

People and Social Incidents

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

[From The Tribune Bureau.] Washington, Feb. 2.—The President is continuing to receive assurances from many Republicans of administrative measures now before Congress. Among those who discussed the Congressional situation with Mr. Taft were Senators Curtis, Crane, Foster, Dixon, Olver and Representatives O'Connell, Poelker, Miller, Andrus and McKinney.

The executive committee and officers of the National Farmers Union, who were introduced by the Secretary of Agriculture, introduced the President to his influence in support of the measure prohibiting gambling in futures of farm products.

President Taft will attend the annual dinner of the Second Army Corps, to be given at the Arlington Hotel on March 12, having accepted an invitation presented by General Nelson A. Miles, General Charles D. Humphrey and Dr. William Tyndall.

Physician—If you continue transgressing the laws of nature, you will certainly pay the penalty. The Senate—Humburg! I'll appeal to a higher court.—Puck.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

A PUZZLING OMISSION.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Officers of corporations attempting to make return of "annual net income" under form No. 98 issued by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue will have their perplexities increased by a blunder in the make-up of the form. The act permits a corporation to deduct "interest actually paid within the year on its bonded or other indebtedness." In the form as printed there is a blank space for "Smith. Total amount of interest January 1 to December 31 on bonded indebtedness" omitting the words "or other."

The effect of course, of a return in this form is to exclude interest on all indebtedness except on bonds, although the law clearly permits deduction of all interest. In reply to a letter to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, calling attention to this omission, he stated that the words "or other" were omitted from the form through error. He further stated that as the regulations were explicit on this point he hoped and believed that the omission of these two words would not cause any inconvenience. In this I think he is mistaken. I know that some officials have puzzled over the return, and I think it likely to cause considerable perplexity and inconvenience to many others. The proper thing to do in absence of a revised and corrected form is to insert the words "or other" after the word "bonded" so that it will read "interest on bonded or other indebtedness."

W. M. JOHNSON. Hackensack, N. J., Jan. 29, 1910.

A BREVET.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: I find the following dispatch from Pittsburgh in to-day's Tribune:

The Rev. Wright Gibson, pastor of the McKee's Rock Presbyterian Church, yesterday notified his congregation that he had parted with his wife, and that his income was at least \$2,000 a year.

The minister declares that with the present rate of commodity prices it is necessary to live. "Poverty leads to divorce," he said, "and I do not purpose to assist the divorcee."

From the moral, as well as the economic point of view the only obvious commentary which a person of intelligence may make upon this exhibition of opinion is that the Rev. Wright Gibson should change his name to the Irreverent Wrong Gibson.

NEW YORK, JAN. 31, 1910.

THE 'TAX' ON GREEKS.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: There seems to be a misunderstanding regarding the so-called tax on Greeks I am over seventy years old, and for the greater part of the time I have been an American citizen, but I have always received a voluntary contribution as my means would permit. And that is the feeling of every true Greek, whether he be in America, Australia or Japan. Each one contributes according to his station in life to help his native land. So have many American, English and French lovers of ancient Greece. Witness the excavations by them for the knowledge and happiness of the world.

Many of the nation's buildings, her monuments and statues have been erected by these free-will offerings of her loving sons, and the nation, in turn, acknowledges these mis-called "taxes" by assisting those of her sons thus remembering her, so far as social relations in the countries of their residence.

This controversy came from what was doubtless an unfortunate misinterpretation of our language, with no one at fault, and I trust that such an explanation may be accepted so that our Greek newspapers may not become involved in a discussion that can only result in strife among us here and distress at our old home, and at a time when matters are so critical that we should present an unbroken front of brotherhood. NICHOLAS COUNTOURIS. New York, Jan. 29, 1910.

LINES AND MEASURES.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Party lines are hard to find nowadays. Some say the cause is that policies advocated by one party are often taken up and put into force by the other. The last Presidential campaign the Republicans advocated tariff reform and postal savings banks, the Democrats an income tax and guarantee of bank deposits.

Last year President Taft induced Congress to work out a tariff bill and an income tax bill, the taking a plan advocated by the Democrats as well as one favored by the Republicans.

This year he is pushing the postal savings bank plan, which as formulated and presented provides that money taken in by the postoffice shall be deposited in nearby banks, the banks to furnish security (collateral) on the bonds and to guarantee. In the one act are embodied plans advocated by both parties; postal savings banks, Republican; guarantee of bank deposits, Democratic.

Will we therefore for parties or policies, men or measures? F. E. LYFORD. Waverly, N. Y., Jan. 31, 1910.

REARING GAME FOR MARKET.

Massachusetts and New York Contrasted. From The Amateur Sportsman. Many farmers are aware that thousands of dollars are sent abroad every year to the native and foreign markets for the rearing of game. They know that small game, such as quail, wild ducks, and other countries make out of their game.

New York wild-helpers wish to know why it is criminal for them to pheasants reared on the farms. The Boston Game Warden, who is reared on the Massachusetts farms, and who rears them are glad to receive the good money for the wild birds. There appears to be a lack of uniformity in criminal laws, and we have advised the collector of the game laws in New York in the one act are embodied plans advocated by both parties; postal savings banks, Republican; guarantee of bank deposits, Democratic.

TEXAS CLUB ANNUAL BALL.

[From The Tribune Bureau.] The Texas Club of New York City gave its annual Lowry ball last night in the large ballroom of the Waldorf. This organization, a woman's club, is composed of former residents of Texas or those who are visiting New York. There were more than three hundred members and their guests in attendance, the latter being mostly men, to form an auxiliary of the club. The president is Mrs. Clara Driscoll Sevier.

at a large dinner party entertained to-night by Representative and Mrs. Wood. Senator Joseph E. Hines had dining with them to-night the Italian Ambassador and Baroness Mayor des Planches, the Austrian Ambassador and Baroness Hengelimiller, Justice and Mrs. Holmes, Justice and Mrs. Lurton, Senator and Mrs. Dewey, the German military attaché and Mrs. von Krosch, Mrs. and Mrs. G. G. Glover, Mr. and Mrs. Schoonmaker, of New York, and Mrs. Schenck, of New York. Winthrop entertained a number of guests at luncheon to-day in honor of Miss Ethel Roosevelt. Among others entertaining luncheon parties were Miss Georgia Knox and Miss Ida Thompson, whose guests were invited to meet Mrs. Henry B. Welcome, of England.

Among the hosts entertaining dinner parties to-night preceding the Bachelors' Cotillon were Senator and Mrs. Aldrich, Collier and Mrs. Collier, Mrs. Charles Shepard, Mrs. Austin Stickey, Mrs. John Lindsay Morehead, Mrs. William R. Merriam, Captain and Mrs. Sumner and Rear Admiral and Mrs. Brownson.

The guests of Miss Mary McCauley at dinner to-night preceding the Bachelors' Cotillon were Lieutenant and Mrs. Sherman Miller, Miss Olga Roosevelt, Miss Laura Britton, Miss Frances Noyes, Miss Carol Newberry, Lieutenant Commander Long, Captain Johnston, Mr. Scott, Mr. Calhoun and Mr. Harrison.

The third and last Bachelors' Cotillon of the season, given at the New Willard to-night, was probably the most brilliant of the number. The guests included the Vice-President, Mr. Sherman, the members of Congress and their wives, the dean of the diplomatic corps and Baroness Mayor des Planches, the Austrian Ambassador and Baroness Hengelimiller, the French Ambassador and Mme. Jusserand, the German Ambassador and Countess von Bernstorff, and a brilliant throng of number of more than three hundred, including young diplomats and society people generally. Mrs. Wickersham, wife of the Attorney General, received the guests, the presentations being made by the president of the organization, Gist Blair. William Hitt led the cotillon. All the decorations were in pink and the color scheme was carried out in the flower figures, of which there were two. The figures of the women were silk paper parasols, jewel boxes, fancy pink bags and flower wands, while for the men there were ash trays, corkcrows, memorandum cards, calendars and flowers. The supper was served at small tables.

Miss Lillian Chew, daughter of John J. Chew, was married to-day at 1 o'clock this morning to John Updell Moorehead, of this city, at the home of her grandmother, Mrs. T. J. Coffey. The ceremony was conducted by Bishop Harding and the Rev. Roland Cotton Smith. Miss Evelyn Chew was her sister's only attendant and James L. Phillips was best man. Only members of the two families were at the ceremony, of the two families were at the ceremony, of the two families were at the ceremony, of the two families were at the ceremony.

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"DROPPING IN" ON THE SENATE.

Perhaps no one "drops in" at the White House, but that is not true of the Senate. The advent of the new Senator from North Dakota was certainly the most casual in many years. The Senate was surprised when a total stranger came in with some informal writing from the Governor of his state and demanded a seat. No one was aware that the seat was vacant up to the moment when the new Senator arrived to claim it.

The chief wonder is that the Senator came from the West, whence new members are wont to arrive with the sound of many voices, the roar of multitudes, and the thunder of applauding Chautauques. Before one of them has crossed the boundary of his own state on the way to the Capitol his features are as familiar to the country as those of a patent medicine "example," and "views" upon everything under the sun have covered acres of white paper. His name is a household word. Though nine persons out of every ten in the street could not for their lives tell the names of ten Senators actually in the Senate, every one in the country knows the name of the new Senator from the commonwealth west of the Mississippi—whichever one it is—the maiden name of the wife, the names and ages of all their children, together with the pedigree of the new statesman's bull pup.

If he is discreet his hand is not visible in the beating of the tomtoms. If he is not, he makes the noise and manipulates the spot light openly himself. Perhaps, like the Hon. Jeff Davis, he even invites the attention of the country by promising his constituents to enter the Senate chamber "in his stocking feet, shaking 'his boots in the face of the old guy on 'the rostrum.'" In this age of publicity it is a pleasant surprise to have a Western Senator "drop in" unannounced. We hope more will do it.

REFORMER GRADY.

The Hon. Thomas F. Grady insists that he must be taken seriously as a reformer in the future. Why shouldn't he introduce direct primary bills and be the spokesman in the Senate of Mr. Thomas M. Osborne's Democratic League, now that his leader, Mr. Murphy, is firm for the appointment of only the best men to office and the whole party is training down fine on a diet of "political ideas and virtue"? Is Mr. Grady to lag behind the boss? When Murphy inspires the Democratic League with his lofty purposes, shall not Grady father its bills for it in the Senate? Grady looks as well among the "unco" guid" as Murphy does, and Murphy's place in that celestial company is secure now that the Mayor has said a good word for him and the Democratic League recognizes his services to the cause of a regenerated Democracy.

Mr. Grady realizes, as he reminds his Republican scoffers, that "the wheels of time go round." He seems to have the advantage of some of them in this respect. He has got ahead of them in appearing as a sponsor for direct primaries. He has stolen the thunder of those Republicans who were prepared to answer the widespread demand of the public for a larger share in the control of the parties by the granting of a grudging measure of direct nominations. Mr. Grady is ready to introduce the system in regard to local nominations, except, of course, in New York City, where the Democratic League finds every one saying a good word for Murphy and so satisfied with his dispensations that there is no desire for a change. Mr. Grady, of course, does not differ from the league on this point. One advantage of his early perception of the revolution of the wheels is that the Republican opponents of the Governor, who were preparing to commit the party to about the same measure of primary reform that Grady proposes, will now have to say to him "Me too," or bow a little lower to the inevitable.

THE CONTROLLER'S CHANGES.

Controller Prendergast could hardly claim any more important step for the improvement of the city's credit than the one he has taken for a reorganization of the auditing system of the Finance Department, making for the prompt payment of bills against the city. Formerly there was no system worthy of the name. Bills were not checked and forth to receive endless time and was subject to frequent interruptions anywhere along the line. Favoritism in expediting claims was a regular feature of old conditions. The result was that the city's creditors found the collection of bills slow and difficult. This was shown upon investigation to be one cause for the high prices which the city had to pay for supplies. Many of the best dealers in commodities which the city purchased refused to compete for the city's trade because of the delay in payments; those who did deal with the city charged a higher price because of the difficulty of collection, and others transacted their business with the city through political middlemen who were able to hurry the payment of claims.

But, as The Tribune showed in its investigation of the Finance Department, lack of system in auditing bills was not the sole cause of delay in the payment of the city's creditors. The bad financial methods of previous controllers have also been largely responsible. Their habit of borrowing from one account to pay the creditors of another has kept the creditors of the former account waiting when money should have been available, with decent financial management, to meet their claims. If the new controller establishes a system under which bills will be paid in ten days after they are presented he will effect a great reform.

ABATING THE HUNTING NUISANCE.

A promising suggestion has been made in New Jersey for the abatement of the hunting nuisance with which that state has long been grievously afflicted. The best agricultural and gardening regions, and even closely settled residence districts in the suburbs, are annually infested with vagrant men and boys, by overstrained courtesy called sportsmen, who trample crops, break down fences, mutilate trees and shrubs, scare cattle and incidentally shoot at and sometimes maim or even kill such birds, rabbits, squirrels or other "game" as they may espay. They probably burn powder worth ten times as much and destroy property

enlightened features. How far the increase in Philippine sugar imports accounts for the enlargement of the volume of duty free importations has not yet been determined. But that they should have been increased in that creditable way is all the more a tribute to the satisfactory working of the Payne tariff.

Hitherto they have been free to trespass upon a land from which they were not specifically excluded by prohibitory notices, thus putting upon property owners the onus of protecting their estates from invasion and spoliation. Now the State Board of Agriculture suggests that the principle shall be reversed and that gunners shall be excluded from all lands upon which they are not specifically invited. Under that rule the absence of notices declaring the land open to gunners would be practical notice that gunning was forbidden and hunting thereon would be criminal trespass.

There would be logic, sense and justice in such a law. A man's fields and garden should be as secure from trespass as his house, and the posting of warning notices should be no more needed in the one case than in the other. In some parts of the country, where much of the land is wild and the approach is not a densely populated region, there is no real game to speak of and where practically the only things to shoot at are the half tame birds and rabbits in orchards and on lawns, it is trespass by so-called "sportsmen" who are less a nuisance than entry of houses by them would be. It would be a good thing for most of New Jersey to have the proposed rule enacted, and for other similarly situated and similarly afflicted states to follow the example.

THE SOOTHING MR. HEDLEY.

Mr. Hedley's "I'll do as I please" as regards facilities on the Broadway branch of the subway was evidently a slip of the tongue. No one will accuse the manager of the Interborough system of having adopted the traditional "the public be damned" attitude. For does not the public remember his anxious solicitude for its comfort in the matter of the lights in the subway cars? It is only a few weeks ago that the manager was revealed as considerate to a degree almost amounting to tenderness of the people's comfort.

The subway was originally equipped with 16-candlepower electric lights. Mr. Hedley studied their effect with anxious care, and observing his patrons shading their eyes came to the conclusion that the lamps were much too glaring. Accordingly, to provide a more "soothing" illumination, he caused a special 10-candlepower light to be made and installed in the subway. Your "public be damned" traction manager would have left the dazzling 16-candlepower lamps in the trains, saying, "Let the passengers go blind for all I care."

It will be impossible to persuade the public after that incident that Mr. Hedley meant any disregard of the comfort of his patrons when he said he would do as he pleased. Washington Heights may be sure that the same consideration for its convenience which was shown in providing soothing lights will be shown in regard to accommodations.

The gentleman who proposes in addition to start a movement for export duties on meats is apparently inspired more by a sense of justice than by economic considerations. Any such extreme measure would tend to promote tariff contests, and what ought at all times to have, is the possible freedom of exchange in all the necessities of daily life. New York Times.

The enterprising gentleman aforesaid is also inspired by an ambition to nullify one of the evident purposes of the Constitution of the United States, which forbids the imposition by Congress of a tax or duty on articles exported from any state and forbids the states themselves to lay export or import duties except with the consent of Congress. Congress might tax exports from the District of Columbia or from any of the territories, but that sort of impost wouldn't have much economic effect. The states which handle exports would not be likely to ask the consent of Congress to tax, with no benefit to themselves, a profitable business, which might be driven elsewhere, nor would Congress be likely to allow any state to impose taxes on foreign commerce not imposed by all the other states, since the Constitution forbids any preference to be shown to the ports of any one state over the ports of another.

The Hon. Thomas M. Osborne as a "Hughes Democrat" is getting into strange company.

Congress intends to repair at this session, as it should, the error by which the Federal bond issue which was authorized by the Payne law were not made redeemable in gold, and the certificates of indebtedness, also authorized to be issued, were not exempted from all federal, state, municipal and local taxation. The House of Representatives has already passed a bill supplying those guarantees. It is an interesting commentary on the fallibility of clerical work that one of the guarantees was in the Payne act as it passed both houses and was accidentally stricken out at the eleventh hour in the conference committee.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

A part of the Nobel prize, which was awarded to Selma Lagerlof, will be applied, says the "Times" of Stockholm, "to the purchase of a house on the Marbacka estate, where she was born. This is situated beautifully near the banks of the city of Stockholm, its main building being the old home of the family. The plan in architecture, but large and comfortable. It came into the hands of the family through her grandfather, who was a regimental clerk. At his death it was inherited by Eric, whose children were there through, reverses the estate passed into the hands of Selma, from whom the Nobel prize winner will receive it, and her joy at being able to do so is shared by her countrymen."

Blubb-Blubbness is a terrible affliction. What would you do if you should lose your right eye? You'd get a job as a chauffeur, Philadelphia Record.

Some of the Chicago papers seem to think that a few of the features of reform in that city come pretty high. For instance, "The News" reports that the cost of condemning and selling a superannuated horse is \$750, which such animals never bring more than \$100, and frequently much less. By way of contrast, "The News" says: "Under the old system, which was in vogue before the city officials became sticklers in observance of all legal formalities, the preliminaries to the sale of a horse did not total more than \$42."

"How did you find dear old Broadway?" "That way, yet."

"What way?" "Old and dear."—Cleveland Leader.

A New Yorker, one of a party on an Oriental cruise, writes about the performance of "The Merry Widow" here last night, with unlooked for variations. A Vienna company, with Milla Theres as prima donna, was advertised in Lehar's opera at the Progress Park Theatre, and so were in a time for the show. But so were a number of Serbians, who objected to the manner in which their country is ridiculed in the libretto, and the performance

Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—8:15—Barnes Robin. ALHAMBRA.—8:15—Vaudeville. ASTOR.—8:15—Seven Days. BRIDGE.—8:15—The World. BROADWAY.—8:15—The Lottery Man. BRONX.—8:15—The Bachelors. CARNegie HALL.—8:15—Concert. CASINO.—8:15—The Chocolate Soldier. COLUMBIAN.—8:15—The Watcher. COMEDY.—8:15—Concert. CROONER.—8:15—The Bachelor's Baby. DAILY.—8:15—The Inferior Sex. EDGEMOOR.—8:15—The World. ELDORADO.—8:15—The World. GLOBE.—8:15—The Fortune Hunter. GLEN.—8:15—Your Humble Servant. GLENN.—8:15—The Old Town. HACKBETT.—8:15—None so Blind. HAWAIIAN.—8:15—The World. HERALD SQUARE.—8:15—Old Dutch. HIPPODROME.—8:15—The World. HUNTON.—8:15—Hindu Dances.—8:15—A Lucky

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New-York Tribune.

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THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

CONGRESS.—Senate: The army appropriation and the urgent deficiency bills were passed, as was also a measure providing that principal and interest on United States bonds shall be payable in gold coin.—House: Politics in the census took up most of the day, the Democrats making many extravagant charges.

FOREIGN.—The flood in Paris continued to recede; large gifts have been received from prominent Americans; the authorities are taking active measures to prevent an epidemic of cholera; an attempt to send delegates to the Greek National Assembly will be followed by the reoccupation of the island by regular troops; a delegation of a Bulgarian-Turkish war are entertained in Vienna.

DOMESTIC.—Commander Robert E. Peary suggested that the Geographical Society join the Peary Arctic Club in defraying the expenses of an expedition to the South Pole.—At a meeting of the Senate, Senator Aldrich in the latter's reply to the Congress charges was drawn up; it is a general denial.—Governor Hughes at Albany addressed the Legislature on his power.—New York on water storage.—The funeral of General William F. Draper was held at Hopewell, Mass., and was largely attended.—The annual convention of the State Grange was held at Watertown, N. Y.—Ferdinand Cohen, the water accused of kidnapping Robert E. DeJohan, was held on additional charges in Philadelphia.—At least sixty-eight miners were killed by an explosion in the Palua mine of the Coalmilla Coal Company, at Los Espejos, Mexico.—The annual meeting of the Deaf-Mutes of the United States was held at Watertown, N. Y.—Ferdinand Cohen, the water accused of kidnapping Robert E. 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