Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—8:15—The Chorus Lady.
ALHAMBRA—2—8—Vaudeville.
ASTOR—8:15—Seven Days.
BIJOU—8:20—The Lottery Man.
BROADWAY—8:15—The Jolly Bachelors.
CASINO—8:15—The Chocolate Soldier.
COLONIAL—2—8—Vaudeville.
CONEY ISLAND—Dreamland and Luna Park.
CRITERION—8:20—The Bachelor's Baby.
DALY'S—8:20—A Matinee Idol.
EMPIRE—8:15—Caste.
FIFTH AVENUE—2—8—Vaudeville.
GAIETY—8:15—The Fortune Hunter.
GARRICK—8:20—Her Husband's Wife.
GLOBE—8:15—The Old Town.
HACKETT—8:15—The City.
HAMMERSTEIN'S—2—8:15—Vaudeville.
HERALD SQUARE—8:15—Tillie's Nightmare.
HIPPODROME—2—8—A Trip to Japan; Inside the Earth; the Ballet of Jewels.
HUDSON—8:15—The Spendthrift.
KNICKERBOCKER—8:15—The Arcadians.
LYCEUM—8:20—The Spitfire.
LYRIC—8:15—Jim the Penman.
MAXINE ELLIOT'S THEATRE—8:15—Lulu's Husbands.
NAZIMOVA'S THIRTY-NINTH STREET THEATRE—8:30—Little Eyolf.
NEW AMSTERDAM—8:15—Madame X.
NEW YORK—8:15—Three Twins.
WALLACK'S—8:15—Alias Jimmy Valentine.
WEBER'S—8:20—The Climax.
71ST REGIMENT ARMORY—1 to 6—7:30 to 12—Actors' Fund Fair.

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New-York Tribune.

MONDAY, MAY 16, 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.

FOREIGN.—The steamer Kroonland broke a shaft and passed Dover signalling "uncontrollable"; it is believed she will put in at Southampton. ═══ Theodore Roosevelt left Berlin for London; many Americans cheered the ex-President as the train started; he started from Flushing for England soon after midnight. ═══ A scout ship fired on the steamer Venus as she was entering Greytown Harbor; three armed vessels have left Bluefields for the former port. ═══ Two hundred Jewish families out of eleven hundred and fifty cases will probably be allowed to remain in Kiev. ═══ Commander Peary lectured at Rome, and was congratulated by King Victor Emmanuel and the Duke of the Abruzzi. ═══ Advices from Cuba say that the government's failure to make good its charges against the negro party has alienated many voters from the Liberals.

DOMESTIC.—President Taft in a letter to Senator Nelson at Washington assumed full responsibility for the letter prepared by Assistant Attorney General Lawler exonerating Secretary Ballinger. ═══ It was said at Washington that trade with the Philippines had greatly increased under the new tariff. ═══ The Republican County Committee of Otsego County indorsed Senator Harvey D. Hinman, of Binghamton, for Governor. ═══ A sea captain of Gloucester, Mass., keeping a vow made sixteen years ago, when his vessel was saved in a storm, gave two thousand loaves of bread to the poor. ═══ The canals of New York State were formally opened. ═══ James W. Van Cleave, ex-president of the National Association of Manufacturers, died from heart disease in St. Louis. ═══ Three men were killed as the result of the explosion of five boilers at a coke plant at Chewtown, Penn.

CITY.—The entire Annapolis class of 1908 failed in the post-graduate examinations for promotion to the rank of ensign. ═══ The Mayor praised the Jew as a good citizen in his address opening a national convention of the Independent Order B'rith Abraham. ═══ Judge Foster and District Attorney Whitman, writing to Controller Prendergast, defended the use of city paid telephones in their homes. ═══ A series of delays, due to accidents to trains, caused great confusion in the subway at the period when traffic was heaviest. ═══ Mr. Flower, of Boston, arrived in town with a new organization and a "canned" interview in which he said he was after the "doctors' trust." ═══ The Actors' Fund Fair closes to-night with a Virginia reel by all the players in town in costume and auctions by prominent actors. ═══ Four persons were burned to death in a Williamsburg house while the police and firemen were assured by excited tenants that all persons had been accounted for. ═══ The Calvary Baptist Church began the celebration in honor of the fortieth anniversary of the pastorate of the Rev. Dr. MacArthur. ═══ Professor Lowell, the Harvard astronomer, entertained his fellow travellers on the American liner New York with talks in midocean on the comet. ═══ A resident of Washington brought her sick dog from Europe that her husband might see it before it died.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Cloudy. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 69 degrees; lowest, 44.

NOT JUST TO CONGRESS.

"The New York Evening Post," "The Brooklyn Eagle" and "The Boston Transcript" have been publishing Washington dispatches intended to prove that instead of cutting down national expenditures Congress is actually increasing them. These dispatches deal with the appropriation bills which have passed both houses, been acted on in one branch or been reported from the Appropriations Committee of the House of Representatives. They pretend to show that the decreases in appropriations amount to $29,193,185, while the increases amount to $31,802,987. The net increase over last year's total is therefore put at $2,609,802.

These figures do an injustice to Congress, which, although possibly not sufficiently alive to the necessity of reducing federal expenditures all along the line, has at least made a creditable effort to cut down expenses in certain directions. The tabulations sent out from Washington disclose many positive decreases, whereas the increases which offset them are largely conjectural. For instance, in the field of military expenditure Congress has effected a decided retrenchment. The army appropriation bill has been cut $5,755,000 below last year's total. For fortifications $2,500,000 less has been appropriated. There has been a saving on the pension bill of $5,908,000, on the naval bill of $6,164,000 and on the Miltary Academy bill of $675,000. The total reduction on the military account has been about $21,000,000. Furthermore, on the Indian bill $2,000,000 has been saved, and on the sundry civil appropriation bill, as reported by the House committee, a little over $6,000,000.

Now, what increases have been made? In the agricultural appropriation bill there is an increase of $492,000; in the diplomatic and consular bill one of $502,000, and in the legislative, executive and judicial bill one of $1,690,000—a total of $2,684,000. To secure the total increase alleged of $31,802,000 the river and harbor appropriations bill is charged with an advance of $22,809,000 and the postoffice bill with an advance of $6,307,000. Now, it is well known that the postoffice appropriations are paid out of postal receipts, and only the deficits occurring on the year's operations are charged to the Treasury. The sum allowed to the postoffice increases each year, but that does not mean that so much more money has to be raised by general taxation. The deficit in the postal service is now rapidly decreasing. It will be much less this year than it was last year, and there may be no deficit at all in 1911-'12. It is entirely illegitimate to count the increase in the postoffice appropriation as an additional charge on the Treasury's revenues.

Similarly the increase of $22,809,000 in the river and harbor bill is more or less constructive and unsubstantial. The Senate added $10,000,000 to this bill. It is now in conference, the House opposing that excessive increase. The administration is exerting all its influence to keep down the total of the river and harbor appropriation, and there is little likelihood that the present bill, when signed, will carry the $52,000,000 in appropriations and authorizations which it now carries. Chairman Tawney of the House Appropriations Committee expects to save $5,000,000 on the general deficiency bill. It is apparent, therefore, that there has been so far an appreciable reduction in the supply bills for 1911-'12. When completed the bills will probably show a curtailment of from $20,000,000 to $25,000,000. Such a reduction, though not sensational, will be welcomed because it marks a check on the steady expansion of appropriations in progress for the last two decades and points the way to further rational retrenchment in future Congresses.

SACKCLOTH AT ALBANY.

Albany is beginning to resume its wonted aspect. The subdued, chastened, Good Government Club spirit that it has shown ever since Conger made his charges and Allds was driven out of public life is wearing off. The Legislature has flung aside its "winter garment of repentance." The "joker" is once more abroad, relieving the preternatural gravity of lawmakers temporarily impressed with the need of saving their souls. A "man in clerical garb," as befitted Albany's prolonged lenten season of this year, was induced to hand the first "joker" of the session to one of the most impeccable of Senators, in the lobby of the Senate chamber itself. It had been so long since any member of the Senate had seen a "joker" that no one recognized it until the Governor pointed it out, when it was rejected, not without grief that so excellent a legislator should have been the first victim through the innocent act of one in clerical garb. The clerical error has enlivened the proceedings and the "joker" is now being handed around by men who do not even have to hide behind the robes of sanctity.

It will not do, of course, to attach too much importance to these jocund indications, but there are other reasons for wondering if there is not some truth in the reports that the reform programme, whose course seemed easy in the virtuous hours succeeding the conviction of Allds, when the reminders of political mortality were vividly present upon every hand, and when Grady was moved to confess how lonesome he was and was stricken with homesickness, is now beset with danger. There is the coming retirement of Governor Hughes, not merely from executive office, but from active political life, to a place where he will surely cease from troubling. And there was the triumph of his opponents in the defeat of direct primaries, proof positive of how hard it is to shake the power of those influences he sought to banish from public affairs. Not even a "joker" insinuated into the midst of a penitential service is so strong a sign that the season of sackcloth and ashes is over.

Therefore it is profitable to inquire seriously if the disposition has not come to shake a little of the ashes out of the sackcloth? Will the graft inquiry, in other words, be merely superficial? Has the "joker" hidden his soothing presence within that garment of humiliation, put there, not by a man in clerical garb, but by the friends of William H. Buckley—"our friends" about whom he used to write in such honeyed words? It is surely not at all inconceivable that the prospect of sackcloth and ashes does not seem by any means so imperative as it did a few weeks back.

In the simpler days of old sackcloth and ashes were regarded as an adequate outfit for such an occasion as the Legislature recently saw itself facing, but fashions, even of repentance and humiliation, have become more complicated, so in addition to this primitive apparel a few hair suits were procured. Are these going to be hung up in the closet and left to the moths in recognition of the jovial presence of the returned "joker"? There are the anti-gambling bills, with special hair on them for old wounds, cast aside last year with all the circumstances of finality. Are they among the garments of the repentance to be flung, according to the poet's advice, into "the fires of spring"? And the telegraph and telephone bill and the amendments to the Public Service commissions law, reminders of the errancy of legislators, which complete the wardrobe—are they never to be donned? It is plain that the prospect of sackcloth and haircloth grows irksome. Perhaps the legislators are reacting in favor of the counsel "a short life, but a merry one." They can easily make sure of the first part of that programme.

EXPRESS CHARGES.

The most impressive argument with which the Manufacturers' Association supports its request that the Interstate Commerce Commission inquire into express charges is the statistical table it presents of the share of those charges that goes to the express companies and the share that goes to the railroads. Of the charge in any case the railroads receive a little less and the express companies a little more than half. In the case of shipments for a short distance, that works out reasonably enough. The rate for one hundred pounds from this city to Yonkers is 50 cents, of which the railroads receive a little less than 24 cents and the express companies a little more than 26 cents. That division seems fair. The railroad carries the package a short distance and the express company collects it at one end and delivers it at the other. But as the distance carried increases the railroads' services increase, while the express companies' services remain practically the same, chiefly collection and delivery.

When the same one hundred pound package is sent to Denver the railroads receive $4.05 for their service in hauling and the express companies $4.45 for collection and delivery. To San Francisco the shares become to the railroads $6.92, to the express companies $7.58. Seven dollars and fifty-eight cents seems a heavy charge for the part the express companies have in transporting a package to San Francisco. Doubtless the express company should receive as its share a greater amount in shipments for a long than in shipments for a short distance. Its services are something more than merely collection and delivery, and it assumes responsibility for the goods in transit and the risk of loss is greater in a long than in a short haul. But express charges are so high that an inquiry is in order.

Although the power to regulate express companies is in the hands of the Interstate Commerce Commission, nothing has yet been accomplished, and the public is annoyed by irregular service in collections and deliveries, by uncertain charges, varying inexplicably for the same service, and by the division of territory among the express companies which results in what seems like the unreasonable duplication of charges. The duties of the Interstate Commerce Commission are so various and exacting that it is not surprising that it has been slow to take up express charges. Perhaps the only solution of the problem will turn out to be the parcels post.

THE MENACE IN THE EAST.

There is, or at any rate there need be, no mystery or wonder over the assignment of Lord Kitchener to the command of the British forces in the Mediterranean, with headquarters at Malta. The avenger of Gordon is the greatest soldier now in the active service of King George, and the military need and menace of the British Empire are at the present moment greatest in or about the eastern Mediterranean.

The danger spot is Egypt. Long brewing sedition threatens open revolt. Disloyalty and incitement to crime became so rampant in the press as to require repression with a stroag hand, but repression is not extirpation. It is an open secret that responsible and thoughtful men are apprehensive of an uprising in Egypt even more serious than that of Arabi Pacha. There has been a certain disaffected faction ever since the British occupation. At first it was encouraged by certain French influences, not, of course, countenanced by the French government. More lately it has drawn some inspiration from the Young Turk movement in the Ottoman Empire, and vainly but mischievously aspires to get rid of British control as the Turks got rid of Abdul Hamid's despotism. Such efforts cannot succeed, but they may be sufficiently strong to require the return of Kitchener of Khartoum to the scene of his former and greatest services.

The unhappy feature of this Egyptian movement, like that in India, with which it is probably closely connected, is that it is criminal in methods and reactionary in aims. There would be a possibility of syinpathy even with a movement to cast off British rule, if it were a liberal movement, intended to effect reforms and to enlarge human liberties and to elevate the standard of government. But precisely the opposite is the case. Egyptians and Indians are dissatisfied with British rule because of its enlightenment and progress. They want—those of them who are disaffected—to throw the country back into the old ways of savagery and superstition. Many in India would like to restore suttee and in Egypt slavery. The freedom, the popular education, the equal justice for all, the public works and general improvements which are characteristic of British administration are hateful to these "patriots." They seek to bring back the old order, also, by the most abhorrent means, including arson and assassination, directed against women and children as well as against responsible officers of state.

With such a movement it is impossible to sympathize, any more than with a demand for freedom to resume tribal wars among our aborigines or to restore cannibalism in Hawaii. Humanity and civilization forbid it. In sending Lord Kitchener to the eastern Mediterranean, therefore, Great Britain is preparing to fight, if necessary, the battle of civilization over again, as truly as when the same great soldier was sent to organize victory in the River War and to clear out the earthly hell which Mahdism had created at the forks of the Nile.

JAPAN AND COBDENISM.

The dovecotes of Cobdenism are greatly fluttered by the prospect of Japan's new tariff. That measure, which is now being perfected by the parliament at Tokio, is distinctly protective in character and is undisguisedly intended to encourage and promote the domestic industries of Japan and to enable Japanese manufacturers to produce profitably a great volume of goods which are now imported from abroad. As textile fabrics are among the goods upon which the duties will be most increased, and as Japan's imports of them come chiefly from the United Kingdom, the menace of loss to British trade is serious.

In 1908 Japanese imports from the United Kingdom amounted to $53,875,000, of which nearly $17,500,000 was in textiles. On practically all these goods it is now purposed to increase the duties several fold. Thus the duty on army cloths is to be increased from 3 7-16d. to from 13¾d. to 19d.; on common gray shirtings, from 8d. to from 20½d. to 21¾d.; on pure shirtings, from 8 5-16d. to from 30d. to 33d.; on lawns, from 2⅛d. to from 4⅞d. to 6⅞d., and so on through the whole list. The average increase of duties on textiles is between 150 and 200 per cent. It is, of course, not supposable that the Japanese purpose themselves to pay these extra duties as a tax without any compensating advantages. They expect to develop home industries and manufacture the goods themselves, as they are already beginning to do.

Now, the prospect of such loss of trade, or such impairment of its profits, is decidedly disquieting to Manchester and Bradford, and questions have been asked in the British Parliament about it. The only answer Cobdenism is able to give is, of course, that it can do nothing either to prevent or to secure compensation for such taxation of British trade by Great Britain's own ally. Cobdenism abhors reciprocity and affords no tariffs which can be used as a basis of commercial treaties. It leaves its disciples unarmed and unprotected against a hostile world. There is no occasion, therefore, for wonder at the inclination of British merchants and manufacturers to regard with incredulity the pretensions of Cobdenism, and to look upon Japan's proposed new tariff as another strong argument in favor of British tariff reform.

DRAINAGE AND STREAM POLLUTION.

A recent decision of the Supreme Court of Judicature of Great Britain established an interesting principle concerning the drainage of municipalities and its relation to the pollution of rivers. The case was that of the Birmingham District Drainage Board, which many years ago was accused of polluting the River Tame by pouring crude sewage into it. There seems to be no doubt that at first the river was much polluted, and there was ground for the injunction which was then sought. But before the injunction had been enforced disposal works were established of such effectiveness that the sewage was made quite inoffensive.

The question then arose, and this it was which was finally passed upon, whether the injunction against pouring sewage into the stream should still be made effective, since the sewage had been rendered innocuous. The facts in the case were carefully ascertained by sending an eminent expert, Sir William Ramsay, to investigate and report upon the condition of the river and the effect of the inflow of sewage. Sir William reported that the purification works were so effective that the watery residue which was poured into the river was actually purer than the water of the river itself, so that the stream was purer after receiving the influx of sewage than before.

The judgment of the court was then given to the effect that it was perfectly legitimate to pour sewage into the stream so long as it did not pollute it. The test of the propriety of such discharge was to be made by comparing the water of the stream above the inflow with that below it. If there was no increase in pollution, the influx of sewage was permissible. And so the purified sewage of Birmingham may continue to flow into the Tame.

The decision is of twofold interest. In the first place, it establishes a rational principle which might well govern all such cases. It would be a hardship to say that a city should not send into a river its natural surface drainage, or indeed any drainage which did not impair the value and use of the stream. All that can properly be required is that it shall not make the stream unfit for the use of the riparian proprietors below. In the second place, it gives official recognition to the fact that it is quite possible to purify the sewage of a great city so that it will not pollute the water of a stream. We have hitherto called attention to the fact that the sewage disposal works of Paris pour into the Seine a watery residue which is much purer than the water of the stream, and indeed is almost as pure as the drinking water used by that city. It is now established that the same thing is done at Birmingham. Certainly it seems not unreasonable to argue that if those two great cities can do it any city can do it. Moreover, if on grounds of profit and loss it is practicable for them to do it, it is also practicable for other cities to do it, and if it is proper to require them by law to do it, it would be proper to exercise the same legal compulsion upon all other cities which wish to pour their sewage into streams.

MONEY AND BUSINESS.

Financial markets show improvement as a consequence of large sales of American securities abroad, which for the present, at least, have served to correct adverse conditions in the foreign trade and sterling exchange situation. There is, however, no active response in the local investment market for home securities to the successful efforts of our bankers in inducing foreign purchases of new mortgage issues of some of the leading railroad companies, and from current indications no great activity either for investment or speculative account may be looked for in the immediate future. It is quite evident that the offset to our adverse position in foreign trade produced by the offering of security bills in the exchange market will not maintain sterling rates at a low level for any length of time, unless such offerings increase in volume, but the progress of the crops in this country holds out the hope that our exportable surplus in the autumn will be large enough to bring about a natural change in the trade balance in our favor. While imports of merchandise continue heavy it is encouraging to note that exports of wheat and manufactured articles are growing and that the excess of imports over exports in the month of April amounted in value to only $853,620.

A more cautious policy in the matter of bank loans has developed in the West, and at this centre collateral is closely examined, though the inquiry for accommodation is not heavy in either the call or time department of the market. There is little demand by the local banks for commercial paper that yields less than 5 per cent, and it is a noteworthy fact that while discounts on from four to six months' bills are quoted at 4¾ to 5 per cent time money loans for the same period are made at 4 to 4½ per cent. Measured by bank clearings and railroad earnings, the general volume of business is moderately active. For the last week total clearings at all cities were about 2 per cent under the same time in 1909, the falling off, however, being due to the lighter exchanges in New York, Boston and Baltimore rather than to a general decline throughout the country. Western trade reports are better than those in the East, wholesale activities being especially disappointing in the latter section of the United States, but according to the opinions of the most conservative business interests the reaction contains none of the elements of permanency.

In cotton goods purchases both by the jobbing trade and in the primary markets are light in volume, and the advance in spot cotton last week to a level near the highest point recorded a few months ago has accentuated the uncertainty that has so long prevailed in all departments of the cotton goods business. Buyers' operations are confined in large part to small and filling-in orders. Though curtailment at the mills continues, it fails to stimulate trading, and with the present difference between the price of goods and the cost of production the prospects for active new business before the new crop arrives are not at all promising. The damage to cotton by recent storms came too early in the season to be an important factor in considerations affecting the size of the ultimate harvest, but replanting, of course, involves additional expense, and should be borne in mind as an influence that may induce the farmer to ask more for his product. An impressive feature of the textile markets is found in the confidence expressed by local interests and by buyers from all parts of the country in the future of the trade. And to a large extent the same thing may be said of sentiment in all lines of business. Speculation in cotton futures is moderately active and prices are higher, chiefly on a demand from the shorts on near month options. Wheat also is higher in the face of improved conditions in the wheat growing states.

Although the mills of the United States Steel Corporation and of the independent concerns are not working at full capacity, new business so far reported in the current month has been in excess of that in the same time in April. It is believed that the curtailment in the production of pig iron now under way will wipe out surplus stocks in the course of the next two months, especially if present indications of improving demand for steel are borne out by actual developments, and in connection with this outlook it is encouraging to learn that the railroads show a disposition to place larger orders for rails, structural materials and rolling stock. Recent sales of bonds by the transportation companies should be reflected in greater activity in the market for finished steel products, while it is probable that the improvement in the financial markets will be followed by a generally better inquiry from the steel consuming trade. Copper conditions are stronger and higher prices appear to be foreshadowed by the course of the market in recent days, in spite of the heavy increase in the production of the metal as shown by the report of the Copper Producers' Association for April. Consumption at home and abroad has increased materially in the last week, an indication of the improvement in Europe being presented in a heavier export inquiry from actual consumers. Copper is going into consumption rather than into the hands of speculators.

A fine example of what some men probably regard as a sense of proportion was exhibited at the recent congress of French railway employes, where it was seriously proposed to order a universal strike as a protest against the locking up of two men who had been guilty of rioting.

Talking about an income tax, Natal is contemplating a fine scheme. The plan is to tax all incomes of $1,200 or more at the rate of threepence on the pound, the rate increasing above $3,750, but to tax all incomes of bachelors and childless widowers of $750 or more at the rate of sixpence on the pound. It may be a question, however, whether the system would the more increase revenue or matrimony.

America cannot lay claim to a monopoly of colliery explosions any more than it can to a monopoly of trusts.

A most absurd notion regarding Halley's comet was advanced last week by a contributor to a local weekly. He declares that the head of the comet is a sphere of gas and that when it passes between the sun and earth it will concentrate on the globe a beam of intense solar heat. Well, if this gifted nature faker is right concerning the shape of the comet's head, he may have miscalculated the distance from the lens at which the solar rays will come to a focus. The gases issuing from the solid material in a comet's head are said to be in such violent commotion that the form of the envelope which they constitute is not only extremely irregular, but is changing from moment to moment. Besides, the tail of a comet always points directly away from the sun. Hence, a vaporous veil several million miles long will be interposed between the head of Halley's comet and the globe when they come in line with the sun.

Colonel Bryan takes needless trouble in giving various reasons why Mr. Roosevelt could not be the Democratic candidate for the Presidency. The one perennial and all sufficient reason is that the party cannot well have two candidates.

A curious canard was published by the "Gil Blas," of Paris, on the morning of King Edward's hurried departure from Biarritz for London, shortly before his death. According to this sensational story, ingeniously concocted in view of the dangerous state of native unrest in Egypt, the British government had suddenly discovered that, in addition to its internal difficulties, it was face to face with a serious international danger—nothing less than the resolution of Turkey to attempt without delay the reconquest of Egypt, with the active aid of Germany. According to the French paper's inventive Biarritz correspondent, King Edward had been secretly informed that Emperor William was getting ready to equip an army of one hundred thousand men to secure for Germany the control of the Suez Canal, and ultimately of all Egypt. Hence, the dispatch concluded, the omission of the British monarch's customary stop at Paris on his homeward way.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

A protest against the award of the Nobel peace prize to Colonel Roosevelt has been published and widely circulated by Dr. Eduard Loewenthal, of Berlin, in which he bestows the title "Protector of the War Policy" on the ex-President. "Mr. Roosevelt," he says, "who, it will be remembered, spoke in favor of war eight days before he received the Nobel prize, does not, after returning from his rhinoceros hunt, conceal his predisposition to militarism." The writer doubts Mr. Roosevelt's sense of righteousness, his speech at the Sorbonne to the contrary notwithstanding, "for if that were fully developed he would have declined to accept the peace prize, but would have allowed the consideration of some men who have made themselves more worthy of the honor, but whose claims the committee has never recognized."

"Why does she think he has such a splendid future?"

"Because she has promised to marry him, I guess."—Houston Post.

That Arbor Day came on Friday, the 13th, had no terrors for tree planters, young or old, and the day was observed to a greater extent than ever before.

"We don't use wine as a beverage, you know, Mrs. McGarvey," said Mrs. Lapsling, "but it's good to have a little of it in the house for medicinal purposes. You know how grateful I am for the bottle you sent over the other day. To thank you in words would be merely a work of supererrigation."—Chicago Tribune.

A man who sometimes acts as interpreter in a public office was relating some of his strange experiences in the performance of his duty as translator. "The mixture of bad English," he said, "with the language which the person is supposed to speak gives the interpreter the greatest trouble. Thus, I was nearly floored by hearing an Italian say: 'Toquarto a buncha violetta,' which I guessed correctly meant: 'Two quarters for a bunch of violets.' I asked a Russian boy who applied for work at the office recently how far he had gone in arithmetic, and received the answer: 'To gezinta.' That was a branch of mathematics I had never heard of, and in trying to explain the boy said: 'Two gezinta six, four gezinta twelve, and that way,' and now we have a new word for short division at the office."

"These doctors are easily fooled."

"How's that?"

"My doctor tells me that I have a tobacco heart."

"Well, you smoke all the time."

"But I smoke cigarettes."—Houston Post.

THE NATION'S HONOR AT STAKE

How Dr. Sprague Feels About the Officers' Retirement Bill.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Major Breck, in this morning's Tribune, gives good and sufficient reasons why the surviving ex-officers of the volunteer Union army should be placed on a retired list with partial pay. But there is an additional consideration which should be decisive. The nation's honor is at stake.

At the outset of the Civil War, and repeatedly thereafter, as an inducement to volunteers, they were promised that for their service in that struggle they should be rewarded "equally" with members of the regular army. For instance, on July 22, 1861, the next day after the disastrous battle of "the first Bull Run," when volunteers were imperatively needed to rescue the imperiled nation, Congress voted and Lincoln approved an act of which the 5th section contained the following pledge:

"The officers, non-commissioned officers and privates, organized as above set forth, shall, in all respects, be placed on the footing, as to pay and allowances, of similar corps of the regular army."

If those words mean anything, they imply that for Civil War service the volunteers shall be placed on an equality with the regulars for similar service.

Now the regulars, in express recognition of their service during the Civil War and for no other reason, have been raised in rank one degree, and then retired on three-fourths pay during life.

But the volunteers, though they served as efficiently as the regulars and were equally exposed to dangers and hardships, have received no recognition of that service other than the so-called "old age pension," the maximum of which is only $20 a month!

What becomes of the nation's plighted faith? Can it any longer, without dishonor, fail to fulfil its deliberate promise?

Should it not be immediately regarded in the Senate and House as a question of the highest privilege, requiring action, and action now, before any more of those survivors have gone, neglected and poverty stricken, to their graves?

HOMER B. SPRAGUE,
Brevet Colonel, 13th Connecticut Regiment.

New York, May 14, 1910.

HIGHWAY BEAUTY CULTURE.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: An interesting fête champetre took place about Washington last Saturday—the planting of wild flower seeds along the highways. As one report puts it, high society went out and got down on its knees to do it.

There is a statute in this state requiring the removal of all brush and noxious weeds along the roadways twice a year. In the more rural and hilly sections, with which I am more familiar than with others, and which to my mind are the most attractive to the wayfarer, it is now customary, as the readiest and cheapest means to comply, to burn over the strips on either side.

Effort should be made to line the highways with suitable trees, properly placed, and while removing brush and noxious weeds to promote the growth of the wild flowers that do no injury and add to the beautification of the way.

JOHN A. C. WRIGHT.

Rochester, May 12, 1910.

THE PAID-UP POLICIES FUND.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The letter of your correspondent, "Policy Holder," and Mr. Steele's reply thereto in this morning's Tribune have no bearing whatever on the point I raised about the paid-up policies in my letter of May 2.

Mr. Steele's letter must have been written in the office of the company that he is interested in, as it is all shop talk with him. I would be glad if he would take up my letter of May 2 to you, and tell me something about the amount of money that is in the treasuries of the different companies belonging to the paid-up policies fund, based on policies that will not mature until the insured persons attain the age of seventy or die. Some of these insured parties may be dead without the present holders of these policies being aware of it, and such policies may have reverted to the company.

That is my contention, and Mr. Steele's letter simply befogs the main issue.

A medical examiner for one of these companies recently told me that if my ideas with reference to paid-up policies were to be adopted the companies might as well shut up shop, as it was from that fund and lapses that the examiners' bills and other expenses were paid. So, according to that evidence, the sooner this phase of insurance is looked into by the proper authorities the better.

JAMES MACPHERSON.

Brooklyn, May 13, 1910.

CONGRESS'S IDEA OF SPEED.

From The Washington Herald.

Congress has ordered the Maine raised "with all convenient speed." Applying Congress's own idea of speed to this matter, that would mean any time within the next twelve years.

PENNSYLVANIA'S AUTO TAX.

From The Philadelphia Record.

It is estimated that the revenue of Pennsylvania from the tax on automobiles this year will amount to $350,000, which sum, it is believed, will more than pay for the wear and tear of the highways resulting from automobile travel.

GLORYING IN ITS SHAME.

From The Rochester Union and Advertiser.

While the Coroner is inquiring into the death of one pugilist in San Francisco the authorities issue a permit for another fight. There is nothing like glorying in one's shame.

NOBODY ELSE COMPLAINS.

From The Hartford Courant.

The political bosses at Albany have given out figures intended to show what they call the "cost of Hughes." They say that in the last five years the Governor has received from the state about $90,000. This sum includes $10,000 paid for his services as counsel for the gas investigating committee in 1905 and his counsel fee of $25,000 in the insurance investigation. When he retires from office to go on the bench his salary as Governor will have amounted to $40,000. The figures are not impressive. The Governor has earned his pay, and more. It is true that from the bosses' standpoint he has been a very expensive executive. No one else complains.

MISLEADING AND ALARMING.

From The Utica Observer.

The headline, "Magazines Blow Up," at first creates the impression that the muck rakers are at it again.

REVISED.

From The Albany Journal.

"Laugh and the world laughs with you," or if it doesn't you needn't care.

BRIBERY AND THE BRIBED.

From The Rochester Herald.

The trouble about catching legislative bribetakers is that they are generally so disreputable that they are not believed when they confess. That's what makes legislative bribery so easy.

A VILLAGE CATHEDRAL

Pointer for American Tourists—St. David's Near Fishguard.

St. David's, May 3.

Fishguard, newest and most ambitious of ports, has its cathedral town close at hand to match Liverpool's Chester, St. David's, while only sixteen miles from the landing place for Cunard passengers, is not equally accessible. There is neither railway service nor coaching line from Fishguard, and from Haverford West there are primitive facilities for reaching it—an old-fashioned stage coach behind a pair of hacks, and a half-crown fare, with the privilege of walking up seventeen hills in the course of sixteen miles.

The charges of the Fishguard motor garages are high—30 shillings for the day's journey, with a short outing at the cathedral town. These conditions will be altered as soon as American tourists find in St. David's a good substitute for Chester. With motor 'buses rattling over the bleak coast roads, the remote but intensely interesting village cathedral will become a link in the American itinerary.

If tourists include St. David's in their circuit of summer travel they must not expect to see a scenic environment of exquisite beauty. Pembrokeshire is not like Hampshire on the run to London from Southampton, nor like wild Dartmoor on the circuit from Plymouth. It is a desolate, wind-swept coast without artistic grouping of trees, verdant hedgerows and lanes, stone cottages, thatched roofs, embattled towers and the other evidences of perfect finish seen in the picturesque English shires.

In the spring and early summer it has only one glory afield—golden gorse in the barren levels and grass-grown stone walls; and afterward there is another splendor equally royal—heather in pastures and meadows. As masses of gorse and heather cannot be a substitute for trees, variety of foliage and landscape gardening, a drive through Pembrokeshire is likely to be disappointing to newcomers. There is a rolling tableland of meadows and tilled ground, with glimpses of blue sea between rugged tors and rock-bound headlands. It is a bleak and bare country exposed to storms and gray and sombre in coloring—a land of ruined castles and memories of mediæval saints.

It is this adaptation of life and architecture to environment that imparts human interest to the village and to the cathedral. St. David's is called by courtesy a city, but in reality it is a decadent village with three roads, and it is hidden away in a hollow a mile from the coast in the westernmost corner of South Wales. Like the hermit saints it shrinks from observation. From the Haverford West side there is one modern innovation beyond St. Roch's ancient tower. This is a pretentious school building, as completely out of touch with the environment as the flaring red memorial theatre at Stratford is with the tranquil beauty of Shakespeare's Warwickshire. From the Fishguard road there are distant glimpses of the tors around St. David's Head, and it is not until the cottages are closely approached that the shy, reticent village is seen; and there is nothing at first glance except a few rows of humble, dilapidated dwellings, with here and there a shop ashamed to advertise its wares.

It is a veritable Sleepy Hollow without willows or aspens. There is an ancient cross where the roads meet, and there are lanes and paths running out to the coast with its stretches of white sand and blackened cliffs. Even the villagers as they pass the cross or gossip in front of their doorways have a subdued and pensive air, as though they were living on faded memories.

The cathedral is there, but the visitor in his first walk has to hunt for it, small as the village may be. Even with its massive tower it is concealed in the lowest depth of the hollow where there is a tiny brook. Abruptly the stroller sees the upper course of masonry looming up out of the valley, and turning into a circuitous alley and passing through a Norman gateway he is amazed by the austere beauty of the cathedral lying below him and shrinking out of sight. The ruins of an episcopal palace and a college with banqueting hall, parapet, arcade and chapel are around it, but the cathedral itself after battling with fire, storm, earthquake, spoliation and neglect is complete and invincible, in sympathy with the grandeur of the barren coast and with the isolation of the rock-strewn hollow, yet triumphant in its guardianship of an ancient shrine. Hopelessly behind the times, the rebuilders reverted to transition Norman when their rivals were introducing perpendicular gothic, and the nave, west front and transept turrets are massive and stern and in keeping with the environment.

The older architecture imparts a stronger character to the structure, and rich decorative treatment is not lacking either without or within. Externally there are felicitous blends in Norman and Gothic work in nave, tower, transepts, presbytery and chapels; and there is a really magnificent interior, with boldly ornamented arches, varied effects of red and blue stone, quarried near by on the coast, a fretted roof of gray oak and decorative notes drawn from the gorse and heather of the countryside.

The visitor's wonder grows when, after surveying the many chapelled cathedral from the round bastion of the thirteenth century gateway, he descends the long flight of stone steps and goes within to admire the richness of the architecture, the reddish glow of the stone work, the ornamentation of the arches, the fretwork roof substituted for vaulting, the graceful lantern formed in the tower, the massive rood screen, the sculptured tombs of saints and bishops and the cluster of chapels. Wealth of Gothic decoration harmonizes perfectly with the austere and solemn Norman masonry and supports the traditions of St. David's shrine, where proud monarchs like William the Conqueror, Henry II and Edward I knelt in humility as pilgrims. It stands for Ruskin's first Lamp of Architecture—the spirit of sacrifice which has enriched this remote cathedral in a neglected Welsh village.

The American tourists will find much that is quaint in this ancient village, which seems to have gone astray and been forgotten on a storm-beaten coast out of the world. The solemn verger will indicate by a subtle air of reserve that he is concealing all the best things in the cathedral and has a soul above tips. The leisurely picture card seller will repeat with a melancholy smile the