subway in Brooklyn. ═══ Further evidence of the payment in The Bronx for work that was never done was elicited at the Haffen inquiry. ═══ The reform ticket on the Metal Exchange was defeated by a substantial majority. ═══ Attorney General Jackson called the presentment handed up against him by the March grand jury "a lying, dirty, cowardly, contemptible trick."

THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Cloudy, probably rain by night. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 48 degrees; lowest, 36.

A VICIOUS SUGGESTION.

The obvious effect of the constitutional amendment favoring the veterans of recent wars in Civil Service examinations, now on the calendars of both the Senate and the Assembly at Albany, would be to demoralize the Civil Service of the state. There are so many veterans of the Spanish-American and the Philippine wars and of the expedition to Peking that if the constitution were so amended as to add 10 per cent to their ratings on Civil Service examinations, it would be practically impossible to appoint any but veterans to the vacancies occurring in the Civil Service for many years to come. There are about thirty-one thousand of these veterans in the state who would receive the benefit if they chose to try for appointment, and there are only 30,832 competitive places in the state, county and municipal service. Only a comparatively small number of vacancies occur annually, and the addition of 10 per cent to the ratings of veterans would probably keep the leading places on the eligible list constantly filled with the names of former soldiers.

The addition of ten points to the rating of a candidate on some of these lists would advance him over the heads of 640 competitors who had demonstrated on examination better qualifications for appointment than he. Thus the effect of such an amendment would be to fill most future vacancies with inferior men, and, once these inferior appointees were in office, the same rule adding ten points to their standing would result in their being more rapidly promoted than their abler rivals. In this way the demoralization of the service would soon become complete. As the law at present exempts the recent veteran from the operation of the ordinary regulations regarding the dismissal of Civil Service employes the effect would be to fill the service with incompetents and keep them there.

The proposal to grant special favors to the veterans of these recent wars springs from the existing preference for Civil War veterans in the Civil Service provisions of the constitution. But conditions are not analagous. The Civil War veterans are aged men, decreasing in numbers and not applying for appointment with any such frequency as to affect seriously the operations of the merit system. They fought in a great war in which the existence of the nation was at stake, and the nation has felt it owed them such a debt of gratitude that it should make an exception to the operation of the merit system of appointments in their favor. These recent veterans, on the contrary, are young men, and so numerous that an exception in their favor practically involves the whole principle of the merit system. The military hardships which they went through were in no way comparable with those suffered in the Civil War. Indeed, the probability is that most of these new veterans never saw any more of the terrors of war than could be seen in a few months' encampment at Chattanooga or at Anniston. Because of such services as these the state cannot afford to abandon the principle of appointments for merit and demoralize its whole Civil Service.

THE ABUSE OF ASYLUM.

The latest news from Hayti confirms the correctness of various observations which were made a fortnight ago concerning the abuse of asylum. We cited the expert testimony of the American Minister to Hayti in 1868, to the effect that the receiving of political refugees did more harm than good and offered a premium for factious disturbances and sedition, and on the very same day a correspondent of "The London Standard" who had lived long in Hayti expressed the opinion that if the right of refuge in foreign consulates were denied to revolutionists there would be far fewer revolutions. But asylum was given to a gang of political criminals at that time, and now we are informed that another conspiracy against the lawful government has been formed, headed by a man who had formerly been suspected of treason and arrested, but released, and that the conspirators have taken refuge in the French consulate.

A fortnight ago a leading European paper declared that it was unthinkable that foreign powers should refuse such asylum. We should rather say that it is unthinkable that they should continue indefinitely to grant asylum in such circumstances. "The London Spectator," in a temperate and generally well informed article, says that if there were a guarantee of fair trial the consuls would probably not put themselves to the inconvenience of entertaining refugees. The present case shows that fair trials are held, for the ringleader, who is now in asylum at the French consulate, was arrested on March 14 and was released on March 24. If there had been the "summary shootings" and "wholesale massacres" which we have heard so much babble about, he would now be in the cemetery instead of the consulate.

In the article already cited "The Spectator" judiciously says that the United States has more natural interest in Hayti than any other power, and "if the United States has no rea-"son for intervention, other countries have still "less." Precisely, and, as "The Spectator" points out, it is the policy of the United States not to intervene save for the protection of its own citizens, and to let the Haytians work out their own salvation. As for the need of protection for foreigners, let the correspondent of "The Standard," already quoted, testify:

> There is very little if any danger to whites living in Hayti. In all my experience I have never known of a white injured. When Englishmen are mentioned as being ill treated it should be explained that they are natives of Jamaica, and in the same way Frenchmen are from the islands of Martinique and Guadeloupe. Not that I wish in any way to disparage their rights to their nationality. . . . The white residents of Hayti do not take sides one way or another in these revolutions, although, as a speculation, they have been known to make contributions to what may be termed the war chest, but the Jamaican "boys," chiefly employed as stablemen and servants, the Guadeloupians, Cubans and Martiniquais, as barbers, shop assistants, etc., nearly all take an active part in the social upheavals, and do not declare their nationality until they are in trouble.

We believe that to be a substantially accurate statement of the situation, and we repeat that it does not seem right, indeed it seems intolerable, that one government, domiciled by courtesy on the soil of another, should there give refuge and protection, and thus aid and comfort, to citizens of that other country who are engaged in criminal plots against it, or to its own citizens who are also thus unlawfully engaged. As to the protest that no civilized country could think of refusing Haytian criminals asylum from their own government, we may answer that the United States does not only think of but actually practices that refusal, and, to adapt the words of "The Spectator" concerning intervention, if the United States has no reason for granting asylum, other countries have still less.

THE IRELAND OF HUNGARY.

The latest phase of the Croatian question continues the remarkable parallel which has often been remarked between the Banate and Ireland. Each of the two formerly consisted of three or four separate "kingdoms." Each came under the dominating influence of another and stronger power at about the same date, Croatia being annexed to Hungary at pretty nearly the time when Henry II of England invaded Ireland. Each has remained during the period of union chronically discontented and partly mutinous. Each has lagged far behind its dominant neighbor in industries, prosperity and progress. Each has boasted that its sovereign's extremity would be its opportunity. And now, just as Ireland has sent an almost solid Nationalist delegation to Parliament, Croatia has sent a separatist delegation to the Diet at Agram. In the recent elections it is said that the Ban used many regiments of troops to influence the voters, and yet succeeded in affecting the election of only one solitary Unionist. The new Diet will be absolutely under Croatian and Servian control.

It was moreover almost simultaneously with the union of Ireland with Great Britain, a little more than a century ago, and the consequent arising of a new Irish "grievance" against the Saxon, that Croatia's great grievance arose in an acute form. Down to that time that country had enjoyed a pretty complete measure of home rule under the Hungarian crown. But Napoleon Bonaparte, in recasting the map of Europe, made it again an independent nation as the dominant part of that ephemeral state of Illyria, which extended from Laibach to Ragusa. For nine years that state flourished under Marmont, and then was destroyed, its elements being returned to their former conditions. In 1848 the Croatians regarded Hungary's extremity as their opportunity, and joined Austria in crushing Kossuth and his short lived "republic." But then, with the perversity which characterized Austrian rule, instead of being treated with grateful consideration, Croatia was governed from Vienna with ruthless absolutism, and so was completely alienated from the empire to which it had rendered such service. After Deak's compromise with Austria had been established a corresponding treaty was made between Hungary and Croatia. But that treaty, instead of being a bond of union, has largely proved to be a cause of irritation and animosity.

Under that treaty Croatia has home rule, with a Diet of its own at Agram, but also sends to the royal Parliament at Budapest forty members, who can take part only in business which affects the whole kingdom, and who are privileged to use their own language in debates. A year ago, however, the Hungarian government introduced a bill requiring the use of the Magyar language alone on all the state railroads in Croatia. Of course this provoked a storm of opposition from the forty Croatian delegates, who declared that it was a violation of the compact between the two countries. Moreover, it was obviously illogical and inconsistent for the Hungarians to demand that the Croatians should use Magyar on their railroads when they themselves had been so bitterly opposing the use of German in the Hungarian army. So vigorous was the Croatian opposition that the bill had to be dropped, but its principle was enforced by ministerial decree. So the Hungarians had their way, and imposed upon Croatia precisely such a system as they had refused to let Austria impose upon Hungary.

The result was seen in the recent elections, which returned an all but unanimously anti-Hungarian and separatist Diet. The avowed object of that overwhelming majority at Agram is the entire separation of Croatia from Hungary and from the Hapsburg dynasty, and the creation of a new Illyria, or a kingdom of Croatia, or a greater Servia, comprising Croatia, Slavonia, Dalmatia, Bosnia, Herzegovina and Servia. To any such thing Hungary never will consent. It would be fatal for her to do so, since it would deprive her of her only outlet to the sea. But in the present temper of the southern Slavs and, we may add, with the unfortunate tactlessness and unreasonableness of the Magyar extremists who now hold sway at Budapest, serious trouble is quite possible before the relations between Hungary and Croatia are readjusted.

TO SAVE SARATOGA SPRINGS.

There are several reasons for the enactment of Assembly bill No. 922, now pending at Albany, "for the protection of the natural mineral "springs of the state and to prevent waste and "impairment of its natural mineral waters," any one of which should be convincing. The measure is general in its purport and application, and it may be that it would, if enacted now or hereafter, apply to the protection of other springs, but the confessed primary aim of it is to prevent the destruction of the famous springs of Saratoga which is now imminent, and it is in that view that it is to be considered. The circumstances are substantially these: The medicinal springs of Saratoga, which for generations have enjoyed world-wide repute for their undoubted therapeutic qualities, are dependent not only upon the subterranean supply of water and various salts but also upon that of carbonic acid gas, which gives the water its effervescent quality and also is an indispensable adjuvant in holding the salts in suspension. Without a full supply of gas the water loses both its sparkle and its chemical qualities. Now certain persons or corporations owning land near the springs have sunk wells through which they exhaust by artificial means the carbonic acid gas supply of the springs, thus greatly impairing the value of the springs and threatening them with entire destruction.

This, we say, should be stopped, because it is wasteful thus to destroy the whole for the sake of securing a part—a very exact case of killing the goose which lays golden eggs. The gas alone can easily and cheaply be produced by well known means without drawing upon the springs, while the unique natural combination of water, salts and gas cannot be supplied except from that laboratory of nature. It should be stopped also because it is inequitable thus to inflict an irreparable injury not only upon the proprietors of the springs, but also upon the people to whom the springs are a source of refreshment and healing. The gas can be obtained without meddling with the springs, but the springs cannot exist unless the gas is left to its natural courses.

Again, the bill should be enacted because it is fitted to facilitate and expedite the enforcement of a legal principle which now exists and is recognized as just. We believe that the law as it now stands theoretically affords protection to the springs—to any springs—from such spoliation. But unfortunately the processes by which that law can be made effective are tedious, costly and uncertain. The pending bill would make them simple and direct, and to those who have a proper aversion to "the law's delay" that is not the least strong of its recommendations. Nor do we hesitate to add that the Saratoga springs are amply deserving of the protection contemplated, apart from all questions of property rights, on the simple ground of public interest in so remarkable a natural phenomenon. They are a part of the perpetual endowment of the race, which one generation has no right to destroy to the deprivation of its successors. For these and for other reasons we sincerely hope that the bill in question, which has much intelligent and unselfish support, will speedily be enacted into law, not only for the protection of Saratoga Springs, but for the general welfare of the state and for the establishment of a salutary principle.

THE MARYLAND PRIMARY LAW

The friction caused in Maryland last fall by the failure of the Democratic State Committee to authorize a genuine open primary election to nominate two candidates for seats in the United States Senate has been accentuated by the refusal of the Legislature, which adjourned last Saturday, to pass a state-wide primary law. The Democratic platform, adopted last August, favored the introduction of the Mississippi-Alabama system, under which candidates for the United States Senate and for the governorship and other state offices compete in a general primary. This primary scheme was the bait thrown to the Democratic voters who had helped to defeat the Poe-Gorman suffrage amendment to the constitution submitted in 1905. They were to be assured that if they consented to limit the suffrage and to establish two unequally privileged classes of white electors, the legal inequalities between these two classes would be waived, so far as Democratic voters were concerned, by the establishment of a private party primary in which a Democrat without "ancestry" might participate on equal terms with a Democrat of guaranteed ancestral pedigree. This pledge was accepted with enthusiasm by the Baltimore Democrats, many of whom would be obliged to register as second class voters under the operations of the "grandfather clause." They argued that if they were allowed to have an equal share in choosing Democratic candidates it would not matter much if they had to vote at a real election from a second cabin or steerage list.

Governor Crothers, to his credit, labored earnestly to induce the Legislature to make good the party's pledges and install the Alabama-Mississippi primary. But the influences which set up an imitation primary last November were powerful enough to defeat the Governor's efforts. The bosses of the party have a healthy dread of open and popular methods of nominating candidates for public office. They greatly preferred the old system of county conventions, under which gross inequalities of representation can be perpetuated and small local interests can be played upon successfully. Senator John Walter Smith and Mr. Arthur P. Gorman have control of the party machinery in Maryland, and they do not intend to lose that control through any rash experiments. They devised, therefore, a substitute primary scheme, much like that used in nominating United States Senators last year, and forced it through the Legislature. It provides for distinct and separate primaries in each county or legislative district, and gives the delegates elected from each county or district to the candidate who leads in that particular subdivision. As the delegates are apportioned according to county or district representation in the Legislature, the small Eastern Shore and Southern Maryland counties, which are greatly overrepresented, can continue to outvote Baltimore City and the more populous counties of Western Maryland.

It appears that under the imitation primary system 250 Democratic voters in a county like Calvert will have as much power in naming state candidates as two thousand Democratic voters in Baltimore City. Naturally, the people of Baltimore are disappointed and indignant at not getting the equal rights which were promised them. Says "The Baltimore Sun":

> The primary law which the Legislature has enacted is in gross and flagrant violation of the principle of equality of representation. It establishes a system of discrimination which is utterly un-Democratic. It practically disfranchises seven-eighths of the Democratic voters of the city of Baltimore, as compared with some other sections of the state. In Calvert County two hundred and fifty Democratic voters are entitled to a delegate in a state convention. Baltimore City's representation is fixed on the basis of one delegate for about two thousand voters. The suggestion that a primary system based upon the virtual disfranchisement of 88 per cent of the Democratic voters of this city is a redemption of the party's pledge is preposterous and a reflection upon the intelligence of Democrats. It serves notice in brutal terms upon the Democratic voters of Baltimore that they must accept the position of an inferior and impotent minority in the party's conventions, although their votes are indispensable to party victory.

The progressive Democrats in Baltimore are already announcing that they will not support the new disfranchisement amendment if they cannot have a genuine primary. Yet the perpetuation of the Democratic machine depends upon its success first in disfranchising the negro, and next in disfranchising as large a proportion as possible of the intelligent Democratic vote. The Democratic party in Maryland, as at present managed, cannot afford to encourage freedom of action or equality of representation, and Maryland will enjoy neither until its bosses of the Smith-Gorman order are driven from power.

The Brooklyn Democracy is earnestly looking around for a scapegoat, and "Long Pat" McCarren is finding his stature a serious handicap in his efforts to lose himself in the crowd.

Another great stride has just been made toward helping the passenger on an ocean liner to fancy that he is really on shore. One steamship company is now building staterooms to order; travellers, we suppose, may choose their own architects and the style of construction. The next advance will be the subdivision of deck area into building lots and the sale of the latter to Long Island land boomers, who will, of course, unload a block or two on our dear city government. If New York gladly buys submarine parks, it ought to seize joyously the opportunity to purchase a seagoing one. Think how many distinguished statesmen, financiers and others from hereabouts would find in such a park a happy, restful breathing spot at times when the Battery and Central Park could not be used conveniently! Suppose there had been a municipal seagoing park on the vessel which carried "Abe" Hummel to Europe?

> Socialists are not anarchists. But anarchists are socialists. That is to say, the two hold theories in common, but the anarchists have other theories as well. Socialists are of the school of peaceable propagandism. Anarchists believe all that the socialists do, but would enforce their beliefs through acts of violence.—The Brooklyn Eagle.

This will be news to both the socialists and the anarchists, who look upon each other as occupying the opposite poles of thought, the former, as their name implies, the extreme of collectivism, and the latter the extreme of individualism. The socialists protest against existing conditions as "anarchy," which they would cure with their panacea. Very likely existing conditions look too socialistic to the anarchist; at any rate, he finds the quantity of society already in operation irksome to him.

The present session of the State Legislature is as leisurely as last year's. If the prospect of an extra session is realized, this Legislature, too, may be sitting under the warm summer sun.

It is encouraging to hear that the rural delivery branch of the postal service is no longer operated at a loss. This latest extension of the postal field was undertaken as a wise provision against the future, since experience had shown that every extension or improvement in postal facilities ultimately proved profitable. In the first years outlay naturally exceeded income, but so cumulative is the growth of postal business that within a decade the rural lines—often condemned as a mere luxury—are beginning to pay their own way. Their value as a means of education and civilization has also been enormous. They have overcome the isolation of the country, and, with the trolley and the telephone, have brought far-off, stagnant communities into quickening touch with town and city life.

TALK OF THE DAY.

The death of "Bim, the Button Man" recalls an incident in the campaign of 1900 in which he was the central figure. The Eastern executive committee of the Republican National Committee was holding an informal meeting at the Fifth Avenue Hotel one morning, and the man at the door had received orders to admit no one for a certain time. "Bim" came along, spoke to the newspaper men, told a funny story, of which he had a great store, and then said: "Well, I've got to see the 'old man,'" meaning Senator Hanna, who with Senator Nathan B. Scott, Frederick S. Gibbs and Joseph H. Manley was in the sanctum waiting for Cornelius N. Bliss, the other member of the committee. "You'll have to wait," one of the newspaper men said to him. "That order is for you," said he, "but you keep your eye on 'Bim,'" and with that he walked to the door, brushed past the attendant, and before the door closed behind him he was heard to say in a bluff tone, "Hello, Mark!" and the roar of laughter which followed the salutation showed that the familiar term had met with no resentment.

> "I tell you Green is a true friend."
> "Give me proof."
> "He borrowed money from me and paid it back when I asked him for it without insulting me."—Detroit Free Press.

In an article on the labor conditions in the United States, evidently written for the purpose of discouraging emigration, "Die Welt," of Cologne, says: "Under the effect of the continued business depression the lack of work becomes greater with every day. The residents of the East Side in New York are the greatest sufferers because of this depression." An account is given of the various occupations which are stagnated, and the writer says that "relief offices are being kept busy day and night caring for the destitute. The number of idle people in one district of New York exceeds 75,000 and the end is not yet."

> Jimmy—Teacher says dat old guy Argus had a hundred eyes.
> Billy—Gee, what a dandy baseball umpire he'd make.—Chicago News.

Vienna has added the word "settlement" to its vocabulary because no German word, says the "Neue Freie Presse," can properly describe the new institution which has been established in the outskirts of the city. It is a house with a garden where children are taken care of while their parents are at work. The settlement house is fashioned after similar places in England and America and the people who have visited it are enthusiastic about it and designate it as a "practical charity."

> "Is your husband having any luck at the race-track?"
> "Some luck," answered young Mrs. Torkins. "He hasn't caught cold nor had his pocket picked."—Washington Star.

A vacant lot in Beech street, with its fairly smooth surface, is in daily use by the small boys of the neighborhood. Too poor to acquire catching gloves, the youngsters, whose main pleasure is baseball, use their heavy woollen caps in the most skilful manner to check the impact of the ball in the left hand. The back of the cap is held, the inside exposed, and as the sphere comes hurtling near the clutch is relaxed, and the ball is received and held with almost unerring skill.

> She (during an alarm of burglars in the night)—Can you see them, John?
> He—Yes, it's all right; they're just sampling those cigars you gave me; so in a few minutes I'll be able to tackle them easily!"—London Opinion.

About People and Social Incidents.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, March 30.—The President shook hands with fifteen hundred persons at the White House this afternoon. In addition to receiving the numerous delegates and visitors to the convention of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers, there were several large delegations of school teachers and graduating classes from New England institutions, and the President was engaged in the pleasant though laborious task nearly two hours.

After a conference with the President this afternoon Secretary Taft announced that the quarantining of United States ports against Cuba, which was ordered to take effect on April 1, would be deferred one week.

Callers at the White House included Secretary Root, Senators Lodge, Stewart, Warner, Smoot and Bourne, Representatives Tirrell, Douglas, Kennedy and Marshall, Interstate Commerce Commissioners Knapp, Lane and Clark and Judge L. R. Wilfley, of the United States Court at Shanghai.

THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, March 30.—The Italian Ambassador and Baroness Mayor des Planches were hosts for a dinner party to-night, entertaining the Russian Ambassador, the Belgian Minister and Baroness Moncheur, Miss Katherine Elkins, Miss Mathilde Townsend, Miss Wetmore, Miss Evelyn Walsh, the Assistant Secretary of State and Mrs. Robert Bacon, Mr. Kroupensky, Russian counsellor; Captain Gilmore, Walter V. Berry and Signor Montagna, counsellor; Signor Centaro, second secretary, and Signor Cora, attaché, all of the Italian Embassy staff.

The Austrian Ambassador and Baroness Hengelmüller, who were to have returned Sunday from a few days' visit in New York, have been in such demand socially that they deferred their return until to-morrow.

The German Ambassador and Baroness von Sternburg, who made all their arrangements to go to New York for two nights of opera, have been detained in Washington. They will make their visit later.

A number of the clever young people of the diplomatic corps are rehearsing for a couple of Spanish plays, similar to the performances given at Carroll Hall last spring, in honor of the Mexican Ambassador and Señora de Creel. Some of the rehearsals are taking place at the home of the Ecuadoran Minister, and Señora de Carbo, with Miss Elena Calderon, Miss Mercedes Godoy, the Misses Carbo and a number of the girls of resident and official society to assist.

IN WASHINGTON SOCIETY.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, March 30.—The Vice-President and Mrs. Fairbanks were the guests of honor at a dinner given to-night by Senator and Mrs. Briggs. A number of people from official society were asked to meet them.

Mrs. L. Z. Leiter has as her guest Miss Emily Sloane, of New York, daughter of Henry T. Sloane. Twenty-two young people were asked to meet Miss Sloane, including a number of the younger members of the diplomatic corps and debutantes of this and last season.

The Secretary of War and Mrs. Taft, the Peruvian Minister and Señora de Cruz and others were the guests of John Barrett, director of the Bureau of American Republics, at a box party this evening, and were afterward entertained at supper at the New Willard.

Mrs. Nicholas Fish was one of the hostesses who entertained dinner parties to-night.

Mrs. Chauncey M. Depew will go to New York to-morrow for a visit of a week.

Mrs. Gibson Fahnestock, of New York, who is spending the winter in Washington, will sail for Europe next month, accompanied by her niece, Miss Rosalie Tunstall Smith, of Baltimore.

The former Ambassador to France and Mrs. Robert S. McCormick, who took a house here for the spring season, will leave the city the first of this week for New York. Mrs. McCormick will spend some time in New York, and will then go to Chicago, while Mr. McCormick completes his visit in Mexico.

Lieutenant and Mrs. William A. Dallam and Mrs. Donald McLean spent Sunday night in Washington. The young couple stopped on their way to Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, to say goodby to their numerous friends in this city.

NEW YORK SOCIETY.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Gerry, who are now in England, will leave there this week for the Continent. They expect to return to this country the latter part of next month in time for Mrs. Gerry to take part in the annual parade of the Ladies' Four-in-Hand Driving Club early in May.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur B. Claflin are booked to sail to-day for Europe on board the Kaiser Wilhelm II. They will make an extended automobile trip, and will return to this country early in the summer and go to Southampton, Long Island.

Mrs. George Gould has arrived at Virginia Hot Springs. Mr. and Mrs. George W. Vanderbilt are expected there to-day from their country place at Biltmore, N. C.

Mrs. Edward Spencer Mead, who has been spending the winter with Mrs. Charles T. Barney, will sail to-day for Europe, to remain abroad throughout the summer.

Mr. and Mrs. John R. Drexel have left town for a short stay at Atlantic City. Mrs. Drexel has recovered from her recent illness.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Scribner are booked to sail for Europe to-morrow week.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Ledyard Blair, who have been at the St. Regis all winter, have gone to Virginia Springs for a few weeks before opening their country place at Peapack, N. J.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Goelet, who have been spending a few days at the clubhouse at Tuxedo, will return to town to-morrow.

Miss Caroline Skidmore Willis, daughter of the late Townsend Willis, will be married to Walter L. Hewlett in Sherry's on May 5.

Announcement has been made of the engagement of Miss Eva Van Cortlandt Morris, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. A. Newbold Morris, to McDougall Hawkes, who was Dock Commissioner during the administration of Mayor Low. Miss Morris on her father's side is a descendant of Lewis Morris, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and also of Gouverneur Morris, who was the American Minister to France during the Revolution. On her mother's side she is related to Mrs. Astor. Mr. Hawkes is a member of the Union and other New York clubs. The wedding will probably take place early in the summer.

Mr. and Mrs. Edmund L. Baylies will sail for Europe about the middle of May, and will remain abroad the greater part of the summer.

SOCIAL NOTES FROM NEWPORT.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Newport, R. I., March 30.—Mrs. William E. Glyn and her daughter, Miss Dorothea Kane, arrived in Newport this evening to inspect their summer home.

Dr. William T. Bull, of New York, is here making an inspection of Dudley Place.

Colonel and Mrs. De Lancey Kane are expected for the season on Monday.

PRESERVATION OF PAINE HOUSE.

Appeal for Purchase of Homestead in New Rochelle of Revolutionary Writer.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I would like to call the attention of the public spirited American citizens who daily read your paper to what may be termed a dereliction of their duty to one who should have been long ere this the subject of their patriotic consideration. The one whom I mean is Thomas Paine. Few are there in this country who have not at some time or another read with great interest his works, and also felt grandly inspired by his actions during the hostilities between this and the mother country during the Revolution.

Many of those Revolutionary heroes have been honored, but, sad to say, this one, one of the grandest of those heroic figures, has been passed by almost unnoticed. The object of the writer is to call attention to the fact that it is possible to retrieve this discrepancy on the part of a portion of the American public. Where the Paine homestead now stands the house and a small part of the old farm can be procured for a small sum of money, and for a comparatively small sum it can be repaired and taken care of. The location is in one of the prettiest parts of New Rochelle, and a place much visited by strangers. It will be necessary to pay down a deposit on this property soon in order to save it from demolition.

All who are interested can send any contributions or can get further particulars regarding same by writing to ROBERT W. HEMENS.

No. 2 Waterloo Place, The Bronx, N. Y., March 29, 1908.

A THEATREGOER'S PROTEST.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I have been looking for some time past to see a protest made against the terrifying methods adopted recently in some theatres of announcing the raising of the curtain. I have reference to the loud beating of a gong on the first balcony floor. At a performance last evening the person who wielded the drumstick seemed to exercise a most fiendish ingenuity in producing the greatest volume of sound with the utmost suddenness.

A more nerve racking or distressing kind of noise liberated suddenly in the quiet of a theatre it would be difficult to imagine, and I cannot conjecture why the manager ever came to sanction such a diabolical method of terrifying people who visit the theatre for entertainment and recreation. If it is not the invention of a Chinese believer in the efficacy of noise for the exorcising of demons the idea must have originated in the mind of some person who aimed to make the first balcony seats unpopular. Each time the gong is sounded nervous women and girls can be seen starting from their seats in different parts of the theatre.

THOMAS J. KEENAN.

New York, March 26, 1908.

Y. W. C. A.'S PRACTICAL WORK.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: In these days when all—Christian, Jew and Pagan—are crying out for practical Christianity, it is most satisfactory to its friends to feel and to know that the Young Women's Christian Association, No. 7 East 15th street, New York City, is accomplishing that in its work for women. The mere fact that it was been the means of raising the salaries of its graduates from the pitiful sum of $4 or $5 a week to $10 and more is sufficient alone to commend itself to all right thinking, benevolent persons interested in the work for women, and the question continually arises, Why are not more men and women giving financial aid to this institution which is doing so much to lighten the world's burden?

May this question soon be answered satisfactorily, is the earnest wish of T. M.

New York, March 18, 1908.

DIED ON EVE OF HIS WEDDING.

Fort Wayne, Ind., March 30.—T. E. Ellison, former state Senator, received a cable message to-day announcing the death of Earl Lee Tatum, at Manila, Philippine Islands, who was to marry Mr. Ellison's daughter to-day. Mr. Tatum was city electrician of Manila. The message was from Judge Gilbert, of the Insular Court, and gave no particulars.

CONSUL RECOVERING; HIS WIFE DIES.

Dr. Luis Lazo, Consul General of Honduras in New York, who underwent the operation of transfusion on Thursday in the hope of saving the life of his wife, has recovered as rapidly as could be expected. The operation seemed a success, but pneumonia set in, and his wife died on Sunday. Her body will be taken to her home in Guatemala for burial as soon as Dr. Lazo is well enough to make the trip.

MRS. ROOSEVELT IN NEW ORLEANS.

Miss Ethel Teaches a Class at Italian School—The Boys Ride Creole Ponies.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Burnside, La., March 30.—After a strenuous day, during which the sugar plantations of Henry McCall, collector at the port of New Orleans, and of General F. F. Myles, were gone over on horseback and in carriages, Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt, her four children and attendants resumed their voyage aboard the yacht Mayflower down the Mississippi River to-night, and will reach New Orleans at noon to-morrow.

At Evan Hall plantation, belonging to Colonel McCall, Miss Ethel Roosevelt conducted a class in an Italian school. The three boys made a fifty-mile trip astride creole ponies, while Mrs. Roosevelt rode in a carriage with Colonel McCall.

COPENHAGEN HEARS DR. MACCRACKEN

So Many Crowd to Hear the Chancellor That He Will Repeat Talk on American Ideals.

Copenhagen, March 30.—Dr. Henry M. MacCracken, chancellor of New York University, who is here to deliver a course of lectures at the university, made his first address this afternoon and aroused enthusiasm. The biggest lecture hall of the university was not large enough to contain half of the would-be hearers, and consequently Dr. MacCracken promised to repeat his lecture to-morrow.

In addition to six hundred students from the university there were present the staff of the American Legation and many other diplomats, persons prominent in the scientific, political, literary and business world of Copenhagen and many women. Professor Warming, rector of the university, introduced Dr. MacCracken in flattering terms, and he thanked the Danish-American Association for sending over here such prominent representatives of the universities of America.

Dr. MacCracken's lecture was on "American Ideals," and he was frequently applauded.

A NOVEL EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENT.

Chicago, March 30.—Norman W. Harris, a Chicago banker, has made a novel educational gift to the boys of Becket, his native township in the Massachusetts hills. By virtue of his generosity no boy in the township need go without a high school or college education during the next four years. Mr. Harris will pay $5 a week to every native born Becket boy residing more than one mile from Becket or Middlefield stations and attending the high schools at Westfield, Pittsfield, Springfield or Lee.

The only condition of this financial aid is that the recipient shall maintain an average of at least 80 per cent in his studies and that his deportment shall be satisfactory.

On the same terms Mr. Harris also offers to pay $5 a week to every native born Becket young man attending Harvard, Williams, Amherst, Boston Institute of Technology, Yale Scientific or any state university.

SMITH ELY OFFERS TO GIVE $50,000.

Parsippany, N. Y., March 30 (Special).—Smith Ely, former Mayor of New York, has offered to give $50,000 to the Children's Home here if the managers raise a like amount, or he will duplicate each dollar raised by them for the improvement of the property. The managers have raised $16,000, so that a fund of $32,000 is assured. The children receive an industrial education.

TRANSATLANTIC TRAVELLERS.

Among the passengers who will sail for Europe to-day are:

THE KAISER WILHELM II, FOR BREMEN.

Oscar Hammerstein.	Mr. and Mrs. Tetrazzini.
Mr. and Mrs. Charles C. Homer.	Charles Dalmores.
Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Leeds.	Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Claflin.
Mrs. Edward Spencer Mead.	Egerton Winthrop.
Mrs. Jessie S. Foot.	Mr. and Mrs. Cleofonte Campanini.

THE HAMBURG, FOR NAPLES.

Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Gordy.	Mr. and Mrs. Edward F. Swift.
Mrs. William C. Caldwell.	Mr. and Mrs. Frederic Courtland Penfield.
Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Law.	Mr. and Mrs. James Brown Potter.
Mrs. Elizabeth P. Marshall.	
Mr. and Mrs. Darwin P. Kingsley.	

THE RYNDAM, FOR ROTTERDAM.

Mrs. J. S. Coburn.	Dr. and Mrs. William O. Osborne.
Mrs. H. M. Dunning.	Mrs. H. R. Forbes.
Mr. and Mrs. V. J. Lyman.	
Mme. Bressler-Gianoli.	

Travellers who arrived yesterday from abroad were:

THE CALEDONIA, FROM GLASGOW.

S. T. Collins.	T. L. Duff.
William H. Taylor.	D. N. Smith.
Miss M. S. Scott.	Mrs. James H. [illegible]