Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—8:15—Brewster's Millions.
ALHAMBRA—2—8—Vaudeville.
ASTOR—8:15—The Man from Home.
BELASCO—8:30—The Fighting Hope.
BIJOU—8:15—A Gentleman from Mississippi.
BLANEY'S—2—8—Vaudeville.
BROADWAY—8:15—A Stubborn Cinderella.
CASINO—8:15—Havana.
CIRCLE—8:15—The Queen of the Moulin Rouge.
COLONIAL—2—8—Vaudeville.
CRITERION—8:30—An Englishman's Home.
DALY'S—8—Lord Dundreary.
EDEN MUSEE—The World in Wax.
EMPIRE—8:15—What Every Woman Knows.
GAIETY—8:15—The Traveling Salesman.
GARDEN—8:15—The Conflict.
GARRICK—8:20—The Patriot.
GERMAN—8:15—Gretchen.
HACKETT—8:20—A Woman's Way.
HAMMERSTEIN'S—2:15—8:15—Vaudeville.
HERALD SQUARE—8:15—The Return of Eve.
HIPPODROME—2—8—Sporting Days—Battle in the Skies—Bird Ballet—Circus.
HUDSON—8:15—The Third Degree.
KNICKERBOCKER—8:15—The Fair Co-Ed.
LIBERTY—8:3—A Fool There Was.
LYCEUM—8:20—The Dawn of a To-morrow.
LYRIC—8:15—The Blue Mouse.
MADISON SQUARE GARDEN—2:15—8:15—Circus.
MAJESTIC—8:15—The Newlyweds and Their Baby.
MAXINE ELLIOTT'S—8:30—The Bachelor.
METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE—8:30—Der Ring des Nibelungen.
NEW AMSTERDAM—8:10—King Lear.
NEW YORK—8:20—Miss Innocence.
SAVOY—8:20—The Battle.
STUYVESANT—8:30—The Easiest Way.
WALLACK'S—8:27—Sham.
WEBER'S—8:15—The Girl from Rector's.
WEST END—8:15—The Prisoner of Zenda.

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New-York Daily Tribune.

MONDAY, APRIL 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.

FOREIGN.—Advices from Naples say that Mr. Roosevelt is expected to arrive there on the Hamburg about noon; the steamer Admiral, on which he will sail for Mombasa, is decorated with flags, and many gifts of flowers have been received. ═══ The French tariff committee has agreed to amendments reducing schedules in favor of the United States, though the increase on cottonseed oil has been retained; hopes are expressed that the American bill may be modified so as to allow greater latitude in subsequent negotiations with France and other countries. ═══ A dispatch from Caracas said that President Gomez might transfer his office temporarily to J. A. Valutini; there are many conjectures regarding the plans of ex-President Castro. ═══ Servia has informed Austria of her willingness to open negotiations for a commercial treaty; former Crown Prince George will enter the Russian army. ═══ M. Pichon, the French Foreign Minister, asked whether France would agree to the abrogation of Article 25 of the Berlin treaty, made a favorable reply. ═══ Adolf Ritter von Sonnenthal, the well known German actor, died suddenly at Prague. ═══ Dr. Saenz Pena, of Argentina, has been selected by Venezuela as arbitrator in the questions to be settled with the United States and has accepted the appointment.

DOMESTIC.—Representative Dwight, the Republican whip, said at Washington that he was certain the tariff rule would be brought into the House to-day and passed. ═══ It was said at Washington that officials of the internal revenue bureau believed the temperance movement had resulted in increasing the number of violations of the internal revenue laws in the distillation of illicit whiskey. ═══ The hearing of the government's case against the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey will begin to-day before the Federal Circuit Court in St. Louis. ═══ Two alleged postoffice robbers blew up the floor of their cell at Greenville, S. C., with dynamite and escaped. ═══ Dr. H. C. Potter, builder of the Pere Marquette Railroad, died on a ranch near Santa Barbara, Cal. ═══ A young woman attacked by a thug at Chicago defeated him by the use of jiu jitsu. ═══ In a fire which destroyed an historic house near Winchester, Va., a girl lost her life and her parents were badly burned in a futile effort to save her. ═══ The American Academy of Political and Social Science will meet in Philadelphia on April 16 and 17. ═══ Ethan Allen Hitchcock, formerly Secretary of the Interior, was reported to be critically ill in Washington. ═══ Fire broke out in a colliery at Mahanoy City, Penn., and threatened much damage.

CITY.—Credit was given to the National Highways Protective Association for the diminished number of accidents and arrests for speeding. ═══ The Rev. Dr. John P. Peters said the heads of the Steel Trust were worse citizens than saloonkeepers ═══ The Bureau of Municipal Research issued a "brief" of the evidence taken in the debt limit inquiry, designed to aid the referee. ═══ More persons expressed disapproval of the plan for the National Academy of Design to have a gallery in Central Park. ═══ The Pride family, in South River, N. J., honored an aged woman who had been a servant with it for fifty years. ═══ Claims aggregating nearly $10,000,000 under the prevailing rate of wages law were whittled down in the Finance Department to about $500,000. ═══ The National Civil Service Reform League committee reported recommendations for broadening the Civil Service. ═══ Arrangements were almost completed for the establishment of a museum of safety and sanitation. ═══ Fifty thousand pleasure seekers visited Coney Island.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Cloudy and warmer. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 50 degrees; lowest, 38.

NOT TO BE REJECTED OUTRIGHT.

If the reports from Albany do the Legislature no injustice, its attitude toward the proposed new charter for this city is unreasonable and inexcusable. That instrument is not a thing to be either smothered in committee or defeated outright on the floor. The commission was appointed on the authority of the Legislature both last year and the year before. The Legislature has thus twice recorded its opinion that the city charter requires revision, and therefore the charter prepared by Mr. Ivins's commission cannot be rejected in toto unless it is totally bad.

But no reasonable person will maintain that the Ivins charter is totally bad. On the contrary, whatever difference of opinion may exist regarding two or three details, all fairminded persons will agree that it has many merits. It simplifies the old charter, gets rid of its verbiage and brings order out of chaos. If it did no more than this, it would deserve to be passed, with such alterations as the Legislature might think desirable. A revision which has accomplished what this one has in reducing to order the monstrous confusions of the old patchwork law cannot reasonably be ignored by the Legislature, contemptuously dismissed or defeated at the behest of local politicians. The new charter, moreover, provides a means for reckoning the debt limit which will put an end for the future to the present doubt and uncertainty. It guards against the misuse of corporate stock to pay running expenses by enumerating the purposes for which provision must be made in the budget and those for which alone provision may be made through the sale of corporate stock. It provides for a uniform accounting system and a central purchasing bureau. It ends the present evil system under which the borough presidents both appropriate and spend money. Even those who insist that the boroughs should elect administrative heads are agreed that such administrators should not have power also over the appropriations that they are to spend.

The new charter is full of excellences, and marks a great advance in charter making. Every one is agreed as to the desirability of it in general and as to the wisdom of nine-tenths of it in detail. The other tenth is in dispute, hot dispute. It is the duty of the Legislature to settle that disputable tenth, preferably in accord with the majority of the charter commission, but to settle it at any rate, and to give to the public of this city and to its next administration the benefit of the intelligent and valuable labors of Mr. Ivins and his associates.

THE M'ADOO EXTENSION.

Mr. Shonts's fears regarding 42d street appear to have been groundless; wherefore, we are sure, the public will be infinitely relieved. The Public Service Commission finds room not only for Mr. McAdoo's tunnel to the Grand Central Station, but also for several more north and south and crosstown lines. If, therefore, Mr. Shonts is so disposed, he can now go right ahead with any one of the many large projects for the extension of his system which he was afraid would be interfered with by the McAdoo plans. And if he wants to take another level in 42d street and run his Belmont tunnel through it and up to The Bronx or down to the Battery it is a safe guess that Mr. McAdoo will not write a letter warning the public that there will be no room left for some tremendous development or other that he sees with his prophetic eye.

No doubt the Lemuel E. Quigg Club of Wakefield and the East Side Accelerators, Incorporated, will say that this is because Mr. McAdoo is, after all, only a selfish man who thinks of extending his tunnel merely with a base eye for dollars, and is no such stern guardian of the public interest as Mr. Shonts, who wants to see, first of all, that plenty of opportunity is left for "the city's own" system and that we don't sell our interborough birthright for a mess of New Jersey pottage. But, for our part, we look upon this interloper who is intruding into the field of "the city's own" as an efficient protector of the public interest. He does not warn us or chide us so much as do those who feel the dread responsibility of running "the city's own," but he builds subways. Sparing of curtain lectures and indifferent to grave moral questions, he keeps at it with his pick and shovel, and this is a point in his favor with a public which wants more rapid transit and less advice. His habit of actual digging, moreover, spreads a wholesome feeling of uneasiness among those who, when they talk "the city's own" often think "own the city." One little McAdoo extension inspires the Interborough to offer to build half a subway! A woman's car on the McAdoo lines is followed by a woman's car on the Interborough lines. It is not impossible even to think that managers of "the city's own" may soon perceive it to be worth while to emulate Mr. McAdoo in gaining and keeping the public good will.

ANOTHER INTERESTING SUGGESTION.

Any reasonable suggestion relating to the health and wellbeing of the human race is worthy of consideration, and there never before was a time when so much interest in this question was displayed as now. Instead of trusting in Providence while they are well and after being attacked by disease throwing themselves entirely on the skill of the physician, all classes manifest a more or less intelligent interest in whatever relates to illness and health. As a consequence, statistics show a gradual decrease in the death rate, and this decrease is likely to be even more notable in the near future, when the public arrives at a better understanding of the close relationship between certain natural laws and health.

Some time ago Professor Fisher, of Yale, suggested to the Association of Life Insurance Presidents that they might materially increase the longevity of their policyholders and benefit themselves by promoting hygienic conditions and thereby reducing the death rate. Dr. Foster, editor of "The St. Paul Medical Journal," now calls further attention to the responsibility of life insurance companies and their opportunities for benefiting themselves while promoting the interests of the public by examining risks at intervals of, say, five years. He thinks that, while such examinations could not be made compulsory, most policyholders would avail themselves of the opportunity to be examined by a competent physician now and then if it were offered to them, and certainly there is some reason to believe that the interest of the insurance companies in keeping the insured alive as long as possible might be great enough to justify the trouble and expense.

Unquestionably a great percentage—how large no one can venture to say—of deaths is due to disease which could have been checked if taken in time, and it is to reveal hidden danger that the examination is proposed. The number of persons who will not go to a physician so long as they can keep on their feet is very large, and while in some instances the determination not to give up aids the individual in throwing off the disease, in others it gives a curable disease opportunity to seize hold upon the victim and become too firmly rooted for eradication before it is brought to the physician's attention.

That insurance companies are to a greater or less extent bound by moral laws which do not apply to institutions so close to the people as even the savings banks is generally recognized. The statutes governing them are more stringent, and there is coming to be a greater sense of responsibility on the part of the officials of the companies themselves. Whether the suggestion made by Dr. Foster is practicable may be open to question, but, both in the interests of the companies and of the public, it is deserving of careful consideration.

TO BE KEPT APART.

The almost simultaneous introduction of bills in the legislatures of New York and New Jersey for the prohibition of the pollution of streams with sewage and manufacturing waste is to be regarded gratefully and hopefully as an important step in the interest of health, decency and economy. It ought, of course, to have been taken long ago, not only by these two, but by all the states of the Union; but it may still be made effective and of great value. There is no exaggeration in saying that the enactment and strict enforcement of such measures would be one of the most serviceable acts in behalf of the great interests which we have mentioned that any state government could perform. It would be particularly in line with the movement for the conservation of natural resources which is now commanding so much attention and support, for there certainly are no natural resources more indispensable to the public welfare or, we may add, more scandalously abused and profligately wasted than our supplies of potable water.

We are told that special attention is given in the pending measures to the compelling of manufacturing concerns to dispose of their waste otherwise than by pouring it into the nearest stream or lake. That is emphatically as it should be. The waste of factories is generally exceedingly offensive. In some cases it is rankly poisonous, killing the fish and other aquatic animals of the streams into which it is poured. In some cases it is vilely malodorous. It often discolors the water and coats the shore with sludge. It has long been recognized as proper to forbid a factory to pollute the air with smoke or gases to the detriment of neighbors, and, of course, no concern would be permitted to discharge its solid refuse upon adjacent land belonging to others or to the public. Logically, then, factories should be forbidden to pollute water which may be needed for the use of others. In England a strict distinction is made between domestic sewage and factory waste, and even when the former is permitted to escape into streams the latter is required to be kept out of them.

The economic importance of the proposed action is far greater than many superficial observers may suppose. The fact is that an enormous pecuniary loss results from the pollution of streams and lakes. It is caused not infrequently by the destruction of life and health and the necessitating of great expense in outbreaks of typhoid fever. In many cases it is caused by depreciation of the value of real estate fronting on the polluted waters. The loss which has thus been sustained along the Passaic River from Newark to Paterson is probably far greater than would have been the entire cost of protecting the river from pollution. The loss to fisheries and to communities which are compelled to establish filtration plants or to go to remote sources for their potable water supply is enormous.

Pure water and sewage are both exceedingly valuable when they are kept separate. They are both practically worthless and worse than worthless when they are mingled. It is one of the prime duties of civilized administration to keep them apart.

THE FLORIDA'S ARMAMENT.

A dispatch from The Tribune's Washington bureau contains the information that the tentative plan of arming the Florida and the Utah with 14-inch guns has been abandoned, and that the main batteries of those battleships will be composed of 12-inch guns. There is no indication that other navies are using or intending to use anything heavier than the weapon which has received the approval of the General Board. With the possible exception of Germany, which apparently adheres to the 11-inch gun, all foreign powers still favor the size adopted for the latest battleships authorized by Congress. A larger calibre would have given a greater range, no doubt, and an increased range would have its advantages, yet the adoption of a bigger gun would have involved the beginning of a new class of vessels and threatened to sacrifice that homogeneous quality which is one of the essentials of an effective squadron.

It would be interesting to know, nevertheless, why no more than twelve guns are to be mounted on the new ships. The Florida and the Utah are to displace 26,000 tons, or fully 8,000 tons more than the Dreadnought, which carries ten. To the uninitiated it would seem possible to get more benefit from this extraordinary and unprecedented increase in size. Three battleships are under construction for Brazil in British yards, displacing 19,000 tons, mounting twelve guns each and designed to develop a speed of twenty-one knots. It has also been proposed to provide the St. Vincent and the Vanguard, British battleships whose keels were laid last year or the year before, with twelve guns each, though there is yet no official confirmation of the report. The vessels last mentioned are to displace 19,250 tons, a little more than the Dreadnought does, but will be nearly 7,000 tons lighter than the Florida and the Utah. The new American battleships are not expected to be faster than those now under construction for England and Brazil, and hence the additional weight cannot be attributed to their engines.

It may ultimately appear that the designers of the Florida and the Utah, preferring to utilize the increased size of the ships for defensive rather than offensive purposes, have employed much heavier armor than the St. Vincent and the Brazilian vessels will have.

DEVELOPING AN ASSET.

The report which we published on Saturday concerning the rapid progress being made by the Board of Water Supply on the indispensable Catskill extension of this city's water system is gratifying for more than one reason. There is much satisfaction in knowing that an undertaking of such importance and urgency is being pushed toward completion so energetically. There will be need of the new supply, for comfort, health and safety, just as soon as it can be provided, and with five thousand or more men working at various advantageous points along the line from Ashokan to The Bronx there is assurance that it will be provided about as soon as prudent and thorough workmanship will permit. It is also creditable to the board that of all the various contracts there has been default or failure on only one, and that provision has promptly been made for the continuation of work at that point without interruption or delay. On the whole, the administration of the enterprise seems to afford a commendable example of economy, efficiency and expedition.

By no means the least gratifying feature of this whole enterprise is the fact, which was clearly set forth by Commissioner Chadwick in an address before the Chamber of Commerce last week, that in spending $160,000,000 on this work the city is not incurring a liability, but is developing a valuable and profitable asset. If it were not so, if no return whatever could be expected from it, not even repayment of construction cost, the city would still have to increase its water supply, and could probably not do so in any better way than that which is now being pursued. But provision has been made for the accumulation of a sinking fund which will repay all the cost of construction, and thereafter the system will be a source of revenue to the city. That is to say, New York will be getting an abundant supply of water of the best quality and will be able to distribute it to the people at a cost to them so small as to be only nominal, and at the same time will be making a considerable profit from the operation.

ONE MORE ILLUSION DISPELLED.

Those who believe the press agent to be a product of modern conditions may have to revise their opinion. As for those word painters who can make the desert to blossom as the rose, who can construct literature which will part the wily metropolitan resident from his money in exchange for an ivory plantation in Timbuctoo, art in advertising did not begin when they were born, nor will it gasp and expire when they have departed. It appears, in fact, that in respect at least to the permanence of their work the ancients had the advertising art, like many others, worked out to perfection, for few of the present day impressions based on error can be expected to last several thousand years.

Most of their descendants have so far yielded to the spell of the old publicity men as to grow up with the notion that Cyrenaica was a land fit to be the abode of the gods. An eminent authority has said that "this plateau of Cyrenaica was, and still is, one of the loveliest and most agreeable regions of the world. The climate is delicious, mountains on the south sheltering the land from the scorching blasts of the Sahara, and cool winds fanning it on the north." It has been further said that for a distance of eighty miles the land slopes down in verdant terraces to the Mediterranean, these terraces being cut and watered by mountain streams, forming luxuriant ravines. But now we fear that these glowing pictures of the famous granary of the Roman Empire are to be blotted out by one sweep of the brush of truth, for an expeditio fitted out under the auspices of the Jewish Territorial Organization to investigate the suitability of this region for colonial purposes reports that while the country is beautiful and healthful and the climate pleasant, water is scarce, owing to the existence of a great bed of porous limestone underneath, which takes up the moisture like a sponge, but, unlike that bathroom accessory, will not give it up again.

The loss of a single illusion would not be serious, but irreverent modernists may next feel inclined to doubt other presumably veracious statements of the ancients. Historians of the heroic age of Greece and Rome have supplied inspiration to several hundreds of millions of people since that time. If it should ever appear that their blood warming tales, like that of William Tell and the apple, were only myths, what would become of the skeptical youths of the next generation?

MONEY AND BUSINESS.

Aggressive operations for higher prices developed in last week's stock market, and before the close the average quotation for the leading issues made a new record for the year, at 122.22 for the leading railroad shares, against 120.93, the best preceding high point, on January 2, and 86.37 for the chief industrials, as compared with 86.23 in the first week of the year. The movement was accompanied by an increase in transactions for public account, outsiders showing a decided disposition to follow the lead of substantial speculative interests that exercised the usual manipulative tactics to attract a commission house demand, irrespective of the fact that values had already discounted expected favorable changes in the current of business affairs in this country. Stocks, however, were too high to induce active investment buying, the trading representing little beyond marginal purchases at a level at which wise men began to unload holdings accumulated at lower figures. Capital in fair volume is moving into railway mortgage issues for permanent income yield, and, in view of the ease in money, operations of this character doubtless will continue for some time to come. The average for the prominent railroads at the end of the week was 121.8, against 119.75 the week before, and for the industrials 85.90, a gain of 1.09.

Money market conditions suggest no immediate change in ruling rates for loans, as there are no indications of any extraordinary demands for accommodation in the course of the next few months. The supply of call money is abundant enough to meet all requirements from Stock Exchange sources, while notwithstanding the expansion in business in securities, no increase is reported in the inquiry for time funds; nor is the volume of mercantile transactions large enough to cause a hardening tendency in commercial paper, which continues in light supply at this point. At the West some activity is reported in the money market on account of mercantile borrowing, but the home banks have ample supplies on hand to meet local needs without withdrawing their balances from New York. Currency continues to move to this centre in excess of shipments, gold exports to London have ceased, and federal Treasury disbursements are larger than receipts, though the latter are increasing. Discounts abroad are lower, due to the Balkan settlement, and the foreign exchanges, both here and in Europe, are weaker, the decline at Paris on London suggesting the possibility of imports of gold at the French capital, involving, perhaps, future shipments from New York on the so-called triangular operation.

Analysis of commercial failures for the first quarter of the year furnishes adequate reason for encouragement over the condition of the country's general business. A decrease of 20 per cent in the number of failures from the same period a year ago was accompanied by a reduction in liabilities of 64 per cent, and while the exhibit was less favorable in comparison with the same time in many preceding years, it reflected, nevertheless, increasing strength in our industrial affairs, which in the remainder of the fiscal year are expected to show moderate but steady improvement. Though general trade is moving on a basis under the normal, railroad earnings and bank clearings supply additional evidence that our industries are not inactive. Both gross and net returns show marked gains from this time in 1908, and railroad officers are confident enough over the future to increase expenditures on their properties from traffic receipts, which are particularly heavy in the West. Industrial activity in certain sections of the West is pronounced in comparison with the volume of business in the East, the wealth of the farmers as a consequence of years of good crops being an important factor in increasing the buying power at interior centres. An active demand for agricultural implements is reported.

Independent steel companies are receiving few orders and the United States Steel Corporation is operating, it is estimated, between 58 per cent and 62 per cent of its capacity on a basis of prices that mean extremely lean earnings in the current quarter. Merchant blast furnaces that furnish iron to independent mills apparently will be compelled to curtail production to a large extent, and the undercutting in prices by the United States Steel Corporation is placing the independents in a sorry plight as far as dividends are concerned. In structural steel, tin plates and sheets some improvement is reported, but the increase in the output of tin plate has been offset by the reduction in the production of wire products. Many trade interests believe that the rapidity with which events have moved in the steel trade since the announcement of price cutting indicates that the market will soon reach bottom, with the speedy establishment thereafter of a stable and profitable basis. In the drygoods market business in the aggregate is of moderate proportions, the current quietness in the Eastern trade possessing none of the earmarks of permanency. As a whole, the situation is healthy and the outlook promising, especially in the West, where in the last week more orders were received and more buyers were in the market than in the corresponding week last year. No overproduction is reported.

Primary markets for cotton goods are relatively inactive. Jobbers show a disposition to reduce stocks before replenishing, while in the secondary market for cottons a most irregular demand is reported. Speculation in cotton futures is more active than it had recently been, and prices are higher, with strength also in the spot markets. Western grain speculators who have made money in their own lines are buying cotton in the belief that the price is too low and that Texas weather conditions are menacing. High quotations for wheat are reflected in a firmer level for flour, but buying is light in volume. Visible supplies of wheat are said to be unusually low, and the fact that the world's requirements in the next three months are estimated at 800,000,000 bushels strengthens the belief in bull circles that quotations will continue to rule at high figures. Exports from this country continue light, total shipments of wheat and corn last week being smaller than in any preceding week since that of October 5, 1905. The shoe and leather trades are quiet, but for the first quarter of the year Eastern shipments of shoes show an increase of 23 per cent over the same time in 1908. Bituminous coal is dull and weak, while more activity is reported in anthracite as a consequence of the usual April cut in prices. Building operations are more active. Among the current indications of improving business, with the resultant increase in the buying power of the country, is the gain in imports of merchandise at New York for March, amounting in value to $21,000,000 over the preceding month and $1,000,000 over the corresponding time a year ago.

An anti-suffragette told the suffragettes that "woman was no better than man." Then if she gets the vote there'll still be beer and skittles. Reassuring, so far.

Diamonds are said to have been discovered in considerable abundance in German territory in Southwestern Africa. As the stones are exceptionally small and as the colonial government is taking steps to limit the output, no conspicuous effect on market quotations need be expected.

Mr. Rockefeller urges every one to add years to his life by "eating sparingly." Professor Metchnikoff promises length of days to him who will become a storage warehouse for lactic acid bacilli. Mr. Horace Fletcher's motto is "chew to live and live to chew." And now a life insurance physician suggests that he who courts longevity should be re-examined by a life insurance company every five years. Whom the gods love die young.

As to the personal references in Mr. Bryan's statement to my sense of propriety and respect for my party, I have only to say that if the Democratic party had given me three opportunities to become President and I had failed as dismally as Mr. Bryan has, even if I did not have the sense to do so, yet the obligation of gratitude to my party would compel me to remain silent about matters of which I was grossly ignorant.—Hon. John J. Fitzgerald.

"The rising hope of the sane Democracy" conditions his silence on matters of which he is ignorant upon his receiving three opportunities to be elected President. That will not prove a burdensome restraint.

If the customs officials were able to finish their inspection of baggage at one session, they could not reasonably complain at being assigned to duty at 10 or 11 o'clock at night. To take the work in two instalments because half of the passengers stay on board overnight is another matter.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

Nineteen hundred and eight was the most prosperous year ever experienced by the farmers of Southern New Jersey, according to reports compiled by the freight department of the West Jersey & Seashore Railroad, one of the subsidiary lines of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. More than fourteen thousand carloads—140 miles of cars—of perishable freight were shipped from points on the West Jersey & Seashore. The shipments in 1908 were larger by 2,771 cars than those of 1907, an increase of 19 per cent. These figures derive added significance from the fact that the railroad company in the last year has been carrying on an active campaign to encourage the further development of New Jersey as an agricultural state.

AVIATION.

Aspiration;
Expectation;
Preparation;
Inflation;
Elevation;
Exaltation;
Perforation;
Evaporation;
Trepidation;
Gravitation.—Life.

East Rutherford, N. J., enjoys the distinction of having a Chinese editor of one of its papers, "The Borough Weekly." This paper changed hands a few days ago, and Yak Lee, a Chinese graduate of Yale, was made its editor. In his first editorial Mr. Lee says that the paper "will be conducted along strictly non-partisan lines, and will advocate those men for office who, in its judgment, are best fitted for the requirements of the positions they seek, regardless of party politics, believing that our government, especially in local affairs, should not be made the prey of the spoils seeker nor be permitted to reach the hands of incapables."

Judge—You are accused of snatching a turkey from a grocery window.

Prisoner (a student)—I took it for a lark, your honor.

Judge—No resemblance whatever, sir. You must have been drunk. Sixty days.—Boston Transcript.

Statisticians are not always right, so far as the causes of insanity are concerned, according to Dr. Britton D. Evans, head of the New Jersey Hospital for the Insane, at Morris Plains. In his annual report this year he says: "The occupation of insane patients previous to admission is thought by many to play an important part in the causation of their mental aberration. Of the 495 admitted during the last year 169 were housemaids and domestics, which is 30 per cent of the total admissions. This is interesting, but not in harmony with the contention of numerous statisticians."

He was a fine type of the old Southern colonel, the fiery scion of a race of cavaliers. Also, he was exceedingly wrathy. He had just received a letter from a man, "a low sort of pulson, sur, I assure you," which displeased him immensely, and he was debating, inwardly, how best to convey to this vulgar correspondent an adequate expression of his (the colonel's) opinion of him.

But his stenographer was a lady.

The colonel snorted, made two or three false starts, and finally dictated:

"Sir: My stenographer, being a lady, cannot transcribe what I think of you. I, being a gentleman, cannot think it. But you, being neither, will readily understand what I mean."—The Circle.

A stranger in town was at an office in one of the downtown skyscrapers a few days ago. He had promised to call on some friends on the upper West Side while in the city, but found that his business would not permit him to do so. Wishing to excuse himself, he called his friend on the telephone. The servant answered and said that her master could be called up at a certain other number; he had gone out. Mr. Stranger called the number and was soon in communication with his friend. "Well, where are you now?" he was asked. "At a certain number in Broadway." "Is that so? What room?" "No. 515." "Well, I am in 516, next door. Come in." The stranger did so, and now never tires of telling how easy it is to be in two places at the same time in New York.

Huntsman—Here! Look here, what do you mean, killin' our fox?

Tramp—Garn! that's wot ye want to do, ain't it?—Punch.

Sunday funerals in Chicago have been placed under the ban of the Carriage and Cab Drivers' Union. The jehus consider themselves entitled to a day of rest, so that they may attend church with their families. The drivers have adopted resolutions condemning Sunday funerals and asking the assistance of ministers and others interested in Sunday observance in an agitation to abolish the custom. The resolutions recite that the cab drivers need "intellectual instruction" and time to "worship with their families," and that funerals can be conducted on days other than Sunday.

"I see that old fellow who was always complaining that life was not worth living is a cripple; how did that happen?"

"He broke his leg getting out of the way of a freight train."—Houston Post.

DIRECT NOMINATIONS.

"HOBBLE THE SELFISH BOSSES."

From The Buffalo Commercial.

The sharpest of the Governor's epigrams may yet be the epitaph of the selfish boss!

"AMEN."

From The Rochester Post-Express.

"Hobble the selfish bosses," says the Governor, and the people answer, "Amen."

"THE LARGER RULE OF THE PEOPLE."

From The Lockport Journal.

What reason have they [the leaders] to think they know the wants of the people any more than the Governor? Everything he has done has been indorsed by the people. If there is anything in past performance, this should redound to the Governor's credit. Have the people indorsed everything the bosses have done? If not, then let their record be set over against the record of the Governor. That will do to start the campaign for the larger rule of the people, to which cause Governor Hughes has devoted himself.

"NOT A PARTY QUESTION."

From The Watertown Times.

It is not a party question, for it concerns the members of all parties. It is a question that goes to the root of representative government, and what the voters of all parties want to know is, Does the present bill accomplish the purpose, or can it be better accomplished by other methods, or has the present bill defects that ought to be remedied?

BEHIND THE PROCESSION.

From Leslie's Weekly.

We doubt if any reform movement of such importance has ever been so little understood as that in favor of direct nominations. Its purpose is to magnify the people and minimize the bosses, and it is meeting precisely the same opposition that Civil Service reform, the Australian ballot and the prevention of corruption at the polls had to meet. All these measures triumphed, and have the approval of many of those who bitterly opposed them. In more than half the states of the Union direct nominations are established. The strong trend of public opinion is toward the purification of politics and the subordination of the bosses. New York cannot afford to be behind in the procession.

WHAT OF IT?

From The Buffalo Express.

Senator Raines has issued a statement on the direct nominations bill, in which he returns to the old appeals to mutual prejudices between city and country. In Oneida County, for example, he says that the two cities of Utica and Rome now have 101 delegates in the county convention and the towns 165. Under the proposed law Utica and Rome would have 116 votes in the county committee and the towns 113. So the control would pass from the country to the cities. And the Senator follows this with a number of other cases where the same thing might happen. What of it? The candidates suggested by the county committees would have to receive the approval of the majority of the party voters in the whole county, regardless of city or country.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FARMING OPPORTUNITIES.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Recently I have noticed letters and editorials in your paper regarding the very commendable work being done by some of New York's philanthropic citizens, especially "Little Land and League" folk, toward converting some of the city's population to the country. It is an interesting proposition from every point of view, for the betterment of the city and also those who go to the country. The country—farm country—to-day is entering upon a new era, and it would be hard for one to predict what an important part it is going to take up in the business world in the next few years, for in the future, particularly, the trucking and fruit growing branch will be principally done on business principles, where profit and loss will be taken into account, and not run as it has been in years gone by.

Those people who take advantage of the opportunities to farm will lead a better life, amid more healthful surroundings, incidentally making better citizens; but, being near to the city and its attractions, they will never save much out of the little surplus of their living. In comparing these articles with many showing what the government is doing to improve the South and Southwest, I wonder why more people are not properly encouraged to buy or rent farms, where there are hundreds of fertile acres waiting for them. With the shipping facilities of the present day, a family could rent land in some parts of the Southwest and in three years make enough to buy a home. To a person who has been following the papers closely and watching the interest taken in farming by the government, and the co-operation of the Governor of each state, especially the states of Arkansas and Louisiana, it looks as if we might yet see a migration to these states equal to the oldtime rush to the gold fields of California. With the prospect of owning a home of their own, there would be an incentive to make the most of their opportunities, and a great and untold good would be accomplished thereby.

New York, April 1, 1909. RUFUS DARROW.

ARBOR DAY EDUCATION.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The real purpose or function of Arbor Day—that of encouraging among the people the planting of trees and, not least, of interesting the young in an intelligent appreciation of the importance of practical tree culture—is in danger, I fear, of being subordinated to a conventional and more or less abstract form of observance—not intellectual, I am sure, on the part of the state Educational Department, which sends down to us from Albany, each year more beautiful and interesting, the Arbor Day Annual. As a part of the department's intervention and in order to practicalize it and make it doubly serviceable and valuable, there should be sent forth each year in the early spring a representative, with the prestige of the department behind him, competent to discuss and advise on the practical side of tree planting, to visit district committees and school principals with the view to interest them in a timely and effective way in the important subject of tree planting. Being on the ground will be of advantage, as the possibilities of each locality may be easily determined and the variety of the tree, its best condition for use, the soiling and manner of planting and subsequent care can all be agreed upon. Indeed, at this time, when the subject of the conservation of our natural resources is being so impressively discussed, the department could hardly expend money to better advantage than to equip a competent representative with a lantern outfit to go about through every village and hamlet of the state lecturing with illustrated material on the planting and care of trees and other vegetation for shade and ornamentation.

New York, March 29, 1909. JOHN Y. CULYER.

IN DEFENCE OF IMMIGRANTS.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: "Aliens are admitted too hastily," "we admit to our shores men and women who become kidnappers, blackmailers," etc., say our criminal authorities. Yet the Sicilian, Italian, Russian or Chinese immigrants are not the cowardly murderers who run the red and green high powered street locomotives at sixty miles an hour through "special privilege" parkways and speedways, leaving a trail of dying and maimed women, children and babies in their wake, and who kill and maim more people in one year in the public thoroughfares of this city than have been credited to anarchism and the Black Hand in the whole United States in a century.

The most recent kidnappings were engineered by born Americans of some standing and education. The arriving steerage passengers are not the ones who wreck banks, railroads, trust and insurance companies, and who sell "paper traction systems," rob the public, buy and sell public officials, defy the Legislature of a state, the courts and the people with a high priced legal staff instructing them how to do it. WILLIAM STONEBRIDGE.

New York, April 1, 1909.

THE ACADEMY AND CENTRAL PARK.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: A letter, of which the inclosed is a copy, has been sent to Albany. If you see any value in its publication, please use the letter. J. H. MORSE.

New York, March 28, 1909.

Lindon Bates, Jr., of the New York Assembly.

Dear Sir: May I appeal to you, a member of the Assembly, representing the district which includes our home, to express, for us, and I believe for the great majority of our neighbors, the most earnest opposition to the bill assigning to the Fine Arts Academy the Arsenal Building situated in our Central Park?

I am a lover of the fine arts in general, and in particular of the beautiful art of painting, and yet, in common, I hope, with the vast majority of men, I love far more the nobler art of landscape gardening as so splendidly applied to the uses of the people in our main Central Park. No artist, living or dead, has ever helped nature on better lines to give sound health, mental, moral and physical, to so many people through so many years. No artist has ever done so much to elevate the taste, to purify the heart, to sweeten life, and certainly no member of a sister art should be willing to encroach even upon the edge of the domain of this wonderful and most serviceable picture. The trees, flowers and grass, with their wise arrangement, make the valuable features of this serviceable picture. Buildings necessary to supplement this arrangement—and only such buildings—should be allowed to go up there. Some structures, like the old Arsenal, have been allowed to stand, because in a measure they can be made useful; but always has the understanding been kept to the fore that when that building is removed it should be the occasion of restoring the grounds to the serviceable landscape features—beautiful, wholesome, inspiring—devoted to the widest uses of the largest number of our people. What is that largest number? Surely it is that vast majority of the people who rarely leave the streets of the town to find on the hillsides and in the pastures something to remind them that there is somewhere in the world a bit of God's creation left sweet, delightful and wholesome. JAMES HERBERT MORSE.

NEW YORK SCIENTISTS TO SPEAK.

American Academy to Hold Meeting in Philadelphia April 16 and 17.

Philadelphia, April 4.—"Race Improvement in the United States" and "The Development of Physical Welfare Through Social Environment" will be the principal topics discussed at the thirteenth annual meeting of the American Academy of Political and Social Science which will be held in this city on April 16 and 17. Among those to take part in the various discussions are men of national pr