

About People and Social Incidents.

Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—2.30-11.12. King.
LINDSAY—2.30-5.15-8.15-11.12. The
ASTOR—2.30-5.15-8.15-11.12. The
BLANNEY—2.15-5.15-8.15-11.12. The
CANTON—2.15-5.15-8.15-11.12. The
CIRCLE—2.15-5.15-8.15-11.12. The
COLONIAL—2.15-5.15-8.15-11.12. The
CONYER ISLAND—Luna Park, Bostock's, Dreamland.

Index to Advertisements.

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New York Daily Tribune

SATURDAY, MAY 30, 1908.

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THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

CONGRESS—Senate: Adoption of the conference report on the currency bill was prevented by a filibuster conducted by Mr. La Follette, who insisted that certain business was transacted, it being found almost impossible to maintain a quorum.
DOMESTIC—It was announced in Washington that Representative E. Burton, of Ohio, will make the speech nominating Secretary Taft for President in the Chicago convention.
FOREIGN—A dispatch from London said that it was believed King Edward and the British government favored a military alliance between Great Britain, France and Russia, but that the present relations of the three nations.

THE HALL OF THE HOUSE.

The debate in the House of Representatives last Monday on the Library Committee's proposal to reduce the size of the present hall and to remove the desks which now occupy so much valuable space disclosed some amusing differences of opinion. Though a careful computation would probably show that the Speaker or the chairman of the committee of the whole wastes a week or more at every session in pounding for order, there were members who gravely maintained that there was rarely any disorder of any sort in the House. Mr. McCall, of Massachusetts, who as chairman of the Library Committee championed a smaller hall, had this to say of the conditions under which business is now transacted:
Now, Mr. Speaker, there are gentlemen who have voices so strong enough to fill this hall if one of the House is quiet, but the normal condition of the House, and then there is nobody whose voice can entirely fill the hall. We have often had the experience of taking people to the galleries, possibly constituents of ours, possibly judges of other countries, who are studying the workings of American institutions and who are ready to look sympathetically upon the workings of the great representative body of the American people, and it is almost the invariable thing that they look down upon a scene of noise and confusion and are able to hear nothing that is going on. They look down upon a scene similar to that which the imagination of Milton pictured in another assembly, very different, where the noise was so great that it "frightened the reign of Chaos and Old Night."

EXCESSIVE SCHOOLING.

There really seems to be ground for the opinion which many thoughtful persons are expressing that the latest amendment of the New Jersey school law goes unpleasantly near imposing upon that state a too extended and drastic system of compulsory attendance at school. Under its constitution, which requires the provision of free public schools for all children between the ages of five and eighteen years, New Jersey has long maintained an excellent system of public instruction, and laws requiring reasonable attendance at school and dealing with truants have been enforced with good effect. But in late years there has been manifested a tendency to make these laws more sweeping, until this year's revision, which appears to have been made without general appreciation of its purport, has aroused the suspicion that there may be such a thing as going too far.
Five years ago it was required that all children between the ages of seven and twelve should be required to attend school daily, unless excused because of physical or mental infirmity, or because of adequate instruction at home or in a private school, or for some other reason acceptable to the local board of education. It may be granted that twelve years was a little too low an age at which to let schooling in all cases cease, and there was pretty general approval of the enactment of 1905, which raised the age limit to fourteen years, to accord with the limit prescribed by the new child labor law. But the enactment of the present year goes far beyond that. It requires daily attendance at school up to the age of seventeen years, excepting in the cases of children who are more than fifteen years old, who have completed the grammar school course prescribed by the State Board of Education and who are regularly employed in some lawful and useful service. In case a child between the ages of fifteen and seventeen has completed the grammar course and is not regularly employed he or she is required to attend a high school or manual training school, and if there is no such school in the place where the child lives he or she shall be transported at public expense to the nearest one in another place.
In brief, the new law makes school attendance absolutely compulsory up to fifteen years of age, and then compels the child for the next two years either to continue at school or to work regularly at some trade or business. What is to become of a girl or boy who completes the high school course before reaching the age of seventeen, as many do, is not revealed in the law. Apparently, if such children do not forthwith go to work and stay at work they must remain in school, going over again the studies which they have already completed. Such requirements certainly seem to transcend the limits of reasonableness. Compulsory schooling is doubtless commendable to a certain extent. It is well to require, as this new law does, that all children shall attend a school "in which at least 'the common school branches of reading, writing, arithmetic, spelling, English grammar and geography are taught by a competent teacher,' and such schooling must naturally be had some where between the ages of seven and seventeen years; but it does not seem well to insist that all the time between those age limits shall be so employed. It would be wiser, while giving the privilege of school attendance, as the constitution does, up to the age of eighteen years, to let compulsion cease when such common school branches are satisfactorily completed, instead of requiring continued attendance to an arbitrary age limit and imposing high school and college preparatory instruction upon those who have neither the inclination nor the capacity for it. The true principle is that the school is made for the child, not the child for the school.

STREETCAR RUFFIANS.

If money has not lost all its attraction for transit companies, there is some hope that the hoodlums and other vicious roustabouts will soon get their dues, to the deep satisfaction of a public which has long endured their diversions with ignoble meekness. A ruling by Justice Finelli in the City Court last Thursday places the responsibility of curbing disorderly streetcar passengers squarely upon the traction companies, and failure to discharge this duty involves liability for all damages arising from the misbehavior of such travelers. In the case on which this ruling was given, commentary the Interborough Rapid Transit Company has been forced to pay a passenger \$200 in compensation for injuries inflicted by boisterous rowdies whom the conductor was vainly asked to suppress. Justice Finelli reiterates in his opinion a platitude of the law of common carriers which everybody knows but few have turned against the hoodlum nuisance: "The defendant, to the judgment, care and skill of 'which the conveyance and safety of its passengers were confided, should have discharged 'its duty toward them with diligence, prudence and foresight.'"

To the credit of some companies, notably the

THE GOVERNOR'S WORK.

The special session has proceeded far enough to indicate the Governor's probable defeat upon most of the important measures of his programme. The direct primaries measure, which is necessary to free the voters from the domination of the political middlemen, the petty bosses, is dead in an Assembly committee and the Assembly, by an overwhelming vote, has sealed its grave. The McCarran bill restoring local home rule in the Democratic party and erecting a legal protection against the Connors and Murphy sandbag is reported to have no better prospects with the representatives of the bosses than the bill which gives to the people the power to choose their own candidates for office. So much for the Governor's measures to put the people in control of the political parties.

LEGAL ETHICS.

The fact that the American Bar Association has prepared a new code of legal ethics indicates a stirring of the conscience of the profession. The new code will not put an end to the slyster, but it will put the general opinion of the profession in a position against unscrupulous practitioners whom improvement is likely to result. It will not do merely to frame and adopt a code of conduct worthy of the old tradition that a lawyer was an officer of the court and to discuss legal ethics at annual conventions. Such action must be backed up by an active professional opinion discountenancing those who make a business of soliciting and following litigation, the attorneys who employ ambulance chasers, the hummels of all kinds, and those more successful members of the profession who by their devious practices are giving to the honorable title "corporation lawyer" a sinister significance in the public mind.
The bar should not only have its code of ethics but it should set its face determinedly against violations of that code. If the men who discredit the profession are visited with professional ostracism, and those who bring it into reproach are upon its initiative promptly disbarred, a wholesome improvement in the character of the bar will result. But positive and persistent action is needed even more than codes of ethics. It is no little reflection upon the capacity of the organized bar of this city to protect its reputation and maintain its character that Hummel was able to carry on his nefarious practice so many years successfully.

SOCIALISM GONE ASTRAY.

How far many socialists are removed from orthodox socialism may be seen in the political platform just constructed by the New York organization which masquerades under the party name used by La Salle and Marx. If the fundamental doctrines of socialism are in the new creed, they are most successfully tucked away somewhere in the background. All emphasis falls upon a string of suggestions aiming toward the betterment of present social conditions (as all political suggestions do, after a fashion). Here may be found that strange blend of sense and nonsense which is strange by a characteristic of all socialists.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

Sweden is sending to the United States for some of her sons who have forsaken her and have made a success of careers in this country. John Ericson, city engineer of Chicago for the last ten years, has been asked to take the office of director of public works in Stockholm at salary of \$7,000 a year, with house rent free. Mr. Ericson was graduated from the Polytechnic Institute in Stockholm and came to this country twenty-eight years ago. Four years after landing he entered the service of Chicago, and has been active in shaping its engineering affairs ever since.

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To the Editor of The Tribune:
Sir: You and I are very good friends. We meet each other daily, for I daily devote some portion of my morning's time to your esteemed journal. I beg, however, to enter a gentle but firm protest against that portion of your "Literary News and Criticism" which, in your issue of May 27, you entitle "Lourdes—Andrew Lang on the Vision of 1858." I cannot understand just why you copy that article from "The London Illustrated News," but I can assure you that it is offensive to your Catholic readers. Catholics are very devoted to the Virgin Mother of the Redeemer, and are, in consequence, very sensitive where she is concerned, and she is herein concerned very much, for the Catholics of the entire world have attributed to our Blessed Lady's cohesension and power not only the apparitions of Lourdes but also all the consequent miracles that have been worked at Lourdes for the last fifty years. Our beloved Holy Father himself, Pius X., paid his tribute of love to our Blessed Lady by establishing the Feast of the Apparition. The town itself is as beautiful to-day as ever it was—more so. It rests in a little green nest, all its own, on the hillsides of the Pyrenees, and right in the heart of this pure emerald bed stands the beautiful white marble structure of the church erected in honor of Our Lady by the offerings of the faithful throughout the world. This church stands high against the green walls of the surrounding hills, a vision almost as beautiful as the apparition itself that appeared to the little French girl of fourteen in 1858.

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AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

Washington, May 28.—The President caused it to be announced to-day that he would leave here for Oyster Bay on Saturday, June 20.
The President ordered the flag in the Vicksburg National Park placed at half-mast in memory of General Stephen D. Lee, whose death yesterday made a vacancy on the government commission in charge of the battlefield.
Representatives Hawley and Ellis, of Oregon, were thanked by the President to-day in a statement issued by Secretary Loeber for the manner in which they have supported the administration in Congress at the present session. The Oregon members came up for re-election on Monday, and the President wished them success at the polls.
Callers at the White House included Paul Morton, ex-Secretary of the Navy; Senators Flint, Ankeny, Clark, Curtis and Piles, Speaker Cannon, Representatives Bennett, Butler, Graham, Hayes, Sulzer, Underwood, Cooks, Parsons and Lloyd, and Tulo Larragana, the resident commissioner from Porto Rico.

IN WASHINGTON SOCIETY.

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Andrew Lang and a Hypersensitive Reader.
To the Editor of The Tribune:
Sir: You and I are very good friends. We meet each other daily, for I daily devote some portion of my morning's time to your esteemed journal. I beg, however, to enter a gentle but firm protest against that portion of your "Literary News and Criticism" which, in your issue of May 27, you entitle "Lourdes—Andrew Lang on the Vision of 1858." I cannot understand just why you copy that article from "The London Illustrated News," but I can assure you that it is offensive to your Catholic readers. Catholics are very devoted to the Virgin Mother of the Redeemer, and are, in consequence, very sensitive where she is concerned, and she is herein concerned very much, for the Catholics of the entire world have attributed to our Blessed Lady's cohesension and power not only the apparitions of Lourdes but also all the consequent miracles that have been worked at Lourdes for the last fifty years. Our beloved Holy Father himself, Pius X., paid his tribute of love to our Blessed Lady by establishing the Feast of the Apparition. The town itself is as beautiful to-day as ever it was—more so. It rests in a little green nest, all its own, on the hillsides of the Pyrenees, and right in the heart of this pure emerald bed stands the beautiful white marble structure of the church erected in honor of Our Lady by the offerings of the faithful throughout the world. This church stands high against the green walls of the surrounding hills, a vision almost as beautiful as the apparition itself that appeared to the little French girl of fourteen in 1858.

COMMENDS THE TRIBUNE'S WORK.

Inquiry Ordered on May 26 Meets Approval.
From The New York World, May 25.
"The Tribune and 'The Scientific American' have been commended for the carrying capacity of the Blackwell's Island Bridge, and report unfavorably on it. They assert that the changes in the bridge made by the city engineers are such as to make it weak, and there is a possibility of its falling down. Some of the parts of the Blackwell's Island Bridge which are in rapidly changing shape are the Quebec bridge to collapse. While the cantilever principle on which these two bridges are constructed is old, the stress of the strains and the weight to be carried are in excess of ordinary engineering experience.
The World concurs with The Tribune and 'The Scientific American' in urging a thorough investigation of the bridge. The assurance of the Bridge Commissioner that the bridge will stand is not necessarily more convincing than the assurance of the Quebec bridge engineer shortly before that disaster.

WHY BOTHER ABOUT THAT?

From The Philadelphia Ledger.
Suggestion that Gompers be elected President is met by the statement that Gompers was born in Pennsylvania. The Constitution is to be regarded as a barrier.

AN INGENIOUS SWINDLE.

From The London Globe.
A large number of chemists in Paris have been the victims of an ingenious swindle. About two hundred of them the other day received a visit from an individual who handed in a prescription to be made up. Among the ingredients was one which was quite of the same nature as the structural element of the bridge. The chemists almost to a man sent out the drug for the patient, and the effect that it was to be obtained only at a certain wholesale depot. The chemists almost to a man sent out the drug for the patient, and the effect that it was to be obtained only at a certain wholesale depot.

SOCIAL NOTES FROM NEWPORT.

Newport, R. I., May 28.—Another rental was reported to-day. Quarterford, belonging to Mr. and Mrs. William E. Carter, of Tuxedo, was rented to Miss Julia Bliss, of New York, who occupied the cottage last summer.
Colonel Addison Thomas is again ill at his summer home.
Arthur W. Weld, of Boston, with a party of friends, arrived at Newport this afternoon on his yawl Cherokee.
Captain and Mrs. Philip Lydig arrived for the season to-day.
Mr. and Mrs. R. Livingston Beekman, who have been here for a few days, started to-day for Westbury, Long Island. They will return for the summer the latter part of next month.
Mr. and Mrs. William B. Leeds are having Rough Point prepared for their occupancy when they return from Europe.
Mr. James B. Haggin, of New York, was in Newport to-day, inspecting Arleigh, his summer home.
Mrs. C. C. Pomeroy has arrived at her cottage, in Ocean avenue.
Mrs. David King, who arrived a few days ago, took possession of King's Cove to-day.
Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Phelps, of New Rochelle, are the guests of Colonel Delaney Kane.
Marsden J. Perry returned from New York this evening with a party of guests to spend Memorial Day in Newport.
William Watts Sherman and Charles B. Hillhouse returned this evening to join their families here.
Edward J. Berwind is in Newport, making an inspection of his estate.
Mr. and Mrs. Sidney J. Colford are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Edward C. Knight, jr.
Harold Sands arrived from New York this evening.

MUST HAVE COMMISSION'S CONSENT.

Dr. Ferris Holds That Could Not Leave Matteawan Without It.
Albany, May 28.—Dr. A. W. Ferris, president of the State Commission in Lunacy, expressed the opinion to-day that Harry K. Thaw could not be transferred from Matteawan State Hospital for the Insane without the approval of the commission.
"Dr. Ferris," he said, "that before Thaw could be transferred from Matteawan he must secure the consent from the State Commission in Lunacy. The law provides that the commission may order the transfer of a patient at any of the thirteen hospitals for the insane who develops criminal tendencies to Matteawan. Consequently I believe the commission has complete jurisdiction over a patient at Matteawan who has criminal tendencies."
"Do you believe the courts could not require his transfer?" Dr. Ferris was asked.
"I do. I believe the Commission in Lunacy has sole jurisdiction. But that is a legal question which may be decided."

PLAN DINNER FOR LEWIS NIXON.

Lewis Nixon will be the guest of honor at a dinner to be given for him by the residents of the Borough of Richmond at the Staten Island Club on Thursday. A special committee has been making plans for the dinner, and many well known Staten Islanders have promised