Amusements.

ACADEMY—2—8:15—The Red Mill.
ALHAMBRA—2—8—Vaudeville.
ASTOR—2:15—8:15—The Man from Home.
BELASCO—2:15—8:20—The Devil.
BIJOU—2:15—8:15—A Gentleman from Mississippi.
BLANEY'S—2—8—Vaudeville.
BROADWAY—2:15—8:15—Malia.
CASINO—2:15—8:15—Marcelle.
CIRCLE—2:30—8:30—The Man Who Stood Still.
COLONIAL—2—8—Vaudeville.
CRITERION—2—8—Samson.
DALY'S—2:30—8:30—The World and His Wife.
EDEN MUSEE—The World in Wax.
EMPIRE—2:20—8:30—Jack Straw.
GAIETY—2:15—8:15—The Traveling Salesman.
GARRICK—2:15—8:30—The Patriot.
GERMAN—2:30—8:15—Panne.
HACKETT—2:15—8:20—Salvation Nell.
HAMMERSTEIN'S—2:15—8:15—Vaudeville.
HERALD SQUARE—2:15—8:15—Three Twins.
HIPPODROME—2—8—Sporting Days—Battle in the Skies—Ballet of Birdland.
HUDSON—2:30—8:30—Lady Frederick.
KNICKERBOCKER—2:15—8:10—The Girls of Gottenberg.
LIBERTY—2:15—8:15—Via Wireless.
LYCEUM—2:15—8:15—Love Watches.
LYRIC—2:15—8:15—Mlle. Mischief.
MAJESTIC—2:15—8:15—Blue Grass.
MANHATTAN OPERA HOUSE—8—Carmen.
METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE—1—Parsifal—8:15—La Boheme.
NEW AMSTERDAM—2:10—8:10—Little Nemo.
NEW YORK—2:15—8:20—The American Idea.
SAVOY—2:20—8:20—The Servant in the House.
STUYVESANT—2:15—8:30—The Fighting Hope.
ST. NICHOLAS RINK—10 a. m.—Ice skating; three sessions daily.
WALLACK'S—2:15—8:15—The Boys and Betty.
WEBER'S—2:15—8:20—The Stronger Sex.
WEST END—2:15—8:15—Girls.

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New-York Daily Tribune.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 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; James M. Barrett, secretary and treasurer. The address of the officers is the office of this newspaper.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN—Over a hundred lives were lost by the burning of the steamer Sardinia, of the Ellerman Line, at the entrance to the harbor of Valetta; the English crew showed great bravery, the captain dying at his post while attempting to run the vessel to shore. ═══ Details of the execution at Jeremie of General Leconte, the Haytian Minister of the Interior, were received at Port-au-Prince; the rebellion continues to gain ground. ═══ M. Bonnet, counsel for Count Boni de Castellane in his suit to recover possession of his children, reviewed scathingly alleged actions of Prince Hélie de Sagan. ═══ A dispatch from Calcutta said that the signs of native rebellion were increasing, hardly a day passing without an attempt to kill English officials. ═══ The hospital ship Relief reached Sorgoson after having been damaged in a typhoon, she is on her way to Manila; all on board are well. ═══ Thousands of unemployed under banners bearing the words "Work or Revolution" marched through the fashionable districts of London. ═══ The education bill was brought up on second reading in the House of Commons; the Irish Parliamentary party decided to oppose the measure. ═══ The Brazilian Chamber of Deputies voted the coffee loan of $75,000,000. ═══ The French government will probably ignore the presence of President Castro if he visits Paris after the operation at Bordeaux.

DOMESTIC.—Steel and iron manufacturers appeared before the Ways and Means Committee at Washington to urge the maintenance of the present tariff on those articles. ═══ The Department of Commerce and Labor ordered fifty-three contract laborers and their dependents at Firthcliff, N. Y., to be deported. ═══ The so-called hard coal suit was adjourned in Philadelphia, to meet in this city next Wednesday. ═══ Colonel D. B. Cooper, his son, Robin Cooper, and John D. Sharp were held without bail at Nashville for the murder of ex-Senator E. W. Carmack. ═══ William R. Hearst contributed $42,295 toward the expenses of the national campaign of the Independence party, according to the report of the acting treasurer of the organization filed with the Secretary of State in Albany. ═══ A private stationed at Fort Rodman, in New Bedford, committed suicide. ═══ Dr. John H. Wright, professor of Greek at Harvard University, and Professor George A. Bartlett, for many years connected with the German department at Harvard, died at Cambridge, Mass. ═══ The Lincoln League, the largest Republican organization of Northern New York, indorsed Elihu Root for Senator. ═══ Charles Dana Gibson and Norman Hapgood had a narrow escape from death near Portland, Ore., when their automobile skidded on the brink of a precipice. ═══ Several cases of the mouth and hoof diseases were found among cattle in Maryland; it was said the state would not be quarantined.

CITY.—Stocks closed heavy. ═══ John D. Archbold, on the stand in the Standard Oil suit, said he once sold Standard stock at 70 to 80 cents on a dollar; he said the trust had saved the consumer from the "extortionate" methods of independent dealers. ═══ The city experienced the third day of one of the worst fogs in its history. ═══ There were elaborate preparations under way for the observance of Thanksgiving Day. ═══ Justice Olmsted was a witness before the commission appointed to investigate courts of inferior jurisdiction. ═══ Democrats, it was said, may split over the nomination of a man for the Senate. ═══ A committee was organized to raise $500,000 to endow the Lincoln Memorial University. ═══ Andrew Carnegie celebrated the seventy-first anniversary of his birth. ═══ A syndicate offered to lease the Madison avenue front of Madison Square Garden. ═══ Controller Metz said he favored longer hours for city employes.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Partly cloudy. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 59 degrees; lowest, 36.

THE NEXT "MORAL AWAKENING."

Governor Hughes in his speech at the Republican Club reverted to his desire to build up throughout the state a system of local self-government so complete that interference from Albany would be no longer necessary and no longer tolerable. He said:

> I hope the time will come, and I believe some day it will come, when we shall not attempt to prescribe the petty details of government for our different communities. I hope the time will come when we shall give them in a charter the general rules which will assure the maintenance of a proper general system of administration and leave them to work out their own salvation and to develop their local citizenship by dealing with their own problems.

Throughout his first administration the Governor has made it his uniform practice to veto all unnecessary special legislation, but even so a great deal of such legislation is inevitable, being "actually demanded by the best citizens "of the different communities to extricate them-"selves from the bonds by which they are tied "by former legislation." That is the vice of special legislation. It is adapted only to a special situation. It looks neither ahead nor behind. It provides no general rule for the conduct of government, and when new conditions arise a new special act is necessary to meet them, and thus there is no end of it, to the detriment of local self-government and to the injury of the state's general legislation. Most of the work of the state legislatures of the country is of this purely local character. It is the incessant grinding out of local laws that more than anything else gives the country its reputation for excessive legislation. Nor is excess the only evil consequence. The vast number of these local bills crowding upon the Legislature prevents its giving adequate consideration to the serious general bills that are before it. Each member is too busy with the local bills in which he is interested to give time to the interests of the whole state, and the consequence is that the more important general laws are often ill considered and ill digested. So the ideal toward which the Governor is working will improve not only the character of local government but also the quality of legislation.

The time is ripe for such a reform. Never was the public mind more keenly interested in purely local concerns, and never, therefore, could plenary power of settling locally their local affairs be more profitably given to the people. In this last campaign it was a commonplace that the liveliest interest in many parts of the country was not in the national contest but in state contests. And the interest tends to increase down to the lower political subdivisions. The last city election in New York was one of the most exciting in many years. And not only the citizens affected but the whole country felt a lively concern in the recent elections in Chicago, in Cleveland, in Boston, in San Francisco. Every step toward the improvement of municipal government anywhere in this country is followed by the press with the closest attention. Everywhere there is a realization that local government, particularly municipal government, is the pressing problem of the nation, demanding solution as no other problem does. The people are satisfied with the quality and character of the national government. State governments have made forward strides, though they still leave much to be desired. But municipal government lags sadly behind in the general advance, and the public is painfully conscious of its failure. Its attention is upon the local government problem as never before.

We venture the assertion that in the next municipal election here in New York the least indifferent, best informed, best intentioned and most independent electorate in the history of the city will address itself to New York's problems with a will to make the government better. To a people in the temper of New York City's voters to-day a large measure of real home rule may wisely be given. They may be trusted to work out their own salvation. They are fortunate in having such a man as Governor Hughes at Albany, with his idea of the place of local government in our system, favoring the expansion of a new civic spirit. With the city charter that is preparing in accordance with his views they should enter upon a new era. Much has been heard of the moral awakening of the people in their national and state governments. We look for a similar moral awakening in city governments. In fact, it is already here; the signs of it are on every hand.

THANKSGIVING DAY.

The complaint which is often made, that Thanksgiving Day has lost its original character and purport, does not appear to us to be well founded, certainly not to have a sufficient foundation to warrant discontinuance or diminution of interest in this yearly observance. Originally, especially in New England—and the whole observance pertains to New England more than to the rest of the country—the chief functions of the day were pre-eminently religious, and indeed ecclesiastical, and the day itself partook largely of the austere habitude of the Puritan Sabbath. That in such respects there has been a marked change in the day is not, of course, to be denied; but there has been at least an equal change in the whole temper and practice of the people, so that Thanksgiving Day, with all its theatrical, athletic and other diversions, is fully as congruous with the present state of society, and, indeed, of the churches themselves, as it was with the prevailing status of generations ago.

We are not inclined, moreover, to concede that either Thanksgiving Day itself, in particular, or the whole social spirit, in general, has become as irreligious or as non-religious as from a superficial view might be supposed. There is probably as much religious faith in the country to-day as there was in the time of our grandparents, though it does not manifest its presence in precisely the same manner. There has certainly been a gratifying increase in the number and efficiency of those practical good works through which living and efficient faith naturally makes itself apparent. If there is less austerity, there is far more charity. If there is less profession, there is more practice. It may be that not so large a proportion of the population as formerly now listens to formal Thanksgiving Day sermons, and that the sermons which are delivered are not nearly so long as they were, but we are confident that in public and in private there is as widespread and as true a spirit of thanksgiving as there ever was in our history, and there is especially a steadily increasing disposition to make thanksgiving objective as well as subjective; to give to our neighbors cause for thanksgiving as well as, and indeed more than, to dwell selfishly upon our own reasons for personal gratitude.

This latter disposition is not without its excellent uses. It is a good thing for the individual, the community and the nation, not only on one day, but as often as possible, to take an appreciative rather than a depreciative view of things and to cultivate optimism and gratitude rather than pessimism and repining. It is one of the unfortunate traits of too many men, if not of all men, that they notice and dwell upon and magnify their ills, while they overlook their blessings or regard them as a matter of course. They reckon every misfortune which befalls them as undeserved and excessive, without ever stopping to consider that their good fortune may be to even a greater extent beyond their deserts. As a day on which to strike a more discriminating balance between good and evil in this respect, Thanksgiving Day serves a most useful purpose. Beyond that, it is well to have at least one day, of universal observance, on which the attention of thoughtful people is largely given to increasing, by their own unostentatious deeds of good will, causes for thankfulness in the lives of those of their neighbors who may generally be less fortunate and have fewer things for which to be grateful than themselves. The occasion is one which we would not let pass from the calendar, and one which we trust will this year be observed, as it should be, more generally, more heartily and more effectively than ever before.

FIRE PERILS AT SEA.

The loss of life which attended the burning of the steamship Sardinia yesterday illustrates the facility with which such tragedies may occur in broad daylight, with means of rescue close at hand and dry land at no great distance. Many launches and tugs hastened to the scene, but were prevented by a high wind and a rough sea from approaching close enough to do any good. Of the passengers and crew, numbering 244 in all, probably one-half perished by fire or by drowning. There was a repetition, on a small scale, of the disaster of June, 1904, near Hell Gate. Though the huge excursion boat was in stiller water than that off Malta, four-fifths of the men, women and children on board perished. So appalling a sacrifice might not have been recorded had the General Slocum been run ashore sooner, but comparatively few of those who jumped overboard were saved by other craft.

Happily, the destruction of the Sardinia was not characterized by a feature which marked the fate of a larger steamship in the Mediterranean about two years ago. When the Sirio, carrying several hundred Italian immigrants, struck a rock near Cape Palos the captain saved himself by jumping into the first lifeboat which was launched from his sinking vessel. Nearly four hundred others were drowned, but he escaped unharmed. The captain of the Sardinia stuck to his post, and is believed to have died there. At no time did he lose his nerve. The best means of saving life were adopted, though their value was lessened by the panic among his passengers. If the loss of his vessel offers a close parallel to that of the Slocum, his conduct stands out in shining contrast with that of the Sirio's commander, which, to the credit of humanity, is a rare thing.

"REPUDIATING" IT.

The pains which "Little Tim" Sullivan takes to shift the burden of an extravagant budget from Tammany to the heads of the city administration are quite extraordinary and solemn. He "repudiates" the budget, as he wishes the public to understand, and so does every Tammany Alderman "repudiate" it. They vote for it merely so as not to be ridiculous. They are powerless to stop the extravagance, and would only be laughed at if they tried. Their solicitude to avoid being laughed at is unavailing. They will be laughed at anyway for repudiating a budget and voting for it; for putting on gum shoes and taking an umbrella to protect themselves from the deluge they see coming.

Tammany cannot dodge responsibility for the wasteful government of the city by "repudiating" the budget and trying to shift all the blame upon the Controller and the Mayor. The responsibility is not personal. The situation of the city to-day is the flower and fruit of the Tammany system. There is waste and extravagance because the city is exploited to maintain the Tammany ring. It is the extra cost of the city government that keeps Tammany going. The city government is extravagant because it is permeated from top to bottom with the Tammany theory that it exists for the sake of the Tammany ring, to provide jobs for the lower orders of the hierarchy of honest graft and profits for the higher orders.

Tammany cannot dodge responsibility on the ground that the Mayor has been half disposed to be independent. No matter what the Mayor has been, the government has been in essential respects a Tammany government. It cannot be "repudiated."

THE FLEET AT MANILA.

It is pleasant to hear that the sailors of Admiral Sperry's command will be permitted to go ashore at Manila to-day and frequently during the remainder of the brief stay of the Atlantic fleet at that port. Diversion is not the primary object of the voyage around the world which began at Hampton Roads eleven months ago, but at other stopping places a hospitable welcome has been given to the men, as well as to their officers, and everywhere else both have been enabled to accept the courtesies offered them. It would have been a pity if the visit to Manila had been an exception to the rule—if the only associations with the Philippines had been with target practice and coaling. Relaxation has been fairly earned.

The vigor with which the fight against cholera has been conducted since the call at Manila on the way to Japan is highly creditable to the authorities. The completeness of the apparent victory seems fully to justify the concession now made by Admiral Sperry. Perhaps he could have made it with safety a few weeks ago, but he acted wisely in incurring no risk. Though the visit will be shortened, nothing of importance has been lost by the delay.

Besides, the archipelago belongs to the United States, and Manila is as much a home port as Honolulu. It is due to the men that they should have an opportunity of becoming acquainted with the place, and it is due to those who wish to entertain them that they should be enabled to learn what fine fellows serve in the American navy.

CROSSING THE RIVERS.

The dense fogs of the last few days have afforded opportunity for a practical demonstration of the utility of tunnels as a means of river passage. These fogs have not—save in the minds of those whose present sensations are always superior to their memories—been more troublesome than others which have frequently prevailed here. This generation has seen few years in which there have not been many days and nights of fog so dense as seriously to interfere with river and harbor traffic, and there is no ground for expecting that meteorological conditions will so change or that man will by scientific means be so able to control them as to rid New York of periodical inflictions of this kind.

In such circumstances the value of the tunnels which now afford transit under the North and East rivers is gratefully apparent. While the ferryboats of the New Jersey railroads were running on three or four times their usual headway and at half speed or less, the trains ran through the Hoboken tunnel as swiftly and surely as though fogs were unknown. The multitudes who were delayed in ferry houses or drifted wearily about on the river, and the other multitudes who were expeditiously borne through the tube, were alike convinced that additional tunnels have become a practical necessity of metropolitan and suburban traffic. Apparently they afford the one means of transit which is entirely independent of the weather.

At the same time it would be a mistake to assume that the days of the ferries are numbered, or, indeed, ever will be ended. Transfluvial traffic is varied, and means of accommodating it must also be varied. Tunnels are of exceptional, and we may say indispensable, value for the sure and speedy transportation of passengers to and from the railroads, and indeed of all foot passengers. But they cannot at present, and it is doubtful if they ever will, give passage to vehicles other than their own cars. And the volume of vehicular traffic between Manhattan and the neighboring boroughs and cities is great and will continue to grow. There will always need to be ample ferries.

Technically it would no doubt be possible to construct a tunnel through which vehicles of all kinds might pass. But the cost of it, if it were made at all adequate to the purpose, would be vastly greater than that of a railroad tunnel. Moreover, the depth at which it would have to pass under the river would necessitate one of three things, any of which would be objectionable. The approaches to it would have to be very steep or inordinately long, or by mechanical elevators of some sort. Any one of these conditions would be not only objectionable but practically condemnatory of the whole undertaking.

A bridge across the North River would doubtless prove highly serviceable for vehicular traffic, particularly for that devoted to sightseeing and pleasure travelling, and we rather expect to see one constructed before many more years have passed. But for a great part, indeed the greater part, of vehicular traffic a bridge would be of no avail, for reasons practically identical with those affecting the approaches to a tunnel. The great mass of vehicular traffic along the waterfront cannot be taken half a mile or more back into the city to get upon a bridge, and then retrace its course a similar distance at the other end. There will always be use for a number of commodious ferries at various points along the waterfront, as well as for bridges and tunnels.

The American warship which goes to Haytian waters may have little to do for the actual protection of American interests in that country. It may have a highly important work to do in preventing filibustering and shipment of arms and munitions to the belligerents. The time is past when the occurrence of an insurrection anywhere in Latin America was a signal for birds of prey to flock thither from the United States, and for speculators to ship thither all the munitions of war that the fighting factions were able and willing to pay for, and that time should not be permitted to return.

Innumerable Thanksgiving turkeys are said to have been delayed by the fog in their transportation to this city. That is because they are dead. If they had only been alive they might have walked across the river on the fog last Tuesday night.

It is difficult to explain the President's position [on deferring campaign funds publicity till after the election] except on the theory that he thought the Taft campaign managers might be offered Rockefeller or Harriman or life insurance or other "tainted" money and prove unequal to the job of spurning it. If that is not the explanation, perhaps The Tribune will provide the true one.—Springfield Republican.

The Tribune does not speak for the President, but it offered, in the article to which the foregoing quotation from "The Republican" is a reference, a good reason, which is likely to be a controlling reason in many campaigns to come.

It is gratifying to be assured that the undermining of a part of the unfinished works at the Gatun Dam is of no importance or significance, but it would be still more satisfactory to have positive assurance that nothing of the sort can possibly happen to the finished work. It may be a trifling matter to have a small part of the dam settle or even be destroyed when that small part is all there is of it, but when the whole colossal structure is complete the settling or undermining of even a small part might involve the whole in ruin.

Controller Metz is inclined to grow hysterical over his success in selling the city bonds. He calls upon critics of the city's extravagance now to take a "back seat." But the opinion of investors that the present administration has not yet bankrupted the city is hardly a flattering indorsement. The city is probably paying one-half of 1 per cent higher interest on its borrowings than it would have had to pay if it had been economically governed for the last five years.

Oh, the hours that are wasted in the discussion of whether a thing will take, instead of considering the question whether it is right! Oh, the waste of ingenuity and talent in trying to simply give an administration that is palatable, instead of one that is square!—Governor Hughes.

Practical politicians will have to admit that the Governor has proved the justice of these exclamations. And isn't the demonstration his great service in public life?

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

The absentminded professor does not exist only in the comic papers, says the "Temps," of Paris. At a meeting of the French Academy a short time ago the Immortals had assembled and were conversing informally on the subject of the election of a new member when a well known writer entered the room. He greeted his colleagues, who smiled broadly upon him. Presently the smiles became laughter, and it dawned upon the writer that something about him was the cause of the hilarity. Good-natured explanations followed, and then, stroking his left cheek, the late arrival said: "I fancy you are right. I had not finished shaving when I thought of the election here to-day and rushed away, with the work undone." "Don't worry," said one of his friends; "remember Pasteur, who condoled with a woman who had just lost her husband, and thinking for the moment that it was the son who died said: 'You are the more to be pitied because he was your only one.'"

Howell—If I hadn't drawn that queen I might have had a straight flush.

Powell—That's right; always blame the woman!—Chicago News.

"The Philadelphia Press," backed by the automobilists of the state, has begun a crusade to abolish toll gates in Pennsylvania. That commonwealth seems to be unusually well provided with these relics of bygone ages, and the outcry against them is loud. "The Legislature," says "The Press," "has provided a way of freeing these toll roads in any county by condemnation proceedings instituted by any twenty-five taxpayers. As the cost of freeing the roads in this way falls upon the county, the process of ridding the state of toll roads is very slow. As the toll turnpikes are largely used by those passing through the county they are not in a true sense county roads. They are more in the nature of state roads, and the state should set them free."

THE AIRSHIP PERSON.

Hast seen the airship face—
 The wrinkled, squinted eye,
Teeth tightly skinned to meet the wind
 Along the trackless sky?

Hast seen the airship form—
 Back bent to look below,
Each arm ajar to touch a star
 As through the clouds they blow?

Hast heard the airship voice—
 That husky ring of joy,
With frighted blend, as end o'er end
 It bellows "Land ahoy!"?
—Lurana Sheldon, in Philadelphia Ledger.

A joint monument of heroic size, to be placed on the "Bloody Angle" battleground in Spottsylvania County, Va., to commemorate the military fame and glory of General Robert E. Lee and General Ulysses S. Grant, which shall be erected with funds raised in the North and South, has been suggested by patriotic citizens of Richmond.

First Almshouse Inmate—All the dishes and mirrors here is broke.

Second Almshouse Inmate—Sure they're broke. They wouldn't be here if they wasn't.—Harper's Weekly.

One of the alluring schemes proposed in Glasgow to aid the unemployed is that of the municipal corporation to construct, at a cost of $80,000,000, a great battleship canal between the Forth and the Clyde, and thus to link the North Sea with the Atlantic. A modest canal joining the Forth and the Clyde already exists, and it formed in the mid-Victorian period one of the wonders of the British Isles. It is forty-five miles long, with a rise of 155 feet.

THE IRISH BIRD CHARMER.

Wid more or less o' tuneful grace,
 As fits a Celtic singer,
I've praised the "great bird of our race,"
 The stork, the blessin' bringer.
When first to my poor roof he came,
 How sweetly he was sung to!
I called him every dacint name
 That I could lay my tongue to.
But, glory be! that praise from me
 So pleased the simple crayture
His visits here have come to be
 A sort o' second nature.
I'm glad to see him now an' then,
 But, glory be to Heaven!
If here he isn't back again,
 An' this is number seven!

Och! though this gift o' song may be
 In manny ways a blessin',
It brings some popularity
 That gets to be disthressin'.
Now, mind, I love this Irish bird—
 We couldn't live widout him—
An', shure, I'll not take back a word
 I ever said about him,
But now when all these mouths to feed
 Ate up our little savin's,
The birds whose visits most we need
 Are ould Elisha's ravens.
Begor'! if they were 'round these days
 An' I could make them hear me,
I'd sing them such a song o' praise
 'Twould keep them always near me.
—T. A. Daly, in Catholic Standard and Times.

MR. ROOT THANKS MAYOR OF UTICA.

Utica, N. Y., Nov. 25.—Mayor Wheeler has received the following from Elihu Root, Secretary of State:

Department of State,
Washington, November 21, 1908.

My Dear Mr. Wheeler: I am very much gratified by your letter of November 18, and I am very much obliged to you for what you have done with regard to the Senatorship.

Whatever conclusion the Legislature may reach, it will always be a cause of great gratification to me to have the Republican organization in my native county under your leadership take the course which it followed and to feel that it is sustained by the public opinion of the county.

I shall hope to see you the next time I have an opportunity to go to Utica, and, in the mean time, believe me, very sincerely and faithfully yours,

ELIHU ROOT.

Hon. Thomas Wheeler, Mayor, Utica, N. Y.

FIRE BELLS IN UPSTATE CITIES.

From The Utica Press.

The proprietors of Hotel Rochester and Powers Hotel in Rochester, it is stated, will apply to the court for an injunction against the city to prevent the ringing of the City Hall bell whenever there is an alarm of fire. These hotels are located but a short distance from the City Hall, and it is claimed that the clanging of the bell is a great annoyance to their guests at night. Ringing the city bell for a fire alarm was abolished in Utica some time since, and it seems to give general satisfaction. Location of a fire is promptly announced in the engine houses and newspaper offices, and that is all that is required. The bell called out a crowd which was in the way of the firemen and made more work for the police. It is a useless noise and in many up-to-date cities has been abolished.

About People and Social Incidents

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Nov. 25.—The President and Mrs. Roosevelt attended the dedication of the General Sheridan statue, where the President delivered an address.

The announcement was made that the President had approved the plan for a fifty-mile walk and other physical tests for naval officers.

Speaker Cannon paid his respects.

The President will attend the annual dinner in this city on December 12 of the Boone and Crockett Club.

The President received A. L. Faulkner, president of the National Window Glass Workers' Association, who announced that the President's plans for labor were all that could be desired.

The President conferred with Booker T. Washington on matters connected with the improvement of the negro race.

Among other callers were Attorney General Bonaparte, Postmaster General Meyer, Senators Aldrich, Cullom and Burkett, Colonel Thompson, of New York; Bishop Doane, of Albany; Colonel Crosby, Assistant Secretary Bacon, United States Forester Pinchot, Representatives Tawney, Needham, Beale and Campbell, Commander Sims, Captain Winslow, Judge Dougherty and Judge Robb.

President Roosevelt's Thanksgiving will be passed quietly. He will spend most of the day in his office, catching up with accumulated correspondence, but receiving few visitors. In the afternoon at 2:30 o'clock he will attend the cornerstone laying of the negro Young Men's Christian Association building. Later he will go horseback riding or take a walk. At 7:30 o'clock will be served the family dinner, with a few intimate friends present.

THE CABINET.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Nov. 25.—The Secretary of State left here this morning for Boston and will join Mrs. Root, who preceded him, at Brookline, where they will spend Thanksgiving with their son-in-law and daughter, Lieutenant and Mrs. U. S. Grant, 3d.

Secretary Root, the Attorney General and Secretary Wilson will be the only Cabinet members out of town to-morrow. The Secretary of the Navy and Mrs. Metcalf will dine with friends, as will also the Secretary of War and Mrs. Wright. Other Cabinet members will enjoy family dinners.

Mrs. Metcalf, wife of the retiring Secretary of the Navy, will take Miss Ethel Roosevelt to the Army and Navy football game at Philadelphia on Saturday. Her other guests will be Miss Munn, Miss Hagner, Captain Cheney, Captain Logan, Mr. Steight and Mr. Huidekoper.

THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Nov. 25.—The Netherlands Minister and Mme. Loudon returned to town to-day from New York, where they attended the opera and were entertained. They have leased a commodious house, No. 1901 F street, in the old part of town, which was formerly occupied as the French Embassy, and went there to-day upon their arrival.

The official announcement of the appointment of Captain Jacques Aldebert Pineton de Chambrun as military attaché of the French Embassy here, to succeed Captain Fournier, was received with delight by members of society. There has long been a rumor that Count de Chambrun would be appointed to the embassy here, but no official information upon the subject could be had. Count de Chambrun is the brother-in-law of Representative Nicholas Longworth, and he is well known to society here. He was among the noted Frenchmen who came to the dedication of the Rochambeau statue several years ago, and later attended the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Longworth at the White House. Count de Chambrun married Miss Longworth about seven years ago, and they have two children. They will arrive here next month.

Mrs. H. H. D. Peirce, wife of the American Minister to Norway, is spending some time here, and is entertaining her niece, Miss Gwendolyn Cummings, of Brookline, Mass. They left this evening for Annapolis, where they will spend Thanksgiving Day with Midshipman Horace Peirce, son of Minister and Mrs. Peirce.

IN WASHINGTON SOCIETY.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Nov. 25.—Several hundred members of Washington society witnessed at noon to-day the marriage of Miss Louise Maxwell and Edwin Corning at St. John's Church. A large number of these also attended the breakfast which followed. The bride was given in marriage by her stepfather, Rear Admiral Barker, and was attended by Miss Katherine Jennings, as maid of honor, and Miss Yvonne Townsend, Miss Evelyn Chew, Miss Mary Scott and Miss Caroline Brownson, as bridesmaids. Mr. Corning had his brother, Parker Corning, as best man, and the ushers were George C. W. Low, R. P. Tyler, William Stuart Glazier and Spencer Turner, all of New York, and Lieutenant Commander Henry V. Butler and Lieutenant Chauncey Shackford, of Washington. The Rev. Roland Cotton Smith officiated. After a wedding journey of several weeks Mr. and Mrs. Corning will make their home in Albany.

Mrs. John Kean and the Misses Kean, mother and sisters of Senator Kean, of New Jersey, have arrived at their house in I street and opened it for the season. They will entertain several of the younger members of the Roosevelt families of New York for the Christmas holidays and the entrance into society of Miss Ethel Roosevelt.

Mrs. William F. Draper has issued invitations for a fancy dress ball on December 31. This is an annual affair in honor of Miss Margaret Preston Draper, her young daughter, and the list of guests includes the non-debutantes to the number of seventy-five or eighty.

Mrs. Lloyd McCormick, wife of Major McCormick, arrived to-day to visit Lieutenant General and Mrs. Ernest A. Garlington.

NEW YORK SOCIETY.

While the majority of the members of the fashionable world will spend Thanksgiving Day in town, there are many who prefer to celebrate it amid rural surroundings, and numerous house parties have been organized at Tuxedo, at Hempstead and at the country seats that dot Long Island, the Hudson River Valley, Westchester County and the shores of the Sound.

Among those who are entertaining house parties on Long Island are Mrs. Payne Whitney, Mrs. Theodore A. Havemeyer, Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney, Mrs. Clarence H. Mackay and Mrs. Lloyd S. Bryce.

The venerable John Bigelow celebrated his ninety-first birthday yesterday by giving a reception for two of his granddaughters, Miss Anne Tracy, daughter of Mrs. Charles Tracy, and Miss Charlotte Kenner Harding, daughter of Mrs. Butler Kenner Harding, both young girls being debutantes of the season. Dressed in frocks of white chiffon, they were assisted in receiving by Mrs. Tracy, Miss Grace Bigelow and Mrs. Lionel Guest, who has come here with her husband, the Hon. Lionel Guest, son of Lord Wimborne, to attend her father's birthday. In addition to the debutantes the other grandchildren of John Bigelow present consisted of Mrs. J. Francis A. Clark, Miss Dorothy Bigelow, Miss Jeannie Bigelow and Miss Grace Tracy. Mr. Bigelow will give another reception for the debutantes next Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Forsyth Wickes have returned to town for the winter from Tuxedo.

Mrs. Reginald C. Vanderbilt purposes to go to Europe in January to remain abroad for some time.

Mr. and Mrs. Augustus Drum Porter have returned to town from Convent Station, N. J., and are at their house, in Park avenue, for the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. George Macculloch Miller will arrive in town from Morristown, N. J., on Saturday for the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. William Pierson Hamilton will close their country place at Sterling, N. Y., next week and come to town for the winter.

Mrs. George B. de Forest has gone to Baltimore, where she is the guest of her sister, Mrs. William Appleton.

Mr. and Mrs. Bradley Martin, jr., Mrs. Foxhall Keene and Craig W. Wadsworth are among those due to arrive from Europe to-day.

Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish, who is entertaining a house party over Thanksgiving, will return to town for the season within the next few days.

George Borwick, son of Sir Robert Hudson Borwick, of London, and Miss Mary Mason Hasell, daughter of Lewis Cruger Hasell, obtained a marriage license in the City Hall bureau yesterday. The wedding will take place on December 7 in Grace Church. The ceremony will be performed by the Rev. Dr. W. R. Huntington and the benediction will be pronounced by Bishop Greer. There will be a reception after the wedding at the Colony Club, given by Mrs. William E. Iselin. The attendants have already been published in this column.

SOCIAL NOTES FROM NEWPORT.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Newport, Nov. 25.—Mr. and Mrs. Henry A. C. Taylor closed their season to-day and returned to New York to spend Thanksgiving and the remainder of the winter.

George H. Benjamin, of New York, has completed his negotiations for the lease of Brent Lodge, in Gibbs avenue, the property of Miss Ellen F. Mason.

Colonel and Mrs. Delancey A. Kane have returned to Newport from a visit at Hot Springs, Va.

Rear Admiral and Mrs. French E. Chadwick, who have been making a short visit in New York, Chicago and Annapolis, have returned to their Newport home.

Lorillard Spencer and son, Colonel C. L. F. Robinson and Harry Oelrichs returned to Newport this evening.

Mrs. W. P. Lyman, of Boston, and Miss Beekman, of New York, are guests of Mr. and Mrs. Louis L. Lorillard.

Mr. and Mrs. John Ennis Kane are the guests of Colonel and Mrs. Delancey Kane.

HITCHCOCK VISITS TAFT.

They Talk of Campaign Fund and of Inauguration.

Hot Springs, Va., Nov. 25.—Details of how the Republican campaign fund was collected and used formed an interesting subject in the conference between President-elect Taft and National Chairman Hitchcock here to-day. Mr. Hitchcock explained that, while the total sum rightfully credited to the national committee was about $1,600,000, as a matter of fact, the committee fund was only about $1,000,000. The excess over this amount was collected by state organizations and turned back to them by the national committee for use. While the fact appears in the official publication under the law, Mr. Taft was told that its significance did not appear in the published statement.

Five separate contributions were made by C. P. Taft, which made him the largest single contributor. All of these contributions, Mr. Hitchcock explained, were made at times when the campaign committee was without funds and when the need of money was greatest.

Mr. Hitchcock arrived here this morning, accompanied by Charles H. Boynton, of New York. Both of them will remain until Friday.

The national chairman dined with Mr. Taft tonight. He said his time had been taken up recently with getting out the campaign fund publication and in arranging the preliminaries of the inaugural ceremonies in Washington. The military feature of the inauguration, he said, was to receive special attention and would be a distinctive feature of the affair.

COMMERCE COUNCIL.

Organization To Be Perfected on December 10.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Nov. 25.—Secretary Straus has called a meeting of the National Council of Commerce at his offices in the Department of Commerce and Labor on December 10, at 10 a. m., to elect the permanent officers of the organization, adopt by-laws and perfect plans to be followed.

The Council of Commerce, started in December last, has aroused considerable interest throughout the country, about sixty commercial organizations from the leading cities of the United States having joined since its first meeting, and Secretary Straus has become more and more convinced of the practical value of this progressive organization, not only to the commercial activities throughout the country, which can, through this council, be constantly informed of trade opportunities abroad, but to the various departments of the government connected with the business world.

The idea is to have a permanent bureau in Washington, with a competent man at the head of it, who can be in daily touch with the departments of the government having to do with commercial affairs, and through whom these departments can communicate many important matters to the special interests it is intended to reach, which now cannot be published generally because of their confidential nature. A similar relation between the government and the commercial interests has existed for some time, to the great advantage of both, in several European countries, such as Great Britain, Germany and France.

GOVERNOR SEES GAINS.

Speaks on Tuberculosis Campaign at Albany Meeting.

Albany, Nov. 25.—Slow but sure gains are being made