Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—8:15—The Witching Hour.
ALHAMBRA—2—8—Vaudeville.
ASTOR—8:15—Seven Days.
BELASCO—2:15—8:15—Is Matrimony a Failure?
BROADWAY—8:15—The Midnight Sons.
BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC—8—Tannhaeuser.
CARNEGIE HALL—8:30—Barbary.
CASINO—8:15—The Girl and the Wizard.
COLONIAL—2—8—Vaudeville.
COMEDY—8:15—The Melting Pot.
CRITERION—8:15—Israel.
DALY'S—8:15—The Belle of Brittany.
EDEN MUSEE—The World in Wax.
EMPIRE—8:15—Inconstant George.
GAIETY—8:15—The Fortune Hunter.
GARRICK—8:15—The Harvest Moon.
HACKETT—8:15—Such a Little Queen.
HAMMERSTEIN'S—2:15—8:15—Vaudeville.
HERALD SQUARE—8:15—The Chocolate Soldier.
HIPPODROME—2—8—A Trip to Japan; Inside the Earth; the Ballet of Jewels.
HUDSON—8:20—The Builder of Bridges.
IRVING PLACE—8:15—Chimes of Normandy.
KNICKERBOCKER—8—The Dollar Princess.
LIBERTY—8:15—Springtime.
LYCEUM—8:15—Arsene Lupin.
LYRIC—8:15—Herod.
MADISON SQUARE GARDEN—8—Drug Show.
MAJESTIC—8:15—Mr. Lode of Koal.
MANHATTAN OPERA HOUSE—8—Lucia.
MAXINE ELLIOTT'S THEATRE—8:30—The Passing of the Third Floor Back.
METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE—8—La Gioconda.
NEW AMSTERDAM—8:15—The Silver Star.
NEW THEATRE—8:15—Antony and Cleopatra.
NEW YORK—8:15—The Man Who Owns Broadway.
SAVOY—8:15—Helena Richie.
ST. NICHOLAS RINK—Ice Skating.
STUYVESANT—8:15—The Easiest Way.
WALLACK'S—8:15—The Fourth Estate.
WEBER'S—8:15—The Climax.
WEST END—8:15—Rose of Algeria.

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New-York Tribune.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 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; Henry W. Sackett, secretary; James M. Barrett, treasurer. The address of the officers is the office of this newspaper.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—Two bombs were thrown at the carriage in which Lord and Lady Minto were driving, at Ahmedabad; neither missile exploded, though another bomb injured a native before the last two attempts were made. —— One hundred and one persons were drowned and sixty-one were rescued after the steamer Onda, of the British-India Line, struck and sunk La Seyne, of the Messageries Maritimes, between Java and Singapore; many of those saved were badly bitten by sharks. —— The Chief of Police and the police secretary at Buenos Ayres were killed by a bomb thrown under their carriage. —— Advices from Jamaica say that no reports of loss of life in the storm have been received, though the property loss is great; no earthquakes were felt either there or in Hayti. —— The Sultan of Turkey opened parliament with great ceremony; the speech from the throne said that all foreign relations were friendly; the budget shows a deficit of $22,500,000.

DOMESTIC.—President Taft, Cardinal Gibbons and Archbishop Falconio reviewed the men's Catholic societies of Washington. —— It was stated that the loss of life at the mine disaster in Cherry, Ill., might reach 385, but experts who made three descents have found no bodies yet. —— Clergymen in Cairo, Ill., preached sermons indorsing the double lynching which took place there recently. —— A movement for a two weeks' strike by all the labor unions in the country if the sentences of Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison are affirmed was started in Philadelphia. —— Archer Christian, the left halfback on the University of Virginia football team, injured in the game with Georgetown on Saturday, died from cerebral hemorrhage in Washington.

CITY.—Burglars broke into the Regal shoe store at Broadway and 37th street and escaped with $4,000 after blowing up the safe. —— Mrs. Stetson went to Boston, accompanied by her attorney and a stenographer, to appear before the board of the Mother Church, which was said to foreshadow her excommunication. —— The orders of James Burton Reynolds, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, directing Richard Parr, the sugar frauds investigator, to proceed to Cuba, California and New Orleans before his evidence against the American Sugar Refining Company was complete, were explained. —— President Butler outlined Columbia's needs in his annual report to the trustees.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Partly cloudy. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 54 degrees; lowest, 49.

CUTTING DOWN ELECTIONS.

By adopting a series of constitutional amendments Pennsylvania has just simplified its elective machinery and materially reduced the number and cost of state elections. The tendency to lengthen the period between elections, to abolish "off year" campaigns and to distinguish sharply between state and municipal contests has been marked in the last decade, and there are few states left which cling to the old system of choosing state officers annually. Since Representatives in Congress must be elected every two years in an even numbered year and Presidential electors every four years in an even numbered year, it has been found convenient and economical to shift the dates of state elections so as to consolidate the two schedules. The process is nearing an end. Ohio and Iowa used until recently to elect governors in the odd numbered years for two-year terms. Both gave up the practice for even year elections. The only states which now choose governors in the odd years are Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, Mississippi and Kentucky. The first two elect annually. New Jersey elects for three years, so that every other campaign falls in an odd year. The last four states elect for four-year terms. The other thirty-nine states now elect governors and most other state officers in the even years. Nebraska, however, continues to choose minor state officials in the odd years.

Pennsylvania has abandoned the odd year state election for Treasurer and Auditor General. The Treasurer has had a term of two years. The Treasurer elected on November 2 is to serve for three years, and his successor, elected in 1912, is to hold office for four years. The Auditor General formerly had a three-year term. The official chosen this year will serve till 1912, and the term is then to be lengthened to four years. The number of state elections is thus cut in two. Another important change authorized is the abolition of the February municipal election. Municipal elections are to be held in November in the odd numbered years, as they are in this state, and state and municipal contests are thus to be more sharply segregated. It is in the interest of good municipal government that they should be kept apart, so that non-partisan movements for better city government may have fuller play. This city has benefited greatly from the policy of separation, and it will probably be of similar advantage to Philadelphia and Pittsburg to hold their local elections in a year in which no state campaign occurs.

With the introduction of the primary the demand for fewer elections is bound to grow. Primaries are costly, and a state holding frequent elections requires from its citizens a good deal of active participation in politics. Many of the Southern states have adopted the quadrennial system for that reason. The trend of events is all toward a simplification of the political calendar, with longer terms for elective officers and more popular interest and care in their selection.

THE INQUIRY IN THIS STATE.

The present investigation of the joint legislative committee on primary reform into the faults which the people of this state find in their primary laws will strike disinterested observers as about as useful as the inquiries which inferior whist players hold over hands they have played, known to the impatient as "coroners' inquests." The game was played on November 2. The adversary took an unexpected number of tricks, and now there is to be a learned session on why.

The faults which the public find with the primary laws are a matter of common notoriety. There is probably nothing more familiar than the unanswered criticisms that have been made upon the convention system of nominations. They have been repeated *ad nauseam*. Recent experience has added nothing to them, nor has it subtracted anything from them. They are to be summed up in the statement that the delegate system does not do what it pretends to do. The delegates do not represent those who voted for them in the convention, and they do not choose the candidates. They represent certain potent individuals within the parties, and they have the candidates chosen for them by those individuals. To this it is replied that the will of the people controls these individuals, leaders or bosses, as they may be called, and that thus the result of the convention reflects the popular intention. But that itself is an argument for the abandonment of conventions as useless. If the delegates are mere figureheads, why continue to name them?

It is because the delegate is a figurehead and because the whole of the present machinery of making nominations is largely a pretence that the public is dissatisfied. The boss, even when he does his work well and does not abuse his position, is out of place in the institutions of a self-governing people, and the people are conscious of the anomaly. And bosses have done their work ill so many times that the people have little confidence in them. There is every reason to believe that the people desire and are determined to take to themselves the power to control the practical business of making nominations. With this desire and determination the delegate system of choosing candidates does not comport, for it has been shown by long practice that this system is not truly representative.

The faults which the public find with the present plan are so notorious that a legislative inquiry into them seems as absurd as would be a legislative inquiry as to why children do not like castor oil. The present investigation will affect public opinion as much as have the previous investigations of the joint committee. And how much of an influence were they in the recent Assembly contests up in the state, where direct nomination was the issue?

THE HUNGARIAN CRISIS.

The resignation of Mr. Kossuth from the leadership of the Hungarian Independence party is ominous to Hungary and to the relations between that kingdom and the Austrian Empire. When he was first received in friendly conference by the King against whom his father had rebelled and who had sought to destroy that father as a traitor, it was hoped that the differences of the past had been irrevocably buried and that a new bond of concord and union had been established between the two realms. There is reason to believe that both the King and Mr. Kossuth desired that to be the case. But that welcome dream has vanished in a rude awakening to a state of more intense, if not more open, hostility than has been known before since the adoption of Deak's compromise in 1867.

The present troubles began a little more than a month ago, when Mr. Kossuth again went to the King with what was practically an ultimatum. The Magyar demands which he made were three in number. One was the use of the Magyar language and flag in the Hungarian army, a demand which has for years been one of the most serious objects of contention in the Dual Realm. The second was the organization of a separate Hungarian banking system in place of the present joint system. The third was the immediate enactment of a so-called universal suffrage law, which, it was suspected by many, was calculated to confirm and perpetuate the political dominance of the Magyars in Hungary. If these were granted, complete reconciliation between the Magyars and their King would be assured. If not, the Independence movement in Hungary would be revived, and efforts would be directed toward dissolution of the dynastic union.

Of these propositions that for a separate Hungarian bank was most contested, since it was believed at Vienna, and indeed very largely at Budapest, that two separate and smaller state banks would be much weaker and would enjoy less credit than the Austro-Hungarian Bank, which now controls the fiscal affairs of the two nations. It was also pointed out that Mr. Kossuth made no promise and gave no hint concerning Hungary's attitude toward the disposition of Bosnia and Herzegovina, although it was recognized that that would be one of the gravest of questions for settlement in the not remote future.

The result was that while the venerable King might have been inclined to grant the Hungarian demands, the heir presumptive, the Austrian Archduke Francis Ferdinand, set his face like a flint against them, and in doing so was backed by Count Aehrenthal, and so the negotiations failed. The archduke is well known to entertain a profound distrust of Mr. Kossuth and of the Independence party in Hungary, of which that statesman has been the leader, and in that feeling he has the sympathy of a large part of the Austrian people. So now Mr. Kossuth has resigned, probably in order that he may be more free to wage a campaign for independence. Count Julius Andrassy or some other statesman may direct the course of the Hungarian government with some degree of smoothness until another general election can be held, but that election seems likely to increase the power of the Independence party, and thus to widen the breach between the King and the dominant part of the nation.

THE COLLIERY DISASTER.

Again there has been that wholesale sacrifice of life with which the mining industry has become painfully familiar. This time the number of victims, almost four hundred, is rather above the average. As has only too often been the case in the past, the tragedy at Cherry acquires an added pathos from the death of half a dozen men who engaged in futile attempts at rescue.

The immediate cause of the slaughter seems to be unmistakable. Through somebody's neglect fire was permitted to spread from a heap of smouldering hay to the timbers of the mine, thus creating a double danger. Not only was the security of the walls and roof lessened by the destruction of perishable supports, but there was an explosion from the ignition of gas which had accumulated in the drifts and shafts of the mine. Since the persons who were chiefly responsible for the catastrophe probably perished with their fellow workmen, they cannot be called to an account.

Yet perhaps it is not utterly hopeless to draw a profitable lesson from the latest instance of a carelessness which ought to be regarded as a crime. There is abundant evidence that the miners themselves occasionally violate rules intended for their protection and for the protection of their fellows. They open their safety lamps and light matches in order to enjoy a quiet smoke before emerging from the mine. A spirit of comradeship or some other seemingly worthy motive restrains those who witness such acts from reporting them. Often no harm ensues, but there is a probability almost amounting to a certainty that in at least a few instances highly disastrous consequences will follow.

Is it not possible to bring a new influence to bear to check these practices? Cannot a campaign of education be started which will cultivate the proper sentiment toward them among the miners themselves? Would not the condemnation of one's associates prove more effective than any threat of dismissal by an employer? Could the labor unions to which many of the coal miners belong engage in a nobler service than waging an energetic and intelligent war on usages which imperil life and threaten to create hundreds of widows and orphans in a single day? Could Mr. John Mitchell say or do anything to promote a movement of this kind?

HUDSON CITY.

Another possible greater city seems likely to be spoiled in the making. There are indications that practical considerations will outweigh that patriotic pride which makes every inhabitant of a municipality glory in the addition of another citizen, without any special regard to whether the newcomer will be of any value to the community or not. Civic pride is probably to a greater degree responsible for the general tendency toward consolidation of small villages into larger cities than are wisdom and good judgment.

On the other side of the Hudson lies a stretch of land which to the New Yorker is known as Jersey. In it are not only Jersey City and Hoboken, known to every one, but North Bergen, Union Hill, West Hoboken, West New York and Weehawken, all of them with municipal governments. It is this multiplicity of municipalities that is just now bothering the good people across the Hudson. Many of them think it would be nice to tear down the old boundaries and throw out a new one which will bring all within itself. Inasmuch as the little cities all dovetail into one another, there is a somewhat general impression that one government would be better than five for them. But against this Weehawken raises her voice in protest. However pleasant the name of "Hudson City" might be as a sweet morsel to roll underneath the tongue, some of the practical citizens point out that Weehawken would have to pay pretty dearly for its share of the honor.

Weehawken, aside from having been the scene of the famous duel between Hamilton and Burr, is a thrifty community, with plenty of improvements in the way of paved streets and well laid sewers. It also has some railroad property down on the river front which makes a good showing on the tax books and helps to pay municipal salaries. None of the other towns has such valuable taxable property, and it is rumored that about all they could turn in to the united city would be large and healthy municipal debts. Weehawken asserts that with only 8 per cent of the voting population of Hudson City it would furnish two and a half times that amount of taxable property. It is possible, too, that there lingers in the minds of some the tale so humorously told a year and a half ago of the financial difficulties of West New York which made it necessary for the man in charge of the municipal fire horses, unable to get money or food from the city treasury, personally to borrow a supply of oats to keep them from the soap rendering vat.

FORTIFICATIONS AT PANAMA.

General George W. Davis, an esteemed authority on isthmian affairs, contributes to the latest issue of "The American Journal of International Law" an illuminating and convincing discussion of the right and the need of this nation to construct fortifications at the terminals of or at the near approaches to the Panama Canal. The question has been considerably discussed hitherto, probably more than it will be hereafter save by the incorrigibly captious; but it is well that it should be rightly understood by all whom it concerns, so that the propriety of the course to which our government is now committed may be recognized.

The all but unbroken policy of this government ever since 1846 has been to regard the security of communication across the isthmus as a material element of our national integrity and sovereignty, and therefore to maintain the right of this government to intervene there whenever necessary for the protection of that interest. That right has never been contested in practice, and only once was it challenged in theory, to wit, during the controversy which was begun by Mr. Blaine and continued by Mr. Frelinghuysen with Lord Granville in 1881-'82, when the British government reasserted the validity of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty and its presumptive application to the Isthmus of Panama—a presumption which was not conceded by this country and which Great Britain probably never would have undertaken to enforce. Obviously, moreover, that very contention of Lord Granville's twenty-eight years ago implies a confirmation of our right to fortify the canal now, since the Clayton-Bulwer treaty has been specifically superseded by the Hay-Pauncefote treaty and the latter contains no prohibition of fortification, while it does provide that the United States shall have the exclusive right of regulating, managing, policing and protecting the canal, which obviously may imply the right to construct necessary fortifications. At any rate, no nation but Great Britain has even a pretext for questioning our right to fortify the canal, and Great Britain in the face of our unconcealed intention of so doing has not raised the question, and we may be sufficiently sure that, as General Davis confidently declares, she will not do so, for we are pursuing precisely the course which she would pursue if she were in our place.

We may say more than that, as General Davis does. We are pursuing and are planning to continue to pursue at Panama precisely such a course as that which Great Britain has pursued at Suez with a canal which is at least as much a neutral highway as that at Panama is to be, and in which Great Britain has not nearly so exclusive a right and interest as we have in the canal which we are building. The Suez Canal has been freely open to belligerents in two wars, so long as they committed no acts of war therein. But if some nation were at war with Great Britain, General Davis pertinently asks, is it conceivable that its warships would be permitted to pass through the Suez Canal? "It is unthinkable, unless that hostile power had a force adequate to overcome British resistance." That is the state of affairs at Suez, "and the world appears to be quite reconciled to the *status quo*." General Davis concludes that it is the traditional and declared policy of the United States to control and defend the Panama Canal as a part of its own coast line; that neither public law nor moral obligation is in conflict with that policy, and that fortifications at Panama are as essential to the protection of our national interests as they are on the coasts of the United States itself. In those conclusions he will have the thoughtful and earnest support of the nation.

MONEY AND BUSINESS.

Monetary conditions, from an international point of view, are receiving careful consideration in financial circles. Locally, funds have met with increased demand, and call rates on the New York Stock Exchange on Friday advanced to 6 per cent, the highest point of the season. Unexpectedly last week's interior demands on New York for funds also reached the highest point, which is unusual, in view of the approach of the normal point where money used in financing the agricultural requirement begins to gravitate back to the New York market. This activity is suggestive of mercantile energy in the West, and is to that extent an encouraging sign. Another significant feature of the money situation has been the lending of considerable amounts on call in the New York market by London and Paris when the European monetary condition is one of serious and acknowledged financial strain. Contrary to expectations, neither the Bank of England nor the Reichsbank advanced its minimum discount from the 5 per cent basis, and the Bank of England superficially, at least, presented a stronger weekly statement last Thursday than for several weeks, a feature that was directly due, however, to pressure placed upon the Bank of France to relieve the London situation, and to this a very reluctant response was given. Indeed, the advances by the Bank of France were in most instances on the express stipulation that the gold should be returned as soon as the obligations it was refinancing should mature. Under these circumstances the foreign loans made during the week to New York seem largely in the form of deposits in a market whence it is known they can with exact certainty be recalled in case of necessity.

The deadlock in London over the British government's taxation proposals merits consideration in connection with the direct bearing it promises to exert on the financial markets here. The budget has been prepared with a view to its revenue producing ability meeting the unusual expenditures, which include, among other items, the old age pensions, a treasury deficit already accrued, and, not least, the battleship building race with Germany. The revenue planned by the budget is needed; the demand for it is insistent, and in the event of much further delay or of the rejection of the measure by the House of Lords the government will be compelled to become an active borrower on notes in an already strained London market. The period of additional strain from this source is quite likely to be an extended one, since if an appeal be made to the country and the verdict be a favorable one to the present government it will still take considerable time to place again the proposals in proper form for enactment. If the verdict should be against the government the situation would necessarily be even less favorable. Under these circumstances a policy of extreme caution seems probable in London financial circles. For a different reason—namely, that of overdoing in stock speculation and in industrial and commercial activities—the Berlin money market is also experiencing strain, and, in fact, all European centres—all world centres, for New York must be included—are in a condition of more or less financial tension. Paris is in probably the best form as regards gold reserves, which, however, reflects timely preparations to meet conditions frankly recognized in advance.

There is little fault to be found with general business activity. In one or two departments the demand for steel is rather less urgent than a few weeks ago, but increased activity in other sections keeps the total well up to the record marking proportions that have recently been attained. The high prices of cotton, the violent fluctuations and the uncertainty of the future course are, quite naturally, interfering with the distribution of the manufactured articles. Some attempts were made during the week to adjust the prices of the goods to the new cost of production. But the future of the cotton goods market is, in a broad sense, dependent upon the maintenance or further advance of raw cotton prices, and the situation is, therefore, fraught with no little uncertainty. The copper metal situation is also showing some irregularity as a result of the further accumulation of supplies indicated by the October statement of the Associated Producers. It is necessary to recall, however, that the figures as given cover the month of October, and that in November, subsequent to the publication of the statement, enormous sales of American copper have been made to European buyers, the supplies thus sold not falling much below 100,000,000 pounds, according to what are usually considered truthworthy reports.

In other departments of mercantile activity the situation is satisfactory, none the less so because it is not spectacular and fitful. Steady progress is indicated by all the accepted commercial yardsticks. The decrease in Stock Exchange business last week ended the long series of weekly increases shown by the country's bank exchanges. Bank clearings at all leading cities last week indicated a slight loss, comparing with the active week of a year ago that followed the national election. Nevertheless, there is an increase of 6.7 per cent when the totals are contrasted with the corresponding week of 1906. That the volume of merchandise offering for transportation is steadily improving is indicated by the traffic statements of the railroads, which show a gross income of nearly 3 per cent above the figures of October, 1907, a period that marked the height of railroad activity just preceding the curtailment that the financial collapse subsequently forced.

With the exception of cotton the year's agricultural production is excellent; the government's monthly report on corn was up to expectations, and the final government reports for the year are not likely to show a new wealth from the ground much below record figures, if we consider all the grain crops as a whole. The high prices of cotton are figuring in our international exchanges at a highly satisfactory rate, the October shipments, for instance, showing in value an increase of about $30,000,000 over October, 1908, and giving distinct encouragement to the idea that our agricultural exports will go much further in extinguishing our large international indebtedness than was expected even a few months ago.

Neither Mayor McClellan nor Controller Metz was present at the beginning of the Fourth avenue subway. Then no fault can be found with their sense of irony.

Football appears to be reformed in everything but its death list.

There is ground for some gratification at the request which comes from Odessa that the Czar disfranchise all the Jews there. It at least indicates that not all the Jews have been massacred.

Yale is still Yale.

Some American cigar dealers object to the government stamp on Philippine cigars certifying that they actually came from the Philippines and were manufactured of tobacco of the grade standard for the brand and under sanitary conditions as an undue discrimination against the Cuban, Porto Rican and domestic product. Is that a confession that other cigars are not up to the same standard in quality and conditions of manufacture?

Hearst spent $250,000 in his campaign of 1906 and only $9,000 in his last campaign. And yet they say there isn't a "new Hearst."

A policeman who can puncture an automobile tire with a pistol bullet while both he on his bicycle and the car are running at forty miles an hour commands our admiration and inspires the wish that such marksmanship were more common. If it were we should not hear that a policeman emptied all the chambers of his revolver at a dog at close range and then had to kill the brute with his club.

In basing all their army manœuvres upon the theory of attack and ignoring defence and retreat the Japanese take a leaf out of the book of one of America's greatest fighters. Farragut proclaimed that the best defence was in attack and that a ship's guns rather than her armor were her best protection, and he declared his belief that a commander who went into action planning what he would do in case of defeat would be half beaten in advance. Best of all, in more than one great conflict the great admiral proved the truth of his own words.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

In The Tribune, a day or two ago, there was printed a statement of election expenses of an unsuccessful candidate for a minor office, in which the aspirant said: "A fool and his money are soon parted." Now comes this from up the state: "Isaac M. Brickner, Democratic candidate for the Assembly in the 1st District of Monroe County, who was defeated, spent $6 80 in the campaign, and justifies the expense by saying: 'I don't see how I could have been beaten for less.'"

He (facetiously)—Ah thin, Honoria, 'tis a long journey for wan little drop to go to me fut!
Honoria—Sure, an' it is! But, judgin' from your disgrashful condition last avenin', it's not lonesome it'll be!—Harper's Weekly.

At one of the roller skating rinks in Dresden, in which city the sport has become exceedingly popular, a sign has been placed bearing this inscription: "Do not put your arm around the waist of your skating companion. It is dangerous."

Bacon—Is your boy in college?
Egbert—Yes.
"What position is he fitting himself for in life?"
"I'm not quite sure whether it's third base or left field!"—Yonkers Statesman.

The Tribune, in a Brandon, Man., dispatch, recently told of the conviction for manslaughter of a Christian Scientist who had failed to provide medical care for his dying child. In charging the jury, Chief Justice Howell said: "I am fully in accord with the Christian Science practice in a specific case such as mental disorder, but for a Christian Scientist to think he can cure a broken leg or pleurisy by prayer is absurd. He might as well try to cure a broken chair with prayer."

Wifey (red hot)—Don't try any evasion with me, sir. Where-have-you-been?
Hub (maudlinly)—M'dear, wha's shuse! If I ansh'er your ques'un, you will ques'un my ansh'er.—Boston Transcript.

"The ladies of the ballet have been slandered so much, they are burdened with so much unmerited censure, that we must do something to win a higher place in the public's esteem." This declaration on the part of Miss Calvard, solo dancer at the Paris Grand Opera, resulted in the organization of the "Purity Club of Paris Ballet Dancers." Any member of the profession who can prove that her life for six months prior to her application for membership was blameless may become a member. The club had been created only a few weeks, when it had a membership of two hundred. "The remarkable feature of the organization," says a Paris letter, "is that its members are all dancers who have outlived their youthfulness."

Tammas (to McTavish, whom he has just pulled out of the water)—Man, Donal'! Ye sud be lookin' happy. Are ye no thankfu' yer life's saved?
McTavish (sourly)—I dinna see nae cause to be thankfu'. The glass o' whiskey I had afore I fell intil the watter's gotten fair drooned!—Tit-Bits.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

THE DANGERS OF HYPNOTISM.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Out of a vivid although long ago experience I desire most heartily to second your motion of to-day that the practice of hypnotism by an "unlearned person who knows nothing of medical or surgical science" should be at once and vigorously prohibited by law.

In student days, having picked up the secret of it from lecturers, I practised hypnotism on fellow students, sometimes in physical control only, sometimes in the "mental state"—and indeed sometimes, in cases of nervous notions or habits, apparently quite beneficially. But one evening one of the subjects unexpectedly put an exaggerated interpretation upon a notion that had been imparted, and in uncontrollable terror and consternation rushed out on a three-mile wild run for Orange. Fortunately, the "operator," having more swiftness of heels than sense of head, soon overtook, and, by the usual snap of word and stroke, arrested and restored him—thus happily averting quite likely fatal results. That ended this "operator's" operating.

As you suggest, not everybody should be allowed to hypnotize and anybody ought to do it with extreme discrimination and reserve. The secret lies in getting your own idea and impulse into the mysterious nerve and thought combinations of the subject ahead of his own, and while, as you intimate, this may be occasionally beneficial, if done habitually it at last ungears the nervous mechanism, distracts, weakens, unmans him.

PRESBYTERIAN MINISTER.
New York, Nov. 12, 1909.

A WORD OF APPRECIATION.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I desire to express, on behalf of the Railway Business Association, our appreciation of the very generous presentation in yesterday morning's Tribune of the addresses at our dinner on Wednesday night, and also for your very interesting and suggestive editorial of this morning. You have certainly contributed a great deal to set people thinking along these lines.

GEORGE A. POST,
President Railway Business Association.
New York, Nov. 13, 1909.

SIR E. MONSON ON WASHINGTON.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: In the obituary notices of Sir Edmund Monson a rather notable episode in this distinguished diplomat's career has been generally overlooked. I refer to his remarkable eulogy on Washington, which was pronounced under such exceptional circumstances as to justify, perhaps, the retelling of the incident.

In the winter of 1897 a group of Americans in Paris was making preparations to celebrate Washington's Birthday by a public banquet and was looking about for a suitable presiding officer. At one of the meetings of the executive committee I suggested—and a happy thought it turned out to be—the name of the newly arrived British Ambassador to France. The other members of the committee, while, of course, recognizing the excellence of the choice, naturally doubted the probability of an acceptance. But at this moment the Hay-Pauncefote treaty of arbitration was pending in the United States Senate and the present good understanding between England and America was not then so firmly cemented. So it occurred to me that for reasons of "la haute politique" Sir Edmund might just possibly seize this occasion to help on the good cause.

The matter was laid before him by Sir Austin Lee, the ambassador agreed to come, and on the evening fixed a goodly company gathered around him in one of the big dining halls of the Hôtel Continental. When the time came for the speaking, Sir Edmund rose, drew from his pocket a typewritten document and read very clearly and earnestly a carefully prepared address which he had entitled: "Washington and the Mother Country." We had naturally expected that the chairman would make "some remarks," but we were not prepared for this frank recognition of the justice of the American cause in 1776. When the speaker sat down and the hearty applause had ceased the Rev. Dr. Tyng, who, like every American present, was much impressed by this generous and unlooked for tribute, voiced the feelings of all when he proposed in some well chosen words that the speech be printed at the expense of the Dinner Club. So a few weeks later it appeared in a neat pamphlet from the Oxford University Press, a delicate compliment to Sir Edmund, who was a Balliol honor man.

Among the half dozen distinguished Frenchmen at the dinner table was the late M. Ferdinand Brunetière, who, if I remember correctly, sat next to Sir Edmund. M. Brunetière, who was a member of the French Academy and editor of the "Revue des Deux-Mondes," was also struck by the significance and merit of the address, and then and there asked permission to publish it in French in his famous periodical, where it had the place of honor in the mid-March number. "Brunetière's translation is admirable," wrote Sir Edmund at the time; "he sent me the proofs to correct, but I hardly touched them."

Opposite Sir Edmund at table was M. de Blowitz, who "always knew a good thing when he saw it"; consequently, the speech appeared in full in the "Times" of the next morning, accompanied by an approving leading article.

The tenor of the address, the station of its author, the occasion of its delivery, and the wide publicity given to it, were the cause of it receiving much attention. Sir Edmund was even severely criticised in certain Tory quarters in England for this "surrender to the Yankee." But what would these squires have said if they had known the whole genesis of the matter? For instance, it was proposed to put this epigraph on the title page of the pamphlet: "Washington, the greatest man of our own or of any age.—Lord Brougham. 'Edinburgh Review,' October, 1838." Sir Edmund was asked if he had any objection, and his written reply was: "I quite approve of Lord Brougham's motto."

It has always seemed to me that Sir Edmund Monson would not have taken this unusual step unless authorized to do so by Lord Salisbury, who then presided over the Foreign Office, and my view was strengthened a few weeks later by this sentence in a letter from John Hay, who was at that moment Secretary of State in Washington: "Your 22d of February was a great success and the speech of Sir E. Monson an event of no less than international importance."

THEODORE STANTON.
Paris, October 31, 1909.

BLACK FOX SKINS $1,000 EACH.

From The Kennebec Journal.

A Maine furrier has purchased a black fox skin, paying the current price, $1,000, therefor. The trapper who gets one black fox in a season can afford to loaf all the rest of the time, for if he knows the value of his prize and seeks the right market he can exchange the glossy pelt for $1,000 or more, spot cash. But not many trappers have such luck as to get a black fox, for that valuable freak, like other good things, is rarely found.

ACADEMY TO BUILD

Kennedy Bequest May Be Used for New Structure.

John W. Alexander, president of the National Academy of Design, has made an authoritative statement regarding the gift of $20,000 from John Stewart Kennedy and the plans of the academy for the erection of a monumental fine arts building.

"The gift of $20,000 to the National Academy," said Mr. Alexander, "is unrestricted. We have not held a meeting yet, and do not know to what purpose the money will be put. Naturally, we feel the absolute necessity of building, as the present Fine Arts Building in West 57th street is totally inadequate. We are bending all our energies to make the academy schools more successful than they have been, and it might be that part of the Kennedy gift would be used in that direction.

"We appreciate the gift very much, and at the next meeting of the council we shall try to express it in the form of resolutions.

"Regarding the building programme of the academy, I may say that we are trying to decide upon the best plan for acquiring a building on an available site, and there are very few in this city of skyscrapers. All the noted galleries of the world are in the open spaces, entirely separated from overtopping buildings, with their very disturbing shadows and reflections.

"The position of the National Academy in relation to the Central Park scheme remains such that it could be taken up again at any time, but the opposition was so strong that we feel it should be considered, and we have accepted the verdict of the opposition. So many of those who have opposed the plan, however, have assured us of their interest and support, that we feel that something shortly will be accomplished."

FOR WASHINGTON MEMORIAL.

Building to Cost $2,500,000 Planned by Popular Subscription.

To erect a $2,500,000 George Washington Memorial Building at Washington as headquarters and auditorium for every scientific, educational, patriotic, art and literary organization in this country is the object of a campaign that was begun in this city yesterday by the George Washington Memorial Association.

With the active support of the Washington Academy of Sciences, the National Federation of Art, the National Academy of Sciences, the American Medical Association, the Association of American Physicians and other similar bodies, it is planned to raise by popular subscription a building fund for this purpose before February 22, 1910, the 178th anniversary of the birth of George Washington.

Senator Elihu Root, Dr. S. Weir Mitchell, Dr. William Welch, Professor Alexander Agassiz, General Horace Porter, Professor H. Fairfield Osborn and Dr. Ira Remsen have volunteered to serve on an advisory council with Mrs. Henry F. Dimock, who is leading the movement.

In the dollars and dimes of the people of every part of the country Mrs. Dimock has prepared to receive this $2,500,000 building fund at No. 25 East 60th street. Souvenir certificates of part ownership and perpetual record are to be delivered to every contributor of $1 or more.

BOSTON'S MUSEUM OPEN TO-DAY

Collections Said To Be Valued at $15,000,000.

Boston, Nov. 14.—When Boston's new Museum of Fine Arts, in the Fenway, is thrown open to the public to-morrow, the objects here collected will be seen for the first time in surroundings befitting their international importance, and calculated to display to the fullest the beauty and charm of $15,000,000 worth of treasures.

Views and a full description of Boston's new Museum of Fine Arts were published in the illustrated supplement of The Tribune yesterday.

KING MANUEL AT CHERBOURG.

Boards the Victoria and Albert, Sailing for England To-day.

Cherbourg, Nov. 14.—King Manuel of Portugal arrived here to-day from Bordeaux and was greeted by a representative of President Fallières. The royal yacht Victoria and Albert was in waiting, and the King boarded her. He will sail to-morrow for England, where he is to visit King Edward.

IN THE BERKSHIRES.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Lenox, Nov. 14.—Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Dixey gave a dinner to-night at Tanglewood. Among their guests were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Astor Bristed, Mr. and Mrs. Harris Fahnestock and Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Sedgwick.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles S. Mellen, who are at Council Grove, in Stockbridge, will give a dinner Tuesday night, the sixteenth anniversary of their marriage.

Mrs. William H. Bradford, Mr. and Mrs. George E. Turnure, Mr. and Mrs. Lindsay Fairfax and Miss Anna B. Shaw will close their country houses to-morrow.

Senator and Mrs. W. Murray Crane have taken a lease of Senator Clark's house in Washington for the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Frothingham and Miss Heloise Meyer have returned from New Haven.

Miss Gertrude Parsons is visiting Miss Meyer at Overlee.

Mrs. Oscar Iasigi will close Clovercroft to-morrow.

Mrs. H. M. Schieffelin and Miss Eleanor Crosby will return to New York to-morrow after the season in Lenox.

F. S. Taylor and Miss Ellen Taylor have gone to Boston.

A WEDDING TO-DAY.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Greenwich, Conn., Nov. 14.—The marriage of Mrs. Edith May Hooper, of New York City, to Robert Hutchins McNall will take place at noon to-morrow at Mrs. Hooper's summer home, in Field Point Road. Only relatives will be present. The ceremony will be performed by the Rev. W. B. Walker, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church here, assisted by the Rev. M. George Thompson, rector of Christ Episcopal Church. The bride will have neither maid of honor nor bridesmaid, but her little daughter, Grace H. Hooper, will be flower girl. She will be given away by her eldest son, Stanley Hooper. The best man will be Judge George G. McNall, brother of the bridegroom. Walker Hooper, another son of the bride, and Robert A. Lee, a nephew of the bridegroom, will be ushers. Mrs. Hooper is a daughter of A. S. Walker, owner of the Hotel Baresford, in New York. Mr. McNall is manager of the African business of the Standard Oil Company, with offices in New York. Mr. and Mrs. McNall will live in New York.

BILL FOR ARTISTIC 'APITAL.

Washington, Nov. 14.—Seeking a higher standard in the public buildings and objects of art erected by the government in this city, Senator Newlands, of Nevada, will reintroduce his bill for the creation of a bureau and council of fine arts at the next session of Congress, and will press its passage by the Senate. His plan for such a bureau and council was approved by President Roosevelt and a great army of working architects and artists.