MAINE ELECTION NEAR

LOCAL ISSUES LEAD.

Democrats Have Chance—Taft Majority Expected To Be Over 20,000.

[From a Special Correspondent of The Tribune.]

Augusta, Me., Sept. 5.—On September 14, a week from next Monday, the biennial election for a Governor, four Congressmen, a State Auditor, tickets in all of the sixteen counties of the state and a Legislature, will be held, and for the first time in over a quarter of a century the Democrats have a fighting chance of carrying the state. Although it is a Presidential year, the voters do not seem to care anything about the tariff or other matters of a national character, but are interested almost entirely in the discussion of state issues. There is no doubt under normal conditions that the state of Maine is strongly Republican, and it is predicted that the majority for Taft and Sherman at the November election will be over 20,000.

The paramount issue in this campaign is the prohibitory liquor law, which for many years has been mixed up in the politics of this state. The passage of the so-called Sturgis act by the Legislature of 1907, which gave the Governor the power to send deputies into a county to enforce the law where it was found that the Sheriff of that county was derelict in his duty, has stirred up a hornets' nest in the counties of the state where the enforcement deputies have appeared, and it is expected that the cities will show substantial Democratic gains over the vote two years ago, when all but one of the fourteen cities in the state renounced the Republican party. Hitherto the rural vote of Maine has been overwhelmingly Republican, but this year the Democratic leaders contend that the country looks better to them than the cities. It is a peculiar condition, because liquor as a rule has not been sold as freely in the rural towns as in the cities, where until within a few years it was as wide open as under license conditions.

Besides declaring for the resubmission of the prohibitory liquor law to the people and the repeal of the so-called Sturgis law, the Democratic platform advocates the abolition of the state liquor agency system, tax reform, economy in public expenditures, the rebuking of official dishonesty, abolition of bribery at caucuses and elections, proper legislation in the interest of labor, right of the people to govern, strict adherence to the principles of local self-government and resistance to any change in the constitution or laws which seeks to substitute arbitrary power for the will of the people duly and legally expressed at the polls.

On the other hand, the Republicans unreservedly declare for prohibition in their platform. They "demand the faithful and impartial enforcement of the prohibitory liquor law, and declare that they are opposed to resubmission of any measure tending to the repeal of the law which has done so much to promote the moral and material welfare of the people of this state." They also declare in favor of a law giving the Governor the power to remove a sheriff if he fails to do his duty in the enforcement of the prohibitory law, for tax reform, a strict enforcement of the school and child labor law and a fifty-eight-hour week for women and children employed in factories and workshops.

The only mention of national affairs and the national ticket in the Democratic state platform is in the opening and closing paragraphs, where it is stated that the Democratic party of Maine accepts the national platform of its party as a sufficient declaration of national issues and pledges to the Democratic nominee for President and Vice-President "our earnest and undivided support."

DEMOCRATS WITHOUT AID.

As in the case of Vermont, the Democrats of Maine were unable to get any assistance from the national committee. Mr. Bryan and Norman E. Mack, of Buffalo, the chairman of the Democratic National Committee, took the ground that if the national committee went into the Maine campaign and the Republican vote stood up the Republicans would have the laugh on them. Besides, in the case of Maine it was reasoned that state and not national issues were paramount, and that the easiest course to pursue would be to keep out of the Pine Tree State contest. As a result one seldom hears the name of Bryan mentioned on the stump, except in Congressional district contests, where the candidates necessarily have to discuss national issues.

Although the state is all worked up over the prohibitory liquor law, the Republican spellbinders and the Republican press are laying stress on the fact that a vote for Fernald, the Republican candidate for Governor, will assist in getting a bigger vote for Taft in the national election.

In Presidential years it has always been considered essential by the Republican campaign managers that the pluralities in Maine and Vermont, the only two states that hold September elections, should be maintained.

With this end in view the Republican National Committee has sent into Maine several speakers who were active in the Vermont campaign. It is also said that the national committee sent a liberal contribution. A glance at the vote in previous elections, however, does not bear out the theory that as goes Maine in September so goes the Union in November.

Ex-Mayor Charles A. Milliken of this city, a well known business man and president of the Christian Civic League of Maine, pointed this out in his announcement that although a lifelong Republican he would vote for Obadiah Gardner, the Democratic nominee for Governor. This theory was exploded as far back as 1880. In that year Harris M. Plaisted, of Bangor, the nominee of the Democrats and Greenbackers, was elected Governor in September, and Mr. Garfield was elected President in November. Since 1880 the Republicans have carried the state generally by large majorities, and twice they have been defeated in November by a Democratic candidate for President, Mr. Cleveland being elected over Blaine in 1884 and over Benjamin Harrison in 1892.

"On the contrary," Mr. Milliken says, "I rather think that a defeat in September might have the effect to spur our people to make a harder fight and struggle in November in other states. Be that as it may, our own state politics must stand on its own bottom, and national politics will take care of itself. But I think that the voters in other states will make up their minds whom they desire for President regardless of what is the attitude of the State of Maine."

The Republicans have had a large list of speakers, and every nook and corner of the state has been covered as never before in the history of Maine politics. Among the men from abroad who have taken the stump here are Senators William E. Borah, of Idaho, and Senator Julius C. Burrows, of Michigan; Leslie M. Shaw, Secretary of Agriculture Wilson, John Kendrick Bangs, the author, whose summer home is in York County; Edward Payson Brown, one of the lieutenants of Governor Hughes of New York; Congressman Henry S. Boutwell, of Illinois; Congressman David J. Foster, of New Hampshire; Guy A. Ham, of Boston; T. P. Dewey, of Ohio; George B. Chandler and Charles S. Fairchild, of New York, and Ralph D. Cole, of Ohio. Eugene Hale, the senior Senator from Maine, is also scheduled to make a number of speeches.

The 2d Congress District, which was represented for many years by Congressman Charles E. Littlefield, of Rockland, and before him by Nelson Dingley, the father of the Dingley tariff law, is the only one which the Democrats really hope or expect to carry. In this district the vote in 1906 was as follows: Charles E. Littlefield (Rep.), 18,708; Daniel D. McGillicuddy (Dem.), 17,846; scattering, 794, which gave Mr. Littlefield a majority over all of only 656. Two years ago the conditions in this district were unusual. Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, came into the district and made a personal campaign against Mr. Littlefield. He not only made a number of speeches, but he and his lieutenants remained in the district for days, and his representatives made a house to house canvass in the places where there were any considerable number of union men. The resubmission question also helped the Democrats in the cities of the district.

M'GILLICUDDY AGAIN RUNNING.

Mr. Littlefield is no longer a candidate, but the Democrats say that their prospects of carrying the district are fully as good as they were two years ago. They say that while Mr. Littlefield was opposed by Mr. Gompers and had the handicap of a factional fight within his own party, he is an especially able man, who has always had a large personal following in his district, and that, while Mr. Gompers might have injured him in union circles, he was nevertheless a help to Mr. Littlefield in other places, especially along the coast, where the shipping interests exist.

The Democrats declare that Mr. McGillicudy will receive the same support from the laboring classes which he had two years ago; that the resubmission issue is by no means a dead issue, and that this will work in favor of the Democrats as it did in 1906.

Assertions are made that Franklin and Oxford counties in this district will not give a combined majority for Mr. Swasey that will reach over 1,800; that Sagadahoc, Lincoln and Knox will all give Democratic majorities, and enough to offset 1,800 votes for Mr. Swasey, the Republican nominee in Franklin and Oxford counties. Knox County is the banner Democratic county of the state. It is the home of Obadiah Gardner, and the Democrats declare that this county alone will give a Democratic majority of over 1,000.

If this proves to be true, it leaves only 800 votes to be gained in the other two counties of the district. Two years ago the Republicans carried Sagadahoc County by only ten votes.

Republicans do not admit these optimistic statements of the Democrats. They say that Oxford County, which is the home of Mr. Swasey, will give a Republican majority of 2,000 or more; that Franklin County will give over 1,000 Republican majority; that Knox will be about the same as two years ago, and that both Lincoln and Sagadahoc will be in the Republican column when the votes are counted.

The vote for Governor in 1906 was as follows: Cobb (Rep.), 69,247; Davis (Dem.), 61,363; Woodward (Pro.), 1,133; Fox (Socialist), 1,551; scattering, 26; total vote, 133,500. The vote for Governor in 1904 was as follows: Whole vote, 131,512; Cobb (Rep.), 76,962; Davis (Dem.), 50,146; Woodbury (Pro.), 2,788; Hapgood (Socialist), 1,519; scattering, 26.

The candidates for Congress are as follows:

First District—Amos L. Allen, of Alfred (Rep.); J. Clark Scates, of Westbrook (Dem.); Joseph Lafountaine, of Portland (Soc.); Alphonso N. Witham, of Westbrook (Pro.).

Second District—John P. Swasey, of Canton (Rep.); Daniel J. McGillicuddy, of Lewiston (Dem.); George A. England, of Woodstock (Soc.); Arthur J. Dunton, of Bath (Pro.).

Third District—Edwin C. Burleigh, of Augusta (Rep.); Samuel W. Gould, of Skowhegan (Dem.); Robert G. Henderson, of Madison (Soc.); William I. Sterling, of Waterville (Pro.).

Fourth District—Frank E. Guernsey, of Dover (Rep.); George M. Hanson, of Calais (Dem.); Donald W. Ross, of Presque Isle (Soc.); William A. Rideout, of Calais (Pro.).

BOTH PARTIES CONFIDENT.

Byron Boyd, chairman of the Republican State Committee, said regarding the outlook:

Bert M. Fernald, the Republican nominee for Governor, the four candidates for Congress and the candidate for State Auditor and fourteen out of the sixteen counties of the state will be in the Republican column. There will also be a safe majority in the Senate and House of Representatives.

In my opinion, one of the worst things that happened to the Republican party in this state in years was the 42,000 plurality given William McKinley in 1896. This set a false mark for our pluralities. It has gone all over the country and has been impressed on the minds of the people. Now when our plurality falls below 20,000 the Democrats point to the lowering plurality in Maine. Up to 1896, when so many Democrats left their party and supported McKinley because of the free silver issue, our pluralities ranged around 18,000 to 20,000. Only in 1890 Chairman Joseph H. Manley of the state committee wired President Harrison on Election night with great glee that Edwin C. Burleigh had been elected Governor by 18,000. It was considered a great vote in an off year. In 1892 our plurality dropped to 12,000.

Everything considered, the outlook for the success of the Republican ticket is excellent this year.

Fred Emery Beane, of Hallowell, chairman of the Democratic State Committee, says:

I believe that Obadiah Gardner, of Rockland, the Democratic nominee for Governor, will poll 70,000 votes in the coming election, and if he does he will necessarily be the next Governor of Maine. I have letters here which show that members of whole families, men who have always voted the Republican ticket, will cast their lot with the Democracy this year. I have also letters which show that in two or three instances the members of the Republican committee in towns will vote for Gardner, and there is a stretch of road in this state three miles long where every farmer will vote the Democratic ticket this year.

There will be no speakers from abroad in the state this year for the Democracy. I do not believe that the men from outside the state are competent to discuss state issues with our people, and those are the issues at stake in this election. Thousands of Republicans, tired of the old ring ruling them and fooling them on law enforcement, are enthusiastic for Gardner this year. When you hear that men like Charles Horbury, of Lewiston; ex-Mayor David N. Mortland of Rockland and ex-Mayor Charles A. Milliken of Augusta are going to vote the Democratic ticket this year for the first time in their lives, you may imagine that something is likely to drop in this state on Election Day, September 14.

TO DEVELOP GUATEMALA.

President Cabrera's Plans to Increase International Trade.

Guatemala City, Aug. 22 (Special).—President Estrada Cabrera has issued an official circular addressed to the governors of the various states of the republic dealing with the impetus which the government has given to economic development of the country in the form of the Interoceanic Railway and the establishment of a new department or state known as El Progresso.

These are expected to further materially the economic transformation of the country. For this progress credit is also given on all sides to the statesman who is guiding the affairs of the nation. An important feature of his economic policy since assuming power has been to give the country the use of every possible medium to develop the riches which the country possesses. He also has recognized the importance of increased transportation facilities between interior regions and between the latter and the principal foreign markets of the world. President Estrada Cabrera says that, while the richness of the Guatemalan soil is not disputed, it is useless to try to cultivate and develop it unless there are adequate means of communication, to which he is successfully giving his attention. He maintains, also, that by these means only is it possible to produce a greater utility for the riches produced by capital and labor in interior and international trade.

In his programme for railway development President Estrada Cabrera shows particular interest in the interoceanic system, because its extension will be an important factor in the progress of Guatemala, whose development depends largely on its exports abroad. This campaign is one of the best phases of his administration. The plan for the extension of the Interoceanic Railway is to build branches on the Zacapa side, where Guatemala will have rapid communication with the republic of Salvador, and on the Suchiate side with Mexico, the United States and Canada, the two branches forming, with the principal artery, an immense cross. The President's circular suggests the immediate construction of the two lines.

The establishment of the new department, El Progreso, which has a population of vigorous workers, will likely transform that part of the republic into a great centre of agricultural activity, being in an important section of the Interoceanic Railway, which will greatly aid the exportation of its products. The Presidential circular also calls attention to the promulgation of the new mining code as an added influence in the development of the newly opened land.

The "Guatemala Post" publishes an editorial resenting some statements about Guatemala appearing in the newspapers of the United States, which, according to the local newspaper, are grossly inaccurate. The editorial says in part:

The newspapers of the United States seem to take a keen delight in publishing anything offered to them in the form of a derogatory article relative to Guatemala or to high officials of this republic. Why this should be, it is hard to understand. When these papers receive anything based on facts and not on vivid imagination, they ignore it with a complacency worthy of a better cause, but when they receive some "yellow material," based upon nothing at all, but of a nature to create excited interest, they grasp it with avidity and publish it in all of its exaggerated forms.

SEARCHES FOR MISSING DAUGHTER.

Father Thinks She Ran Off with Married Relative.

Eastport, Long Island, Sept. 6.—Charles H. Sweezey, of Yaphank, accompanied by his fifteen-year-old daughter Lulu, spent to-day here trying to obtain some trace of his daughter Gertrude, who is a year older. He says she has been missing since Thursday, and he fears she has gone away with a distant relative whom she met for the first time a few days ago at the Suffolk County firemen's tournament, at Islip. Miss Sweezey had been living on the South Shore, working for a family there.

No trace of the girl was obtained here. Mr. Sweezey said the distant relative was married and had three children. The missing girl's mother recently suffered a stroke of paralysis, and she has not been told that her daughter is missing.

ITS WORK MAPPED OUT

FARM COMMISSION PLAN.

Forester's Map Shows Subjects To Be Studied in Coming Investigation.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Sept. 6.—Literally it may be said that the work of President Roosevelt's farm commission is already mapped out. Gifford Pinchot and Liberty H. Bailey, who is president of the commission, have prepared a large drawing of the subjects which will be taken up, and the map is now displayed upon the wall of the chief forester's inner office. In less than a minute a visitor to the room can discover everything that the commission is bent on discovering about the farm and the farmer.

The map closely resembles a family tree. It is like one of those elaborate creations which abound in books of heraldry, full of ramifications, perplexingly complex at first glance, yet, after a moment's study, wonderfully simple. It illustrates how the work of commissions has been systematized under the Roosevelt administration, and particularly under the expert hand of Mr. Pinchot. To begin with, the student of the map learns that the popular term "farm commission" is a misnomer. It should be the commission on "social industry," which, as the name signifies, implies a much broader field of activity. The perspective of this commission really involves the entire social structure, but the farmer's portion is by far the most heavily emphasized and is to receive the main consideration.

The main headings of the map are the rural, urban and suburban. The two latter classifications have to do with those other fields which the commission intends to survey only when they enter the domain of the farmer and have an intimate bearing on his life. When the commissioners have completed a study of all the things which may be included under the term "rural," they will, if time allows, make a cursory study of the thousand subjects that come under the other headings. Upon the theme "rural" the map has much to say, its travels almost defy description, but the first generalization is mapped out as follows: Land supply, organization, communication, corporation, control, education and labor supply.

Each of these sub-divisions has numerous other sub-divisions, and those sub-divisions other subdivisions, until the visitor is lost in a labyrinth of systematic classification. From the sub-divisions of "land supply" one is able to discover that the commission intends to discover the kind and quantity of the land now being tilled in the country; to obtain information as to the location, quality, price, facilities, laws and tenures; how much is public, how much private, how much is rented and leased, the rates of renting and leasing, the terms of acquisition, the amount of taxes, the wage paid to the farm laborer, the acreage of humid, arid and riparian lands, and the amount of arid land which is irrigated and suited to dry farming.

A FARREACHING SUBJECT.

After disposing of the "land supply" the map takes up the question of "organization." On this subject the map shows the vast amount of study which was done to bring in every possible subdivision which might require attention. The first subdivision is the "individual." The commission will inquire into the different types of farmers, their health, their stature, their strength, their habits and their intelligence. After that facts as to their housing, their outbuildings, their diet, the food produced and the food purchased, their water supply, whether well or stream, their clothing and the care they take of their children will be inquired into.

The second outgrowth of "organization" is the community. The commission wants to know about the public institutions, the schools, the civic halls, the hospitals, the cemeteries of the farmers, the extent of co-operation among them for profits or mutual betterment and the efforts made for social betterment. A third subdivision is "homestead," under which falls the household, the garden, the kitchen, the lawns, the orchards, the hothouses and the attempts at ornamentation. Lastly under this head the word "farm" is used, and here there is an intricate network of radiation on the map. One line leads to "indoor domestic economy" and another to "outdoor farm economy." Indoor domestic economy is given three phases—"esthetic," "industrial" and "general." These classifications include house decoration, needlework, cooking, cleaning, fuel, utensils, cost of living, hygiene, sanitation and accounting. Outdoor farm economy is given six subdivisions—"labor," "soil," "stock," "machines," "crops" and "accounting." As to the soil, the map suggests fertilization and cultivation; as to stock, the investigation is to cover varieties, breeding, care, dairy, poultry, stabling, feeding and the barns. Selection and rotation are the principal classifications subordinate to the crops.

The third general heading, "communication," involves just a few lines of inquiry, such as highways, road making, the transportation used, the railways, the express and mail, the telephone service, the magazines and newspapers read by the farmers.

THE TRUSTS.

The fourth general classification, "corporation control," is in many ways the most important on the map, and it is the one which promises the hardest work for the commission. It involves the extent to which the farmer is in the grip of the trusts, and the commission will endeavor to ascertain in what way local and general monopolies govern freight, express, stock and refrigerator car charges, and in what degree corporate combinations affect the prices of raw products, the output of creameries and the cost of farm implements.

"Education" is not the least of the headings in its ramifications. The commission, if the map is followed, will look into the primary and advanced education on the farm. Under "primary" is found "rudiments," "Nature teaching" and "manual training." The commission will discover where the farmer gets the rudiments of his training, how much nature teaches him, and, presumably, report on the manual training. The farmer's "advanced education" will be dealt with by inquiring into the number of college bred farmers, or whether they attended the normal or agricultural schools. "Short courses, correspondence, bulletins, home meetings, readings, itinerant readings, lectures, farmers' institutes and social clubs" will also receive consideration.

In considering the last subdivision, "labor supply," the commission will deal with "locality," "character," "cost" and "immigration." It will look up the quality and quantity of labor in different localities, the character, whether skilled or unskilled, the scale of wages and the cost of living, the parentage of the immigration and the percentage that goes to the farm, its effectiveness and productiveness. Child labor is also a subject to be studied, and the map contains many other suggestions which may be followed completing the most elaborate undertaking ever attempted by a commission.

THRICE THOUGHT DEAD, NOW WALKS.

Victim of Lackawanna Wreck Surprises Surgeons of Summit Hospital.

Summit, Sept. 6 (Special).—Notwithstanding that the surgeons in Overbrook Hospital three times ceased operating on Leon Emmons, a Lackawanna Railroad brakeman, thinking that he had succumbed to his injuries, the patient was discharged from the hospital to-day cured.

He was caught between the edge of the roof of a car and the embankment when his train, "the Millionaires' Express," was wrecked on the Passaic & Delaware branch of the Lackawanna Railroad near Millington on the morning of June 5. He was thrown through the door, the edge of the car roof dragging against his body the length of the car before the engine came to a stop. The brakeman was found to be suffering from internal hemorrhages. It was while endeavoring to check these that the surgeons ceased work several times, believing that death had intervened. Emmons also had a fracture of the right collarbone, fractures of both pelvic bones, a compound fracture of the right thigh and a fracture of the left ankle. Emmons is now out of danger and able to walk.

SNORING BOARDER HAD TO GO.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Springfield, Mass., Sept. 6.—The fact that a man named Abis makes more noise when he is asleep than when he is awake, caused his landlord to ask him to seek another boarding place. After numerous complaints from fellow boarders that when Abis went to sleep they woke up, the landlord made a personal investigation, which sustained them.

ARMY AND NAVY NEWS

Government Reservation Used for Illegal Prizefights.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, September 6.

ILLEGAL ATHLETIC SPORTS.—Overton and Noble, who lease government land on Plumb Island, N. Y., will not be allowed to use the government as a shield to conduct prizefights or other illegal athletic sport. Reports were recently published in New York papers that prizefights were being conducted on the island, and that while New York policemen were among the spectators they were powerless because the land was owned by the United States, and they were without jurisdiction. The War Department is of a contrary opinion, and has instructed General Grant, who has disciplinary jurisdiction over the premises, to investigate the alleged illegal practices, and if, in his opinion, the charges are well founded take the necessary steps to make a full investigation and ascertain what evidence may be used for prosecution by the United States or for the revocation of the lease. The government has the right to lease military reservations, and there is no doubt of the jurisdiction of the federal authorities over the premises, but it is held equally clear that the lease of such ground for illegal purposes would be improper. The reservation was leased for the purpose of establishing a rifle range and to maintain a club for shooting, athletic and aquatic sports. The War Department was acquainted with the purpose of the lessees, but it was not contemplated that prizefighting or other athletic sports forbidden by the laws of the State of New York should find a refuge upon a government reservation.

"BRAID" FOR DISTINCTION.—The difficulty of distinguishing army officers and enlisted men when dressed in the service coat has been removed. Army officers in the field when they are wearing the olive drab uniforms in winter and the khaki in summer, will have on the sleeve a half-inch brown braid. This will assist in establishing the distinction which is regarded as necessary between the enlisted man and the officer. For every one in the military service, particularly when in the field, the dress is alike, and it is with difficulty that an observer is able to identify an officer, since the insignia on the service uniform is not clearly defined or recognizable at a distance. This is likely to lead to confusion in the matter of command, or cause mistakes which may be troublesome. The braid will be brown for all officers, regardless of rank, with the exception of those who are serving on the General Staff, in which cases the braid will be black. The General Staff officers have worn the sleeve marking all along, and hitherto it has been considered as a distinction which belonged to the officers of that branch, although why there should be need of special distinction does not readily appear.

ABANDONMENT OF SMALL YARDS.—Naval officers are inclined to agree with the proposition of Rear Admiral C. F. Goodrich, to reduce the number of navy yards and maintain only a few large and fully equipped plants on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. Some of the yards now in existence are destined to be abandoned sooner or later, and it is expected that the Navy Department will submit to Congress at the next session some recommendations on this subject, based principally upon the report which has been filed in the department by Rear Admiral Goodrich. It is considered that for purposes of construction and repair it would not be necessary to maintain more than the yards at Boston, New York, Norfolk and Charleston. The yards at Portsmouth, N. H., Philadelphia, Pensacola and Key West will probably be continued in use for minor purposes, that of Philadelphia, for instance, being a station for ships in ordinary, and that at Key West as a coaling station and base of supplies for ships operating in West Indian waters. On the Pacific Coast, of course, the yard at Puget Sound will be retained, but it is still a question whether it would be advisable to enlarge the plant at Mare Island or abandon it entirely and establish a yard elsewhere in San Francisco Bay, where the approach would be less subject to interference than is the case at Mare Island.

FLORIDA KEYS IN WARTIME.—The naval strategists have been giving consideration to the protection which it may be necessary to give in time of war to the Flagler railway over the Florida keys to Key West. The construction of the railroad, by filling between the keys, has had a marked effect on the currents and tides. The currents that passed in among the keys and reefs, north and south, are now diverted to a large extent around into the harbor of Key West. The tides all come from the Atlantic and flow close in to the outer line of reefs, into the channels between the outer reefs and the keys, and finally into the Gulf of Mexico. It has been said that this railroad is much exposed to a landing force from cruisers. There are only a few places where cruisers could navigate inside of the reef, and then only for a very short distance. A flotilla of torpedo boats could readily command the inner waterway and give adequate protection to this railroad. The protection afforded by the outer reefs, seven miles to seaward from the railroad, is in itself better than that which many other coast railroads have.

CARPETS FOR NAVAL STATIONS.—The bureau of supplies and accounts of the Navy Department will shortly call for bids for furnishing carpets and rugs worth $20,000 for officers' quarters at the various naval stations. It has been the practice to purchase them at the nearest market to the stations, and only in quantities sufficient to answer the purposes of each place. This will now be changed, and the purchases for all quarters will be made by contract as a result of competitive bids. It has been found possible to get much better material than under the old method and at greatly reduced cost. The successful contractor will be required to furnish each station with a catalogue showing the quality of the carpets and rugs he is to deliver, and the officers will be allowed to select the color and pattern they desire. The contractor will be called upon to deliver the goods at the different stations on proper requisition being made. Brussels and woollen velvet carpets and Wilton rugs will be called for at this time, and later the same method will be adopted with regard to household furniture. The Navy Department is desirous of using as many rugs as possible, as they are thought to be more sanitary and better adapted to the needs of the naval service than carpets. The officials at the Portsmouth (N. H.) station have made a special request for carpets, which they believe are a necessity during New England winters.

NAVY SYSTEM OF ACCOUNTS.—The Navy Department has received the report of the naval pay officers who have been examining the methods of account and the record of cost of work at various private points. Two officers have been engaged on this work for several months, and their report is voluminous in extent and filled with statistics. Much valuable information has been obtained, and it is hoped to apply some of the information thus obtained to the methods of accounting at navy yards. As it is at present, it is next to impossible to obtain a comparison of cost of work at a navy yard with that of the same sort under contract at a private plant. In the first place, difficulty is encountered in adjusting the difference in hours of work, the deduction for holidays and leave, as well as the rules and regulations which are described by one expert as hampering the employment of labor at the government plants. A part of the system of accounts has already been put in effect by Paymaster General Rogers in the bureau of supplies and accounts in the Navy Department, and the system will be extended so far as possible at the navy yards with the idea of using there the latest commercial benefits of the system, which have been profitably adopted at the private establishments.

THANKS OF THE FLEET.

Wireless Message to Melbourne—Search for Missing Men.

Melbourne, Sept. 7.—A patrol from the American fleet is still searching for the men who failed to go aboard their ships when they sailed on Saturday morning. The missing men number eighty-five.

A wireless message from the flagship Connecticut, received here on Saturday night, brought the word that every one aboard, from Rear Admiral Sperry down, gratefully remembered Melbourne, and that all considered the Australian visit the greatest demonstration of international friendship in American history.

"The Argus," reviewing the visit of the fleet to Australasia, says in an editorial this morning:

A more orderly body of men never landed; officers and men alike inspired sincere regard and esteem. Never in history have two countries of different flags found such immediate and deep sympathy. Although not sure of our strength, we are sure of our aspirations to keep this continent for the white race, a clean blooded limb of Great Britain.

The visit of the Americans aroused an unparalleled demonstration of friendship which will be memorable in its influence. The hope exists in Australian hearts that the chain of friendship will stretch across the Pacific, binding the two great nations, British and American.

THE MAINE AND THE ALABAMA AT SUEZ.

Suez, Sept. 6.—The battleships Maine and Alabama, the advance guard of the American fleet on the voyage around the world, arrived here to-day.

DINNER FOR OFFICERS AT HONOLULU.

Honolulu, Sept. 6.—Rear Admiral Swinburne, commander of the Pacific fleet now at this port on its cruise to Samoa, with Rear Admiral Sebree, squadron commander of the same fleet, was a guest at a dinner last night, given by Alexander Young. The other guests were mostly men who took a prominent part in the overthrow of the Hawaiian monarchy in 1893, when Admiral Swinburne, then commander of the cruiser Boston, landed marines.

Much of the unwritten history of the stormy times when Queen Liliuokalani was dethroned was related by the speakers. All of the remaining formal features of the entertainment of the Pacific fleet have been postponed until the return of the war vessels from Samoa, when they will again be at anchor for a week in this harbor.

JERSEY FRUIT THIEVES USE AUTOS.

Bloomfield, Sept. 6 (Special).—Fruit thieves in automobiles, according to the farmers in Brookdale and Richfield, are operating extensively, and in the last ten days bushels of peaches, pears, corn and apples have been carted away by the thieves in large touring cars. The thieving has been on a large scale during the last week, and the efforts of a vigilance committee and the police to capture the guilty ones have been unsuccessful.

The farmers have got together and taken steps to capture the thieves, who of late have visited the farm lands soon after nightfall, and at a time when any one would least expect thievery. At one peach orchard the thieves carried off fifteen bushels, and from another thirty. Bartlett pears by the thousand were also taken. There is no police protection in this farming district, and the farmers have decided to organize a police force of their own in an effort to capture the thieves.

TO PREVENT MINE EXPLOSIONS.

Pittsburg, Sept. 6.—Captain Arthur Desborough, member of the British Explosives Commission, arrived here to-night and joined in an informal conference Victor Watteyno, chief of administration of the Belgium mines, and Karl Meissner, privy superior councillor of mines for Germany, who have been here for several days.

These European experts are here at the instigation of the United States government to help arrive at methods for the prevention of mine fatalities. Professor J. A. Holmes, of the technologic branch of the United States Geological Survey, on behalf of the government, is the host of the visitors.

These men and a number of American experts will meet to-morrow at the government's new testing laboratory, at the old Lawrenceville arsenal, for a series of experiments with agencies for the prevention of mine explosions and for general conferences covering all phases of the question.

EX-LABOR PRESIDENT FOUND DEAD.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Kewanee, Ill., Sept. 6.—The dead body of Adam Mensche, former state president of the Illinois Federation of Labor, was found in his bedroom here to-day. He had evidently died from heart disease a week ago after disrobing for the night.

$500,000 LOSS IN STOCKYARDS FIRE.

Chicago, Sept. 6.—The woolhouse and fertilizer plant of Armour & Co., in the Union stockyards, were destroyed by fire to-night. The buildings were five story brick structures, covering an entire block. The fire was the fiercest experienced in the stockyards in seven years, and attracted an immense crowd of spectators. The loss is $500,000.

NO DICTATION FOR TRAINMEN.

Chicago, Sept. 6.—Victor Rosewater, head of the Republican publicity bureau, gave out to-night a statement made by P. H. Morrissey, grand master of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, in a circular recently issued to all lodges and members. After reviewing the platforms of the two parties on the injunction question, the statement says:

It should be understood that the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen has no political programme and indorses no political party or candidate for any elective political office. Neither have the lodges any authority to use their funds in furtherance of any partisan political movement, and any attempt on the part of an officer or member of the brotherhood to enlist the organization's support or indorsement in the interest of any candidate or party should be promptly challenged and repudiated.

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FOR AN ENLARGED ARMY

President Expected to Make Recommendation to Congress.

Washington, Sept. 6.—President Roosevelt in his final annual message to Congress will probably recommend an increase in the numerical strength of the army to at least one hundred thousand men. At present the army is on a footing of sixty thousand men, the number provided for in time of peace.

To the General Staff it has become evident in the last two years that sixty thousand men are too few properly to garrison the posts at which it is necessary to maintain an army force. These posts include the garrisons in the insular possessions of America. The law provides that the army may be increased to one hundred thousand men in time of need. This provision, in the opinion of the military experts of the government, is likely to prove a serious handicap to the army if absolute necessity should arise for a larger force. It is pointed out that the recruiting of the army from sixty thousand to one hundred thousand men would bring into the service an addition of approximately two inexperienced men to every three experienced soldiers.

The injection of so considerable a force of raw recruits, it is said by military officials, would detract seriously from the efficiency of the army. It would require many months of instruction to whip into shape the men thus mustered into the service, and in the event that the army was needed in an emergency the presence of so large a number of inexperienced soldiers in the ranks would prove a handicap to the main body.

It has been shown by letters received at the War Department that the people of the country are immensely interested in the manœuvres of the army held at the various permanent posts in the country. In years gone by little has been known of the operations of the army, but in the last two years, since public attention has been drawn to the work of the regular army, in connection with the National Guard of the various states, at the several permanent camps of the United States, people generally have manifested the deepest interest in the army's manœuvres, and have expressed to the War Department their desire to come more intimately in contact with the service.

It will be necessary, in the judgment of the General Staff, considerably to increase the strength of the army in order properly to care for the posts and fortifications in this country and the insular possessions. It is pointed out that a considerable force will be required to garrison the fortifications at Pearl Harbor, in the Hawaiian Islands. An immense amount of money is to be expended in the erection of the Pearl Harbor fortifications, and it is the opinion of army officials that a garrison of at least two thousand men will have to be maintained there in order to protect the works and insure against invasion by a possible enemy. Just now there are approximately ten thousand Japanese in the Hawaiian Islands. In the remote event of a war between America and Japan and some other power with which Japan is on friendly terms it would be impossible for the comparatively small force of United States troops now in the Hawaiian Islands to prevent the landing of arms and ammunition to supply the Japanese in the islands. With an adequate force at Pearl Harbor no difficulty would be experienced in preventing the landing of munitions of war which might be used against the United States.

It is expected that the President will recommend in his annual message an increase of the army by the addition of at least ten regiments of infantry, five regiments of cavalry and several companies of coast artillery. This recommendation, if adopted, would not increase the present force to the maximum strength of the army provided for by law, but would meet the requirements which, in the view of the General Staff, are necessary to place the army on an adequate footing.

LARGER YELLOWSTONE PARK GARRISON.

Washington, Sept. 6.—Provision is being made at the War Department to increase the garrison at Yellowstone National Park, which is under the command of Major Henry T. Allen, 8th Cavalry. It is proposed to double the force. General Young, who is in charge of the park, has heretofore recommended that the force there be added to. The recent hold-up by a lone road agent of seven tourists' coaches with a hundred and twenty passengers, calls attention to the necessity of a more thorough supervision of the park precincts.

WANT "ADS" FOR THE NAVY SUCCESSFUL.

Washington, Sept. 6.—"Want" advertisements have been found useful by the Navy Department in its recruiting work, and hereafter most of the money available for that purpose will be spent in that class of advertisements, in preference to the display forms. It has been found that the inconspicuous three or four line paragraphs in the "want" column of the daily newspapers give better results than any other form of invitation to enter the naval service. Considerable success in some parts of the country, however, has attended also the circular letter feature inviting recruits.

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