Amusements.

ACADEMY—8:15—The Warrens of Virginia.
ALHAMBRA—2—8—Vaudeville.
ASTOR—8:15—The Man from Home.
BELASCO—8:20—The Devil.
BIJOU—8:15—A Gentleman from Mississippi.
BLANEY'S—2—8—Vaudeville.
BROADWAY—8:15—Peggy Machree.
CARNEGIE HALL—8:15—Concert.
CASINO—2:15—8:15—Mr. Hamlet of Broadway.
CIRCLE—8:15—The Queen of the Moulin Rouge
COLONIAL—2—8—Vaudeville.
CRITERION—8—Samson.
DALY'S—8:30—The World and His Wife.
EDEN MUSEE—The World in Wax.
EMPIRE—8:15—What Every Woman Knows.
GAIETY—8:15—The Traveling Salesman.
GARDEN—8:15—Mary Jane's Pa.
GARRICK—8:30—The Patriot.
GRAND CENTRAL PALACE—Automobile Show.
HACKETT—8:20—Salvation Nell.
HAMMERSTEIN'S—2:15—8:15—Vaudeville.
HIPPODROME—2—8—Sporting Days—Battle in the Skies
—Ballet of Birdland.
HUDSON—8:30—Lady Frederick.
KNICKERBOCKER—8:15—The Prima Donna.
LIBERTY—8:15—Via Wireless.
LYCEUM—8:15—Love Watches.
LYRIC—8:15—The Blue Mouse.
MAJESTIC—8:15—The Pied Piper.
MAXINE ELLIOTT'S THEATRE—8:30—The Chaperon.
NEW AMSTERDAM—8:10—Little Nemo.
NEW YORK—8:15—Miss Innocence.
SAVOY—8:20—The Battle.
ST. NICHOLAS RINK—8:15—Ice hockey.
STUYVESANT—8:30—The Fighting Hope.
WALDORF-ASTORIA—2—8—The Critic.
WALLACK'S—8:20—The Boys and Betty.
WEBER'S—8:15—An International Marriage.
WEST END—8:15—The Rejuvenation of Aunt Mary.

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New-York Daily Tribune.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 5, 1909.

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.

CONGRESS.—Both houses reassembled after the holiday recess, and voted $800,000 for relief of the earthquake sufferers in Italy, an appropriation of $500,000 having been recommended in a special message by President Roosevelt. ==== The House received a message from the President explaining his remarks on the Secret Service.

FOREIGN.—Scientists predict that even heavier shocks will occur within a few days in Calabria and Sicily. ==== Ambassador Griscom, at Rome, delivered to Count Taverna, head of the Italian Red Cross, $250,000 from the American Red Cross. ==== The government at Vienna instructed the Austrian Minister at Belgrade to demand an apology from M. Milanovics, the Servian Foreign Minister, for his anti-Austrian utterances in the National Assembly. ==== Ex-President Castro was operated on at Berlin for kidney trouble. ==== It was learned at Paris that the elections held in France on Sunday for members of the chambers of Deputies had resulted in a victory for the government and particularly for the Radicals. ==== The American gunboat Helena arrived at Canton, having been sent there as a result of an anti-foreign agitation caused by the killing of a coolie by a Portuguese seaman. ==== It is reported at St. Petersburg that Father John of Cronstadt, was robbed of large sums of money during his closing hours and that his will was forged. ==== Representatives of foreign governments in China are left completely in the dark as to the Regent's plans; it is learned that the decree dismissing Yuan Shih Kai was forced upon the Grand Council.

DOMESTIC.—The United States Supreme Court upheld the New York 80-cent gas law and refused to grant the government's petition for a review of the case in which a fine of $29,240,000 was imposed on the Standard Oil Company. ==== Governor Hughes at Albany finished his message to the Legislature, which was sent to the printers. ==== State Controller Charles H. Gaus announced at Albany that he would reorganize at once the Bureau of Municipal Accounts in his office. ==== Mayor Adams's annual message to the Buffalo Common Council contained many radical suggestions. ==== The federal inquiry into the alleged relations between the packing houses and the railways was resumed in Chicago, redoubled precautions for secrecy being taken. ==== The second trial of J. B. F. Rinehart, ex-cashier and vice-president of the defunct Farmers and Drovers' National Bank, of Waynesburg, Penn., began at Pittsburg, a jury being obtained in the first hour.

CITY.—Stocks were weak. ==== Consolidated Gas stocks dropped 26 points following the decision by the United States Supreme Court. ==== Thornton J. Hains, who is on trial for the murder of William E. Annis, took the stand in his own defence. ==== The Mayor, in a long message to the Board of Aldermen, went into an elaborate defence of his administration. ==== It was announced that the city's total contribution to the Italian relief funds was $325,000. ==== Columbia University trustees held their annual election and received a report of gifts. ==== The hearing of charges against Borough President Haffen of The Bronx began before Wallace Macfarlane. ==== Orville Wright, one of the two famous brothers who developed the aeroplane, is in the city and will soon join his brother in France. ==== The monthly railway rate of $2 for school children was restored on Staten Island by order of the Public Service Commission. ==== A young racetrack player who had lost all his money blew out his brains.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Rain. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 52 degrees; lowest, 39.

EIGHTY-CENT GAS.

The gist of the Supreme Court's decision in the 80-cent gas case is found in these sentences from Judge Peckham's summary of it:

Under all the circumstances, the complainant has failed to make out its case with that degree of clearness necessary to warrant the interference of a court of equity before an actual and bona fide test has been made under the practical operation of its supplying gas at the rates mentioned in the statutes.

The Circuit Court whittled down the District Court's valuation of the gas company's property until, according to its estimate of the cost of making gas, the company would earn about 5 per cent. The Supreme Court cuts more than four millions off the valuation of the franchises, adopting the valuation of them at the time of the consolidation, there being no sufficient evidence, writes Justice Peckham, "to warrant the finding of any increase whatever over the "amount agreed upon at the consolidation." With this sum cut out, the return, accepting the other figures fixed by the Circuit Court, would be about 6½ per cent on the company's property. But the Supreme Court adds that the evidence leaves it doubtful whether the value of the other property actually used by the company in making and selling gas is as great as that fixed by the lower court. A slight reduction in this value would bring a return of 6 per cent. Therefore there is no *prima facie* case of confiscation. A test of the act is ordered, and if its results show confiscation the company can appeal to the courts. In other words, the court does not find the 80-cent statute constitutional. It merely holds that there is no such ground for believing it would result in confiscation as to justify enjoining the enforcement of the act.

In two respects the court has found the law unconstitutional—namely, in respect to its very strict requirements as to pressure and in respect to its penalty clauses. The gas company maintained that the requirements of the law that gas should be supplied of a given candle power, at a given pressure, for a fixed price, were "inseparable"—that is, if any one requirement was impossible and unconstitutional the whole law should fall. But the court has brushed this contention aside and has "separated" the pressure requirement from the others, pronouncing it unconstitutional. The law remains that the company must supply gas of 22 candle power at 80 cents a thousand feet. This, we believe, the company never asserted its inability to do, its contention being that it could not furnish that quality of gas for 80 cents at the required pressure.

On the question of the inclusion of franchise values in the property of a public service company upon which it must earn a reasonable rate there is no direct decision, at least in the summary prepared by Justice Peckham. But as the court includes the franchise in its estimate of the company's property for the purpose of showing a return of nearly 6 per cent, it may be supposed to have decided in favor of the inclusion of franchise values, unless the action of the state which debarred it from questioning the value of the franchises agreed upon at the time of consolidation is held also to have prevented it from objecting to the company's earning a fair rate on that valuation. Considerable interest will attach to the language of the full opinion upon this question of franchise values.

The decision is characterized by common sense. It may have the effect of discouraging efforts to enjoin the enforcement of rate laws and of encouraging their trial, so that the courts may have actual results before them when confiscation is alleged.

THE SECRET SERVICE.

President Roosevelt's message to the House of Representatives explaining and amplifying his protest against the restriction of the activities of the Secret Service effected by last year's sundry civil appropriation act will, we think, convince the country not only that the restriction was unwise, but also that the resentment expressed in the House at the terms of the President's original criticism was based on an interpretation which a dispassionate reading of the full text of that criticism does not justify. The President rightly says that nothing in his message of December 8 warrants that portion of the preamble of the House resolution of December 17 which accuses him of charging that "the "majority of the Congressmen were in fear of "being investigated by Secret Service men," and that "Congress as a whole was actuated by that motive in enacting the provision in question."

The President originally remarked merely that "the chief argument in favor of the pro-"vision was that Congressmen did not them-"selves wish to be investigated by Secret Ser-"vice men," and his meaning was that that was the chief argument of those who spoke in favor of restricting the Secret Service in the debate on the sundry civil appropriation bill. He cites enough expressions on the part of Representatives supporting restriction to prove that they did lay stress on that argument, but it does not follow that he charged the majority who voted to sustain the Committee on Appropriations, which reported the restriction, with "fearing to be investigated by Secret Service men." He only intimated that if Representatives in Congress really wanted to cut off the possibility of their being investigated, along with other government officials suspected of complicity in frauds or crimes, they should have explicitly exempted the legislative branch, but left the Executive free to use the resources of the Secret Service in the prosecution of the great mass of cases in which Congressmen assuredly would not be involved.

We cannot see that the President brought any injurious indictment against Congress or against individual Congressmen. He complained that Congress had acted unreasonably and shortsightedly and asked for the correction of a serious legislative blunder. There can hardly be two opinions about the folly of crippling the government in its legitimate efforts to enforce the statutes, to recover misappropriated property and to punish crimes inside as well as outside the government service, on the ground that the Secret Service had been misused, or might be misused, to investigate the records of a few innocent members of Congress. The usefulness of the Secret Service has been demonstrated again and again, and its employment by the present administration has resulted in an enormous increase of respect for the federal statutes and a great extension of the government's powers of self-protection. On the record made in the last seven years the bureau deserves to be enlarged and reorganized as an accredited agency of the Department of Justice. The action of the House of Representatives last year in trying to restrict its activities to technical Treasury Department work—detecting counterfeits, etc.—was a step backward. No side issues raised by a manifest misinterpretation of the President's protest should be allowed to interfere with a prompt recognition by the Committee on Appropriations that it was in error and prompt action to repair last year's mistake.

AMERICA AIDING ITALY.

Americans promptly sprang to the aid of the stricken Italians the moment they heard of the catastrophe at Messina, with the generous zeal for which they are happily noted. Contributions large and small have been pouring in, and will doubtless continue to be made until a total is attained commensurate with the need. Appeals of this kind have never been and will never be made to Americans in vain.

It is highly fitting, however, that there should also be a generous measure of national aid from the government of the United States to that of Italy, and the President's message to Congress yesterday and the consequent action of Congress will command the cordial approval of the American people. It is gratifying to know that the President has taken advantage of the fortunate disposition and equipment of two of our supply ships to hasten them to the scene of distress with large supplies of precisely the things which are most needed, and also that, in accordance with the suggestion originally made in these columns, the services of at least half of the great battleship fleet have been placed at the disposal of the Italian government. In supplementing this action with a large appropriation of money our government establishes a record which will always be contemplated with sincere satisfaction.

This governmental bounty will, of course, not be regarded by any one as completing the duty of America toward Italy or as obviating the need of further private gifts. There will be pressing need for some time to come of all the contributions which Americans can make through what the President again commends as the safe and efficient channel of the American Red Cross.

HERTZ WAVE TELEGRAPHY.

When the United States Navy Department invited proposals a few weeks ago for high power wireless telegraphic equipment it was expected that they would be opened to-day. Hence it should soon be known whether any inventor and his financial backers yet stand ready to give the government what it asks for. The specifications call for a station in the vicinity of Washington having a range of three thousand miles and for apparatus for two ships capable of sending dispatches a distance one-third as great.

Apparently there should be no difficulty in complying with the demands here specified, but coupled with them are others which may not so easily be satisfied. One is that the instruments shall work equally well day and night, and another is that communications shall not be interrupted by atmospheric conditions. A third seeks protection against accidental or intentional interference, and a fourth makes "absolute secrecy" an essential. The wisdom of making these additional requirements is obvious enough, but the feasibility of meeting them fully depends on the advances in the art of telegraphy the extent of which is not generally known. Marconi, Slaby, Fessenden, Poulsen, De Forest and others have been diligently striving to improve on the crude devices first employed ten years ago. Can any of them guarantee a system which is infallible? If so, whose is the best? If none of them is ready to submit to all the prescribed tests, when will they be able to do so?

A station such as is proposed for the neighborhood of Washington would have a range including most of the North Atlantic, the Isthmus of Panama and a limited portion of the Pacific. If it should render the service the government aims to secure, similar plants at strategic points might come to be regarded as essential to a proper control of the navy. Stations in the Philippines and on the California coast would command the Pacific, though perhaps they should be supplemented by others in Hawaii and the Canal Zone. However, the government will probably wait until the success of its first venture is beyond question before planning new ones.

THE MAYOR'S MESSAGE.

Really, the fact that the city debt is now almost as large as the national debt is no excuse for making the Mayor's message longer than a Presidential message. And it is to that fact that New York owes the longest Mayor's message on record. It is expanded beyond the length of previous documents to prove that there is no reason for public discontent with the big debt and the big budget. It shows that of $299,000,000 of corporate stock issued since the beginning of Mayor McClellan's administration $151,000,000 "was issued for purposes to which the city was committed prior to 1904." The implication is that the Mayor's administration has been the victim of his predecessor's extravagance. If the message had shown the projects to which this administration has committed the city which will have to be paid for by its successor, perhaps it would have proved its case.

The budget's increase is similarly analyzed to show that it was natural and inevitable. The population has increased since January 1, 1904, by a certain rate. The cost of certain departments has increased by a smaller rate. The taxes have not gone up since consolidation in 1897, the increased cost of government having been in proportion to the increase of property values. These assertions are interesting, but they make no allowance for devices which have grown up in recent years by which the apparent cost of administration is kept below the real cost. No such paying of running expenses out of corporate stock was indulged in before consolidation as has been recently. Borrowing sinking fund revenues under the general fund bond scheme is a recent device to keep down taxes. On their face, moreover, the Mayor's figures prove only that government under him has been no more costly in proportion than under his predecessors. But at that it is the kind which in the last decade has been hurrying the city toward bankruptcy.

A CHINESE OPPORTUNIST.

The dismissal of Yuan Shih Kai from office at Peking is unquestionably an interesting and important incident. It was by no means, however, so unexpected as some reports would make it appear, and while it would be rash to declare at once its precise significance, there is room for questioning whether it is so much a triumph of reaction and so evil an omen as some are reported to assume. The observation has long been commonplace that the Oriental and Occidental minds are so different in constitution and operation that one of them cannot comprehend the other. However that may be, it is at least equally true that, practically speaking, Americans and Europeans have too little assured knowledge of the internal affairs of the Chinese government and too contradictory information concerning them to justify any offhand judgment of the merits or demerits of Chinese statesmen. It will be remembered that Li Hung Chang, who was probably as well known to us as any Chinese statesman who ever lived, was, on the one hand, represented as a broad minded, progressive, benevolent and incorruptible patriot, and, on the other hand, with equal assurance, as a narrow, sordid and corrupt self-seeker. It is not at all surprising to find similar differences of estimate concerning Li's successor in the metropolitan viceroyship.

The effusive encomiums which are now lavished upon Yuan Shih Kai may be amply deserved. It is to be hoped that they are. There can be little question that in the later part of the Boxer troubles he rendered some services to the Western powers in securing information of the state of affairs at Peking. It seems no less certain that a little earlier he was regarded with profound distrust as one of the worst enemies of reform. He first came into prominence about a quarter of a century ago as the Chinese "power behind the throne" in Corea whose machinations and arbitrary conduct provoked the war between China and Japan and the consequent expulsion of the Chinese from Corea. After that war he became Provincial Judge of Pe-Chi-Li, and in 1898 is said to have betrayed the reform plans of the young Emperor and the reformer, Kang Yu-Wei, to the Empress Dowager, and thus to have caused the defeat and collapse of the reform movement at that time. For that service of treachery, it has been charged, the Empress Dowager rewarded him with the viceroyalty of Shan-Tung, and while he was in that office, instead of suppressing the Boxers as he was nominally commanded to do, he permitted them to march upon Peking. He was thus easily able to get information from Peking during the siege of the legations because of his friendly relations with the Boxers, and it was not without reason suspected at the time that he rendered that service, not from any love of foreigners nor from a desire to defeat the Boxers, but merely through shrewd realization of which was bound to be the winning side.

Of his ability as an administrator, especially in reorganizing a part of the Chinese army according to Western fashion and in introducing Western methods and textbooks into Chinese schools, there can be no doubt. He was also a leader in the movement for Chinese control and exploitation of Chinese resources and industries. Whether he adopted such courses through pure benevolence or through personal ambition and a desire for self-aggrandizement is an open question. It seems certain that he remained to the end of her reign an apparently loyal servant of the Empress Dowager, executing her will with equal readiness and zeal in reaction and in reform. He never commanded the confidence of the reformers after his treachery in 1898, but was regarded by them as their implacable foe and was publicly accused by them of having compassed the death of the late Emperor. Of the truth of that accusation it would be presumptuous to attempt to judge on the meagre basis of information which is available, but any strong suspicion of its truth would amply explain the terms of the imperial decree of dismissal. That he has made himself approachable and agreeable to the representatives of foreign governments and has greatly facilitated the cultivation of correct relationships between China and other countries is perfectly well known and explains the regret with which his dismissal is regarded by the diplomatic corps.

The most judicious estimate of Yuan Shih Kai seems to be that he is and has ever been a pure opportunist, excelling in the versatility and agility with which he has attached himself to whatever cause seemed to be in the ascendant. The suggestion that his downfall is due to a Manchu conspiracy is scarcely tenable, since he is himself a Manchu. The more probable explanation is that the Prince Regent, who is one of the shrewdest and most enlightened and progressive men in China, has discovered cause for distrusting him, if not for condemning him, for his conduct toward the late Emperor, and has therefore dismissed him, regarding it as clemency merely to dismiss him instead of sending him to punishment.

The many thousand subscribers to the escrowed gas fund will feel like thanking the United States Supreme Court for a pleasant New Year's remembrance.

John W. Kern, who "also ran" on the late Democratic national ticket, feels that he should be elected United States Senator from Indiana as a compensation for what he now considers his "sacrifice." But on nomenclatural form the distinction should go to his most dangerous rival, the Hon. L. Ert Slack.

New times, new methods. What would Admiral Porter or Admiral Farragut have thought of the horseback or bicycle riding physical test?

The Governor's approval of the State Civil Service Commission's resolution putting county superintendents of highways on the classified list is of great importance to the state, for it means that the whole good roads development will be under the Civil Service rules. The law provides for the alternative of either district superintendents of roads, or, where the counties wish to retain some control of the highway improvements, of county superintendents. Under the law the district superintendents will unquestionably be Civil Service appointees. And this action of the commission prevents politics from getting into the work through the naming of county superintendents instead.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

"The Geographical Journal," of London, in an article on the marital relations among the people of Nigeria says: "Polygamy is the rule, the reason given being that it is impossible for one woman to do all the work of the house, look after the children, prepare and cook the food, fetch the daily supply of water (often an arduous job), cultivate the plantation and go to market. The African is an exceedingly hungry person. It is the custom to eat several times a day when at home, and the men spend most of their day sitting in the palaver house or marketplace, while the women bring the food all day long. One wife could not possibly do this. Besides, the African lady encourages it, for she says: 'The more wives the less work.'"

She (during a spat)—Why don't you say what you mean? I'm no mind reader.
He—No; if you were you'd never speak to me again.—Boston Transcript.

Statistics of the University of Pennsylvania show that it has the most cosmopolitan student body in its history. It has drawn more than fifteen hundred students from places other than within the borders of Pennsylvania; of these two hundred and fifty are from foreign countries, of which sixty-two are from British territories; forty-seven from Europe, thirty-three from China and Japan, fifteen from the foreign possessions of the United States, and ninety-eight from Latin American countries. The Latin Americans come from twenty-one countries, and represent at least sixty different towns.

DUTY AT THE DOORSTEP.

He talked of reformation
In enthusiastic tones;
He wept for the inhabitants
Of rude uncultured zones;
He had great plans to benefit
Us mortals here below,
And yet he somehow quite forgot
To shovel off the snow.

Of things mankind must suffer
He talked in general terms,
And yet his own front sidewalk was
A picnic ground for germs;
Amid our dreams and mighty schemes
Let's pause an hour or so,
And get right down to humble facts
And shovel off the snow.
—Washington Star.

Colonel John C. Cobb, of Portland, Me., talking in Washington recently, drew a sorry picture of conditions under the prohibition law in his state. Speaking of the means employed to get liquor and beer he said: "The introduction of intoxicating liquor from other states cannot be prohibited. The consequence is that Boston breweries and other houses have their own express offices in the various cities in Maine, where they keep their goods stored up for delivery to prospective customers. All that is necessary to obtain a crate of beer, for instance, is to telephone to one of these express offices to order the beer from Boston and deliver it. The order is filled within half an hour, although Boston is more than a hundred miles away. The express offices carry a full stock of beer and liquor, and whenever an order is received they simply fill it, the legal excuse being that the order was transmitted to Boston, and that upon instructions from there the order has been filled."

Dr. McNamara tells of a school teacher who was endeavoring to convey the idea of pity to the members of his class. He illustrated it.

"Now, supposing," he said, "a man working on the river bank suddenly fell in. He could not swim, and would be in danger of drowning. Picture the scene, boys and girls. The man's sudden fall, the cry for help. His wife, knowing his peril and hearing his screams, rushes immediately to the bank. Why does she rush to the bank?"

After a pause a small voice piped forth:

"Please, sir, to draw his insurance money."—Illustrated Bits.

Why the Jews do not celebrate Christmas, the birthday of Christ, a Jew, was clearly explained in an address by Rabbi Joseph Krauskopf, a leading Jewish clergyman of Philadelphia, in a recent address. He said: "It is for the very reason that Jesus was a Jew that we do not celebrate his birthday. To avoid the danger of divine honors being shown to mortals, the Jew does not celebrate the natal day of any of his great prophets, lawgivers and inspired leaders; he has not even preserved the memory of the dates of their birth and death or the location of their last resting place. He celebrates festivals in commemoration of great causes and ideas, but not of men. He celebrates, for instance, the Passover, because of the birth of liberty for which it stands, but he does not commemorate the birth of Moses, even though his brave thought and daring deed called it into existence."

"So you are not going to make any New Year resolutions?"

"No," answered Mr. Meekton. "I fully meant to make a few. But when I announced my intention the members of my family had so many suggestions to offer that I grew discouraged."—Washington Star.

GOVERNOR HUGHES'S INAUGURAL.

CONSTITUTIONAL RULE.

From The Rochester Democrat and Chronicle.

"Constitutional rule is the rule of the people," says the Governor. That is a political axiom of which executives, legislators and sometimes even courts, as well as the people, need to be reminded.

AN ANSWER TO BRYAN.

From The Syracuse Herald.

By renewing the pledge to rely upon public sentiment for the adoption of the reforms to which he stands committed, Governor Hughes gives the best possible answer within his power to Mr. Bryan's question, "Shall the people rule?"

RELYING ON THE PEOPLE.

From The Rochester Post-Express.

Instead of using the people's offices to build up a machine to sustain him, he [Governor Hughes] has relied upon the people themselves, seeking to win their favor by a conscientious performance of public duty. It is much the better way.

WHAT THE STATE NEEDS.

From The Utica Herald-Dispatch.

The Governor's inaugural address once more showed the firmness of his grasp upon the principles that have made him a great Governor. The part of it that might have been taken to indicate what his future course would be was not specific, but it was enough to make emphatic the promise of such an administration as the people hope for and the state needs.

A NEW ERA IN POLITICS.

From The Buffalo Express.

Charles E. Hughes has opened a new era in politics. He has established the practicability of high ideals. He has confounded the political cynic and the demagogic opportunist. No one can attempt to foretell what results his second administration will accomplish, but he already has gained so much for good government that the public never will be content with a return to the old order.

SINCERITY.

From The Troy Times.

The Governor's renewed pledge to give the state loyal service was as sincere as it was unnecessary. The character and record of Governor Hughes are sufficient to justify the entire confidence of the people of the state that he will perform his duties with a conscientious energy and an energetic conscience that will make his administration one of the brightest chapters in the history of the commonwealth.

About People and Social Incidents

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Jan. 4.—The President sent a message to Congress to-day recommending an appropriation of $500,000 and other relief for the Italian earthquake sufferers; also a message to the House in response to a resolution of inquiry relative to the Secret Service.

The President has received acceptances from the six eminent engineers he invited to accompany President-elct Taft on his tour of inspection of the Panama Canal.

The President and Mrs. Roosevelt attended the christening of the infant son of Secretary and Mrs. Cortelyou at the latter's home this afternoon.

The Italian Ambassador to-morrow afternoon, on behalf of his government, will formally thank the President for the aid given by this government to the earthquake sufferers.

Among the White House callers were Secretary Newberry, Secretary Wright, Postmaster General Meyer, Assistant Secretary Bacon, Baron Moncheur, Senators Lodge, Piles, Borah, Clark, of Wyoming and Overman, Representatives Beale, Kahn, Washburn, Underwood, Keifer, Bennet, Cooper, Landis, Fassett, Loudon and Cocks, J. B. Reynolds, Canal Commissioner Blackburn, George R. Sheldon, J. C. Duncan, of North Carolina and ex-Representative Aldrich, of Alabama.

The President took a horseback ride in the late afternoon.

THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Jan. 4.—The British Ambassador and Mrs. Bryce gave a large dinner at the embassy to-night in honor of the Secretary of State and Mrs. Root. The party included Secretary Root, the French Ambassador and Mme. Jusserand, the Postmaster General and Mrs. Meyer, the Netherlands Minister and Mme. Loudon, Justice and Mrs. Oliver Wendell Holmes, Senator and Mrs. Aldrich, Rear Admiral and Mrs. William Sheffield Cowles, Representative and Mrs. Augustus P. Gardner, Mr. and Mrs. Hennen Jennings, Professor and Mrs. Poulton, of Oxford, England; Mrs. Hobson, the Hon. Maud Pauncefote, Miss Phillips, Sir George Young, Alfred Mitchell Innes, British counsellor, and the British military attaché and the Hon. Mrs. James.

The Italian Ambassador and Baroness Mayor des Planches, who had accepted the invitation of the British Ambassador and Mrs. Bryce for the dinner to-night, sent their regrets and have declined all social invitations on account of the distressing news from Italy.

Felipe Pardo, the minister to this country from Peru, who went abroad the last of November, and who, rumor said, would remain as minister to this country, has been assigned to duty here for another year.

Baron Stael de Holstein, Russian second secretary, returned to Washington this morning from a visit of several days in New York.

IN WASHINGTON SOCIETY.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Jan. 4.—The Vice-President and Mrs. Fairbanks entertained a number of guests at dinner to-night and have issued invitations for January 18 and 25, when they will entertain in the same manner. They will give their large annual reception in honor of the members of the Senate on January 11.

Preston Gibson, whose engagement to Miss Grace McMillan Jarvis was announced this morning, entertained at dinner to-night Sir John and Lady Harrington, of England; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Goelet, Mrs. Smith Hollis McKim and Paul Rainey, of New York; Representative and Mrs. Nicholas Longworth, Mr. and Mrs. Larz Anderson, Mrs. W. W. Keith, Viscount and Viscountess de Matel, Brigadier General and Mrs. Edwards, Colonel and Mrs. Frank L. Denny, Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs. Charles L. McCawley, Mr. and Mrs. Philip H. McMillan, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Moore, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Legare, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Legare, Mr. and Mrs. Nathaniel Simpkins, Miss Grace Jarvis, Miss Katherine Elkins, Miss Mathilde Townsend, Miss Anna Cockrell, Miss Ingalls, of Cincinnati; Miss Emory, Count de Chambrun, Baron von Stumm, of the German Embassy, Signor Cora, of the Italian Embassy; H. R. McCormick, of Chicago, and others, who completed a party of seventy. Mr. Gibson and his guests later attended the Charity Ball.

Several hundred persons from New York and Washington attended the Charity Ball given to-night for the benefit of the Children's Hospital. Mrs. Stephen B. Elkins, Mrs. Henry C. Corbin, Mrs. Wescott and others received the guests, while Brigadier General Edwards, with a number of military assistants, was floor manager. The Marine Band and Artillery Band furnished the music. Mrs. Fairbanks and nearly all of the Cabinet and diplomatic women were patronesses.

Mrs. H. L. Satterlee, wife of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy, has joined her husband at Stoneleigh Court.

NEW YORK SOCIETY.

Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt, jr., will give a small dance this evening at her house in Fifth avenue.

Reginald Fincke, who is to marry Miss Edith Gilbert Clark on January 16, will give his farewell bachelor dinner at Delmonico's on Saturday. His guests will include his best man, George Crawford Clark, jr., and a few others. Because of the illness of the bride's mother only relatives and a few intimate friends will be present at the ceremony, which is to be performed at noon at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Crawford Clark, No. 1027 Fifth avenue. The bride will have two attendants—her sister, Miss Marion Clark, and her cousin, Miss Mary Harriman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Harriman.

The first of Albert Morris Bagby's January musical mornings took place yesterday at the Waldorf-Astoria, and there was the usual large and fashionable audience present. The artists were Alessandro Bonci, Ernest Schelling and Victor Herbert and his orchestra. Miss Gerville-Reache and Mischa Elman will figure on the programme next Monday. Among those seen at the concert yesterday were Mrs. John R. Drexel, Mrs. Charles B. Alexander, Mrs. W. Watts Sherman and the Misses Sherman, Mrs. George Jay Gould, Mrs. William Douglas Sloane, Mrs. George R. Sheldon, Mrs. Paul Morton, Mrs. John Duncan Emmet, Mrs. John Henry Hammond, Mrs. Moses Taylor Pyne, Mrs. Frederic Gallatin, jr., Mrs. John E. Parsons, Mrs. Henry Phipps and Mrs. Lewis Cass Ledyard.

The Baroness Selliere, who has been staying with Mrs. Vanderbilt at her house in West 57th street for a short time, will sail for Europe to-day.

Under the auspices of the St. George's City Missions Committee for the support of the St. George's Model Flat, at No. 130 Stanton street, an entertainment entitled "Foibles and Furbelows of the Past" was given yesterday afternoon at the Plaza. It consisted of an address by John Colby Abbott on the women of the Court of Versailles in the eighteenth century, and was illustrated by "Le Grande-Pandore" (a life size figure in costume of the time). Lawrence Smith Butler sang songs of the period and a number of young women attired "à la Watteau" sold programmes and poured tea. They included Miss Sarah Robbins, Miss Catherine Burton, Miss Helen Burton, Miss Lucia Burton, Miss Constance Holt, Miss Sylvia Holt, Miss Nana Morgan, Mrs. Lorillard Spencer, jr., Miss Augusta Lynde, Miss Virginia Duane, Miss Anne Gardiner, Miss Augusta Gardiner and many others.

The lecture proved interesting and was listened to by a large audience. Acting as patronesses were Mrs. Lindley Hoffman Chapin, Mrs. J. Borden Harriman, Mrs. Richard Irving, Mrs. Seth Low, Mrs. J. Pierpont Morgan, Mrs. E. Reeve Merritt, Mrs. Julian Robbins, Mrs. Lorillard Spencer, Mrs. William Douglas Sloane and Mrs. William H. Schieffelin, most of whom were present. Others seen were Mrs. Stephen H. Olin, Mrs. William Sloane, Mrs. E. S. J. McVickar, Mrs. James W. Markoe, Miss Constance and Miss Beatrice Pratt, Mrs. J. Todhunter Thompson, Mrs. George R. Schieffelin and Miss Dorothy Schieffelin.

The second dance of the season of the Junior Cotillions will take place this evening at Sherry's, and will be preceded by a number of dinners, notably by Mrs. E. H. Harriman and Mrs. S. B. Berton.

Mrs. Frederic B. Jennings will give a dinner this evening at her house in Park avenue.

Mrs. D. Emerson Horner was married in the green room of the Plaza Hotel at noon yesterday to James McVickar, son of Mrs. Herman P. Tappe by her first marriage. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Dr. David James Burrell, of the Marble Collegiate Church, and the room, with its decorations of daisies, American Beauty roses, palms and greens, presented the appearance of a floral chapel. The bride, who was given away by her father, Isaac E. Emerson, of Baltimore, wore a gown of silver gray satin crêpe de chine, embroidered with silver, with which she wore a large gray velvet hat, trimmed with gray ostrich feathers, and carried a bouquet of mauve orchids, tied with mauve ribbon. She had no attendants. Noel McVickar was his brother's best man. There were no ushers. A breakfast was served after the ceremony, which was attended by only a few relatives and intimate friends. Frank's orchestra played before and after the ceremony. Among the guests were Mrs. Emerson, the mother of the bride, and the latter's sisters, Mrs. Smith Hollins McKim, of this city, and Mrs. W. W. White, who came over from England for the wedding; Mrs. Herman P. Tappe, the mother of the bridegroom; Mr. and Mrs. J. Borden Harriman, Alfred G. Vanderbilt, Mr. and Mrs. John H. McCullough, Mr. and Mrs. E. S. J. McVickar, John A. McVickar, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Newbold, of Baltimore; Mr. and Mrs. Edward Somerville Jaffray and Lanier Winslow. After their return from their wedding trip Mr. and Mrs. McVickar will make their home at No. 471 Park avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. John Innes Kane gave a large reception, which was in a way a housewarming, last night at their new home, No. 1 West 49th street. A Viennese orchestra furnished music throughout the evening. For many years Mr. and Mrs. Kane lived in the old Schermerhorn place, in West 23d street.

Craig Wadsworth, who recently arrived from abroad, will return to England at the end of this month.

Miss Furniss will entertain the Thursday Evening Club at the Colony Club the day after to-morrow.

IN THE BERKSHIRES.

Lenox, Jan. 4.—Miss Kate Cary, who has closed her villa, is to travel through the West with Mrs. M. Dwight Collier and Mr. and Mrs. David Turner Dana, and will spend the greater part of the winter in Southern California, returning to Lenox next summer. Miss Cary went to New York to-day.

Mrs. H. M. Schieffelin and Miss Eleanor Crosby, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Astor Bristed, Miss Bristed, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hollister Pease, Mr. and Mrs. David Turner Dana, Mrs. M. Dwight Collier, Mrs. John E. Alexandre, Miss Helen Alexandre, Miss Civilise Alexandre, Mr. and Mrs. Howard C. Dickinson, Miss L. M. Roosevelt, Mrs. Joseph W. Burden, Miss Lelia Burden, Mrs. A. H. Gallatin, Miss Cornelia A. Gallatin, Mrs. William B. Bacon, Mrs. J. Frederick Schenck, Miss Aleid Schenck, Mrs. George Turnure and the Misses Turnure returned to New York this afternoon.

John A. Spoor, of Chicago, has bought twenty-five acres of land on Onota Lake, adjoining the property of William and George Pollock, of New York.

Mr. and Mrs. Robb De Peyster Tytus departed to-day for Boston.

MAYOR ADAM'S SUGGESTIONS RADICAL

Asks Buffalo Council If It Stands with Railroads or City.

Buffalo, Jan. 4.—Mayor Adam to-day sent his annual message to the Common Council.