Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—8—Merchant of Venice.
ALHAMBRA—2—8—Vaudeville.
ASTOR—8:15—Seven Days.
BELASCO—8:15—Just a Wife.
BIJOU—8:20—The Lottery Man.
BROADWAY—8:15—The Jolly Bachelors.
CASINO—8:15—The Chocolate Soldier.
COLONIAL—2—8—Vaudeville.
COMEDY—8:30—A Man's World.
CRITERION—8:20—The Bachelor's Baby.
DALY'S—8:30—The Inferior Sex.
EMPIRE—8:15—Mid-Channel.
FIFTH AVENUE—2—8—Vaudeville.
GAIETY—8:15—The Fortune Hunter.
GARDEN—8:15—Everyman—8:15—She Stoops to Conquer.
GARRICK—8:15—Your Humble Servant.
GLOBE—8:15—The Old Town.
HACKETT—8:15—Mr. and Mrs. Daventry.
HAMMERSTEIN'S—2:15—8:15—Vaudeville.
HERALD SQUARE—8:15—The Yankee Girl.
HIPPODROME—2—8—A Trip to Japan; Inside the Earth, the Ballet of Jewels.
HUDSON THEATRE—8:20—A Lucky Star.
IRVING PLACE—8:15—Der Bettelstudent.
KNICKERBOCKER—8—The Dollar Princess.
LIBERTY—8—The Arcadians.
LYCEUM—8:30—Mrs. Dot.
LYRIC—8:15—The City.
MADISON SQUARE GARDEN—9 a. m. to 11 p. m.—Motor Boat Show.
MANHATTAN OPERA HOUSE—8—Lucia.
MAXINE ELLIOTT'S THEATRE—8:30—The Passing of the Third Floor Back.
METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE—8:15—Don Pasquale.
NEW AMSTERDAM—8:15—Madame X.
NEW THEATRE—8:30—The Witch.
NEW YORK—8:15—The Young Turk.
SAVOY—8:30—Children of Destiny.
ST. NICHOLAS RINK—8:15—Ice hockey.
STUYVESANT—8:15—The Lily.
WALLACK'S—8:15—Alias Jimmy Valentine.
WEBER'S—8:15—Where There's a Will.
WEST END—8:15—The Beauty Spot.

Index to Advertisements.

	Page.	Col.		Page.	Col.
Amusements	14	5-7	Instruction	11	5
Art Sales	5	1-2	Lawyers	11	5
Art Sales	2	7	Lost Bankbooks	11	5
Apartment Hotels	10	7	Marriages and Deaths	7	7
Auction Sales	11	4	Motor Boats	8	6-7
Bankers and Brokers	12		Proposals	11	5
Business Chances	11	5	Public Notices	11	4
Carpet Cleaning	11	5	Real Estate	10	6
Citations	11	4	Resorts	11	5
Desks and Office Furniture	11	4	School Agencies	11	5
Dividend Notices	12	1	Special Notices	7	7
Domestic Situations Wanted	11	3-4	Surrogate's Notices	11	6
Financial	12	6-7	Timetables	11	3-7
Financial	13	4-7	To Let for Business Purposes	10	6-7
Furnished Rooms to Let	11	5	Tribune Subscription Rates	7	7
Help Wanted	11	1-3	Typewriting	11	5
			Unfurn'd Apartments to Let	10	6-7
			Work Wanted	11	3

New-York Tribune.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1910.

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; Ogden M. Reid, secretary; James M. Barrett, treasurer. The address of the officers is the office of this newspaper.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

CONGRESS.—Senate: An agreement was reached to vote next Thursday on the postal savings bank bill; Senator Bailey spoke in opposition to that measure, pronouncing it unconstitutional; Senator Gordon, of Mississippi, delivered a farewell address. ==== House: Consideration of the postoffice appropriation bill, carrying $229,000,000, was begun; Representative Gardner, of Massachusetts, denied that the tariff is responsible for the high cost of living.

FOREIGN.—The first division in the new British Parliament disclosed a majority of 31 for the Liberal government and against tariff reform; the Irish members abstained from voting. ==== The Tribune's correspondent in London says Somerset Maugham's "The Tenth Man" was successfully produced. ==== It is predicted that the Seine River at Paris, which is still above normal, will fall steadily from Saturday. ==== Ex-Vice-President Fairbanks will be received by the French Senate and the Chamber of Deputies. ==== France sent a cruiser to the island of Guadeloupe, where a strike of cane sugar workers is in progress, to restore order. ==== Professor Heinrich Lammasch, of the University of Vienna, was selected as the third arbitrator between the United States and Venezuela in the dispute over a steamship company's claim. ==== Senator Millies-Lacroix wounded Senator Lintilhac in a duel in Paris and the men were then reconciled. ==== Foreign Minister Komura of Japan said the government desired the passage of the land ownership measure because it was in line with civilized usage.

DOMESTIC.—President Taft announced that the five measures which he considered should be passed at the present session of Congress in order to redeem party pledges were postal savings banks, interstate commerce law amendments, conservation, anti-injunction and statehood for Arizona and New Mexico. ==== The state police having reinforced the city authorities of Philadelphia, the Rapid Transit Company operated cars until midnight with little rioting. ==== William J. Conners, chairman of the Democratic State Committee, saved his scalp by promising to retire in April. ==== The Allds inquiry at Albany developed into a dispute between Senators Grady and Brackett after a number of former members of the Assembly had testified. ==== The conference of Republican Senators to discuss at Albany a successor to Senator Allds as temporary president of the Senate was postponed until next Tuesday.

CITY.—Stocks closed lighter. ==== A typical Black Hand letter was sent to Judge Ray demanding the liberation of the eight counterfeiters, under threat of death. ==== Surrogate Thomas removed George F. Considine as one of the administrators of his brother's estate. ==== James R. Keene pleaded illness as his reason for not answering a subpœna. ==== Five men stabbed another and got away by holding up a taxicab driver. ==== Mayor Gaynor said that the city had been "looted of $1,000,000 a year" by the Catskill condemnation combination. ==== Corporations made many requests for extensions of time for filing reports under the corporation tax law. ==== The American Telephone and Telegraph Company, it was said, was the purchaser of the block of its own stock sold by the Mackay Companies.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Fair. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 25 degrees; lowest, 15.

JAMAICA BAY, SEAPORT.

The project of the improvement of Jamaica Bay so as to make it a part of the harbor of New York for ocean commerce is put forward again for the thousandth time under perhaps more promising circumstances than ever before. Indeed, we may say that the circumstances are positively more promising if for no other reason than the lapse of time. For it is inevitable that the work will some day be done. The bay simply cannot be left forever in its present condition. And that being so, every hour brings it nearer to the long talked of improvement and utilization. The question is simply one of time. There can be none concerning the practicability of transforming the bay into a spacious deep water port, both accessible and sheltered, for a large share of the Atlantic commerce of New York.

One interesting and by no means familiar feature of the case is the proposal that New York City shall itself bear the major part of the expense instead of looking to the federal government for the whole. In that respect New York is following the example of Newark, N. J., which is now engaged at its own expense in a gigantic scheme of harbor improvement which, when completed, will establish a great ocean port in the heart of the Newark meadows. It is shrewdly perceived by the New Jersey metropolis that such an undertaking is certain to prove highly profitable, and there can be no doubt that the same would and will be the case with the similar improvement of Jamaica Bay. The creation of extensive sites for building purposes by filling in low lands with excavated material will result in great gain, while the increase in value of existing lands and the benefits to commerce and industry will be inestimable.

It is to be borne in mind, however, that if the work is to realize its greatest advantages it must be made a part of a far more extensive scheme. A port without land connections is of little value. It would not be profitable to have all the shipping of the world come to Jamaica Bay unless there were railroad terminals there to receive its freight. At the present time that region is certainly not known as a railroad centre, and it is not apparent that plans have been prepared for making it one. But these ought to be prepared and adopted and executed concurrently with the improvement of the bay itself. It would not be enough to have fine docks and warehouses there. There needs to be direct connection with every one of the great railroads which now reach New York from north and east and west. Happily, the successful construction of subfluvial tunnels gives promise that this can be established. What is needed is that it shall be practically considered from the beginning as an integral and essential part of the scheme.

THE OFFENCE.

The Stock Exchange in punishing by permanent expulsion a second firm for its part in the Hocking pool unfortunately does not define the exact offence which is penalized. It is nowhere made clear that the "reckless and unbusinesslike dealing" for which the firm stands condemned is manipulation of prices; indeed, in one place in the report of the governing committee the firm is charged with undertaking "a task beyond their means, resulting in their failure." That sentence lends itself to the construction that the Hocking pool manipulation would, in the opinion of the exchange, have been entirely proper had the participants in it possessed sufficient resources to carry out their plans or sufficient judgment not to attempt to force the price too high. In other words, that sentence might be interpreted to signify that the exchange is doing only what its critics have charged it with doing—namely, punishing not manipulation but failure at manipulation.

The course of the governing committee in regard to the Hocking pool is peculiarly difficult, if newspaper reports which have never been denied are true and if the committee had its attention called to the pool's operations before its failure and then gave them its approval. It is hard to punish the real offence of the pool after once pronouncing its members not guilty of that offence. But the exchange ought to make it clear that it has set its face sternly against manipulation, not merely unsuccessful manipulation.

THE FARCE ENDED.

With the calling of the Pennsylvania State Constabulary to the scene the blundering of the Philadelphia authorities, which included the foolish and unnecessary arrest of the strike leader and the humiliation of an excellent local parade organization, was at an end. The Mayor did at last what he should have done immediately upon finding the local police unable to keep order. The state constabulary has an impressive record of quelling riots in connection with strikes, and it was weakness on the part of the Philadelphia officials not to call for its aid at once.

The maintenance of order is in the interest of every one concerned. The public can go about in safety. The transit company will have to show speedily whether or not the strike has tied its hands. And the strikers, if they are prepared to conduct an orderly strike, will not have to bear the odium of disorder caused by unwise sympathizers. The merits of the issue may now be fairly tried, if it has any merits outside of the confidence of the labor unions in the favor of the public in any controversy with the traction company.

THE LATEST JAPANESE FLURRY.

It is unfortunate that the anniversary of Washington's birth was marred by utterances capable of being so reported or so interpreted as to seem entirely at variance with the spirit of the day and most incongruous with the serene, self-poised and benevolent foreign policy of this country, of which Washington was the founder and exemplar. It is not to be supposed that there was any intent to offend Japanese susceptibilities in the addresses the news of which has apparently aroused much concern in Japan, but it must be wished that greater discretion had been exercised in phrasing them, particularly at a time when Japan is about to entertain hospitably a large number of American visitors and when diplomatic negotiations of a delicate and momentous character are pending between the two countries.

At any time, indeed, it would be injudicious and inconsistent to denounce Japan for her proposed law prohibiting the purchase of land by aliens, or to complain of such a law, seeing that for many years precisely such a law has been on the statute books of the United States. There is no force in saying that an American cannot buy land in Japan for any amount of money when the answer is ready that a Japanese cannot and never in our history could buy land in our national domain for any amount of money. And without entering into odious comparisons it might be added that because of her very restricted and largely overcrowded territory Japan has more cause for making such a prohibition than America. This must be so obvious that we should hope Japan would not seriously regard so empty a complaint.

Nor can we attach more weight to the talk about Japan's intention to dominate the Pacific Ocean. As an exclusively Pacific power and as one of the greatest powers fronting upon that ocean, Japan has naturally a great interest in the Pacific, and as an insular empire her very existence obviously depends upon the maintenance of a sufficient sea power to guard her own coasts and her chief lines of commercial communication. If she surpasses us in commerce, as indeed she seems to be doing, whom have we to blame for it but ourselves? With twice her population and many times her wealth, and with all our boasted energy and enterprise, if we let her build and operate more ships than we do we should condemn our own inaction and folly and not rail against her or suspect her motives. We must not expect other nations to refrain from commercial enterprises just because we do. The part of a dog in a manger would be unworthy of America. And the same may be said of the military marine. If we could not create and maintain a navy as strong as hers the fact would be a reproach to ourselves and not a condemnation of Japan.

The dignified and worthy course is for this nation to look after its own affairs and not to carp at or suspect the policy of its neighbors. We opened Japan to the world and we have contributed more than any other nation to her development. It would not be fitting for us now to quail before or to suspect our own work. If we attend to our own business, as Washington exhorted us to do, and develop our commercial and military marine commensurately with our size and strength and wealth, we shall have no trouble with Japan and shall have no occasion to talk of peril from that source. And it ought to be possible to arouse this nation to the doing of the duty which it owes to itself without saying things which are offensive to our neighbors.

WHICH IS ITS REAL MERIT?

Senator Norris Brown, of Nebraska, who is described in Washington press dispatches as "the author of the income tax amendment," offered a rather singular reply the other day to the criticism made on the amendment by Govenor Hughes. Mr. Brown, as we have previously shown in these columns, was not the author of the amendment which the Senate passed, but of a draft which was submitted to the Senate Finance Committee and by it materially altered. The Finance Committee inserted in the Brown draft after the word "incomes" the amplifying clause "from whatever source derived," and this extension of the government's power to lay direct taxes by annulling all limitations hitherto imposed under Supreme Court decisions was the feature of the amendment specially attacked by Governor Hughes.

Mr. Brown now answers the Governor in this dubious fashion:

> It is conceded by all that the government cannot under the present Constitution tax state securities or state instrumentalities. Nor can the state lay its taxing finger on federal bonds or federal agencies. The proposed amendment in no sense seeks nor can it reasonably be argued to suggest any change in the independent or sovereign rights of either sovereignty as enjoyed and defined by the courts ever since the government was organized. Still, it does not follow, even if Governor Hughes were right, that the amendment should be rejected. On the contrary, it follows that it should be ratified, because under that interpretation all incomes would be treated alike.

It is a little difficult to gather from Mr. Brown's argument whether he thinks that the pending amendment ought to be adopted on the ground that it treats all incomes alike or fails to treat them alike. Which is its real merit—that it will be construed by the Supreme Court to fit the interpretation of it now given by Governor Hughes or the one given by Senator Brown?

AMONG THE PERORATIONISTS.

Texas has boasted of producing the greatest perorationists in the business. We have no disposition to disparage the supereminence of the Hon. Rufus Hardy, whom "The Houston Post" maliciously calls the Hon. "Roof" Hardy, because he does not believe that there is only one superman in Texas and that that superman's last name is Bailey. Yet we feel that Mr. Hardy will have to look to his laurels. For a new entry has appeared, also a Southern Congressman, who threatens to put Texas and all its experts in turning a final oratorical period out of the race.

The new candidate is Finis J. Garrett, a Representative from the 9th District of Tennessee. In a speech in the House of Representatives the other day on that inexhaustible topic of Southern eloquence, the limitations of the federal Constitution, Mr. Garrett drifted into this touching and melodious final burst of speech:

> The Constitution, sir, is not a dead thing to be kicked with contempt from the pathway or trodden with ruthless roughness into the dust beneath our feet. It is a living thing, a vital organism, the shield of our past, with its passion and power; the shelter of our present, with its prayer and its praise; the sheet anchor of our future, with its dread and its dreams. Let us "the true faith and allegiance keep" unto its letter and its spirit, the great faith we owe to all that is and all that is to be.

Texas is claiming five millions of inhabitants and superiority to all the other Southern states in every line of material and intellectual achievement. She has her Bailey and her "Roof" Hardy, but she has no monopoly in the architecture of perorations. Mr. Garrett, of Tennessee, is the real Finis in that class.

MOUNTAIN CLIMBING.

In a letter to The Tribune, printed yesterday, Miss Annie S. Peck discussed a question of interest to that large number of persons who from time to time read about such exploits as the ascent of Andean and Himalayan peaks. She quoted several excellent authorities to show that the determination of the height of a mountain by a surveyor's instruments leaves the result uncertain. When for any reason it is not feasible to reach the base of a mountain, to say nothing of the top, it is impracticable to measure elevation with a barometer or a device for ascertaining the boiling point of water, and other methods are sometimes employed to get the data for a calculation. Observations with his telescope enable an engineer to compute both the distance and height of an object several miles away, but he must make an allowance for atmospheric refraction. At best, therefore, that plan affords only an approximation to the truth. Besides, as the amount of dust and vapor in the air might vary from day to day and from month to month, two measurements by triangulation by equally competent men, or even by the same man, might not agree.

A few weeks ago Mrs. Fanny Bullock Workman wrote The Tribune to tell why she was unwilling to accept Miss Peck's estimate of the height of Huascaran, in Peru, climbed by Miss Peck in September, 1908. Miss Peck was inclined to believe that she had gone 24,000 feet above the sea. An engineer employed by Mrs. Workman to make a new measurement reported that his computation made the height less than 22,000 feet. Since he resorted to triangulation, however, Miss Peck holds that his figures should not be regarded as revealing the facts with absolute precision, and we think that her point is well taken. To what extent the result reached by Mrs. Workman's engineer should be discounted we leave experts to decide, but the faults inherent in his method seem to leave more or less doubt about its accuracy.

Meantime, credit is due Miss Peck for intending to adopt strictly scientific methods in her Peruvian campaign. In one attack on Huascaran, which proved only partly successful, she carried and consulted a barometer. In another she took a hypsometer, to ascertain the temperature at which water boils, but she was prevented from using it at the very summit because the wind blew her matches out when she tried to light a candle on which the efficiency of the device depended. It is evident that Miss Peck understands what proofs she should give the world to insure perfect confidence in her word. Hence, if she should ever make another attempt to scale Huascaran or to verify her surmise that there are higher peaks in the Andes than Aconcagua—hitherto accounted the loftiest in the range—her announcement would be entitled to peculiar credence.

Aeroplanes, it is suggested, will be used for smuggling. Probably it is as a precaution against possible aerial illicit entry that Congress keeps so many custom houses open to which the ordinary vehicles of land and water commerce never come.

Perhaps one result of the proposed exchange of professors between Denmark and America will be that the learned Danes will become less easy to be taken in by American adventurers.

The students of Glasgow evidently think that the affairs of their university should have precedence over those of the United Kingdom, and that their lord rector should esteem his office above Parliamentary place or prospective Cabinet portfolio; wherefore they practically compel the resignation of one of the ablest statesmen and scholars of his day. It will be interesting to see if they now do what came near being done before and elect Mr. Lloyd-George in Lord Curzon's place.

Mayor Gaynor's sharp language about "looting" the city, which he applies to the unnecessary Catskill land appraisers just dismissed, is fully justified. The use of that patronage to build up a political machine all over the state is the worst thing that has been revealed about the last administration.

The simultaneous crossing of the Andes by William J. Bryan and Dr. Frederick A. Cook suggests the probability of disturbed conditions in the higher air currents.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

Many "meanest" men have been branded lately, but one New Jersey citizen who takes first prize in that class was discovered last week. This heartless individual had been on unfriendly terms with his wife for a week because she had contracted with a dentist to repair her teeth. The job was partly finished, nearly every one of the woman's teeth having been extracted to make room for a plate. Her husband, to vent his spleen, purchased for her use only the stalest bread the baker had in his shop.

BAD EITHER WAY.

A worse mistake
You cannot make
Than this, O Mr. Dad—
To tell your kid
What virtues did
Adorn you when a lad.
How you did shun
His tricks and fun,
And higher did aspire—
He'll think like this—
"Dad was a sis,
Or else he's a darned liar!"
—Cleveland Leader.

Dr. Matthew D. Mann, of Buffalo, one of the physicians who attended President McKinley after he was shot at the Pan-American Exposition in 1901, in an address recently attacked "graft" in his profession. He openly charged his medical brethren with receiving "rake-offs" on fees for operations. "The business of cutting up people appears to be more profitable than doctoring them sometimes." "The statement by Dr. Mann," says "The Buffalo News," "should receive general attention. It is everybody's business."

"Why can't they base a grand opera upon an American theme?"
"We have no peasantry to introduce as a chorus."
"Ring in a chorus of ultimate consumers."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Topeka, Kan., has established a "traffic squad" of two policemen to keep the denizens of that town from being run over at the busy street intersections. "Calling two men a 'squad' is much like ex-Chancellor Snow's story of the Lawrence mob, says "The Kansas City Journal," which adds: "In the old days at Lawrence there was a streetcar system. Two men were employed on the line, whose duties were all the way from superintendent to car sweepers. These two men ran the cars and were complaining because they thought their pay checks too small. So one day when Snow was on a car he asked one of the men why they did not strike in order to have their wages increased. 'Strike? Strike?' snorted this man. 'Two of us strike? Now, wouldn't we make a fine mob charging down Main street?'"

"Johnny, can you tell us why Washington is called the Father of his Country?"
"'Cause he walked the floor a good many nights when it was still young, I guess."—Chicago Record-Herald.

At the Cologne carnival the float which attracted the most attention was entitled "The Great Discovery." It showed a globe on the top of which sat a clown holding fast to a protruding pole. All around was ice, and polar bears stood on guard. "That was the funny part," writes a man who witnessed the show, "but there was a serious end also. This was represented by a fur-clad man waving the American flag and a placard on which we could decipher only the word 'Peary.' The musicians who preceded this serio-comic piece were dressed as polar bears."

Stepping into a large bookshop in Stratford-on-Avon one morning, I inquired of the saleswoman, "Have you a copy of Pepys's 'Diary'?"
Instantly came the reply:
"Our supply of diaries has not yet been received."—Lippincott's.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

THE BENNETT BILL.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: We desire to call your attention to an unconstitutional and iniquitous measure introduced by Assemblyman Bennett, of New York, a few weeks ago. It is a bill to muzzle free speech—to prevent Civil Service employes all over the state from expressing their political opinions and preferences. Mr. Bennett's bill is an amendment to the Civil Service law of the state and reads as follows:

Section 26a.—Political Activity Prohibited. No person holding position in the classified civil service shall take part in political management or in political campaigns further than to vote as he pleases and to express privately his opinions on political subjects. The State Commission or the appropriate Municipal Commission upon affidavit by a taxpayer alleging a violation of any provision of this section of his own knowledge or upon information and belief shall investigate cases arising under this section and make public report thereon, and any person found to have violated any of the provisions of this section shall be discharged, fined or suspended without pay in the discretion of the appointing officer.

At a meeting of the Amsterdam Club held on Monday night at the clubhouse, No. 131 West 64th street, this measure was discussed and denounced. It was condemned as an attack upon the rights of one particular class of citizens, and a committee was appointed to call a mass meeting to protest against the passage of Assemblyman Bennett's unfair and discriminating bill.

It does not follow that because a man is working for a municipality he should therefore be deprived of his most precious right of citizenship. The object of the bill is to coerce subordinates—the head of a department (the appointive power) is not affected. This bill places in the hands of any party which, for the time being, may hold the reins of power in a municipality a weapon to prevent subordinate employes from exercising those political rights guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States.

It is especially noticeable that a complaining taxpayer need not have personal knowledge of the so-called offence, but may "upon information and belief" proceed against the Civil Service employe whose political preference, expressed in a club or at any public meeting, may not be in accordance with that of the head of his department.

JAMES CLANCY,
WILLIAM W. NEWTON,
MICHAEL CASSIDY,
Committee, Amsterdam Club.
New York, Feb. 23, 1910.

THE MEAT SUPPLY.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: In the Saturday issue of The Tribune Andrew Carnegie is quoted as saying that the present high cost of living is due to the extravagance of the American people. It is said that everybody wants the best cuts of meat. Such statements have been made over and over again, but, in my opinion, all such statements may be put down as "tommyrot." It is probably true that Americans live too high, but it is to be seriously doubted that the present high prices are due to that.

It has also been stated that increased demand is responsible for the high prices. If everybody wants the best cuts of meat, that means a great increase in the demand for such cuts.

Throughout the economic history of this country great increase in demand has meant great increase in supply and a decrease in price. If there were an increase in demand and a decrease in supply, high prices would be the result, but there is nothing to indicate that such is the case at present.

When we know that there are enough carcasses of meat in cold storage in this country to furnish every family in the United States with a supply for a considerable period, we can only conclude that supply and demand have nothing to do with it. The true reason is to be found in the greed of the packers, who force almost prohibitive prices and thus take meat out of the mouths of hundreds of hungry men, women and children.

J. WALTER JORDAN.
South Amenia, N. Y., Feb. 21, 1910.

BRIEF FOR THE PLAINTIFF.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The communication from Mr. Henry B. Faber in last Sunday's Tribune on the "Utility of Cold Storage," viewed from the recesses of the cold storage warehouse, is indeed a gem. From the point of view of the consumer of the high priced product it is a farce, a delusion and a snare.

Quoting from Mr. Faber's article:

> Does cold storage aid and abet the raising of prices of food products? and, Is it desirable that food products be stored at all?
>
> To the first question we answer, Yes. To the second we answer, Yes, for ordinary preservation, but not to hold it, to create fictitious prices, till it decomposes and to restrain legitimate trade.
>
> Never in the history of the world (barring wartime, perhaps) were eggs, fresh fish, butter, fresh meats and other extra perishable foods so high, not only during winter, when cold storage is not essential for their preservation, but the year round, before the process of cold storage and refrigeration was introduced. If the natural supply was allowed to circulate through the legitimate channels of trade the price would remain normal to the consumer, although the profits and dividends of the packing companies would be materially lessened.

We quote again:

> Furthermore, there is nothing in itself deleterious in the storage of foods.
>
> Let's take fish.
>
> Will Mr. Faber attempt to assert that fresh fish after having lain in a storage plant for six months or a year is fit for human food?

One more quotation:

> Practically all food products at certain times of the year are actually a glut on the market.
>
> Whenever there is an overplus of any commodity prices will invariably drop, and the public will be the beneficiaries of the larger supply and low prices. Or they did get the benefit before the trusts bought it all up, before the public had the opportunity, at the reduced price, stored it till there was a scarcity, then unloaded it at hugely increased prices.
>
> Let the consumer, and not the cold storage plant, be the "leveller," and we guarantee that prices will never soar beyond the public reach. JAMES E. BEALE.

New Britain, Conn., Feb. 22, 1910.

THE POWDER SCENTED HOLIDAY.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: A few days ago you published in The Tribune a suggestion made by Mayor Gaynor to submit the matter of the use of fireworks on the Fourth to the public.

This is a good idea, providing the public—or such part as is capable of judging pro or con concerning the subject—shall avail itself of the opportunity. The opinion of those financially benefited by the sale of such explosives, should, of course, be excluded.

It was a source of great surprise to me to read the Mayor's approval of these deadly explosives being placed in the hands of our helpless, heedless youth. He says: "If the damage to life, limb, etc., from fireworks is so great as to outweigh the pleasure they give, I suppose the order [for their non-use] should stand."

It might be an interesting mathematical problem for the Mayor to figure out just how much "fun" compensates for the loss of one life. And it might keep him still busier were he to figure the equivalent in pleasure for the deprivation of eye or limb, or for the slow, agonizing death from tetanus, to say nothing of the grief of parents and others over the death of these victims of our celebration of freedom!

SARAH E. LOUCKS.
Brooklyn, Feb. 22, 1910.

THE ONLY QUESTION.

From The Binghamton Republican.

Reports from Albany indicate that Allds's attorneys are planning to becloud the situation as much as they can by showing how bad some other men have been. That is not what is now before the House. The only question to be decided at this time is did Jotham P. Allds take the $1,000 that "felt good."

THE PUBLIC LIKES TO BE "DONE."

From The Philadelphia Inquirer.

If Aldrich could save the country $500,000,000 a year we fear he couldn't be elected dictator on a popular vote.

ON GETTING A CIVIL ANSWER.

From The Hartford Courant.

F. Hopkinson Smith, talking to the Southern Society the other night, complained of New York's bad manners. "We live in the most insolent city in the world," he said. "We can't get a decent answer from a car conductor or a policeman." A not uncommon complaint, this, and one that always surprises persons whose experience has taught them that courteous inquiry rarely fails to bring a like response. The man who created the charming and hospitable Colonel Carter cannot be ignorant of the way to get a civil answer.

YES, "THE WORLD DO MOVE."

From The Rochester Union and Advertiser.

The Direct Primary Commission would like to continue the old town meeting methods, where citizens met and chose their officers. It does not recognize that men in those days were free to act without danger of persecution. It is different in these days of boss rule.

People and Social Incidents

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Feb. 24.—The President, accompanied by Senators Lodge and Kean, returned to Washington at 7:12 this morning. Mr. Taft was at once driven to the White House.

President Taft received the members of the Society of the Sponsors of the United States Navy, who came to Washington to attend the third annual meeting of the organization, which is composed of fifty-eight women who have named ships of the American navy.

Senators Root and Depew discussed the appointment of a successor to James S. Clarkson as Surveyor of the Port of New York.

Herman A. Metz and Hugh Gordon Miller, of New York; William C. Brunder, of Milwaukee, and John Ball Osborne, of Pennsylvania, chief of the Bureau of Trade Relations of the State Department, the commissioners recently appointed to represent the United States at the Berlin exposition, which opens July 4, accompanied by Baron von Brandenstein, chairman of the German executive committee, called on the President.

Mrs. Raenel Foster Avery, first vice-president of the Woman Suffrage Association, and Miss Emma M. Gillett, of Washington, invited Mr. Taft to make the opening address at the forty-second annual convention of their association in Washington, on April 14. The President accepted.

Mrs. James A. Leroy, widow of James A. Leroy, who was in the Philippine service when Mr. Taft was Governor of the islands, received a commission to sign the President's name to land patents. The President appointed Mrs. Leroy to a clerkship in the Land Office.

Cecil Lyon, Republican National Committeeman of Texas, recommended a Republican for the vacancy caused by the death of David E. Bryant, judge of the Eastern District of Texas.

The visit of George Ade to the executive office this morning served to remind Mr. Taft of the beginning of his campaign trip in September, 1908, when he addressed a large audience at Mr. Ade's farm. Senator Beveridge, who accompanied Mr. Ade, discussed Indian affairs.

Commodore S. O. Richardson of the Toledo Yacht Club called on the President this forenoon. Commodore Richardson's yacht was placed at the disposal of the President when he was at the Middle Bass Club.

Among the President's callers were the Postmaster General, Senator Burnham, who introduced Judge Edgar Aldrich, of New Hampshire, and Victor H. Metcalf, ex-Secretary of the Navy.

THE CABINET.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Feb. 24.—President Taft was the guest at dinner to-night of the Secretary of Agriculture and Miss Flora Wilson. The party was entertained in the Presidential suite at the New Willard, where pink and white roses, palms and ferns made a brilliant setting. Mrs. Thomas K. Laughlin, Mrs. Taft's sister, accompanied the President to the dinner, and the other guests were the Speaker and Miss Cannon, Senator and Mrs. Dolliver, Senator and Mrs. Cummins, Senator and Mrs. Root, Senator and Mrs. Brown, Senator and Mrs. Smoot, Representative and Mrs. Mann, Representative and Mrs. Good, Representative and Mrs. Graff, Representative and Mrs. McKinney, Representative Lamb and Miss Lamb, Representative and Mrs. Pickett, Representative Walter I. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Benehan Cameron, of Raleigh, N. C.; Mr. and Mrs. Laverne W. Noyes, of Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. Florence Fox, of Philadelphia; Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Blum, of Philadelphia; Mrs. Elmer E. Black, of New York; Mr. and Mrs. John A. Stewart, of New York; Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt Sherman, of Utah; Mr. and Mrs. John B. Henderson, Mrs. Stanley Mathews, Mrs. Wallace Radcliff, Captain Butt and Jasper Wilson.

The Secretary of War and Mrs. Dickinson entertained the Secretary of the Interior and Mrs. Ballinger and a number of other guests at dinner to-night.

THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Feb. 24.—Countess Moltke, wife of the Danish Minister, entertained Mrs. Sherman and Mrs. Ballinger at luncheon at the legation to-day, asking a number of women to meet them.

The German military attaché and Mme. von Livonius entertained at dinner to-night the Swiss Minister and Mme. Ritter, A. Rustem Bey, Ottoman Chargé d'Affaires; Senator and Mrs. Elkins, Brigadier General and Mrs. Clarence R. Edwards, Mr. and Mrs. Marion Johnston, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas T. Gaff, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Legare and Miss Lota Robinson.

The British second secretary and Mrs. Kennard entertained at dinner to-night the Third Assistant Secretary of State and Mrs. Chandler Hale, Moreton Frewen and Miss Frewen, of London, Mrs. Burton Harrison, Miss Maud Wetmore, Lieutenant and Mrs. U. S. Grant, Professor A. Platt Andrew and Reynolds Hitt.

The German counsellor and Countess von Wedel have returned to Washington from a cruise in Southern waters which lasted for several weeks.

Baron Schlippenbach, Russian Consul General in New York, is the guest of the Russian Ambassador and Baroness Rosen at the embassy.

Mme. Chang and her daughters were informally at home this afternoon at the Chinese Legation.

IN WASHINGTON SOCIETY.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Feb. 24.—The Vice-President and Mrs. Sherman were entertained at dinner to-night by Representative and Mrs. John W. Dwight. Invited to meet them were the Postmaster General, the German Ambassador and Countess von Bernstorff, Representative and Mrs. Louden, Mr. and Mrs. Truman H. Newberry, Mr. and Mrs. Edson Bradley, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Lee and Miss Katherine Cameron.

Mrs. John B. Henderson will entertain guests on Monday night, when classic dances will be the feature of the evening.

A number of persons prominent in diplomatic and social circles are rehearsing for historical tableaux, to be given under the direction of Mrs. Barney in Colonial Hall on the afternoon and evening of April 6, to raise a fund for the House of Mercy. The subjects will depict various events in American history, beginning with the voyage from Spain.

One of the most novel entertainments given here this year was the paper chase, which began at Senator Newland's suburban home this afternoon, with the Senator's niece, Miss Marion Wise, as one of the leaders. The company followed the difficult trail on foot, through intricate paths and over fields and through forests for several miles. In the company were Mitchell Innes, British counsellor; Count Ugglass, Spanish military attaché; Miss Perkins, Miss Sophy Johnston, Miss Noyes and Henri Martin, Swiss secretary.

Miss Mary Patten entertained Cardinal Gibbons at dinner to-night. Her other guests were the Secretary of the Treasury and Mrs. MacVeagh, the Austrian Ambassador and Baroness Hengelmüller, the Danish Minister and Countess Moltke, Senator and Mrs. Depew, Senator and Mrs. Aldrich, Representative Hamilton Fish, Assistant Secretary of the Navy and Mrs. Beekman Winthrop, Colonel and Mrs. McCawley and Mrs. Richard Townsend.

NEW YORK SOCIETY.

Dinners were given last evening by Mrs. John B. Trevor at her house, in East 77th street; by Mrs. Harry S. Lehr at her house, in West 58th street; by Mrs. J. Fred Pierson and by Miss Harriet Robb. Miss Robb's dinner was for Miss Katharine C. Harris, the debutante daughter of Mrs. Brady Harris.

Mrs. William Rhinelander gave a luncheon yesterday at her house, in West 48th street, for Miss Virginia L. Hunt, and Mrs. Louis T. Hoyt gave a similar entertainment for the Misses Deering, at her home, on Fifth avenue.

Only relatives and a few intimate friends were present at the wedding yesterday afternoon of Miss Mary Nash Skidmore and Henry Sanford Mann, of Boston, which took place at the home of the bride's father, William L. Skidmore, No. 39 West 52d street. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Dr. Leighton Parkes, of St. Bartholomew's Church. The bride, who was given away by her father, had no attendants. She wore a gown of white satin, trimmed with point lace, and a tulle veil fastened with orange blossoms, her flowers consisting of lilies-of-the-valley and orchids. William P. Mann, of Boston, was his brother' best man, and Richard Van Wyck, Henry C. Beadleston, Henry W. Hayden and Henry W. Vaughan, of Boston, served as ushers.

Mrs. W. Emlen Roosevelt, Mrs. Lewis Cass Ledyard, Mrs. Dallas Bache Pratt, Mrs. Frederick T. Van Beuren, jr., and Mrs. Richard Irvin are among the patronesses of a reading of Maeterlinck's poem "Pelléas et Mélisande" by Vincent de Wierzbicki, at No. 4 West 58th street this afternoon. The entertainment is for the benefit of the open air class for tubercular crippled children maintained by Miss Spence's School Society. The music by Dubussy will be furnished by Mme. Lillie Sang-Collins. Tickets may be obtained from Miss Hilda Smith, No. 34 West 69th street.

The sewing class which works for the Nursery and Child's Hospital will meet this morning at the home of Mrs. William Barbour, in West 53d street.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Livingston Beeckman have returned from their trip to Quebec.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel R. Bertron and Miss Elizabeth Bertron sailed for Europe yesterday to spend several weeks.

Magistrate Frederic Kernochan and Mrs. Kernochan, who were married in New York a few weeks ago