

Practical Exhaustion of Direct Taxation—New Land Imposts.

London, May 1. The demoralized defenders of Free Trade have fallen back upon the land. Mr. Lloyd-George in his budget provides for carrying direct taxation on current lines to the breaking point. The graduation of the income tax is extended; death, succession and legacy duties are heavily increased; stamp duties on stock exchange transactions are expanded; the liquor monopoly is forced to give up a considerable proportion of its profits in license; tobacco and spirits are taxed afresh, and motor cars and petrol are made more expensive luxuries. About £14,300,000 is raised by these means, and with a moderate suspension of the sinking fund service the accounts are balanced for the year, after provision has been made for an experiment in labor exchanges and a new fund for afforestation and national development. Tea, sugar and wine are not changed, but otherwise the resources of Free Trade finance are well-nigh exhausted. With income tax on a shilling on the pound being fourteen pence and an advance to eighteen pence for receipts in excess of £5,000, and with death duties ranging from 4 to 15 per cent on estates, direct taxation has been carried as far as is practicable. Yet there will be eight Dreadnoughts in place of four next year, and the old age pension is only the beginning of a costly series of social reforms. How will the money be raised by a Free Trade government? Apparently from the land. This may be described as the last ditch of Free Trade.

The unearned increment of land is what the reformers have been striving to tax. That is to say, its value for building sites, mining development or other purposes apart from the structure upon it or the uses made of it. Municipalities in quest of new sources of revenue for meeting their expenditures for local administration have favored the principle of "rating" land values, and bills promoted by them have been carried to second reading. A special committee reported on the advisability of establishing land value as the basis for rates or local taxation. The Liberal government sought to apply the principle to Scotland by forcing a land valuation bill through the Commons, and the Lords rejected it. The bill when passed a second time by the Commons was mutilated by the Lords and withdrawn. What these measures proposed was a new tax on land values apart from existing rates on buildings occupied, and there were obvious difficulties in cases where tenants were under contract to pay rates in return for reduced rentals. Land reformers have altered their line of attack, and have favored a new land tax in place of a special rate on land values. They have recommended this course as a financial reform under cover of the general budget, and have suggested the substitution of a new tax for one already existing on the basis of an obsolete valuation. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, with the best advisers available at the Treasury, has been able to make only a feeble beginning. Indeed, some of his disappointed followers are complaining that he has not started at all, but is merely playing with the question. In reality he has unlocked a big door and is drawing a throng of shouters after him.

When Pitt was in dire straits for money to carry on war with Napoleon he converted the oldtime land tax into a rich source of revenue. It was levied at four shillings on the pound, with an antiquated rating; and he offered advantageous terms of redemption and procured large masses of fresh capital when needed for the improvement of national credit. The remnant which was not redeemed became a rent charge, and was incorporated with the drastic system of income taxation introduced by the great financier. It has shrunk from decade to decade under subsequent redemptions until it now yields hardly more than £700,000 as a property tax, but there is enough of it left to form a reserve for compulsory redemption. "The Economist" has estimated that it could be redeemed in two years and the treasury be enriched with from £10,000,000 to £20,000,000. At twenty years' purchase or redemption it would be a good bargain for the taxpayers, and a large fund would be accumulated for either naval construction or the sinking fund. This was a timely suggestion for a great financial operation which would have taken rank with some of Pitt's achievements at the treasury. The temporary deficiency of revenues would have been met with little effort and without increase in direct taxation, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer might have claimed credit for a convincing demonstration of the inexhaustible resources of Free Trade finance.

Mr. Lloyd-George has not been a financier grappling with a complex problem of the Treasury so much as a Radical politician looking a long way ahead to the possibilities of a coalition with the Labor party. Not satisfied with increasing the exactions of direct taxation at the expense of the rich, and with producing what he called a democratic budget, he has provided for a comprehensive valuation of the land in the Kingdom. If he has not gone far as a land taxer, he has opened the way for a new system of taxation at the expense of large landholders. His three proposals are a halfpenny on the capital value of undeveloped land and mineral rights, a 10 per cent reversion duty on benefit to the lessor at the termination of a lease, and 20 per cent of the unearned increment on suburban or other land which may rise in value. The halfpenny is a tax on undeveloped land, vacant building sites in suburban areas and mining royalties and minerals underground, the 10 per cent reversion duty is a share in the landholder's profits on property acquired without expenditure; and the 20 per cent is a fifth of the unearned increment when property is sold or inherited. These taxes cannot be levied until there has been a systematic valuation of land throughout the Kingdom, and consequently only £500,000 is set-down in the budget as the yield for the fiscal year. That is only the thin edge of the wedge in the green tree. It can be driven a long way when the timber is dry.

While land reformers are disappointed because these taxes are not more drastic, they are confident that a new source of revenue of limitless capacity has been opened. They assert that as time goes on this new resource of free trade can be developed as industriously as either income taxes or death duties have been. Instead of a bare half million there will be millions in it for Dreadnoughts and social reform. Percentages can be increased. The unearned increment can be gradually absorbed by the state and screws can be put on landlords for the "public exploitation" of the great estates. There will be not only a new source of revenue for the Treasury, but also a new basis of rating for the local authorities. So optimistic are the enthusiasts over ultimate results when the land has once been realized that it is difficult to credit the pessimists when they assert that the Chancellor has hardly started in his career as a land reformer. The plaudits of the former class may convince the Lords that landholders will be deliberately raided and plundered and that the budget must be thrown out and the general elections brought on in self-defence. "That may be the sequel to what is described as a 'disolution budget' in which finance, whether high or low, legitimate or predatory, is subordinated to social questions. Meanwhile, the laurels of Pitt, Peel and Gladstone, who have the Chancellor of the Exchequer to sleep contentedly, if he dreams in restless moments, it is of himself as Prime Minister in a future Radical-Labor coalition, with Mr. Winston Churchill as Chancellor in charge of semi-socialist budgets."

wisdom both of determining its correctness and of devising effective means to lessen the danger.

Mr. McAdoo is guilty of another heinous offense—the traction interests of this city. He is experimenting with an automatic indicator of stations on his tunnel trains. Doesn't he know that the correct attitude toward all such innovations is to dismiss them as impossible?

"Philanthropy" again—wins James A. Patten.

Stories about gold in the Adirondacks should be accepted with caution. That the metal has been found there in small quantities is not unlikely. Whether the ore containing it is abundant enough and rich enough to make mining pay is the important question. A good deal of money has been sunk in working other mineral deposits in that part of the country. Such unprofitable ventures should serve as a warning against fresh mistakes.

According to the United States Consul at Cape Town, special privileges are granted to Canadian merchants and manufacturers by one of the Canadian steamship lines whose vessels run direct to South Africa. Free transportation is given to bona fide agents who wish to further trade. The consul remarks that if exporters in this country should apply for a similar concession it might be secured. The suggestion is worth investigation. A great deal of merchandise already goes from the United States to South Africa by way of Canada.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

Professor David W. Marks, who died in London recently, was probably the only Jewish minister who held a place with the same congregation for sixty-nine years. He was ninety-seven years old, but was a member of the "younger class" having been the first clergyman of his faith to cast astern in an English congregation, some of the reforming usages and to make the services of the reformed kind. He was recognized as one of the learned men of his time, but was not a university graduate.

"Do you like this kindergarten better than the one in Rivington street?" "They ain't even got class colors or a college yell."

The official German statistics of motor vehicles for passengers and freight traffic for the three years 1906, 1907 and 1908 showed 27,026, 26,022 and 41,727 vehicles of different classes. There was, says "Engineering," in 1908 an increase of nearly 15 per cent over 1907, and an increase of 23 per cent in 1907 over 1906. The increase affects particularly the more powerful carriages and rather expensive motor cars, prices of which went down last year. The number of accidents has decreased, but Berlin had as many as 71 accidents for every 100 vehicles.

"Seen the name of this new royal baby?" "I read the first instalment."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

The American Fourth of July will be celebrated by Danish-American citizens at an exposition to be held in Aarhus, Denmark, on July 4, according to an announcement made by Henry H. Hertz, toastmaster at the third annual dinner of the Chicago branch, Danish-American Association. "It has been arranged," said Mr. Hertz, "that our Fourth of July this year will be celebrated at Denmark's exposition. There will be about two thousand members of our association at the festivities, the entire town being turned over to us for the event."

Lawyer (cross-examining)—You testified that Miss Smythe was walking in her sleep. How do you know that? Witness—Well, a mouse ran across the floor right in front of her and she never even batted an eye.

Governor Stuart, of Pennsylvania, has vetoed a bill to permit juries in murder cases to determine between the death penalty and life imprisonment. "In view of the disregard of human life which some elements of our population continually exhibit, I do not think that our criminal law governing the punishment for murder in the first degree should be relaxed," says the Governor. Approving the veto, "The Philadelphia Inquirer" says: "When we reach the point where juries, swayed momentarily by emotion or by sympathy, can virtually destroy the death penalty, we shall arrive at the beginning of an increasing list of cold-blooded crimes."

"Do you owe the doctor much?" asked the wife. "No, he paid his last week. Why do you ask?" "Because he hasn't said yet this is the finest baby he ever saw."

The council of the Bread and Food Reform League of England has issued a manifesto directing attention to the importance of using a more nourishing bread than ordinary fine wheat bread, especially as food for children. "We have analyzed," says the council, "that the whole of the wheat grain contains more nutriment than the part usually made into fine white flour. Experiments made on the human digestion in America confirm the statements of the Bread and Food Reform League that more protein—flesh-forming material—can be assimilated from whole wheat meal than it is ground to a uniform fineness than when coarsely milled. Experiments in Germany show that from 200 grams of the coarser ground wheat meal the mineral substances which form bones and teeth, and which nourish the brain, nerves and tissues, than from a similar weight of fine white flour."

"Isn't it a great advantage to study foreign languages before travelling abroad?" "Yes, always," answered Miss Sayens. "Familiarity with the language necessarily enables one to conceal a great deal of downright ignorance."—Washington Star.

MEMORIAL OF JEFFERSON DAVIS.

From The Baltimore Sun. A part of the Kentucky farm on which Jefferson Davis was born has been purchased by an association composed of Southerners. It will be made a memorial to the great general as a memorial of the Southern Confederacy. To this expression of the honor and affection in which the South regards the great general, Mr. Davis there can be no objection on the part of broad-minded Americans. This is peculiarly an era of memorializing the great men of the past, the monuments erected by civil war, but to honor men who had the courage of their convictions, it matters not how the monuments are erected. Jefferson Davis served the United States with distinction in the war with Mexico. He was an able and able member of the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate. He was a Virginia battlefields monuments to the soldiers who fought against the Southern Confederacy, of which he was a member. He was a man of eminent character, and in accord with the spirit of the age, that the South should preserve the birthplace of Jefferson Davis.

A NEW PARIS GAME.

From The Boston Herald. Juvenile Parisians have a new game to take the place of the diabolo. It is called the "Looping Bird," and is a little aeroplane shot up by the aid of a rubber band and a pair of diabolo sticks. The Tuileries Gardens are much frequented by players of the "Looping Bird." But more ambitious models are being constructed. One of the latter is a very good imitation of the Farman machine, and is propelled by twisted rubber bands. On the ground it weighs 150 to 200. One of the latter is a very good imitation of the Farman machine, and is propelled by twisted rubber bands. On the ground it weighs 150 to 200. One of the latter is a very good imitation of the Farman machine, and is propelled by twisted rubber bands. On the ground it weighs 150 to 200.

DID JOB HAVE INFLUENZA?

From The London Express. Bishop Thornton, vicar of Blackburn, has been suffering from influenza, and he writes in his parish magazine as a memorial of the Southern Confederacy.

AN EXCUSE, NOT AN EXPLANATION.

From The Rochester Post-Express. Tammany, under my leadership, won fifteen out of seven elections. Richard Croker before sailing for Europe. However, this Croker explains where he got it.

IN THE CITADEL OF PROTECTION.

Pennsylvania has long been known as the citadel of protection. Its support of the protective system has been aggressive and consistent. It has furnished Democratic protectionist leaders as well as Republican protectionist leaders. Its property was stimulated by protection, and it is as firm a believer in the protection system now as it has been at any time in the past. Yet it believes that protection should be rational and progressive, adapting itself to changing conditions.

Of the protectionist newspapers of Pennsylvania none has exerted a wider influence than "The Philadelphia Press." It is noteworthy, therefore, that "The Press" does not consider the Senate tariff bill a wise exemplification of protection principles or a fulfillment of the pledges of the last Republican national platform. It said on Wednesday:

The Senate and its leaders, including Senator Aldrich, have before them a very serious and sudden advance in the revision of the tariff is the revision the people want. In 1894 a Democratic Congress elected to reduce rates did its work and brought depression. In 1897 a Republican Congress elected to restore rates to the McKinley standard. One Congress was elected to reduce rates and the other to advance them. There was no doubt in either case as to what the people wanted when they voted in 1892 and in 1896.

Last year the voters who elected Taft were looking neither for the wholesale reduction of 1894 nor the general uniform advance in rates of 1897. President Taft, as candidate, correctly outlined the revision the people want now and wanted then. This revision looked to a wise, careful, judicious revision, which would reduce rates on the invading tariff. A lot of minor reductions, balanced by a large advance, which left the average higher, was not the revision the people wanted. Neither did the voters want the advance in rates on the raw materials, certain articles, as on cotton and silk fabrics, as has been done in the Senate.

If such is the feeling in the citadel of protection, what popular support can a bill like the Senate bill attract in sections of the country in which protection is not the ingrained and cherished tradition which it is in Pennsylvania?

NAVAL IMPROVEMENTS.

A dispatch from The Tribune's Washington bureau last week shows that a remarkable use will be made of the present visits of the vessels of the Atlantic fleet to convenient navy yards for repairs. A great variety of improvements, designed to increase the efficiency of these ships, will be effected before the annual manœuvres begin in June. A group of changes will increase the visibility of the vessels. Their color will be gray, not white, hereafter. Their paint will be lustless. Many objects, like brass door knobs, which might catch and reflect light, are to be removed or altered. Measures will also be taken to minimize the harm of a well directed shot from an enemy by the substitution of lattice work observation towers for the old military masts. Increased reliance is now to be placed on range finders in the elevated posts thus made available, and it is the more desirable, therefore, to guard against ruinous accidents to those instruments. Still another class of improvements will result in clearing the main decks of the battleships of countless unobtrusive which interfere with the free use of the guns.

Most of the changes contemplated will be permanent. Some will be experimental. Such is the case with the trials to be given to searchlights in new positions and the removal of various cabins and bridges. Though it is doubtful whether any immediate innovation of the kind will be made, the adoption of metal boats and furniture of metal or asbestos—with a view to lessening the damage from fire—is also under consideration. The battleship is an elaborate fighting machine, but its highest possibilities are not yet realized. Much must yet be done by way of subordinating its incidental features to the facility with which its essential characteristics can be utilized. Every effort made to accomplish that object will meet with hearty, popular approval. Greater satisfaction in the progress actually being made will be felt by the country, no doubt, because of the unfortunate differences of opinion which have arisen over administrative methods in the Navy Department.

DEALING WITH TRUANCY.

Without convincing evidence to the contrary, it is safe to assume that responsibility for the greater number of the cases of truancy in the public schools of New York, referred to by Dr. Maxwell in his annual report, rests with the parents. While it may be going too far to take the advanced ground of a Western judge, who holds that the parents are responsible absolutely for the acts of their children, the general proposition that a child properly trained at home will conduct himself with a fair degree of propriety elsewhere can hardly be disputed. If the sense of duty and obedience is early instilled into the child, it is only in exceptional cases that he will show any marked tendency to deviate from the ways generally supposed to be most beneficial to himself and to the community.

It could hardly be expected, of course, that pupils in the lower and grammar grades of the public schools would realize the importance of taking advantage of every opportunity presented for securing an education. It is perfectly natural for children to feel that play is much more pleasant than study, but there should be influence enough in the home, backed by wise laws relating to school attendance, to bring necessary pressure upon young people to cause them to attend school regularly. That this pressure is not being brought to bear is evident from the statement that last year shows an increase of nearly one thousand cases of truancy over the previous year.

The suggestion that teachers are to blame because of their harshness toward erring pupils is open to serious question. There is no city in the country where competent teachers have more difficulty in enforcing discipline than in New York. Teachers returning from inspection of schools in Europe, especially England and Germany, are astonished at the discipline maintained there and appalled by the lack of it at home. Assaults upon teachers by pupils are far less rare than they should be, and if the trouble lies at all in the relations between teacher and pupil it is probable that it is due to the handicaps under which the teachers labor in their efforts to enforce wise regulations in the classroom. With corporal punishment forbidden, in general wisdom there can be no means of controlling many of the children of the rougher class, who have never been trained to an appreciation of ethics, and to whom moral suasion suggests only weakness.

Naturally, the problem of dealing with pupils of so many nationalities as may be found in the large public schools of lower Manhattan, where the percentage of truancy is highest, is a difficult one. While many uneducated persons fully realize the value of education, and are determined that their children shall not suffer from their own handicaps, there are many others who consider that any attempt to compel the children to attend school is an infringement on their rights, and the children are permitted to follow their own bent and remain away from school, even though they are not openly encouraged in the practice.

Failure of magistrates to co-operate with the truancy officers is also very demoralizing to the necessary discipline of the school. Even after making due allowance for boyish perversity, the plan of arresting a youth for this or for

whether the new canal is, on the whole, desirable, and, in case that point is settled in the affirmative, which of the various routes suggested is preferable, the British Commission on Canals will have no easy task.

In determining the total commerce of the country Mr. Weber has had no easy task. In the coasting trade shipments are twice reported—at the place from which they are made and at their destination. For iron ore in some cases quadruple returns have been made. In the figures for foreign commerce, of course, there is no duplication. After making what seems to be necessary discounts, Mr. Weber estimates the aggregate commerce at 256,000,000 tons. This amount is a little less than half that actually reported. Hence the interest charges for the improvement of harbors and rivers are probably much greater than would appear, though the disparity between the two doubtless remains. For the eight classes of work reviewed by Mr. Weber the government has paid \$511,000,000. If his estimate of the present volume of commerce, 256,000,000 tons, be adopted, the annual interest charge is six cents a ton. The question is thus raised what the country gets for the money. Probably no satisfactory method of computing the money value of the advantages derived can be found, especially as this undoubtedly differs greatly according to locality. Six cents a ton, though, looks like a pretty reasonable rate.

FOR MAYOR, A SUPERMAN.

The Bureau of Municipal Research, in its pamphlet on "What the Next Mayor of New York Must Do," says that his programme should be constructive and progressive as well as economical. New York needs "an efficient business organization to execute a wise and vigorous programme." There must be an "immediate restoration of the city's credit" and an "immediate correction of conditions that demand relief," besides the adoption and execution of large plans and projects for the future "which the community is prepared to demand" and which will "appeal to public imagination." No mere bookkeeping Mayor with a talent for business reorganization will do, in the opinion of the bureau, but a large understanding of the various needs of the city, social and otherwise, will be required of him.

Under the various heads the pamphlet suggests various steps that will be necessary, not pretending to "make an exhaustive statement." For the restoration of the city's credit five suggestions are made, all of them reasonably familiar because discussion has been concentrated on this topic for a year or more. Under the head of conditions that demand relief the bureau has forty-nine suggestions to make. After these evils are corrected there are nine "next steps which the public is prepared to demand." And, besides, there are seven "opportunities which will confront the next Mayor." In the way of immediately restoring the city's credit, the Mayor will, of course, cut off waste and extravagance and keep down expenses (the budget, the bureau appears assured, should not grow for two years, perhaps even for four). In the way of correcting immediately conditions that need correcting, the Mayor will be required to spend a good deal of money wisely. We shall mention a few of these "constructive" features of the next Mayor's programme: The provision of traction facilities, the adoption of vigorous measures to stamp out preventable diseases, tuberculosis, etc. (Didn't somebody estimate that tuberculosis could be eradicated for \$25,000,000?) the strengthening of the efficiency of the Health, Tenement and other departments that have to do with protecting the poor; an increase of the police force, if necessary, and the repair of the water mains. And among the further constructive steps a plan for industrial training in schools, steps to secure the entire waterfront of the city, the establishment of adequate sewers in Manhattan, a remodeling of the obsolete fire alarm system and the securing, "as soon as financial conditions permit," of Rockaway Beach Park and the conversion of Blackwell's island into a playground.

It is a very large contract for any man to undertake the mere reorganization of the municipality on a business basis, to use a trite phrase that has nearly lost its significance in relation to municipal government. To stop the waste is an heroic task. But the truth is, even if we do not accept all of the constructive suggestions made by the Bureau of Municipal Research as necessary, or if we do not agree that they are the most necessary, in any case the truth is that the next Mayor must not merely reorganize the municipal budget as it exists; he must make costly additions to it. Public opinion demands it. A mere bookkeeping administration will go out of office in execution and will be succeeded by one that has a license for extravagance. New York needs a Mayor who can spend more money and yet keep down expenses. That is written plainly enough in the bureau's pamphlet, and every observer knows it is true.

New York needs a genius for Mayor; it needs a Superman. The situation is created by the direction legislation has taken. The cure for all municipal evils has been to increase the powers and responsibilities of the Mayor. So the powers and responsibilities have been piled up and up and up, until now we cannot contemplate ordinary mortality alongside of them without certain misgivings. We have created a job for a Superman, and there isn't a Superman in sight. Probably the next Mayor will not be able to do one-tenth of the things the Bureau of Municipal Research says he "must" do.

Canal across Scotland. Largely as the result of the recent discussion of the possibility of war between England and Germany, an old project for a ship canal from the North to the Clyde has been revived, and is now under consideration by a royal commission. Though such a highway as is now proposed would doubtless prove serviceable to merchant vessels of several nations, military arguments will be offered in support of the general plan and, if the canal is ever constructed, will dictate some of its features. Advocates of the work point to the manner in which it would facilitate taking war vessels damaged in action in the North Sea to the large repair works near Glasgow. A canal would afford a much shorter and safer route than one around the northern extremity of Scotland. A canal would also prove advantageous in effecting a junction between naval forces in the Atlantic and the North Sea. These advantages resemble those that Emperor William has had in view in opening the already existing Kiel Canal, which gives a short cut to the Baltic to the German Ocean.

Scotland is already traversed by two canals. Neither of them, however, is deep enough for a modern battleship, and it would probably be more satisfactory to construct an entirely new one than to try to alter either of the others. The revenue of the older canals might be reduced if a new one were constructed, and even if, as some engineers estimate, the traffic of the new one would pay 2 or 2½ per cent on the investment, the expediency of the undertaking, except for its value to the navy, might be questioned. On the other hand, if there was a distinct promise that the canal would render a service in war not otherwise afforded, the government might be willing to bear a part of the cost, and not leave the whole burden—something like \$100,000,000—to private subscribers.

At present several routes are under discussion. The most direct one is said to involve such changes of level that many locks would be demanded. The use of such a canal would be decidedly objectionable delay in transit. In behalf of the more circuitous routes proposed, it is urged that fewer locks would be needed, time would be saved and all uncertainty about an adequate water supply would be dispelled. In determining

Another group of improvements considered by Mr. Weber included the regulation of the flow of rivers with dams, locks and levees. The Metropolitan Mississippi, Monongahela and Kanawha are among the streams here discussed. \$204,718,500 has already been devoted to this class of work, a hypothetical interest charge of \$6,151,555 is paid for a trifle less than 45,000,000 tons of freight. On the basis of the present commerce, which, by the way, has grown only about one-fourth since the work was begun) the interest charge a ton is 9.5 cents, or fully six times as great as that for the deepening of harbors. It should be borne in mind, however, that a part of the expenditure for river improvements helps other interests besides commerce. By averting the inun-

Amusements. ACADEMY OF MUSIC—Richard III. ASTOR—The Man from Home. BELASCO—Going Home. BRONX—A Girl from Mississippi. CARINO—His Harem. GARDNER—A Girl from Mississippi. GRIFFITH—The Fair Co-Ed. HAYES—The Man from Home. EDEN MUSE—The House in Wax. HARRIS—The Man from Home. HARTMAN—The Man from Home. HARRINGTON—The Man from Home. HERALD—The Man from Home. HERRICK—The Man from Home. HILTON—The Man from Home. HUNTER—The Man from Home. KNICKERBOCKER—The Man from Home. LEE—The Man from Home. LITTLE—The Man from Home. LYRIC—The Man from Home. MANNING—The Man from Home. MARY—The Man from Home. MERRY—The Man from Home. MURPHY—The Man from Home. NICKERBOCKER—The Man from Home. O'NEILL—The Man from Home. PALACE—The Man from Home. PLAZA—The Man from Home. PRINCE—The Man from Home. ST. LOUIS—The Man from Home. WALLACK—The Man from Home. WEST END—The Man from Home.

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THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—The firm attitude of the French government has apparently checked the plans of the state employes and the Federation of Labor for a general strike. In the part of Russia remaining strength in Russia and the Liberal leaders of the Douma express fear of its speedy dissolution; practically no progressive legislation is expected. The losses to American property in Turkey are estimated at \$5,000; the government is showing vigor in the work of relief; many refugees have returned to their homes in Syria. A new Persian Cabinet has been formed with Naeir al Mulk at Premier; the Shah has issued a decree granting political amnesty. Mullah Hadif is said to have written to King Alfonso threatening war unless the Spanish troops are withdrawn from the Rif country. The Admiralty in London says that German warships have restored peace among the native factions; fifty chiefs may be deported for inciting rebellion. Gambusia and troops are trying to capture a Moro robber band in the Sulu Islands.

DOMESTIC.—Government employes in Washington were anxious to have their hours of work changed so that by beginning their day earlier they might leave their homes earlier. Ex-Judge William L. Penfield died in Washington. Nine persons were drowned when a rowboat was upset in the Susquehanna river, at Fort Criffield, near Williamsburg. A fifteen-year-old girl, of Bowden, Ga., dug her father and two sisters out of the ruins of a dwelling which had been demolished by a cyclone. Professor Henry H. Clayton, formerly of the Blue Hill Observatory, plans to make a trip to Europe by balloon. The journey to take only three or four days. Two New Yorkers were injured by an automobile in Pittsburgh. It was said at Dover, Del., that the fruit crop of that state would be a failure. Mothers' Day was celebrated in Philadelphia. Two miners, imprisoned under rock at Pottsville, Penn., for thirty-six hours, were rescued.

CITY.—The estate of John A. Edwards, a 14-year-old manufacturer, of East Orange, N. J., who had been missing since April 16, was found in the Hudson River, near West 98th street. It was said that John F. McIntyre would make a trip to Europe by balloon in the Hatus case. Friends of Charles W. Morse signed a petition for his release on bail, offering a large sum as security. Chairman How of the committee of the National Committee for the Relief of the Unemployed said that his organization would end the bread line in New York by obtaining work for the unemployed. The centennial of old St. Patrick's Church, in West 42nd street, was celebrated by Archbishop Farley and many other prelates. The body of William Thompson, the Columbia senior who was drowned in Sheephead Bay, was recovered while in military service or him, was being held in Brooklyn. Delegates arrived for the state convention of the Foresters of America. The Countess Caroline von Schlimm was arrested on a charge of kidnapping the Williamsburg actress, Charles Klein, the playwright, returned from London and told of a \$325 taxicab ride through Scotland and Ireland. Emma Williams was arrested on a charge of kidnapping a tribe of Indians at the Madison Square Garden. It was said that retail ice dealers in Brooklyn would have to raise their prices because of the increased wholesale price. A Columbia Island mounted policeman chased a speeding automobile a mile. A statement was given out by the teachers who are urging the passage of the equal pay bill. Dr. J. M. Hammond was acquitted of a charge of speeding when an official at Darien, Conn., remembered that the physician saved his life twenty-five years ago.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Showers. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 60 degrees; lowest, 49.

WATERWAYS AND HARBORS.

An elaborate analysis of the work done by the national government in improving the harbors and internal waterways of the country is made in the last "Engineering News" by Alexander H. Weber, a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers. One of the most instructive features of his study is the classification of undertakings according to their character. In each group note is taken of the benefits secured and of the cost. For what Mr. Weber considers the most important class of work, the deepening of such harbors as that of New York, the total expenditure in a century has amounted to \$172,707,000. On the assumption that government money is worth 3 per cent, this investment represents an annual interest charge of \$5,187,257. According to official reports, the total yearly commerce of the harbors thus improved is now 353,585,700 tons, though as will presently be shown, these figures need modification. Accepting them at their face value, however, the annual cost in interest is 1.5 cents a ton. It should be added, in the interest of completeness, that the commerce of the ports here associated is now much more than twice as great as when the improvements began.

Another group of improvements considered by Mr. Weber included the regulation of the flow of rivers with dams, locks and levees. The Metropolitan Mississippi, Monongahela and Kanawha are among the streams here discussed. \$204,718,500 has already been devoted to this class of work, a hypothetical interest charge of \$6,151,555 is paid for a trifle less than 45,000,000 tons of freight. On the basis of the present commerce, which, by the way, has grown only about one-fourth since the work was begun) the interest charge a ton is 9.5 cents, or fully six times as great as that for the deepening of harbors. It should be borne in mind, however, that a part of the expenditure for river improvements helps other interests besides commerce. By averting the inun-