

LONDON NOTES

Money in Elections—Raeburns—Laurence Irving.

London, November 26. The menace of the American dollars collected by Mr. Redmond is a hollow campaign device. Every one knows that the Nationalist leader is fighting for his political life in Ireland, where Mr. O'Brien, strongly supported by Unionist peers and Ulster Protestants, challenges his ascendancy and is making strenuous efforts to divide the Home Rule party into two equally powerful factions. The money contributed by generous Irish-Americans and Irish-Canadians will be used in Ireland in faction warfare.

The Redmondites hope to regain the eleven seats captured by the O'Brienites at the last election and to return to Westminster with a united party. They have no idea of diverting any portion of their campaign fund from Ireland to England and converting it into a corruption fund. Their \$150,000 or \$200,000 will be serviceable in offsetting the contributions of Lord Dunraven and other wealthy Unionists to the O'Brien exchequer; but it would be like a bucket of water poured upon the ground in England, where election expenses run into the millions.

Tory cartoon makers do not hit the mark when they portray the successor of Chatham, Pitt and Palmerston kissing the "bag of swags" which Mr. Redmond has brought over from America. They would be better marksmen if they were to caricature with fine satire the contributors to the Liberal funds who are expected peacocks. There is no lack of money for political purposes on that side. It is not difficult to raise it when the veto question is the main issue and there is an undercurrent of gossip about guarantees for the creation of several hundreds of peers. Rich merchants, prosperous tradesmen and contractors and successful political organizers have social ambitions and so have their wives and daughters; and generous contributors to the party funds are likely to be remembered when the sheaves are gathered in.

The Irish-American dollars used in election expenses in Ireland will be of light weight in comparison with the British sovereigns collected from wealthy Liberals in England, Wales and Scotland for the triumph of democratic principles and incidentally for the social advancement of the givers. Money is needed in great masses, not for corrupt purposes, but for legitimate campaign use; and it is easy to get it when peacocks are pawns in the political game.

The Raeburn exhibition at the French Gallery justifies the painter's title as the Scottish Velasquez. In the loan collection of twenty-nine portraits there is only one old woman with white cap looming out of a dark background, and the homely realism of the weather-beaten crones in plaids has suggested comparisons with the Spanish master. It is vital vigorous portraiture, even if the subjects are mainly wives and daughters of prosperous Scottish families posing in white gowns before the most popular Edinburgh painter of his day, and the work is all his own, for he had no assistants in his studio, greatly as he disliked fussing over draperies.

The face invariably appealed to the painter's keen eye for character, and with a few powerful strokes of the brush it was reproduced on canvas without crude experiments with chalk. The clothes, accessories and background interested him less than the structure of the head, the pose of the figure and the character of the hands, and the men, women and children on his canvases are intensely alive, whatever may be the dates assigned to them in the catalogue.

The best portraits in this representative show are those in which his defects as a colorist are least perceptible. The "McCrae Family," a mother and two children in white, with touches of scarlet and pink, has warmth and depth of color as well as simplicity of planes and perfect balance in composition. This superb work is owned by Captain Spender Clay, and another fine one on the wall opposite, Lady Maitland in white, with brown wraps, is lent by Mr. Pierpont Morgan.

Two portraits fairly sumptuous in color are Mrs. Campbell of Killybeg, in a white gown enriched with yellow in the wraps, and Miss Ross in gray trimmed with fur. There is also an exquisite effect of color in the child, naked except for a waistband, among red upholsterings—the father of general Archdeacon Sinclair, and there is a spirited portrait of the painter's own son on horseback in red jacket at the age of fourteen.

The qualities for which Raeburn, who was essentially self-trained in art, although he followed Reynolds's disinterested advice and studied for two years in Rome, was famous were breadth of style, expressiveness in modeling and vitality in the denotation of character, and these are illustrated in this brilliant collection. The technique is equally sound in dainty portraits of Scottish blondes in white caps like Mrs. Douglas and in ceremonial works with scarlet uniforms like those of Captain George Maikill and Lieutenant Colonel William Sheriff.

The modeling is as direct and thoughtful in early as in late work, when he was reveling in a full tide of popularity as an Edinburgh painter or when he had commanded recognition in the Royal Academy.

The revelations of character are as vivid in portraits of Antiquary Byres, Advocate Bell and Philanthropist Johnson, teacher of the blind, as in those of stately dames, such as the Countess of Abynne, Lady Belhaven and Lady Steuart of Coltness. Raeburn had a long and prosperous career, and he never lost his steadiness of hand, his precision of observation and his ardor for perfection of craftsmanship.

Mr. Laurence Irving has enjoyed a genuine first night triumph, whatever may be the ultimate fate of his somewhat Russian play, "The Unwritten Law," at the Garrick Theatre. The Dostoevsk drama, with its agonistic murderer and devout heroine, held a large and critical audience spellbound to the last moment, and that was a great achievement for the playwright, whose work had been reflected by managers as too sombre and agonizing for human endurance.

His own acting was a revelation of reserves of emotional power and magnetism, untamed ferocity and vengeful remorse, which were vividly reminiscent of his father's. It is still opinion that her daughter should be able to live on \$200 a year. Evidently the cost of living is coming down in New York.

THE EX-PRESIDENT'S FOES.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: I wish to say a hearty, emphatic amen to the strong utterances in The Tribune recently—editorially and by correspondents in defense of Theodore Roosevelt. Especially this one by a recent writer: "Does any one think he can 'down' the man whom Almighty God raised up to fight corruption—as truly as He did Lincoln to free the slaves and save the Union? Lincoln did his work amid calumny and vituperation—though his memory is so honored now. And Roosevelt has nobly done what all will do in the future."

I have not forgotten how my blood boiled at "copperhead" blazes that assailed Lincoln, and the vituperation now heaped upon Roosevelt is a survival of the satanic venomous hate of half a century ago.

He may have made mistakes, for he is only a man; but it is a fact founded upon facts that he has made a few mistakes as any public man and fewer than the majority of our best public men make, and also that he has done as much as any public man and more than many of our best every body, and he can be depended on to continue so doing. This cannot truthfully be contradicted.

S. PATTERSON GASTON. Turbotville, Penn., Nov. 28, 1910.

NEW YORK DRINKING WATER.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Will you permit an old reader of your paper and an old-fashioned woman who loves good water to drink to ask an important question?

The pipe of our hot water boiler burst and I stopped drinking it. Croton water. The plumber says there is a sedimentary deposit in the pipes from soluble matter in city water and that he has many such cases. Our physician says: "If you wish to live stop drinking this hard water. There will be no water fit to drink until we get our supply from the Catskills."

I ask, can there be a worse situation for a city of millions of inhabitants? Can Mayor Gaynor hurry this matter? He is very apt at Scripture quotations. I would ask him to look this one up. If an old woman asked for a cup of cold water, would he give her a cup of city water?

THE INQUISITIVE WOMAN. The Bronx, November 28, 1910.

A MORSEL OF ASTRONOMY.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: The recent total lunar eclipse brings to mind that other moons besides our own satellite exist in this solar system. Indeed, all the planets except Mercury and Venus possess such companions, and yellow Saturn, now conspicuous between the constellation Cetus and Andromeda-Pegasus, has a ringed number-ten in all. These ten satellites are named, respectively, Mimas, Enceladus, Tethys, Dione, Rhea, Titan, Hyperion, Iapetus, Phoebe and Themis.

Our own satellite has a mean diameter of 2,352 miles, but Titan possesses a diameter about one and one-half times that, while Iapetus approximates the same size as Queen Luna.

CHARLES NEVENS HOLMES. Boston, Nov. 21, 1910.

SOCIAL NOTES FROM NEWPORT.

[By Telegram to The Tribune.] Newport, Nov. 27.—Philip Potter and Miss Marjory Rand, who have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. Newton Adams and Eliza Dyer, who has been visiting his family here, have returned to New York.

Mrs. Eugene Sturtevant and the Misses Sturtevant have planned to spend the winter abroad.

Mr. and Mrs. George Gordon King will close their Newport visit to-morrow.

TO BEGIN WORK ON MEMORIAL.

At a meeting of the committee of the Firemen's Memorial Fund, held last week at Sherry's, Isidor Straus, the chairman, was authorized to sign immediately all contracts for the erection of the memorial. The piece of sculpture will be placed at 10th street and Riverside Drive, the Board of Estimate and Board of Public Works have already appropriated \$300 toward this work. This brings the total up to almost \$100,000. H. Van Buren Mackenzie, the architect, has completed all plans and specifications, and Combes & Ward will have the contract for all work aside from the sculptured figures and bas-relief. Attilio Baccarini is the successful competitor for the sculptured marble portions. It is expected that the first sod will be turned some day this week.

SHERMAN AND MISS BOOTH SPEAK.

Utica, N. Y., Nov. 27.—Vice-President Sherman presided and Miss Eva Booth, daughter of Commander Booth, of the Salvation Army, made the principal address at a mass meeting in the Majestic Theatre here, because she acquired a lot of money in the sale of the captured marble. There was one of several to-day marking the dedication of a three story brick building erected by the Salvation Army here at a cost of \$23,000.

GAYNOR HOSPITAL FUND GROWS.

John D. Crlmmins announces that subscriptions to the Gaynor hospital fund will be received until Thursday, by which time it is hoped a satisfactory sum will be realized. On Saturday the fund was increased by only \$25, an impressive showing considering the subscription list was closed on Thanksgiving day.

LECTURE ON CITY MILK SUPPLY.

Dr. Ernst Lederle, head of the New York Department of Health, will lecture on "The City Milk Supply and Its Control" in the Horace Mann Auditorium, Columbia University, Broadway and 120th street, this afternoon at 5 o'clock. This is the eighth lecture of a series on public health problems. The lecture will be illustrated with lantern slides. The lectures are public.

NEW YORK FROM THE SUBURBS.

Gaynor denies the report that he favors a "Vice-Mayor in New York. Evidently he believes that one man he might name is big enough for the job.—Washington Post.

You can go through New York and never see it, according to a Georgia country party. Maybe he didn't, when his Georgia thrush was appraised.—Florida Times-Union.

New York's Museum of Natural History is all stuck up because it's acquired a lot of skeletons from Japan. Put together they probably wouldn't equal Pittsburgh's tame dipodocus.—Pittsburgh Gazette-Times.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

At the present rate of decrease it will not be long before there will not be a single horse-drawn omnibus in the streets of London. The General Omnibus Company recently sold four hundred horses and expects to dispose of the rest of its live motive power at the rate of about one hundred a week. Of course the automobile is responsible.

"Emerson says there is always a best way of doing everything." I never found a best way of wearing a pair of shoes that were about a size too small.—Chicago Record.

The following announcement appeared in the "New York Herald": "A young lady of a highly-esteemed and noble family, as beautiful as Helen, as thrifty as Penelope, as economical as the Electress Marfan of Brandenburg, as sprightly as Mme. de Staël, a singer like Mile. Brevai, a dancer like La Cerito, a pianist like Rosa Kastner, a violinist like Terzitta Minaloni, a harpist like La Bertrand, a scullion like Princess Marie d'Orleans, as austere as Lucrece, as charitable as Saint Elisabeth of Hungary, as devout as Nightingale, having at command a large fortune, lacking masculine acquaintance, seeks a husband with the newspapers' agency."

Squire's Daughter.—By the way, do you spell your name with a large or a small P?—McNally.

Villager.—Oh, middlin' large, miss.—M. A. P.

The village of Remborn, in the mountainous region of Taunus in Germany, possesses a linden tree which is said to have withstood the age of 1200 years. In summer the tree is said to be magnificent, and its foliage offers shade to two hundred persons at one time. The trunk is thirty metres in circumference—that is, thirty-nine feet. It has been hollowed by time, and a dozen persons can stand in the cavity. The Taunus Club has taken the tree under its protection, and those that with care and attention its life may be spared for many years.

Patient Father.—Dearie! Baby's eating my glove now. Is it all right?—Dearie (from above)—Oh, quite all right—(Pause)—you're sure it's yours?—Punch.

Children of American settlers in Western Canada, though being brought up and educated in the States, are still loyal to the Yankees. They object strenuously to being compelled to sing "Rule Britannia," and the school authorities in Northwest Territory have decided that their objections are to be heeded. As one of them put it: "We want peace in Canada."

Irate Coach.—Why didn't you tackle that man?—Nosty.—You see, when he came along, I was standing on my head, and the new rule 16, section 28, makes tackling from this position illegal.—Life.

Not in Philadelphia's Director of Health believes in keeping his department constantly in the public eye. He is out with a circular warning the Quakers of the dangers of pneumonia and telling them how to prevent it. "Ventilation is the keynote of prevention from pneumonia, whether in office, public building, sitting room or bedroom," says Dr. Neff. "Day and night pure air should be breathed. The old superstition that the breathing of night air is conducive to disease has been eliminated from the minds of nearly all by public education, with the exception of a few of our own people, who still believe in the benefits of night air. As a matter of fact, the night air is purer than the day air, as there is less black smoke belching from chimney stacks and locomotives and less dust in the air, owing to reduced street traffic, so windows should be opened both top and bottom in every sleeping room."

The Little Man (threateningly)—I say, Mr. Stiglitz, did you tell Mr. Walker I was a liar?—Big Man (coolly)—No, sir, I did not. It's Mr. Stiglitz who told Mr. Walker don't want any telling.—Tit Bits.

ATTACKS ON FOREIGNERS.

Federal Courts Should Take Cases Involving Treaty Rights.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: The late John Jay, when Secretary of State, used to say that the only source of mortification to him in connection with the position was the reply he was obliged to make to foreign governments which demanded redress for injuries to their citizens in this country under treaty rights. Instead of being able to give them assurance that prompt investigation would be made by this government and the treaty complied with, he was obliged to say that the United States would do its best to persuade the Governor of the state in which the wrong was committed to take the matter up and deal with it.

While compelled to assume this anomalous position, humiliating to ourselves and dangerous to the maintenance of cordial relations and peace with other countries, we make demands for the protection of our own citizens direct upon foreign countries and insist that they must if it is to be a national peace. Why not let the American city where an American had been burnt at the stake without trial, for redress, that we could not deal with any subordinate with whom we had no diplomatic relations, but that if the mayor's responsibility was insisted on, he would best meet the demand promptly or put his city in a state of defence.

When Congress meets it should hasten to clothe the President and the United States courts with full power to deal in the future with all such cases as the recent burning of a Mexican in Texas. Surely when jurisdiction is given because of an international peace, with such minor offences as smuggling and illegal distilling, which affect nothing but the revenue, it should be instituted where it involves the government's power to make and keep treaties and to preserve good faith and friendly relations with foreign countries. A. H. Washington, Nov. 27, 1910.

THE CHURCHES AND PEACE.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: It is a good sign that thousands of our Christian people here in America are awakening to the fact that our churches should do a vast deal more than they have yet done in behalf of the cause of international peace. Why not let all the churches of America and the world unite in demanding that war be outlawed? The world's burden and need are great, and the time is opportune for a vast meeting here in New York in 1913 of the parliaments of nations to make for the whole world an open way to peace.

The Christian Church should come out and declare with uncompromising energy that man killing has no part or place in our Christian ethics or statesmanship and must stop. Of course, we must protect individual life and the life of the nation, but as not one war in twenty originates in mere self-defence the indictment still stands against war.

There is one law of ethics for the individual and for the nation and let us have a new declaration, not of independence, but of interdependence as between our eight nations. In the last century we have lost in wars 14,000,000 young men whose productive value to the world would have been \$2,000,000,000. Think of it! Why keep 14,000,000 men under arms to

let us avoid in a language controversy anything like a race conflict.

MONEY AND BUSINESS.

Trade conditions are mixed and irregular, but the general volume of business throughout the country is large, a reflection of which is found in bank clearings and the gross earnings of the transportation companies. In New York and Boston, where transactions in stocks show a material falling off from the records of last year, clearings are under the totals of this time in 1905, while in Philadelphia, Baltimore, Chicago, St. Louis, New Orleans and the smaller cities marked improvement is reported. New Orleans, for instance, presenting a gain for the last six days of more than 19 per cent. Gross receipts of the principal railroads of the country are expanding, comparison of returns with a year ago being especially favorable, as at that time the general volume of traffic was heavy. Although as a rule merchants and business men in general are not making extensive forward commitments, particularly in the iron and steel industry and in the textile trades, sentiment in business circles is optimistic, and confidence in the theory of gradual and healthful enlargement in the consumptive demand is common. Retail trade in holiday lines is developing activity. Reports from the retail centres in New York and other cities supply evidence of a substantial buying power throughout the country, and statistics showing the employment of labor indicate that the larger number of workmen are occupied at satisfactory wages.

Trading in stocks is inactive. Speculation represented by small daily sales on the Stock Exchange compares with million share days at this time last year, while investment operations likewise are light, although underwriting syndicates are having little trouble in distributing the few new securities issues now coming upon the market. In spite of the absence of a speculative demand prices are well maintained, the present average for the leading railroad and industrial shares being less than 2 points under the highest level of the year, with indications, however, in the character of trading of a disposition on the part of the larger interests to encourage a somewhat lower range in order to attract an outside demand. Quiet speculation in stocks and the beginning of the usual December return movement of money from the interior are responsible for an easier tendency in interest and discount rates at this centre, both collateral loans and commercial paper quotations closing the last week well under the levels reported a week ago. Local banks since then have been disposed to buy mercantile paper on fairer terms to the drawers, and the willingness of the banks to take the best six months' bills as low as 5 per cent discourages the idea of money market disturbance at any time for the rest of the year. Reports from reserve cities in response to the recent call of the Controller of the Currency are as favorable as was hoped for, but no serious impairment of condition is shown. Fluctuations in the international money market favor higher sterling rates here, but the fact that European investors are showing a disposition to buy our securities, while our export trade is growing, suggests an absence of stiff quotations, and encourages the idea of a gold import basis in the sterling market in the new year.

Demand for cotton goods at quotations under those offered by sellers is active, but the mills show no disposition to accept business on terms that involve loss. Actual transactions represent in large part hand to mouth buying. Jobbers' stocks are low, and from the millers' point of view failure to replenish supplies at current figures will not result in forcing concessions on forward business unless there should be a marked change in conditions affecting the cost of production. In some quarters of the staple goods market it is said that if staple lines cannot be put out at better figures woolen mills will close in January. Speculation in cotton futures has been active in recent days on a rising level of prices, distant options advancing last week to the highest of the season on operations based upon the lowering of crop estimates following the growers' report of November 14, showing a smaller number of bales ginned than was generally expected. Spot prices in the South are firm. Reports of heavy damage to the wheat crop in Argentina and the fact that for the market has been oversold account for higher quotations for the cereal, in spite of a world's visible supply that shows an increase of 65,000,000 bushels, as compared with this time last year. No important change is noted either in cash corn or in the market for future delivery, although lower prices are looked for.

Production of pig iron shows a slight falling off from that of recent weeks, but in spite of the lighter output stocks on hand are increasing. While orders for rails and rolling stock are heavier, it is not expected that the railroads will make up their final estimates for 1910 delivery until they can figure on the probable outcome of the rate controversy. No important change is looked for in the general market for iron and finished steel products until the new year, when increased activity in all lines should develop. The statistical position of the copper market is stronger, and producers are holding prices at the recent advance, with every reason for the belief in better quotations for the months to come. Commodity prices in general have changed little in the last six days, a decline in quotations on hogs and an advance in coffee supplying the chief features of interest. Coffee advanced last week to the highest point in the last fifteen years.

It was a risky undertaking for the Annapolis football team to take along their goat when they set out to play West Point.

THE ARIZONA LANGUAGE QUESTION.

Language questions, which have been so troublesome in the politics of various other countries, as witness Austria, Hungary, South Africa and Finland, have not been altogether unknown in the United States, though they may not have been raised in quite so trying a form as they now are in the prospective State of Arizona. It is announced that the constitutional convention there has adopted a provision to the effect that nobody shall be a voter who is not able to read the constitution in English. The result will be, if this is finally adopted, to deprive of the franchise a large part of the people, including many native born Americans of alien ancestry who have retained the speech of their forefathers and have had either no opportunity or no inclination to learn the English language, at any rate beyond a mere speaking acquaintance.

It is not improbable that this is precisely the result which is desired and intended. Incidentally, no doubt, the provision will debar from the franchise those who can read no language, but its primary purpose seems to be rather to discriminate against men of an alien speech, no matter how well educated they may be.

Now to whatever extent this Arizona proposition is inspired by racial animosity or prejudice, it is to be regretted and condemned. We do not want another race problem on our hands. Nearly one-third of the white inhabitants of Arizona over ten years of age do not know English. It would be most unfortunate to prescribe them as inferiors. Perhaps it would be well to consider where the chief blame for their ignorance lies, whether with themselves or with the educational authorities of the territory. It may also be considered whether it is better to make them pay the penalty by excluding them from the franchise or to lay it upon the state by admitting them. Doubtless the condition will be only temporary. Another generation at most will see it abated. But whatever adjustment is made, it should be one which will not alienate the two races which must in some way permanently live together.

So far as the proposal is intended merely to penalize illiteracy and to encourage learning, without regard to race, and so far as, without malice, it is meant to urge the learning of English by those to whom that language is not native, it is heartily to be approved. The authorities of Arizona should see to it that educational facilities commensurate with the needs—which are great—are provided and that a suitable degree of compulsion is exercised. And the Spanish-speaking residents would show practical wisdom and a fitting appreciation of American citizenship and staidness by voluntarily ridding themselves of the handicap which the constitution proposes to recognize as resting upon them. Let the English language be the speech of Arizona, by all means, but

let us avoid in a language controversy anything like a race conflict.

THE NATIONAL ART COMMISSION.

The need of an art commission in the national capital and the wisdom of creating one were never better illustrated than by the present controversy over the further development of Lafayette Square, the small but beautiful park which the White House faces. Years ago Congress decreed that in the centre of this square should be placed a statue of Andrew Jackson, and in accordance with that decree the centre of the square is marked by a somewhat remarkable figure of "Old Hickory," mounted on such a steed as was never seen before by man or beast; nor has its like been since produced. As a result of subsequent enactments the four corners of the square have been ornamented with statues of Lafayette, Von Steuben, Rochambeau and Kosciuszko. Further up Pennsylvania avenue, in a small circle in a far less attractive part of the city, is a statue of George Washington.

To many persons possessed of an historical sense the propriety of transposing the Washington and Jackson statues and changing the name from Lafayette to Washington or Revolutionary Square strongly appeals. The placing of the statue of the first President immediately opposite the White House seems singularly appropriate. To surround the great Revolutionary hero with some of his generals seems equally so. To many whose sense of art is reasonably developed the suggestion that the Jackson statue should be transferred to what is now known as Washington Circle seems no more than Christian charity to the weaknesses of the edifice. Against the proposition no appealing argument has been urged.

Certain persons have worked themselves up into a state of righteous indignation over the proposal "to relegate 'Old Hickory' to the less conspicuous place." He has the advantage of "prior possession," they assert with an iteration which they apparently believe compensates for lack of logic. Despite the lapse of time since Andrew Jackson was an influential figure in American politics, he has acquired at this late day a considerable following in Congress, made up largely, no doubt, of those who fear that other states, effigies of men for whom they entertain a warmer regard, may some day be displaced if the precedent of correcting an error of the past is once established.

Had the national capital enjoyed the services of an art commission in the past it is a reasonable assumption that no such statue as that of Jackson would ever have been unveiled, while it is certain that the soleism of surrounding "Old Hickory" with generals of the Revolutionary War would never have been perpetrated. It may prove impossible to secure from Congress, which has never exhibited much patience with considerations of art, permission to transpose the Washington and Jackson statues, but it must be an occasion of gratification that President Taft has induced the national legislature to create an art commission, which, even though clothed with little affirmative power, can be counted on to exert a wise and effective negative influence.

THEIR EASTWARD WAY.

Oregon's experience seems not to act as a deterrent, but the reverse. The initiative, referendum and recall have spread rapidly through the West, some states adopting all three or the two former of these devices at the recent election. It is perhaps important to note that Illinois is becoming interested. When an idea which has been making progress throughout the West crosses the Mississippi River and enters Illinois it may be said to be headed eastward. Illinois is one of the borderland states between the radical and boldly experimental West and the cautious and conservative East. In its political habits of thought it has at least as much in common with New York as with Kansas.

Illinois has not adopted the initiative and referendum yet, but the people of the state want them by a very large majority. A "little ballot," which is merely for an advisory vote of the people, was submitted to them at the last election, containing among other items an opportunity for Illinois to express its views upon the adoption of the initiative and referendum. These two carried by a vote of 443,505 to 127,751. The total vote of the state was less than 700,000, so that six out of every seven voters recorded themselves upon this question and the majority in favor of following the footsteps of Oregon was overwhelming. The constitution of the state, however, will have to be amended before this can be done. The Illinois Legislature is to be heard from.

The experiment in Illinois will be interesting, if the wishes of its people as recorded in the "little ballot" are carried out, for it will probably be the first big state to adopt this system of popular legislation. If the experience of Oregon is to be a guide Illinois will have to hedge about the initiative and referendum with a variety of limitations. Oregon is a state with relative homogeneity of population and interests. Yet already the system is so far resorted to that thirty-two propositions were before their voters for action at the last election. With the diversity of population and variety of interests in Illinois it is easy to imagine that an unrestricted initiative and referendum would make voting a day's work. Properly limited and hedged about so that only a moderate number of propositions of enough importance really to interest the voters can go on the ballot, the initiative and referendum may prove of use, though this is yet to be demonstrated. If legislatures fall into the hands of special interests popular legislation may afford a check to misrepresentation of their constituents. Questions, moreover, often arise which both parties fear to handle. They may be sent to the people. At present an energetic minority often secures the enactment of legislation. If the people are sufficiently interested a referendum may afford relief from such measures.

Probably it is such considerations as these that account for the adoption of that device, together with the initiative. But they seem hopelessly impracticable in any of the large states, where the people fall below those of Oregon in average intelligence and lack the Oregonians' zest for self-government.

ALPINE FATALITIES.

Mountain climbing and its dangers have ceased to attract much attention now that automobiles and aeroplanes claim their daily quota of victims. In fact, the sport itself has apparently lost much of its oldtime allurements. It is still practised in distant ranges, largely, it appears, by daring American women, but the erstwhile centre of the sport, while maintaining its attractions as a tourist resort, has grown to be rather tame as a field for the amateur mountaineer. Time was when the season's first ascent of Mont Blanc, often by a venturesome Englishman, was deemed worthy of a place in the world's news of the day. Now it is allowed to pass unperceived, crowded out, perhaps, by the sudden fall of a flying machine or a close succession of automobile disasters.

Still, during the year ended with October last the Swiss and Italian ranges claimed a toll of ninety deaths and eighty cases of injury, of which four

for the maintenance of an adequate military force on the isthmus, fades into insignificance when compared with the additional expense to which the country would be put were the canal to be rendered useless, or no more useful to this country than an enemy, thus necessitating the maintenance of a Pacific fleet of the same proportions as that on the Atlantic. The assertion that service in the canal fortifications and along the line of the canal would prove gravely detrimental to the health of the soldiers is unwarranted by the facts. Service in the Canal Zone would be no more unhealthful than service in the United States proper, and much less so than service in the Philippines, as is shown by a comparison of the health records of the force of nearly forty thousand men now engaged in constructing the canal and those of the army in the Philippines. The time is at hand when adequate financial provision should be made for the fortification of the canal, and it is to be hoped that Congress will not be deterred from taking that necessary step.

NOT AT EASE IN ZION.

After much tropicoidation the Democratic party, under the guidance of the Hon. Norman Mack and the Hon. Champ Clark, has decided that it may risk that Baltimore gathering after all. Only it must not be a "conference." Such things will be discussed as everybody will agree upon, and they will be chiefly meat and drink. No plans will be considered. No resolutions will be offered, or if offered they will go upon the table. No "preferences" will be expressed. No candidates will be promoted. Ideas, if any one attempts to smuggle them in, will be confiscated at the door. In short, every Democrat is bidden to the Feast, and asked kindly to leave his "weapons" at home.

It is going to be a harmony meeting. The Democrats will eat, drink and be merry, and take no thought of the morrow when a Democratic Congress goes to Washington and exhibits to the country the party's capacity for united action. Trouble comes soon enough without "conferring" about it in advance. It was generally felt in the anxious consultations which have just been held that the party could be trusted to present a united front in an attack upon Europe's famous vintages. And as the Hon. Champ Clark would put it, if every one was warned not to come "together" anything the meeting would be sane. Senator John Walter Smith summed up the argument for the gathering enthusiastically when he said: "It can do no harm."

THE NEW YORK MORNING.

FOREIGN.—An engagement is reported to have occurred at Chihuahua between six hundred Mexican troops and four hundred revolutionists, in which the latter were routed with considerable loss. It was reported at Rio de Janeiro that the families who fled the city in fear of bombardment from the mutinous sailors were returning, now that the Brazilian warships were again in the hands of the government. Arthur J. Balfour, leader of the Opposition in the British House of Commons, in brief address, reported at London, asserted that behind the single chamber conspiracy lurks socialism and Home Rule. The Pope ratified the appointment of the very Rev. John Henry Cardinal Heenan to the see of Liverpool; the consistory scheduled for this month, according to a cable dispatch from Rome, will not be held until February.

DOMESTIC.—The net income of the 262,480 corporations of the United States which are subject to tax under the corporation tax law, was \$3,125,480,000 for the year which ended on June 30, it was announced at Washington, according to the returns made to the Internal Revenue bureau the capital stock of the corporations was \$2,371,626,752 and their bonded and other indebtedness was \$31,233,452,686; the tax yielded \$2,872,470,000. The Governor of Alaska, was made public at Washington. Ingram C. Sowell, midshipman quartermaster on the Navy, died of pneumonia in Washington. Michael, a young man, died from pneumonia in Chicago. General James Oakes, who saw service in the Mexican and Civil wars, died suddenly in Washington. Mrs. Maude E. Glavis, wife of Louis R. Glavis, obtained a divorce in Seattle on a complaint charging cruelty and desertion. The State of New York has held at exercises to dedicate a new Salvation Army building at Utica, N. Y. It was said at Burlington, Vt., that President Buckingham of the University of Vermont was seriously ill.

CITY.—The total known dead in the Newark factory fire reached twenty-four, leaving only one body in the morgue unidentified. Manufacturers reported that business conditions generally were slow. A man was arrested in Williamsburg, charged with passing counterfeit half dollars. The Rev. Mr. Smith preached on "The Shame of the State," in which he had a scorching people largely responsible. A third person was found who stated that he saw Callier, the supposed victim of the trunk murder, since 1902, when the police believe he was killed.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for today, Rain. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 46 degrees; lowest, 34.

FORTIFYING THE CANAL.

While the reported opposition of Representative Tawney to the fortification of the Panama Canal has given renewed encouragement to those who favor the "neutralization" instead of the military protection of the canal, it seems hardly credible that Mr. Tawney will carry his opposition so far as actually to exert his influence to prevent the necessary appropriation at the coming session of Congress. As chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, from which place Speaker Cannon is scarcely likely to remove him, Mr. Tawney might be able to exert a sufficiently potent influence to thwart the wishes of the administration and to reverse the decision reached by Congress eight years ago, but such an exercise of power by the Minnesota Representative would be widely condemned.

When, in 1902, Congress passed the Spooner act authorizing the construction of the canal, it specifically instructed the Executive to take such steps as might be necessary to protect the canal against attack by an enemy. President Roosevelt declared himself in unequivocal terms for fortification, and President Taft has done the same, having sent to Congress a special message on the subject as recently as last April. A military board consisting of high ranking officers of both arms of the service has visited the canal and prepared plans for its fortification and an estimate of the cost, and no considerable opposition to the plan of adequate defenses has appeared.

The argument that the completion of the canal would practically double the efficiency of the navy has never been successfully controverted. To claim that such fortification would entail heavy expense only for the fortifications, but

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